



# Pathways Newsletter

September 2024



futurearth  
Research. Innovation. Sustainability.

Dear Pathways community,

In our September Newsletter you will find opportunities for PhD research such as on Forest Spirituality and Sustainability in Eastern Europe and Engaging in Climate Science & Education as well as calls for papers on topics like the Social Sustainability of Food Systems. See more below!

We are also happy to announce our next [Pathways Forum](#) will take place on **October 22 from 2pm - 4pm CET**. After exploring the foundational concepts of social metabolism in our 12th Pathways Forum, we will focus now on its applications at various scales and for various uses. We will be looking into what it means to weigh cities, how we can use material footprints to assess transition scenarios, and how social metabolic approaches uncover unequal ecological exchanges on a global level.

You can register and learn more about our speakers below.

Happy reading!

Stephanie  
& the Pathways Initiative Steering Group



Contributions  
from the community!

We always welcome relevant contributions to share (events, opportunities and publications) for our next Pathways newsletter and Pathways [social media](#). Please send content for consideration to [stephanie.otoole@futureearth.org](mailto:stephanie.otoole@futureearth.org)

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## Pathways News

A colorful poster for 'RENCONTRES 2024' with the title 'Savoir habiter la Terre et ses limites'. The poster features illustrations of people in windows, a bicycle, and musical notes. It includes the text 'Les inscriptions sont OUVERTES!' and 'Lille, Lilliad Learning Center, 30 septembre - 2 octobre'. Logos for futurøarth, IRD, CNRS, Université de Lille, and bnf are at the bottom.

RENCONTRES 2024

Savoir habiter la Terre et ses limites

Les inscriptions  
sont **OUVERTES!**

Lille,  
Lilliad Learning Center  
30 septembre - 2 octobre

futurøarth IRD CNRS Université de Lille bnf

### Les inscriptions pour participer à nos Rencontres sont ouvertes!

Du **30 septembre au 2 octobre**, rejoignez-nous à Lille pour la troisième édition des Rencontres des sciences de la durabilité, organisée par Future Earth, le CNRS, l'IRD et l'Université de Lille.

Cette conférence sera une occasion pour explorer et discuter d'autres manières d'habiter la Terre, en respectant ses limites et en répondant aux besoins fondamentaux de tous et toutes. Pour découvrir le programme et vous inscrire, cliquez [ici](#).



## Food for Thought

*An open space for boundary-pushing critical reflections, opinions, and perspectives from the scientific community on doing sustainability science*

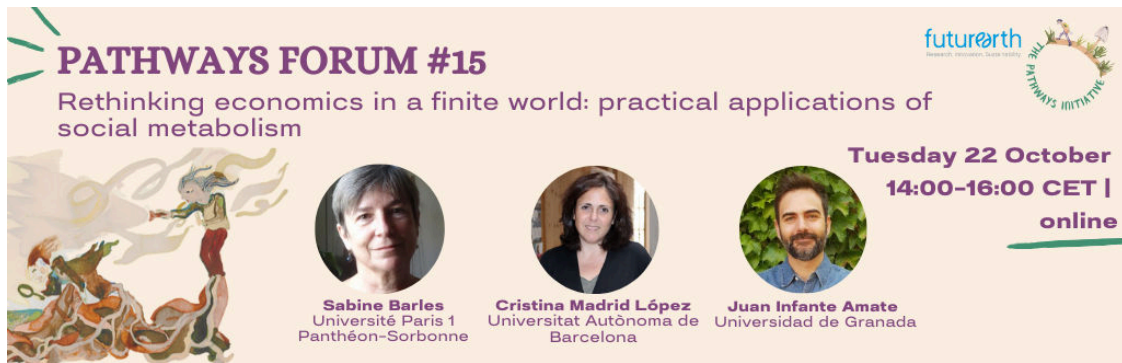
### Essay: Alternatives To Mainstream Publishing Within And Beyond Academia

"...Art and activism take this openness further, opening up radically new ways of knowledge creation, also beyond writing and publishing. When operating outside established institutions, such initiatives can be a force that pushes academia and universities to engage with the issues most pressing to those involved in socio-ecological transformation from below.."

[Read more here.](#)

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## Events



**PATHWAYS FORUM #15**  
Rethinking economics in a finite world: practical applications of social metabolism

**Tuesday 22 October**  
**14:00-16:00 CET | online**

**Sabine Barles**  
Université Paris 1  
Panthéon-Sorbonne

**Cristina Madrid López**  
Universitat Autònoma de  
Barcelona

**Juan Infante Amate**  
Universidad de Granada

Logo: futuræarth, THE PATHWAYS INITIATIVE

## Pathways Forum #15 - Rethinking economics in a finite world: practical applications of social metabolism

After exploring the foundational concepts of social metabolism and how it can be applied to sustainability issues in our [12th Pathways Forum](#), we will focus here on its applications at various scales and for various uses. We will be looking into what it means to weigh cities, how we can use material footprints to assess transition scenarios, and how social metabolic approaches uncover unequal ecological exchanges on a global level.

**Happening: 22 October 2pm - 4pm CET | online**

[Register now](#)



### Sustainability for the Forgotten: Bringing the oft-forgotten into the core of the sustainability movement

The University of Colorado invites you to this lecture and discussion on the book 'Sustainability for the Forgotten' written by Gary E. Machlis. The concept of sustainability is examined critically with an emphasis on ensuring that the most marginalized voices are heard.

