

## **Activities for Arild Vatn – Thor Heyerdahl professorship August 2008 – August 2009**

The year of 2008-2009 has been very much characterized by establishing myself as Thor Heyerdahl professor. This has implied crafting out a new research area and developing a revised teaching program. Details about the activities are found in Appendix.

Concerning the crafting out of a new research area, I have started building up projects related to 'environmental governance and climate change'. So far the main focus has been on project related to the new REDD initiative (reduced emissions from deforestation and forest degradation). This is a much focused area with potential of being included in the post Kyoto regime from 2012. One project is both started and finalized within the period covered by this report (project 1 – appendix). Two have been started in the spring of 2009 (projects 2 and 3 – appendix). This research is interdisciplinary and both environment and development issues are emphasized. The research covers local studies in Brazil, Ghana, Tanzania, Uganda and Vietnam.

In relation to this, it should also be mentioned that I – together with colleagues at Noragric – have started to develop a 'cluster group' titled 'Global governance and climate change'. This is part of an overall strategy at Noragric to develop such clusters.

Concerning the revised teaching program, I have been engaged in planning a 'Thor Heyerdahl summer school in Environmental governance' – see separate note dated July 07, 2009. The school is planned as a PhD course to be run once a year. The idea behind the school is to bring in renowned national and international researchers to work with a selected group of PhD students/young researchers from all over the world. A program for the first three years is sketched and cooperation with Cicero and FNI is established. We are now seeking financial support for the school.

Despite the above new initiatives, there is also continuity in my activities. I have hence finished one project in 2009 started back in 2003 (project 4 – appendix). I have also started two projects in 2008 which was applied for before I became Thor Heyerdahl professor (project 5 and 6 – appendix). Both are interdisciplinary projects focused at environmental behavior and policy. They hence fit very well into the overall focus on environmental governance.

I also continue to teach courses for the Noragric master in International Environment Studies. I have had 4 master and 4 PhD students to supervise. I am also co-supervisor for two more PhDs. I also have several administrative positions/appointments beyond the ordinary job. I find it hard to combine these with the new professorship, and I will hence step down from at least two of them when the period goes out by the end of 2009. Finally, I should also mention that I have been invited to give a series of presentations – both nationally and internationally during the year.

2009 seems to be a good year for publications – see appendix. I should add that I have made agreements this summer about two book projects – one with Edward Elgar and one with Routledge. I must confess that I am fighting hard to allocate time to these, though.

## **APPENDIX: Activities 15.08.08-15.08.09**

### **Research projects**

1. *The REDD direction - the potential for reduced carbon emissions, biodiversity protection and increased development* (financed by Norad) Led by Arild Vatn Started November 2008 and finished August 2010
2. *Poverty and sustainable development impacts of REDD architecture; Options for equity, growth and the environment* (financed by NORAD) (2009-2012), led by Ivan Bond, IIED, London. WP 3 led by Arild Vatn, Noragric. Started June 2009
3. *Learning from REDD: A Global Comparative Analysis* (financed by NORAD) (2009-2012) led by CIFOR.
4. *Application of multi criteria analysis in coastal zones in Norway: A tool for development of compromise solutions for different uses* (financed by the Norwegian Research Council) (2003-2009). Led by Arild Vatn. Finished August 2009
5. *Environmental policy and human action* (financed by the Norwegian Research Council) (2008-2012). Led by Arild Vatn. Started August 2008
6. *Can a combination of policy instruments increase the effectiveness and public acceptability of environmental policies?* (financed by the Norwegian Research Council) (2008- 2012), led by Hege Westskog, Center for International Climate and Environmental Research (CICERO), Oslo. Started spring 2008)

### **Teaching:**

- EDS234 (5 credits): Environmental Economics – the Role of Institutions
- EDS235 (10 credits): Political Economy – Institutions and the Environment
- Lectures in PhD courses EDS410 (Environment and Development Studies) and EDS415 (Research Methodology)
- Responsible for the international PhD summer school series ‘Theories and Methods for Sustainability Research (Themes)’ 2005-2009. THEMES includes 4 schools/courses arranged at different European Universities. It is funded by Marie Curie. THEMES IV was arranged at SPRU, University of Sussex, June 15-26, 2009. Title of THEMES IV was: ‘Integrated analysis of complex, adaptive systems’. While my main job is developing the program and supervising students attending the courses, I also have given lectures at the various schools. My presentation at THEMES IV was titled: ‘Institutional analysis of sustainable development’, 09.00 – 12.30, June 22.

### **Supervision:**

#### Master students 2008-2009:

Martin Barker  
Mia Henriksen  
Salomon Negash  
Ellen Stenslie

### PhDs – main responsibility

Marit Heller (Noragric)

Valborg Kvakkestad (IØR)

Katrine Soma (IØR)

Marianne Aasen (Noragric)

### PhD – co-supervisor

Jon-Geir Petursson (Noragric)

Nani Raut (Noragric)

### **Committees/appointments etc**

- President of the European Society for Ecological Economics (ESEE) (2006-2009)
- Leader for the program committee for the research program ‘Miljø 2015’ (‘Environment 2015’), Norwegian Research Council, 2006 -2009.
- Member of Climate 21 – a steering group for the strategic forum for climate change research appointed by the Norwegian government (2009)
- Member of advisory group for the Ministry of Agriculture and Food on climate policy (2008-2009)
- Member of the editorial board for Environmental Policy and Governance (2009 -)
- Member of the editorial board for Ecological Economics (2009 -)
- Member of the editorial board for Environmental Values (2000 -)

### **Publications**

#### Articles in international peer review journals

Anfinnsen, B., M. Aguilar-Støen and A. Vatn, 2009. Actitudes de los productores ganaderos de El Petén, Guatemala, respecto a la implementación de sistemas silvopastoriles. *Agroforestería en las Américas*, 47:20-26.

