

Nagoya University
Graduate School of International Development
Development Sociology 2015

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Class hours: Monday 16:30 – 18:00

Environment and Development

Objectives:

As the Sustainable Development Goals are soon to replace the Millennium Development Goals, we will try to understand the concept of sustainable development. We will then examine some of the debates surrounding the relationship between the environment and development. By the end of the class, students will understand the complexity of the development-environment nexus, appreciating how the notions of equity and justice underlie the nexus. This should lead to the reflection upon our own consumption behaviour.

Questions:

- 1) Do the benefits provided by large-scale development projects such as hydroelectric dams outweigh their adverse environmental and social costs? Why or why not?
- 2) If economic development efforts are contributing to climate change, how should we balance the rights of those in developing countries who wish to enjoy higher standards of living with the global problem of climate change?
- 3) In what ways does what you consume every day affect the environment and the lives of others in the world? What concrete ways can you think of to reduce that impact on a daily basis?

Required reading:

Sick, D., 2012. Civil Society and Development. In *International Development*. P. A. Haslam, J. Schafer, P. Beaudet, eds. Chapter 17. Ontario: Oxford Univ. Press.