Conference Announcement and Call for Papers

17th ANNUAL BIOECON CONFERENCE ON
“Experimental and Behavioural Economics and the Conservation of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services”

13th - 15th September 2015
Kings College, Cambridge
United Kingdom

Hosted by the London School of Economics (LSE), the Graduate Institute-Geneva (IHEID)
and Cambridge University (UCAM)

Supported by the Founding Partners of the BIOECON Network:
IHEID, FEEM, UNEP, and the Grantham Research Institute
on Climate Change and the Environment (GRI-LSE)

With additional support from the Royal Economic Society and Saturna Capital

The Scientific Partners of BIOECON are pleased to announce the 17th Annual International BIOECON conference on the theme of “Experimental and Behavioural Economics and the Conservation of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services”. The conference will be held once again on the premises of Kings College Cambridge, England on the 13th – 15th September 2015. The conference will be of interest to both researchers and policy makers working on issues in the area of biodiversity, ecosystem services, and sustainable development, in both developed and developing countries. In particular, we wish to explore the role of experimental evidence and behavioural economics in informing economic instruments and conservation policy, both in developed and developing countries.

The conference takes a broad interest in the area of resource management, development and conservation, including but not limited to: the role of biodiversity and ecosystem services in economic development, plant genetic resources and food security issues, deforestation and development, fisheries and institutional adaptation, development and conservation, wildlife conservation, and international trade and regulation. The conference will have sessions on economic development, growth and biodiversity conservation, as well as on institutions and institutional change pertaining to the management of living resources. For a flavour of last year’s conference go to BIOECON 16.
The **Keynote Speakers** for the 17th BIOECON Conference are:

**Professor Daan van Soest**, University of Tilburg, The Netherlands  
**Professor Jeff Vincent**, Duke University, USA

Papers are specially invited on the themes of:

- Experimental (lab and field) approaches to biodiversity and ecosystem service conservation  
- The role of behavioural economics in biodiversity conservation policy design  
- Policy evaluation of biodiversity-related policies  
- Institution-building for provision of global public goods  
- Institutional frameworks for resource conservation (property rights, market instruments etc.)  
- Valuation methodology and its application to biodiversity conservation  
- Evaluation of conservation policy successes and failures  
- Issues of governance and management of natural resources in developing countries  
- Development, growth and resource constraints  
- Resources management, distribution, development, poverty alleviation

In addition, two expert policy panels will be held related to these themes. The purpose of the panels will be to bring together practitioners (Government, private sector, NGO) and academics from different disciplines to discuss current policy related issues in biodiversity conservation and environment. The panel sessions will contribute to and be supported by the funding partners: UNEP, WWF, IUCN.

Papers may be submitted for presentation to Ms Kristel Suijs at bioecon@bioecon-network.org no later than **22nd May 2015**. **Please include Abstract, JEL Codes and Keywords with your submission.** Only complete papers will be considered by the scientific programme committee. Acceptance of papers will be notified by email by 5th June 2015. Unfortunately late papers cannot be considered. It is also possible to submit 3-4 papers together as a suggested “session” under one of the themes indicated above. The Scientific Partners reserve the right to accept papers on an individual basis, so it is possible that even when a session is not accepted, individual papers within the session might be so.

The conference will open with a reception at Kings College on early evening of Sunday 13th of September. Conference sessions will commence on the morning of the 14th of September and conclude on the afternoon of the 15th of September. The conference banquet will take place at the main Dining Hall of Kings College on the evening of the 14th of September.

Selected presenters will be invited to register one presenter for the conference at the “invited presenter” rate. The invited presenter rate consists of a £130 **registration fee** that will cover the costs of 2 nights single accommodation, reception, lunches, and conference banquet. (A limited number of double rooms are available (at a surcharge of £35/night). Additional guests may be registered for lunch (£35/person) or the Conference Banquet at the additional cost of £50 per guest. There is a £250 registration fee for all other participants that will include the banquet, lunches and refreshments, but not accommodation. There is a £130 registration fee for day-participants (that includes lunches and refreshments but not lodging and the conference banquet). All other questions regarding fees, registrations and accommodation should be sent to Ms Kristel Suijs at bioecon@bioecon-network.org.

**Registrations will open on 5th June 2015.** Registrations for conference presenters are due by **23rd June 2015**. Registrations for all other participants closes on the **21th August 2015.**

Further registration details and all other conference information will be provided on the BIOECON website at [www.bioecon-network.org](http://www.bioecon-network.org).