

TOWARDS 'THE BIG ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIETY'?

14 –15 APRIL 2011
CARDIFF

CIVIL SOCIETY, PRIVATE SECTOR
AND THE STATE
IN LANDSCAPE GOVERNANCE,
NATURE CONSERVATION AND
ECOSYSTEM SERVICE MANAGEMENT

A TRANSDISCIPLINARY BRITISH-GERMAN
SYMPOSIUM

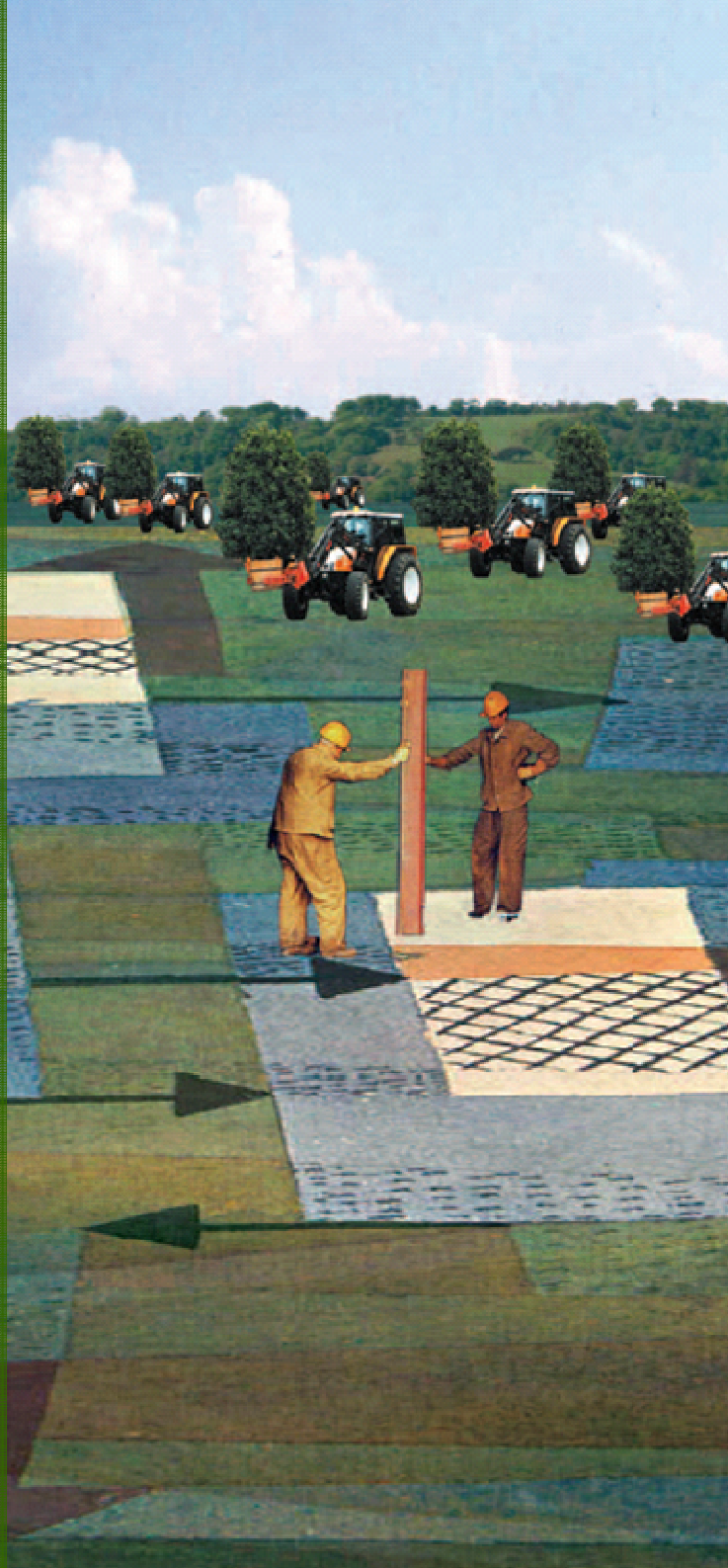
ORGANISED BY:



