

CIReG Overview
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**Crafting Institutions for Resource Governance:
Biophysical Complexity, Institutional Diversity, and Bounded Rationality**

A Proposed Collaboration between scholars from the Workshop in Political Theory and
Policy Analysis, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, USA,
and the Division of Resource Economics, Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany

Schedule of Activities

The CIReG Program was organized at a meeting in Berlin during June 16-17 2005. Participants in this meeting will contribute chapters to an edited volume entitled *Multifunctional Resources, Integrative Institutions, and Polycentric Governance: Concepts and Applications*, to be edited by Markus Hanisch and Michael McGinnis. The introductory and concluding chapters of this volume will summarize many of the likely themes to be pursued during this collaboration.

We have already formed an initial email distribution list of scholars involved in this program. Markus Hanisch has agreed to serve as CIReG coordinator. This list will be maintained by Hanisch, with the assistance of Gayle Higgins.

Three of the primary participants from the Humboldt side will be visiting the IU Workshop this coming fall semester for several weeks each. During those visits Matt Auer has organized a series of special colloquium presentations in October 2005 on the general topic of Rural Development. We hope these discussions will result in a broadening of the network of scholars associated with the CIReG program.

During this time period we will also be completing a proposal for programmatic funding for CIReG as a whole (to be detailed below). The deadline for the TRANSCOOP program is Oct. 31, which requires us to get started soon (see below).

Working Groups

CIReG will be organized as a meta-network composed of a series of working groups on particular substantive topics. We are in the early stages of establishing these working groups. Each working group should involve participants from both of the partner institutions as well as participants from any other relevant institution. Each working group should have a coordinator or coordinators who organize activities for that group. These coordinators are responsible for keeping the rest of the network informed about their activities. In particular, copies of working papers and grant proposals should be forwarded to the CIReG Coordinator.

It may be useful to emphasize the importance of the working groups to this overall program. These groups will remain the primary locus of research planning and implementation. The overall CIREG structure can help coordinate across groups, but the members of each group will simply have to take and maintain the initiative if this program is going to be successful.

Working groups on the following topics are likely to be established in the near future:

1. Management of Water Resources (Bill Blomquist, Insa Theesfeld, Meritxell Costeja, Christian Schleyer)
2. Private-Public Partnerships (perhaps with focus on Health Care or ethnic minorities or rural areas or cooperatives) (Lauren Morris MacLean, Markus Hanisch)
3. Biodiversity (Andreas Thiel, Franz Gatzweiler, Stefan Jungcurt, Martina Padmanabhan, Christoph Klockenbring, perhaps Matt Auer)
4. Co-Existence of GMO and non-GMO Producers (Volker Beckmann, Justus Wessler)
5. Corruption in Candidate Countries (Matt Auer, Roy Gardner, Insa Theesfield, Sonja Bartelt)

These titles and memberships are only tentative and are very much subject to revision, since each group will have to define themselves and select coordinators. We encourage such activities to begin as soon as possible. Please contact Hanisch with any changes or details concerning group titles, members, coordinators, etc.

Research Themes

We expect that a common set of research themes will be explored by participants in each working group, in addition to whatever specific research topics each decides to examine in their own research. Each of the core research themes focuses on the ways in which actors respond to changing conditions by crafting new institutions, strategies, or organizations or by making innovative uses of existing ones. These core themes are the following:

1. Response to Major Changes in the Biophysical World and our Scientific Understanding of the Environment
2. Response to Policy Directives Imposed from Central Authorities, including National Agencies, the EU, and International Organizations
3. Response to Major Changes in Information or Actors' Decision-Making Processes

CIREG Funding:

We plan to submit a proposal for programmatic funding to the TRANSCOOP program of Humboldt Foundation. This would provide some 3 years of funding for the group as a whole.

We expect to ask for support for a series of small meetings of each of the working groups separately. These meetings will be planned and organized by the working group coordinators. At the end of the three-year period, we will schedule a larger conference involving members from all working groups, focused on the three overarching themes as listed above. This final meeting may take place either in Berlin or in Bloomington.

The TRANSCOOP deadline is Oct. 31, which imposes a tight schedule for us.

June 21: Conference organizers will distribute an initial overview of the CIREG program (i.e., this document). We will also distribute materials related to the book in the next few days and may distribute other CIREG materials later.

CIREG participants are encouraged to submit comments or suggestions at any time.

Working groups should be formed as soon as possible.

Sept. 1. Each working group should submit a few paragraphs on their plans to be included in the overall proposal. These sub-proposals will be incorporated into the final draft.

Sept. 30. A complete draft of the proposal will be distributed to all participants, for their comments and suggestions. This will be a very quick turn around time.

Oct. 31. DEADLINE for submission of proposal to TRANSCOOP.

After this proposal is complete, the Workshop will use it to support applications for matching funds from available sources.

Other Funding

In addition, each working group is encouraged to apply for research support from appropriate funding agencies. We would like to direct your attention to the following opportunities:

Volkswagen Foundation: Unity Amidst Variety. This source will provide funds for international cooperation on research on Eastern Europe. The deadline is Sept. 1, so working groups should expect to apply not this year but rather in 2006. We should have established more substantial networks of scholars by that time.

The German Research Foundation provides support for individual Ph.D. students or post-docs, especially if they are paired up with a colleague from another country. Applications are accepted throughout the year, but Konrad Hagedorn would have a better idea of when the selection committee meets.

Similar opportunities may be available from the Volkswagen Network of Young Scientists, DAAD, and other programs. Participants are encouraged to notify other CIREG members if they hear of relevant funding opportunities.