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The Research Council
of Norway

Launching seminar

World Social Science Report 2013: "Changing Global Environments"

Venue: The Research Council of Norway, Stensberggt. 26, Oslo

11 April 2014



09:00	Registration, coffee
09:30	Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jon Holm, Director – Dept. for Humanities and Social Sciences, RCN• Tora Aasland, President of the Norwegian Commission for UNESCO
09:50	Background to the WSSR-reports: UNESCO – ISSC cooperation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jan Monteverde Haakonsen, Vice-President, UNESCO's MOST-Programme
10:00	Presentation of the WSSR 2013 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Heide Hackmann, Executive Director, International Social Science Council (ISSC), and Report Director, WSSR 2013
10:30	Commentaries <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Professor Karen O'Brien, University of Oslo, Contributing author to WSSR• Research Director Asuncion Lera St. Clair, CICERO, Contributing author to WSSR• Representative from UNESCO's Sector for Social and Human Sciences (SHS)
11:00	Discussion
11:30	Closing remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bjørn Tore Kjellemo, Director – Dept. for Cooperation and Development Research, RCN
11:45	Lunch

Participants are asked to pre-register [here](#) before 8 April 2014

For enquires, contact Jan M. Haakonsen (jha@rcn.no)

The conference will be streamed. Go to www.forskningsradet.no >Nyheter >Videosendinger

About the report

Entitled “Changing Global Environments”, the 2013 World Social Sciences Report was first launched during the SHS Commission of the 37th session of UNESCO’s General Conference on 15 November 2013.

Co-published by UNESCO, the Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the International Social Science Council (ISSC), the Report includes 100 articles written by 150 authors from 41 countries all over the world, is divided into nine sections:

- *Introduction*: Social sciences in a changing global environment
- *Key messages and recommendations*: Global environmental change changes everything
- The complexity and urgency of global environmental change and social transformation
- Social science capacity in global environmental change research
- The consequences of global environmental change for society
- Conditions and visions for change and sense-making in a rapidly changing world
- The responsibilities and ethical challenges in tackling global environmental change
- New approaches to governance and decision-making
- Contributions from International Social Science Council members, programmes and partners

In the report, the authors find that the impacts of climate change cannot be grasped without understanding the human context in which they unfold. The social sciences must thus reframe climate change and global environmental change as fundamentally social rather than physical problems.

The report can be ordered from [UNESCO Publishing](#) - UNESCO ISBN 978-92-3-104254-6

The report can also be read online on the web-pages of [ISSC](#), while individual articles can be read in the [OECD i-library](#).