COOPERATION WITH:



Venue: Cardiff University
Dates: 14-15 April 2011
Number of participants: max. 60



It has now been widely recognised that “nature” – biodiversity, natural resources and the wide range of services they provide – underpins economies, societies, and individual well-being. However, in recent years threats to biodiversity and ecosystems have been evidenced as being more dramatic than widely believed. How shall our societies tackle these problems? A variety of approaches such as top-down and regulatory instruments as well as market-oriented and community-based approaches are perceived as necessary for addressing these problems. However, different approaches require different collaborations of various societal actors, thereby underlining the effects of these approaches.

How does this call for more strategic approaches in nature conservation in complex societies relate to the general trend toward more liberal policy systems in many European countries? In the UK, the new Coalition Government has set a clear commitment to shift the balance of power from ‘Big Government’ to ‘Big Society’. But what are the prospects of such an approach being implemented in current ecological and societal contexts? How would the likely consequences look like? Such a debate should include not only the potential effectiveness of different actor constellations and governance models, but also the (perceived) legitimacy of decision-making arrangements. This symposium aims to encourage critical debate on the role of civil society in current governance models and civil society’s mindscape. What possibilities do the different societal actors have for solving environmental problems? In what topics and what ways are they choosing to act? Are certain topics, strategies, or partnerships left out and why? The contributions and discussions will explore how a ‘Big Environmental Society’ could actually look like, whether it would be an improvement, and what the alternatives are.

9.00	Sightseeing Tour
Cross societal actor perspectives	
11.00	Welcome and Opening Remarks Bettina Matzdorf, CIVILand project Susan Baker, PLACE Institute Peter Feindt, CPLAN
11.15	Bettina Matzdorf (CIVILand project) Current challenges in protecting and enhancing the natural environment
11.45	Panel 1: What are the potentials of the different societal actors for finding solutions for the challenges? Panellists Civil Society: Jon Cracknell (Environmental Funders Network), Tilmann Heuser (Friends of the Earth Germany), Andy Tickle (Campaign to Protect Rural England) Business: Christiane von Finckenstein-Wang (Volkswagen Group) State: Morgan Parry (Countryside Council for Wales) Social enterprises: Kevin Morgan (CPLAN)
13.45	Lunch
14.45	Rupert Graf Strachwitz (Maecenata Institute for Philanthropy and Civil Society, Berlin) The role of mutual expectations in cooperation Killian Bizer (Goettingen University) Land-use management – an economic institutionalist’s perspective
16.15	Tea/Coffee Break
16.45	Panel 2: What do societal actors expect from each other? Panellists: Civil Society: Paul Morling (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds), Holger Belz (Heinz Sielmann Stiftung) State: Monika Griefahn (former Environment Minister, Lower Saxony), Kevin Bishop (Chief Executive of Dartmoor National Park Authority) (TBC)
18.40-19.00	Summary of the Results Peter Feindt and Susan Baker
19.30	Dinner

This Symposium is a rare event that brings together researchers, practitioners and policy-makers from Wales, other parts of the UK and Germany to discuss the future of nature conservation and ecosystem services management. The cross-sector and cross-country composition of participants will create a unique opportunity for mutual learning and will allow to consider the role of cultural and political contexts. This workshop is a transdisciplinary milestone event of the CIVILand research project. It contributes to the theme “Adaptive Governance” of the Sustainable Places Research Institute and to the themes “Towards Sustainable Agri-Food” and “Sustainable Lifestyles and Communities” of the ESRC Centre for Business Relationships, Accountability, Sustainability and Society (BRASS).

INFORMATION & REGISTRATION

For more information please visit the website www.civiland-zalf.org or contact Bettina Matzdorf (matzdorf@zalf.de). To register for the symposium please email to Kristin Nicolaus (Civiland@cf.ac.uk). Participation, excluding catering, is free. Catering has to be booked with Kristin by 6 April 2011.

