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IU's Institute for Advanced Study
Visiting Fellow Lecture

presented in collaboration with
the Department of Geography



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Patterns of Authorship in the IPCC Working Group III Report:
Why Geographic Diversity May Not Lead to Intellectual Diversity

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) completed its Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) in 2014. In this presentation, the social scientific networks informing the IPCC's Working Group III (WGIII) will be explored. Based on social network analysis to identify authors' institutional pathways and patterns of co-authorship, the presentation will show the persistence and extent of North-South inequalities in the authorship of the report. The dominance of US and UK institutions as training sites for WGIII authors, and the unevenness in co-authoring relations among WGIII authors indicates the influence of a particular epistemic community over the IPCC's definition of mitigation. The presentation will also show that these co-authoring networks follow regional patterns, with significant EU-BRICS collaboration whereas authors from the US are relatively insular. From a disciplinary perspective, economists, engineers, physicists and natural scientists remain central to the process, with insignificant participation of scholars from the humanities. The shared training and career paths revealed by our research suggest that broader geographic participation may not lead to a wider range of viewpoints and cultural understandings of climate change mitigation.

Esteve Corbera is a Senior Researcher at the Institute of Environmental Sciences and Technology (ICTA), Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB). His research focuses on the governance of land-use management options for climate mitigation across scales, including analyses of climate-policy and biodiversity conservation related instruments, such as Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES), Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) and carbon offset projects. He has published in journals including *Science*, *Nature Climate Change*, and *Global Environmental Change*, co-leads the Laboratory for the Analysis of Socio-Ecological Systems in a Globalised World (LASEG) at ICTA-UAB, and was also an author in the 5th Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

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3:30 p.m.

Social Science Research Commons, Woodburn 200

Dr. Corbera's lecture is open to the IU community and the general public.

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