

IUAES Commission Seed Funding Grants
Application form
Submission deadline: 31 March 2016

To be submitted to both (along with required attachments)
koizumi@hus.osaka-u.ac.jp and mugsy.spiegel@uct.ac.za

1. *Name/s of Commission/s that is/are applying:*

Commission for Anthropology and the Environment (CAE)

1.1 *Date/s of that/those Commission/s' most recent Commission activity report/s.*

2015 Annual Report

1.2 *Does/do this/these Commission/s charge membership fees? If yes, then please specify the annual amount/s charged.*

No fees.

2. *Title of proposed project:*

Resilient Futures: Critical Anthropological Pathways to Environmental Security

Type of Funding Requested:

Support for Major Research Grant Proposal

3. *Name/s of project leader/s (indicating membership of specified IUAES Commission/s):*

Heather O'Leary, Chair, CAE

Thomas Reuter, Deputy-Chair, CAE

4. *Full description of, and rationale for, the proposed project (no more than 1000 words):*
(This must indicate what kind of project is proposed in terms of the fundable activities listed in the call for applications as well as the project's anticipated outcomes and, where applicable, any other funding that will be received to support the proposed project.)

The world is facing an unprecedented challenge: by 2050 it will have to sustainably provide for the basic needs of 9.6 billion people without destroying the limited environmental resources that sustain us. In the face of climate change, world leaders are increasingly concerned about the threat of environmental collapse and are actively seeking to reduce risks and uncertainties in their food, energy, ecological and water systems.

The decisions that define the new era of environmental security will thus be shaped by the way environmental resilience is defined. At the vanguard are definitions crafted by private corporations, the public sector and international development agencies. Although 'epistemologies of resilience' are largely dominated by these groups, their conception of resilience relies on ideas about vulnerability and risk which silence the testimonies of those

who bear the majority of the risks. This model of systemic resilience is fatally flawed, as it is neither holistic nor inclusive of the system it wishes to safeguard. As such, it is critical for Anthropologists and Ethnologists to intervene on behalf of marginalized peoples and against the epistemic violence which will not only shape our discourse around human-environmental survival, but will also have tangible, irreversible effects on global environmental conditions and response systems.

The Commission for Anthropology and Environment (CAE) seeks to address this critical deficit swiftly—before international agencies, governmental institutions, and communities “lock in” with heavy investments to exclusionary infrastructures, institutions and information systems. To this end, we have been building capacity and momentum as a network in preparation for strategic funding opportunities. Growing participation in the CAE since its founding has resulted in early successes, including three years of international scholarship presented at CAE/IUAES panels and the first of our publications, *Averting Environmental Collapse: the Role of Anthropology and Local Knowledge*, edited by CAE Deputy Chair, Dr. Thomas Reuter. We plan to expand our network and further establish our credentials in the next edited volume which will draw from four CAE-invited panels in Dubrovnik including the core panel, Resilience to Environmental Change: Understanding Vulnerability and Risk Holistically. These early priorities achieved since 2013—establishing the Commission as a vibrant knowledge network, focusing our attention on addressing the high impact global challenge of injustice in emerging models of environmental resilience, and retaining geographical and area diversity—resonate with the mission of the IUAES to promote international collaboration on pressing global issues.

A Major Grant is needed to leverage this momentum, and set up an international research project on issues of environmental vulnerability. We propose to use IUAES Commission Seed Funding to prepare a joint research application to the German Research Council (DFG), with alternative applications to other funders we have identified, including the Gates Foundation, Google, Wellcome Trust, Toyota Foundation, Asian Development Bank, Economic and Social Research Council (UK), and the European Research Council.

This proposed research project will raise the profile of CAE/IUAES and draw in new members from our partner institutions. The project will involve a number of researchers from around the globe in direct research on issues of resilience and social justice, from a local, inside perspective. The researchers will conduct independent research but will all adopt a common research methodology to allow for a direct comparison of results. This comparison will be facilitated by holding an international workshop symposium, to be held in conjunction with an IUAES congress.

The project will establish CAE as a genuine platform for networking towards obtaining external research funding. This will mean that members for the first time will be offered the opportunity to gain tangible, financial benefit from their membership.