THE ORGANISER

The research group CIVILand is based at the Leibniz-Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research (ZALF) and conducts research in cooperation with various partners in Germany, UK and the US. The Federal Ministry for Education and Research (BMBF) funds this junior research group through the research program “Social-ecological Research” (SÖF).



Cross country perspectives	
9.00	Opening Remarks
9.15	Kristin Nicolaus, Thomas Krikser (CIVILand project) Environmental civil society organizations in the UK and Germany
	Lawrence Kitchen (CPLAN, Wales Rural Observatory) Three models of community forestry – comparative lessons from the UK
10.30	Tea/Coffee Break
11.00	A visually stimulated deliberation workshop (1) Facilitator: Kenneth Anders The Workshop Questions: What are the potentials for a new civil engagement in landscape development? How do they differ between Great Britain and Germany? A creative future discussion on the traditions of nature conservation, perception of landscape character, socioeconomic relationship to environment, regional discourses and identity. The Aim: The aim is to work out a better and differentiated survey of the factors that must be considered for a Big Environmental society.
12.30	Lunch
13.30	A visually stimulated deliberation workshop (2) Facilitator: Kenneth Anders
15.30	Final Discussion and Short Summary with Ken Peattie Results of the future conference and moderated open discussions
16.00	End of the Symposium

PANELS

Each panel consists of five members with different backgrounds. Some are experienced in the work of environmental organizations, foundations or foundation networks, others come from a company or governmental departments. Each panel with statements on the panel topic, followed by a lively and informative discussion among panellists and with the audience.

Panel 1 - What are the potentials of the different societal actors for finding solutions for the challenge?

Currently (in Germany as well as in the UK) the state is pushing forward the idea of a strong civil society which helps to achieve and fund societal tasks and public goods. The panellists will discuss and debate the role and potential of each societal actor from their point of view. What do they think is their role in managing environmental problems? How do they define their roles? What are the specific advantages of the respective organisational structure? Can some of the contemporary and pressing problems that we (as a society) face only be addressed through collaboration? Where and how can the various actors connect and how are they strictly distinguished from each other? Do they have different approaches and strategies for solving environmental problems?

Panel 2 - What do societal actors expect from each other?

After debating "insight" expectations in the first panel we would like to change the perspective and ask the panellists what they expect from other players. This panel will therefore focus on the connections between the actions undertaken by the various actors and the different constraints that they face. The panel will refer to the following questions: What structures and institutions are needed to address environmental problems? What should be undertaken by the state, business and non-governmental organizations? Do these expectations differ, and if so, why? This panel will explore overlapping and possibly diverging interests and ideas.

WORKSHOP

A visually stimulated deliberation workshop

What are the potentials for a new civil engagement in landscape development? A future oriented discussion on traditions of nature conservation, perception of landscape character, socioeconomic relationship to environment, regional discourses and identity.

Discussion form

Usually workshops take place as symposiums with various lectures or just as talks in groups. This time we want to vary these dispositions. The facilitator, Kenneth Anders, will give input to stimulate discussion on various issues, using his landscape photo collection, guiding the conversation towards a meaningful exploration of collaboration and whether there is or could be a "Big Environmental Society". Inputs will not be complete set pieces but will require the group to complete and substantiate them and discover each other's implicit ideas and values in the process. This will also allow participants to discuss the differences and similarities between the UK and Germany and draw lessons.

Purpose

The aim is to enhance our understanding of the factors that must be considered to make a "Big Environmental Society" work. These factors are often disparate and not embedded in political departments and scientific disciplines. That's why they have to be addressed in a transdisciplinary and lively collaboration.

REGISTRATION/CATERING

Participation in the Symposium is free but you need to register because space is limited and the number of participants is limited to a maximum of 60. For registration, please send an email to civiland@cardiff.ac.uk. We strongly advice to book catering in advance, at the latest **by 6 April 2011**.

