

Call for expressions of interest

Climate in Transition: An Interdisciplinary Interrogation of Global Environmental Change

Institut de Ciència i Tecnologia Ambientals (ICTA-UAB),
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona,
29-30 April, 2019

About

The aim of this workshop is to encourage interdisciplinary debate about the role of transitions in responding to climate change and to facilitate cross-disciplinary learning. Many conferences focus on the communication of completed research, with few opportunities for critical debate on research directions and objectives. We are seeking to encourage critical debate on transitions thinking from many disciplinary perspectives and to facilitate international dialogue, collaboration and mentoring. At the end of the two days we anticipate that the debate will lead to new research collaborations.

We invite researchers and practitioners from all disciplines interested in transition debates to join us for a two-day workshop (29 - 30 April 2019). Prominent international researchers will introduce participants to transition-related concepts, case studies and debates. Thematic discussions will allow participants to interact with experts from different disciplines, create a network of contacts and contribute insights about the role of transitions in their field.

Confirmed keynote speakers: Professor Vanesa Castan Broto (University of Sheffield) and
JProf Sina Leipold (University of Freiburg)

A keynote speaker from the natural sciences as well as a fourth keynote speaker are to be announced.

See the attached Flyer for more information about the workshop.

Contributions

You are invited to submit an expression of interest of a maximum of 200 words outlining: why you are interested in attending; what you believe the key questions are for transitions research; and why you would benefit from participating. We welcome people from all disciplines (from social to natural sciences and engineering).

Deadlines

Submission expression of interest*: **15 March**

<https://easychair.org/cfp/cit2019> (creating an account is a necessary first step)

* Submissions are managed through EASYCHAIR System.

Participants will be notified by: **29 March**

Venue

Room Z022/023

Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
08193 Bellaterra (Cerdanyola del Vallès)
Barcelona, Spain.

Contact

cit2019@easychair.org

Climate in Transition: An Interdisciplinary Interrogation of Global Environmental Change

Institute for Environmental Science and Technology (ICTA)
Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB)
29 – 30 April 2019

Over the last decade there has been increasing scholarly and policy interest in understanding how socio-ecological transitions allow us to prepare for and respond to global environmental changes, such as climate change. To date, much research has focused on transitions within particular sectors or from particular disciplinary perspectives. If socio-ecological transitions are to empower individuals, communities and institutions to transform or replace existing systems, a truly interdisciplinary perspective is needed. There is need for strong intellectual debate across disciplines and between science, policy and civil society. There is also a need to bring together different temporal perspectives, from those who study the past, such as paleoclimatologists and environmental historians, to those who are focused on the future, such as climate modelers.

The aim of this workshop is to encourage interdisciplinary debate about the role of transitions in responding to climate changes and to facilitate cross-disciplinary learning. Many conferences focus on the communication of completed research, with few opportunities for critical debate on research directions and objectives. We are seeking to encourage critical debate on transitions thinking from many disciplinary perspectives and to facilitate international dialogue, collaboration and mentoring. At the end of the two days we anticipate that the debate will lead to new research collaborations.

Some of the key questions we will be debating include:

- What type of change qualifies as a transition?
- How do transitions unfold in space and time?
- What are the underlying causes that drive transitions?
- How can policies guide a desired transition to a low-carbon economy?
- How do power relations shape transitions?
- How do society-nature relations change as a result of transitions?
- How can we combine social and natural science research to understand transitions?

ICTA is the ideal place to host such a debate. ICTA is the home of the *Environmental Innovation and Societal Transitions* journal. With its inaugural issue in 2011, the journal was the first to bring together fragmented research on transitions. ICTA is also a Maria de Maeztu (2016-2019) Centre of Excellence. As part of this program it is seeking to advance our state of knowledge on climate change and on its socio-economic impacts, and to develop transformative solutions at local and regional scales. This includes developing an understanding of bottom-up and top-down approaches to fostering a transition to a low-carbon economy.

We invite researchers from all disciplines interested in transition debates to join us for a two-day workshop (29 - 30 April 2019). Prominent international researchers will introduce participants to transition-related concepts and debates. Thematic discussions will allow participants to interact with experts from different disciplines, create a network of contacts and contribute insights about the role of transitions in their field.