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Message from the Director

Serving International Geneva and Switzerland

by Bernhard Fuhrer

The mission of the SNIS is to connect Swiss academia to International Geneva, making this two-way relationship a mutually beneficial one. For over ten years now the Canton of Geneva and the Swiss government have actively supported this idea. In 2012, they not only confirmed their commitment, but also decided to maintain the investment at pre-crisis levels. In times of tight budgets, this is a clear indication of the importance both government echelons attribute to the operation.



Dr Bernhard Fuhrer Director of the SNIS

Support from Geneva and the Swiss Government

According to the Delegate for International Geneva, the SNIS is a small but important actor in the canton's overall strategy to provide the many international organisations (IOs) with access to high-calibre academic expertise (see page 3 - Guest Editorial). The SNIS facilitates exchanges between the two worlds, be it by organising debate series that bring experts from IOs to Swiss universities (see page 16 - Events) or by financing large joint research projects between academics and practitioners. These exchanges are intellectually precious for both sides, and politicians acknowledge that these 'soft factors', or as the Delegate for International Geneva puts it - the software are extremely important locational assets. Against the backdrop of increasing worldwide competition for IO headquarters, it appears consequential that both the Canton and the Swiss government continue to play this highly effective card. With its mission confirmed and having successfully passed an operational audit, the SNIS also moved ahead by institutionally strengthening the ties with international organisations.

Institutionally Strengthening the Ties with International Organisations

Since its inception in 2008 the SNIS is organised as a 'société simple' and is governed by six professors, known as the Governing Committee (GC) - (see page 23 - SNIS structure). In 2012 this body decided to enlarge its ranks and invite an IO representative as a seventh member. As the SNIS already has a functioning body that brings together high-level representatives from IOs - the International Geneva Committee (IGC) -, it was decided that the president of this committee would be the new member. This institutional change bears witness to the SNIS's commitment to bridge the gap between academics and practitioners, a feature that also distinguishes the project winners of 2012. All are academically strong, collaborative projects.

Academically Strong, Collaborative Projects

In 2012, demand for SNIS funding remained stable at high levels. With 78 pre-proposals registered, the competition was tough and the Scientific Committee (SC) - (see page 23 - SNIS structure) could pick academically strong projects that also showed close interaction with IO partners. The winning teams were invited to a launch workshop, where they presented their projects, interacted with IO representatives, and got to know the opportunities the SNIS secretariat has to offer when it comes to communicating research results to a larger audience (see page 7 - Funded Projects). As an externally mandated study has clearly shown, the most pertinent projects are not only collaborative in nature, but also take care to disseminate the results in new ways to reach a wider audience (see page 19 - Publication). In the years to come, the SNIS will further develop this communication aspect, helping teams to integrate powerful, unorthodox dissemination strategies into their academic workflow.

Guest Editorial

Support to International Organisations in Geneva

Hardware and Software by Olivier Coutau

Delegate for International Geneva, Department of Security, State of Geneva



Olivier Coutau has been the head of the 'Bureau de la Genève internationale' since 2008. Before joining the government of Geneva in 2005, he worked as a delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) for 15 years. He was active in the field (Asia, Eastern Europe, Africa and the Middle East), as well as at ICRC headquarters, where he held responsibilities for operations in Latin America and as a diplomatic adviser.

Olivier Coutau holds a diploma in European Studies from the College of Europe in Bruges, a BA in Political Science and a Certificate in European Studies from the University of Geneva.

www.cooperationinternationalegeneve.ch

International organisations do not work on their own. They need members, staff, and host authorities. They also need academic institutions. We have understood this since the earliest years of 'La Genève Internationale'. The Graduate Institute for International Studies was thus founded in 1927; only seven years after the League of Nations had come to Geneva.

Even in those early days, the host authorities knew that beyond a strong investment in material necessities like conference facilities or an international airport, they also needed to invest in the immaterial and intellectual necessities that provide the basis for a thriving international policy hub. Nowadays, this two-pronged approach remains fundamentally the same, only the vocabulary is different. One refers today to 'the hardware' and 'the software'.

The Buildings Foundation for International Organisations (FIPOI) is probably the main agent when it comes to the 'hardware'. In its 50 years of existence, countless offices and meeting rooms have been built thanks to its support. More recently, the extension of the WTO onto its site by the lake has been its main project.

When it comes to the 'software', the canton has many commitments, the most visible being its support for the University of Geneva and the Graduate Institute. But there is another, often overlooked, actor in this domain, namely the Swiss Network for International Studies (SNIS). Thanks to the research that it encourages via its large network, the SNIS connects the entire Swiss academic base to the international hub in Geneva, diversifying and enriching our local excellence. In essence, the SNIS cleverly extends the academic reach of international organisations to the whole of Switzerland. Unsurprisingly, many SNIS projects have significantly improved knowledge in international cooperation issues and, thanks to direct ties with international organisations, could later be transformed into informed policies.