Vatn, A., 2009. An Institutional Analysis of Methods for Environmental Appraisal. *Ecological Economics*, 68:2207-2215

Bergseng, E. and A. Vatn, 2009. Why protection of biodiversity creates conflict – some evidence from the Nordic countries. *Journal of Forest Economics*, 15:147-165

Soma, K. and A. Vatn, 2009. Local democracy implications for coastal zone management – A case study in southern Norway. *Land Use Policy*, 26:755-762

Vatn, A., 2009. Cooperative behavior and institutions. *Journal of Socio-Economics*, 38:188-196.

Risteh, J.Å. and A. Vatn, 2009. Modernization and pasture degradation. A comparative study of two Sámi reindeer pasture regions in Norway. *Land Economics*, 84(1):87-106.

#### Articles in edited books

Vatn, A., 2009. Sustainability, institutions and behavior. In Beckmann, V. and M. Padmanabhan (eds.): *Institutions and Sustainability*. Berlin, Springer, pp. 293-314.

Vatn, A., 2008. Institutions and Rationality. In Batie, S., and N. Mercurio (eds.): *Assessing the Evolution and Impact of Alternative Institutional Structures*. London, Routledge Press, pp. 113-139.

### Books and scientific reports

Vatn, A., P. Vedeld, J.G. Petursson and E. Stenslie, 2009. *The REDD direction. The potential for reduced carbon emissions, biodiversity protection and increased development. A desk study with special focus on the situation in Uganda and Tanzania*. Noragric Report. 140 p.

### **Invited presentations and lectures etc**

- At the 'PhD Student Camp' at the 8th international conference for European Society for Ecological Economics, Ljubljana, July 03, 2009. Title of presentation: The History and Future of Ecological Economics.
- At the UMB 150 years anniversary conference, Aas, May 28, 2009. Title of presentation: Mat, miljø og klima – er utviklinga bærekraftig?
- At 'Klimaskolen i Nord-Trøndelag', May 5, 2009. Title of presentation: Karbon kretsløpet.
- At workshop 1, Nordic Environmental Law, Governance and Science Network, University of Oslo, April 27-28, 2009. Title of presentation: Some thoughts on Interdisciplinarity in Environmental Research. Experiences with the NFR research program 'Environment 2015'.
- At the Seminar in Energy, Environmental and Resource Economics Sponsored by CEPE in collaboration with CER and PEPE, ETH, Zürich, April 24, 2009. Title of presentation: An Institutional Analysis of Methods for Environmental Appraisal
- At mastercourse in 'Institutional Perspectives on Environmental Governance', Institute of Social Ecology, Klagenfurt University, Vienna, April 22-23, 2009. Three parts:
  - o Understanding institutions
  - o Institutions and human action
  - o Environmental governance
- At staff seminar. Institute of Social Ecology, University of Klagenfurth, Vienna, April 22, 2009. Title of presentation: Sustainability, Institutions and Behavior.
- At 'Tenkeloft Trøndersk Landbruk'. Sandvika, March 12 and 13, 2009. Title of presentation: Klimaendringer – utfordringer og løsninger for landbruket.
- At seminar on climate policy, Statens Forurensningstilsyn, Oslo, March 3, 2009. Title of presentation: Klimapolitikk – langt mer enn ny teknologi.
- At the Symposium in honour of Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Konrad Hagedorn on the occasion of his 60th Birthday, at the Faculty of Agriculture and Horticulture of the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, December 15, 2008. Title of the presentation: Sustainability, Institutions and Behavior
- At the Ashoka Trust for research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE), Bangalore, December 11-12. Two parts:
  - o Institutions and the Environment
  - o Environmental policy – a global perspective.
- At University of Agricultural Sciences Bangalore, December 12, 2008. Title of presentation: Payments for Environmental Services: An Institutional Analysis.

- At Tingvold Park hotel, Steinkjer, November 28, 2008. Organizer Nord-Trøndelag Bondelag. Title of presentation: Klimaendringer – utfordringer og løsninger for landbruket.
- At Pensjonistakademiet UMB, November 26, 2008. Title of presentation: Menneske og miljø – fra hjerneforskning til klimadebatt.
- At seminar organized by Oikos Innherred, Steinkjer, October 17, 2008. Title of presentation: Klima – samfunn – landbruk. Fra tanke til handling.
- At 'Klimakonferanse' organized by Nei til EU, Ås/UMB 27. September, 2008. Title of presentation: Økonomiske systemer og miljø.
- At open meeting 'Thor Heyerdahl professoratet', 19. september, Tollerodden, Larvik. Title of presentation: Bærekraftig utvikling – ei tverrfaglig reise
- At the international workshop: "Making Sense of Ecosystem Services: Ecosocial and Institutional Perspectives", Koli, Finland, August 25-27. Three presentations
  - o Impasse in Biodiversity Conservation Policy: An Institutional Analysis
  - o What are Ecosystem Services: Understanding complexity.
  - o Cherishing Ecosystem Services: Environmental appraisal methods as value articulating institutions (VAIs).
- At seminar on social science research in relation to climate change, Norwegian Research Council, August 21, 2008. Title of presentation: Samfunnsforskning i framtidens NORKLIMA

Added to this are 3 presentations at conferences with accepted papers