Registration without any catering	£ 0
Lunch & Coffee	£ 20 per day
Conference Dinner Thursday	£ 30

In your registration email, please indicate your chosen catering option. You will then receive an email invoice. If you wish to be included in the catering, you need to register by 6 April 2011.

SPEAKERS

Kenneth Anders studied culture, sociology and philosophy in Leipzig and Berlin and wrote his PhD dissertation on theories of civilization. He worked as a journalist and produced an exhibition on nature conservation history. Landscape became his main subject in an interdisciplinary research project on former military training areas. In 2004 he founded an office for landscape communication with Lars Fischer. Their aim is to promote regional discourses on landscape development by linking scientific knowledge, artificial techniques und local perspectives.

Susan Baker is a professor at Cardiff University. Her main research interests are environmental governance in the European Union; and eco feminism, gender and the environment. The former includes the promotion of sustainable development; environmental governance and eastern enlargement, including in Bulgaria; and governance and democratic participation. She has also extensively worked on the relationship between social and ecological processes, particularly in relation to climate change and biodiversity loss. She has a multidisciplinary background (economics, philosophy and political science).

Holger Belz is a staff member of the Heinz Sielmann Foundation, a German foundation based in southern Lower Saxony. He is responsible for the funding of nature conservation and assists in the implementation of funded projects.

Kevin Bishop has a degree in geography, an advanced diploma in environmental planning and a PhD in land management. He was Lecturer at CPLAN and Director for Environment and Regeneration at the Welsh Local Government Association before he worked for the Countryside Council for Wales. Since 2008, he is Chief Executive of Dartmoor National Park Authority.

Kilian Bizer is a professor at the Göttingen University Georgia-Augusta where he is chair of Economic Policy and SME Research. He studied economics in Göttingen, Madison, Wisconsin and Cologne. He holds a doctoral degree from the University of Cologne. His doctoral thesis was an economic analysis of environmental law. Prof. Bizer is director of the Economic Institute for Crafts and SME of the Georg-August University of Göttingen.

Jon Cracknell has been working on environmental issues since the early 1990's. Following degrees in Social and Political Sciences and then Mass Communications, he worked in the early 1990's for a London-based public affairs company which specialised in lobbying for non-profit clients. Jon has been working with the family of the late Sir James Goldsmith since the end of 1993. Jon coordinates the UK Environmental Funders Network (EFN) (www.greenfunders.org) which brings together foundations funding environmental initiatives.

Peter H. Feindt is Reader in Environmental Policy at Cardiff University. An economist and political scientist by training, has worked as a consultant, facilitator and mediator for public policy and planning projects and sustainability discourses. His internationally recognised research includes theoretical and empirical studies in environmental policy and planning, agricultural and rural policy, democracy and participation, multi-arena governance, political communication, and sustainability politics.

Christiane von Finckenstein-Wang has held various positions in corporate and environmental strategy and is the coordinator of all biodiversity related activities of the Volkswagen Group.

Monika Griefahn is a sociologist. She was a founding member of Greenpeace Germany and co-director from 1980 to 1983. From 1984 to 1990 she worked as the first female member on the international board of Greenpeace and was responsible for founding new offices and for skill-sharing around the world. During and after her time as minister for the environment in the German State of Lower Saxony (1990 – 1998) she dedicated her work to initiating a new energy policy. From 1998 to 2009 she served as a member of the German Parliament. At the moment she is co-chair of the Right Livelihood Award Foundation (“Alternative Nobel Prize”). She had served as a member on that board for 25 years.

Tilmann Heuser started his career as an environmentalist in the mid 1980's by founding an environmental youth group in his hometown. Besides his master study of geography, microeconomics and public law at the University of Freiburg he was active in different volunteer positions and projects at local and regional levels of the Bund für Umwelt und Naturschutz Deutschland (BUND, Friends of the Earth Germany). In 1999 he became head of Transportation Policy Department at the national headquarter of BUND. He has been the general secretary of the state organisation of BUND in Berlin since 2005.