The Seed Funding requested will have lasting impact as it impacts our Commission’s Five Year Plan. The resulting major research grant will enable the commission to fund the topical research which will be presented by participants at IUAES World Congress 2018. This presentation opportunity will provide a forum for critical feedback before embarking upon the next phase of impact. This dialog will form the basis for producing policy recommendations for ‘Pathways to Multi-Scalar Eco-Social Resilience Models.’ By 2019, the CAE plans to hold a Joint Workshop with publication on this topic with a Wenner-Gren

Workshop Grant. This workshop will establish a core team for a cross-sector Joint Task Force comprising academics, practitioners and policy officials whose aim will be to co-design a protocol for integrating holistic socio-environmental knowledge into policy decisions. CAE Chair, Dr. Heather O’Leary, has experience on an OECD/Global Water Partnership Joint Task Force with similar scope. Their OECD publication, *Securing Water, Securing Growth*, presented the relevance of social science research to the design of ‘Pathways to Water Security’ to high-ranking policy officials at the 2015 World Water Forum. Dr. Aziza Akhmouch, of the OECD Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate, welcomes further collaboration in the field of resilience, and the present application is in response to this opportunity. These nested opportunities will allow the maximum impact of the seed funding across several central IUAES priorities that are woven into the success of CAE: interdisciplinary publication, workshops including public and private sectors, and establishing international knowledge networks that inform global change.

It is critical and timely to build a global understanding of resilience that is both holistic and inclusive, and hence more reliable than narrower conceptions.

5. Project time-line:

7/2015: CAE Members prioritize Major Grant Funding as next step at IUAES 2015
 1/2016 – 2/2016: Strategically identify/prioritize funding sources; secure Matching Funds
3/2016 – 4/2016: Apply for Commission Seed Funding, additional Matching Funds
 6/2016: IUAES Commission Seed Funding Recipients Announced
 6/2016 – 7/2016: 3 Commission-Wide Virtual Meetings; Hire Workshop Administrator
 8/2016: Application Core Team meeting in Heidelberg
 9/2016 – 10/2016: Commission-Wide Virtual Meeting; Finalize DFG submission
 11/2016 – 7/2017: Alternative Applications: Core team members spearhead additional grants

6. Project Budget:

1. Casual salary: Workshop administrator 70 hours x £15/h (RA Level 3 including salary oncosts) (The administrator time will be used exclusively to hire a suitable person to administer the setting up and running of the proposed workshop)	£ 1050
2. Catering (£90 for morning & afternoon coffee and snacks for about fifteen persons x 5)	£ 450
TOTAL	£ 1500

Matching funds:

Travel funding, workshop coordinator (Reuter)	£ 1000
Travel funding, workshop coordinator (O’Leary)	£ 400
Large Meeting Room, Institute for Ethnology, University of Heidelberg (2 ½ days at £200/day)	£ 500
TOTAL	£ 1900

7. Declaration and signatures of project leader/s and Commission chairs and deputy chairs

As project leaders and chair and deputy chairs of the project's 'sponsoring' Commissions, we undertake that, if this application for IUAES Commission seed-grant funding is successful,

- a. the awarded funds will be expended exclusively in a manner that is in keeping with the terms of the award specified in the Call for Applications for IUAES Commission Seed Funding Grants.
- b. all and any publication and or other outcome of the funded project that is made or will be made publically accessible will, once it has Executive Committee approval, carry the IUAES name and logo and be treated as a product of the IUAES, and be made available to paid up individual IUAES members at a discounted rate.
- c. a final report on the project will be submitted on the first 31st May following the project's completion which will be no more than at most three years after receipt of the grant.

Names and signatures of the proposed project leader/s

Project leader's name : Heather O'Leary, Commission Chair, CAE

Signature: 

Date: 3/16/2016

Project co-leader's name : Thomas Reuter, Commission Deputy-Chair, CAE

Signature: 

Date: 3/22/2016

8. A full list of the names of all members of project 'sponsoring' Commission/s, as well as all members of all collaborating Commissions, must be submitted with each application. The list needs to include all the members' names as well as their email addresses. Please list all Commission members' names and email addresses here and/or on additional pages. If the list includes members of more than one Commission, please indicate of which Commission/s those listed are members.

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