

# GEAs at a crossroads: Lessons learned, emerging challenges, and future options

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*Expert workshop Berlin, 30 Sep – 01 Oct 2015<sup>1</sup>*

## Workshop objectives

The central purpose of this expert workshop is to facilitate fruitful and critical discussions about **key challenges of and opportunities for solution-oriented global environmental assessments (GEAs)** from different disciplinary and experiential perspectives. It is envisaged that the workshop will help **prepare the proposed publication** of a collection of cutting-edge, original, scientific research articles and commentaries on this topic, in an edited volume or journal special issue. (Concrete publication options will be presented and discussed at the end of the workshop).

Both the expert workshop and the envisaged publication aim to deepen our understanding of key prospects and challenges facing contemporary, solution-oriented GEAs particularly given the changing policy contexts, and to identify different options to mitigate the challenges. The applied insights and practical relevance shared during the expert workshop and published later as reliable scientific analyses aim at informing the conceptual design, execution and utility of current and emerging GEAs, including for example new efforts to evaluate, assess and monitor progress toward SDGs. More generally, the workshop and subsequent publication(s) will help to reinvigorate and better establish interdisciplinary scientific research on assessment-making.

Please **carefully read the proposed storyline and outline** of the envisaged publication (below).<sup>2</sup> This proposal will structure the discussions at the workshop and will likely be adapted to reflect the workshop discussions, presentations and deliberations.

## Workshop program (revised version)

### Arrival: Tuesday, 29 Sep 2015

19.00	Reception with light dinner at workshop venue (optional)
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<sup>1</sup> Organized and funded by MCC Berlin for the FOGEAM project.

<sup>2</sup> For technical reasons (i.e., availability of speakers), we had to **switch Sessions 2 and 3** of the workshop (compare proposed storyline & outline below).

## Day 1: Wednesday, 30 Sep 2015

<b>Introduction – FOGEAM and the envisaged publication</b> Moderator: Jason Jabbour	
9.00 – 9.25	<b>Welcome:</b> Ottmar Edenhofer <b>Introduction to the workshop:</b> Jason Jabbour
9.25 – 10.00	<b>The FOGEAM research initiative and the envisaged publication [20 min]:</b> Martin Kowarsch <b>Questions and discussion [15 min]</b>
<b>Session 1 – The changing GEA landscape and political context: Shift to solutions, new challenges *</b> Moderator: Christian Flachsland	
10.00 – 10.15	Coffee break
10.15 – 11.45	<b>(1) Jason Jabbour; (2) Marcel Kok; (3) Clark Miller</b> [each: 10 min talk, 5 min direct questions] <b>Discussion [45 min]</b>
12.00 – 13.30	Lunch and break
<b>Session 2 – Policy assessment paradigms, complexity and research organization *</b> Moderator: Jason Jabbour	
13.30 – 14.30	<b>(1) Marc Levy; (2) Christian Flachsland</b> [each: 10 min talk, 5 min direct questions] <b>Discussion [30 min]</b>
14.30 – 15.30	<b>(3) Ottmar Edenhofer (with Jan Minx); (4) Christian Avérous</b> [each: 10 min talk, 5 min direct questions] <b>Discussion [30 min]</b>
15.30 – 15.45	Coffee break
<b>Session 3 – Re-thinking the potential for impacts of GEAs on policy processes *</b> Moderator: Martin Kowarsch	
15.45 – 16.45	<b>(1) Pauline Rioussset; (2) Peter M. Haas</b> [each: 10 min talk, 5 min direct questions] <b>Discussion [30 min]</b>
19.00	Dinner (external restaurant)

*\*At short notice, J. **Alcamo**, J. **Minx** and R. **Brulle** are unable to attend the meeting, but still consider a contribution to the envisaged publication.*

## Day 2: Thursday, 01 Oct 2015

<b>Session 4 – Legitimacy, multiple stakes and divergent viewpoints</b> Moderator: Christian Flachsland	
9.00 – 10.00	<b>(1) Jessica O’Reilly; (2) Cameron Langford (with Melissa Lane)</b> [each: 10 min talk, 5 min direct questions] <b>Discussion</b> [30 min]
10.00 – 11.30	<b>(3) Yulia Yamineva; (4) Jennifer Garard; (5) Dan Zwartz</b> [each: 10 min talk, 5 min direct questions] <b>Discussion</b> [45 min]
11.30 – 11.45	Coffee break
11.45 – 12.45	<b>(6) Martin Kowarsch; (7) Kevin Urama</b> [each: 10 min talk, 5 min direct questions] <b>Discussion</b> [30 min]
12.45 – 14.00	Lunch and break
<b>Session 5 – What GEAs could contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals</b> Moderator: Pauline Rioussel	
14.00 – 15.00	<b>(1) László Pintér; (2) Jorge Laguna-Celis</b> [each: 10 min talk, 5 min direct questions] <b>Discussion</b> [30 min]
<b>Workshop conclusion – Revisiting the storyline, and next steps</b> Moderator: Martin Kowarsch	
15.00 – 15.15	Coffee break
15.15 – 17.00	15.15: <b>Explanation of breakout group tasks:</b> Martin Kowarsch 15.30 – 16.30: <b>Breakout group activity</b> 16.30 – 17.00: <b>Plenary discussion</b>
17.00 – 17.30	<b>Next steps toward publication:</b> Martin Kowarsch <b>Questions &amp; discussion</b>
17.30	End of workshop 18:30 Light dinner at workshop venue (optional)

## Workshop participants and contributors to the publication

The expert workshop and the proposed publication project bring together (1) senior assessment practitioners; (2) representatives from policy (various governance levels); and (3) from different disciplines reflecting on the science-policy interface. The following 22 individuals have confirmed their participation in the workshop and/or publication project:<sup>3</sup>

Name	Main affiliation	Email
<b>Alcamo</b> , Joseph	University of Kassel	<a href="mailto:joseph.alcamo@uni-kassel.de">joseph.alcamo@uni-kassel.de</a>
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<b>Flachsland</b> , Christian	Hertie School of Governance; MCC Berlin	<a href="mailto:flachsland@mcc-berlin.net">flachsland@mcc-berlin.net</a>
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<b>Minx</b> , Jan	IPCC WG III Head of TSU; Hertie School of Governance	<a href="mailto:minx@mcc-berlin.net">minx@mcc-berlin.net</a>
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<sup>3</sup> J. Laguna-Celis, C. Langford, M. Levy and K. Urama will join the workshop via video technology. M. Lane is unable to attend the workshop, but will contribute to the collection of articles jointly with C. Langford. O. Edenhofer and J. Minx are considering a joint contribution as well. At short notice, J. Alcamo, J. Minx and R. Brulle are unable to attend the meeting, but still consider a contribution to the envisaged publication.