Lawrence Kitchen is Research Associate at the Wales Rural Observatory (WRO) at Cardiff University. He studied at the University of Bath where he obtained a BSc in Economics and Politics; an MSc in Social Research; and a PhD, which focused on the environmental management of the Blackdown Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. At Cardiff, he has worked on social forestry and latterly with the WRO on rural development. His principal research interests are social forestry, sustainable development and the eco-economy.

Thomas Krikser is a member of the CIVILand research group. He studied political science, sociology and media studies at the Universities of Marburg and Berlin. As a lecturer in political science Thomas taught and researched current issues and controversies of educational sociology and empirical educational research. From 2006 to February 2009 Thomas Krikser was involved in the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development.

Bettina Matzdorf is the head of the CIVILand research group. She studied landscape planning at the Technical University Berlin and holds a doctoral degree in agriculture from the Christian-Albrechts University in Kiel. Bettina has been working at the Institute of Socio-Economics at the Leibniz-Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research (ZALF) since 2002, leading the research area "Instruments and Institutions". Her research focus is on payments for ecosystem services, including agri-environmental schemes.

Kevin Morgan is Professor of Governance and Development at CPLAN, Cardiff University. He is a member of the Urban and Regional Governance Research Group and Director of the Regeneration Institute. His research interests include Innovation and Regional Development; Devolution and the Multi-Level Polity; Sustainable Agri-Food Chains; Regeneration and Self-Managed Communities.

Paul Morling is a senior economist at the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB). The RSPB speaks out for birds and wildlife, tackling the problems that threaten our environment. It is the largest wildlife conservation organisation in Europe with over one million members.

Kristin Nicolaus is a member of the CIVILand research group. She studied landscape planning at the Technical University Berlin. Kristin joined the Leibniz-Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research (ZALF) in July 2008. Her PhD research project focuses on deliberation and participation in the design processes of payments for ecosystem services.

Morgan Parry was appointed chair of the Countryside Council for Wales in March 2010. He is a member of the Climate Change Commission for Wales. Until his appointment to CCW he was chair of Cynnal Cymru, the Sustainable Development Forum for Wales and a writer and lecturer on sustainability. He established the Wales office of WWF in 2000 and led the organisation there until May 2009. Previous to that he was the director of the North Wales Wildlife Trust and had managed country parks, nature reserves and visitor attractions for Gwynedd County Council for 10 years. He graduated in Applied Biology, and studied Countryside Management at Bangor University.

Ken Peattie took up a ten year appointment as full-time director of the ESRC Research Centre for Business Relationships, Accountability, Sustainability and Society (BRASS) based at Cardiff University in October 2001. BRASS is UK's largest social science research centre dedicated to issues of business sustainability and corporate social responsibility. Ken is also one of the nine Principal Investigators behind Cardiff University's interdisciplinary Sustainable Places Research Institute (SPRINT), established in 2010. Prior to becoming a lecturer, he worked for three years in Marketing, Distribution and Information Systems with Kimberly-Clark UK, and also spent two years working in strategic planning within the UK electronics industry.

Rupert Graf Strachwitz has been involved in not-for-profit organizations for well over 30 years – as a volunteer, staff member, board member, consultant, and researcher, and lecturer. He has been the managing director of Maecenata Management, a consultancy that specializes in foundations and associations, corporate citizenship and philanthropy since 1989. From 1997 to present, he was the director of the Maecenata Institute for Philanthropy and Civil Society, which is now affiliated to Humboldt University, Berlin.

Andy Tickle has been head of planning and campaigning at CPRE South Yorkshire since 2002. He also speaks for CPRE nationally on the UK minerals policy. Originally a natural scientist, his career comprises mixed environmental campaigning with stints in academia at Birkbeck College, London. He joined Greenpeace UK in the late 1980s as an acid rain campaigner and worked with Greenpeace International on their Gulf War campaign (1991) and opened up offices in Central and Eastern Europe from 1989 onwards. The role of civil society groups in policy, politics and protest has become a key research interest of his, addressing countries as disparate as the UK, Russia, the Czech Republic and Slovenia.