

## INTERNATIONAL AND MULTI-DISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVES ON EVIDENCE-BASED POLICY

### **Seminar 1: PATHWAYS TO SUSTAINABILITY IN A CHANGING ENVIRONMENT**

*This half-day seminar in the new series on evidence-based policy will take the form of 'conversations' between researchers and policy advisers/users, followed by group discussions. The seminar will serve as a forum at which participants from different national and disciplinary perspectives discuss and develop ideas for projects and articles in themed issues of journals.*

**Convenors:** Dr Ruth Kattumuri FAcSS, Co-Director of the LSE India Observatory (lead); Professor Linda Hantrais FAcSS, and Dr Ashley Thomas Lenihan (LSE Centre for International Studies)

**Date:** 17 January 2017 13.30-17.00

**Venue:** Academy of Social Sciences, Finsbury Square, London

**Outline:** A key target of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals to 2030 is to protect the planet from degradation by ensuring sustainable consumption and production, sustainable management of its natural resources and urgent action on climate change.

The availability of nutritious food, clean air and water are essential components for a healthy life, improved well-being and sustainable resources. In a global context where the population in the least developed regions is continuing to grow rapidly, and accelerated urbanisation is intensifying pressures on environmental resources, extreme levels of air pollution, the lack of clean water and electricity, and continued food insecurity in both urban and rural communities are of perpetual concern. More effective management techniques are required to enable sustainable development and to support the needs of the present and future generations.

The seminar explores the impact of air and water degradation on the sustainability of resources in different regions of the world and from different disciplinary perspectives. It looks at the problems of collecting reliable data on these issues, and considers how public and private data can be used most effectively to inform decision-makers, empower citizens and achieve sustainable development.

#### **Conversation 1 Collection, Analysis and Management of International Data on Natural Resources**

**Interviewer:** Ruth Kattumuri FAcSS, Co-Director, LSE India Observatory

*in conversation with* Ed Brown, National Co-Coordinator, UK Low Carbon Energy for Development Network, Loughborough University

*and* Kevin Sansom, Lecturer and Project Manager, Water, Engineering and Development Centre, WEDC, Department of Civil and Building Engineering, Loughborough University; co-director of the Change Management Forum for the urban water sector in India

#### **Conversation 2 Climate Change and Sustainable Welfare**

**Interviewer:** Susanne MacGregor FAcSS, Honorary Professor of Social policy, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

*in conversation with* Ian Gough, Visiting Professor, LSE Centre for the Analysis of Social Exclusion; Associate, Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment; Emeritus Professor of Social Policy, University of Bath

*and* Sam Geall, Research Fellow for Low Carbon Innovation in China, Science Policy Research Unit, affiliated to the Social, Technological and Environmental Pathways to Sustainability Centre (STEPS), University of Sussex