[Register here.](#)

**Happening: 9 September 2024 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM MT at University of Colorado and online (Zoom)**

Re-imagining  
**Earth System  
Governance**  
in an Era of Polycrisis  
October 14th-18th 2024

### ESG Forum: 'Re-imagining Earth System Governance in an Era of Polycrisis'

This conference aims to re-evaluate traditional paradigms and tenets of global sustainability governance in order to navigate these complex and interlinked global crises

– a “polycrisis”. This re-imagination requires a multidimensional and multidisciplinary approach and involves integrating insights from various fields.

[Register here.](#)

**Happening: 14 - 18 October 2024**



### **STRN PhD School: 'Systems, Theories, Policies and Practices: An Introductory PhD Course in Sustainability Transitions Research'**

This course is a comprehensive introduction to the dynamic field of sustainability transitions. Modules include: Global South and Geography of Transitions, Just and Inclusive Transitions and Transformative Innovation Policy.

[Apply here by 20 September 2024.](#)

**Happening: 3-7 February 2025**

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## Spotlight



The [Pathways Communication Grant](#) project “**Transformation of coffee landscapes: co-production of pathways for sustainability through participatory serious board games**” is a participatory and multi-stakeholder research tool that can be adapted and implemented in many coffee-production contexts around the world.

As a communication output, the team behind the project developed **CAFES** (Coffee Agroecosystems Fostering Environmental Sustainability), a serious board game that was used as a tool to generate active reflection by local stakeholders on the challenges faced by the coffee sector in central Veracruz, Mexico. [Learn more here in English and Spanish.](#)



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## Publications

**Saberes Territoriales de los Pueblos Originarios y Prácticas de Descolonización Epistémica de la Geografía**  
(2024, ACME) [Read here.](#)

**Demand-side strategies key for mitigating material impacts of energy transitions**

(2024, Nature). [Read here.](#)

**Transformative learning at the community-university-land interface: A political ecology of knowledge, education and health**  
(2024, Journal of Political Ecology) [Read here.](#)

## Opportunities



### **PhD Researcher Forest Spirituality in Eastern Europe**

Wageningen University is looking for a PhD researcher to understand how forest spirituality plays a role in forest management, governance, and sustainability. You will need to be interested in doing qualitative social science research in an interdisciplinary setting involving other researchers, forest managers, nature conservationists and other forest related stakeholders.

[Learn more here.](#)

**Deadline to apply: 2 September 2024**



### **Postdoctoral Researcher in Ecological Macroeconomics**

The successful candidate will join a research team at Barcelona University working on ecological economics and political ecology, with a particular focus on “post-growth” approaches. The researcher may contribute to research to understand the time-use requirements of achieving a good life for all people within planetary boundaries.

[Learn more here.](#)

**Deadline to apply: 2 September 2024**



### **Combined PhD-teaching: Engaging in Climate Science & Education**

To explore and study the interface between the climate sciences and the arts, we are looking for a combined teacher-PhD candidate with an interest in education and sustainability & climate science. In this position, you will combine research on environmental sciences and sustainability education with teaching in our bachelor and master programmes.

[Learn more here.](#)

**Deadline to apply: 6 September 2024**



## PhD student in Sustainability Science and Food Systems

The project at Stockholm University aims to investigate potential national food consumption pathways under different futures scenarios with the objective to identify critical features for securing sustainable and healthy futures.

[Learn more here.](#)

**Deadline to apply: 8 September 2024**

**degrowth**  
JOURNAL

## Call for papers: Degrowth Journal

The special issue on Anarchy and Degrowth will be published in the open-access *Degrowth* journal. By drawing on anarchist traditions, this special issue aims to stretch degrowth into new territories to move beyond/against-borders, state repression and policing to enhance degrowth as a counterforce to statism and capitalism.

[Learn more here.](#)

**Deadline to apply: 15 September 2024**



## Two PhD Positions on Power Dynamics in Transformative Social Innovation

The PhD students at Utrecht University will focus on theoretical and empirical investigations of two or more social innovation movements (decentralized energy production, the sharing economy, eco-communities, and/or participatory democracy) across Europe and beyond.

[Learn more here.](#)

**Deadline to apply: 30 September 2024**



## Call for papers: The Social Sustainability of Food Systems: Addressing the Inequality-Unsustainability Nexus

The papers in the special issue will examine whether and how the current food system relies on, fosters, and entrenches, socio-economic, racial, gender, and other inequalities which further undermine sustainability.

[Learn more here.](#)

**Deadline to apply: 30 September 2024**



## Call for contributions: Sustainability Science Summit 2025

Organised by the German Committee Future Earth, session proposals are invited on fundamental approaches in sustainability science, on the structure of the science and

research landscape, on the interface of science and policy making and practice, as well as on the role of international networks and cooperation.

[Learn more here.](#)

**Deadline to apply: 30 September 2024**



### **Call for papers: Innovation Pathways to Sustainability in Mountains**

With this focus issue, MRD aims to contribute to a better understanding of the nature, processes, and impacts of innovation in mountain areas around the world. In particular, we are looking for contributions that critically examine how socioeconomic, institutional, technological, scientific, and other types of innovation are of specific relevance to promoting or undermining sustainable development in mountains.

[Learn more here.](#)

**Deadline to apply: 1 October 2024**

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Future Earth France Hub, 4 Place Jussieu, Paris, France

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