Workshop

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IN A DIGITAL WORLD

Designing inclusive platform politics and infrastructures for social learning

HOSTED BY THE SOCIAL OCEAN ENERGY PROJECT

Open to all

RSVP welcomed for planning purposes:
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MON 16 – WED 18 DECEMBER, 2024

Kuppelraum, University of Bern
Hochschulstrasse 4, 3012 Bern

UNIVERSITÄT BERN

PURPOSE

Mainstreaming sustainable ways of inhabiting this earth

will require multiple economic and political transformations. It also requires new ways of doing knowledge production – and putting that knowledge to work. The concept of social learning points to a broad, collective learning process between communities, experts and governments. It builds on transdisciplinarity by setting a more ambitious goal: you know you have social learning happening, when relatively passive knowledge moves into knowledge as (collective) doing. As an artist, farmer or anthropologist might say: you know that you have really understood something – when you can do it. The social learning concept represents a complex ambition and highly dynamic field. It is, after all, a reformulation of a very big question: how do people, how can societies change peacefully? **How can we effectively pursue intentional change in a non-violent manner?**

With this goal in mind, pioneers working at the intersection of public problem-solving, activism and academic research have created techno-social configurations. These include digital platforms for collaborative ethnography such as PECE, as well as critiques of digitally-enhanced social learning. **Active knowledge-building platforms** that valorize diversity in communities of practice are often inspired by environmental justice and decolonizing concerns. Problem-solving on issues such as the energy transformation can benefit from social learning in diversity by making a much wider range of concerns and expertise available. Working through necessary frictions, such platforms can work to integrate civic and scientific data, making different communities of practice mutually intelligible to each other. However, since digitally-mediated relations are as complex and power-inflected as live interactions, we urgently need to understand the **potential, risks and limitations of digitally-enhanced bridging platforms in social learning.**

We ask:

•*How does social learning relate to antecedents such as action research or more oppositional forms of struggle for emancipatory change?*

• *What kind of digital technologies, communication and networking modes can foster collective action around environmental justice concern? How might they be co-designed?*

• *How might digital modes truly reshape existing hierarchies and processes in struggles towards socio-ecological transformation?*

Participants will acquire insights towards establishing bridging organizations and knowledge networks that foster social learning. Workshoppers will also explore case-studies on how social learning theory can be adapted to specific contexts, and how digital technologies may limit, or bolster inclusive collaborative endeavors.

PROGRAM

13:00 – 14:30

SESSION I

Introducing SOCEAN and Workshop Purpose

Mutual introductions via academic speed dating

14:30 – 15:00

COFFEE BREAK

15:00 – 16:30

KEYNOTE

Tim Schütz, University of California, Irvine

Civic Community Archiving with the
Platform for Experimental Collaborative Ethnography (PECE)

16:30 – 18:00

SESSION II

Sharayu Shejale, University of Geneva

Co-producing Knowledge with Urban Communities during Energy Transition Processes

Hsin-Yi Lu, National University Taiwan

From Conflict to Collaboration: Early-Stage Social Learning and Emerging Adaptive Co-Management in Taiwan's West Coastal Fisheries

PROGRAM

09:00 – 10:30

KEYNOTE

Bianca Vienni Baptista, ETH Zurich

How does transdisciplinarity contribute to social learning? Insights into the cultural studies of collaborative science and technology.

10:30 – 11:00

COFFEE BREAK

11:00 – 12:30

SESSION III (HYBRID)

Alfisyahr Izzati, State University of Surabaya

Bicara Udara: A Social Movement Among Jakarta's Urban Community for Education and Advocacy of Clean Air Through Social Media Platforms.

Cisca Nurfi'aini, Wildlife Rescue Centre Jogja

Empowering Local Communities for Endangered Species Conservation: Integrating Anthropological Approaches and Digital Learning in the Preservation of Malayan Giant Turtle Habitat

12:30 – 13:30

LUNCH

13:30 – 15:00

SESSION IV (WORLD CAFÉ)

Ana Gretel Echazú Böschemeier, Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil

Scientific Scholarships for Social Leaders Projecting a Global Model for the Social Learning of Citizen Science

Aibek Samakov, University of Central Asia

Social (Un)learning: Dimensions, Scales, and Types of Knowledge

15:30 – 18:00   **Optional Extra: PECE Training with Tim Schütz**

PROGRAM

09:00 – 10:30

SESSION V

Hossein Zamanlou, University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland

Designing Reflective Recruitment and Social Learning Platforms for Sustainability

Laura Bullon-Cassis, Geneva Graduate Institute

Friction and Civil Disobedience on Social Media Platforms

10:30 – 11:00

COFFEE BREAK

11:00 – 12:30

SESSION VI (PARTICIPATIVE STORY HARVESTING)

Jinjin Zhang, Chinese University of Hong Kong

Learning, Doing, and Storytelling of Digital Transformation in Rural Japan

Agustina Andreoletti, University of Cologne

Transcontinental Techno-Accessibility: Collaborative Digitisation of Colonial Heritage Collections

12:30 – 13:30

LUNCH

13:30 – 15:00

SESSION VII

So What & What's Next

Reflections and discussion
with commentary by Pujo Semedi, Gadjah Mada University