No other place in the world hosts such a number of international organisations, NGOs, and diplomatic missions as Geneva. For local authorities, it is not only a wonderful opportunity to be associated to global players, but also a responsibility to help them be as efficient as possible. Therefore, the canton is proud to invest both in the material and immaterial necessities, the 'hardware' and the 'software'. In this context, the SNIS is a small but important actor of the 'software' dimension.

Olivier Coutau

FUNDING ACTIVITIES

The funding of research in the pluridisciplinary field of international studies remained the core activity of the organisation in 2012. As a result, 79% (CHF 2'039'900) of its total budget was directly allocated to the financing of research projects.

Call for Projects 2012

Annual Theme: Sustainable development in an era of financial crisis The International Geneva Committee (renamed from 'Academic Council of International Geneva') again had the opportunity to substantially influence the call by defining the annual theme as 'Sustainable development in an era of financial crisis'.

The call for projects was launched in autumn 2012 and was met with great interest. The secretariat received 78 pre-proposals that were carefully evaluated by the Scientific Committee – an independent college gathering nine academic experts (see composition on page 23), and covering a large spectrum of academic disciplines. Fifteen teams were invited to develop a full proposal and eight were finally chosen as winners of the year's call. All projects were academically very strong and met the important SNIS criteria of multidisciplinarity and collaborations with international organisations. Since the creation of the SNIS in 2008, forty projects were supported, yielding a multitude of tangible research results. Today, the SNIS disposes of a wealth of working papers, research reports, and videos on research findings which are all available via its website (www.snis.ch).

In addition to large projects, the SNIS also continued its individual support to young researchers by prizing the best thesis in international studies - the SNIS Award - and by prizing three high-grade journal articles - the International Geneva Award.

Pre-proposals received in the first round per submitting institution

Region	Coordinating Institution	Proj	ects
Basel	University of Basel		6
Berne	University of Berne		2
Fribourg	University of Fribourg		4
Geneva	The Graduate Institute	11	30
Gerieva	University of Geneva	19	30
Lucerne	University of Lucerne		1
Neuchâtel	University of Neuchâtel		2
St. Gallen	University of St. Gallen		3
Ticino	Università della Svizzera italiana		1
Vaud	University of Lausanne	12	13
vauu	Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (EPFL)	1	13
Zurich	Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETHZ)	6	11
Zuricii	University of Zurich	5	11
Inter-	University of Applied Sciences of Western Switzerland	3	5
regional	University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland ²	2	Э
	Total		78

¹ accounted as "other French speaking cantons" in graphics shown on page 5

² accounted as «Ticino» in graphics shown on page 5

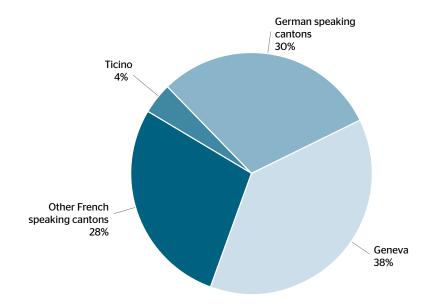
Geographical Breakdown

The 2012 call for project was marked by a strong presence of institutions of higher education located in the Swiss French speaking region

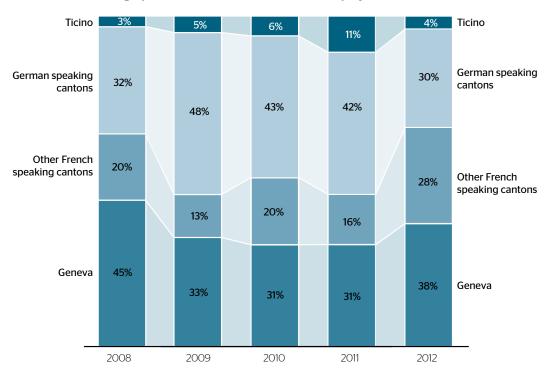
Call for projects 2012: received pre-proposals

The 2012 call for projects was marked by a particularly strong presence of Geneva - the University of Geneva (19 pre-proposals), as well as the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (11 pre-proposals), totalling 38% of the overall submissions. Swiss German participation decreased from 42% in 2011 to 30% in 2012, whereas the other French speaking cantons increased their share from 16% in 2011 to 28% in 2012.

The strong impetus of the 'Romandie' (Swiss French speaking region) is also visible in the results: three projects out of eight are led by the University of Lausanne, and one is spearheaded by the University of Geneva. The University of Basel (Swiss Tropical and Preventive Health Institute) gained support for two projects, thus achieving a remarkable success rate of 33% (two projects out of six pre-proposals were accepted). ETHZ and the University of Lucerne are the two academic institutions in the German speaking cantons that were among the 2012 finalists.



Geographical Breakdown Evolution - Call for projects 2008 - 2012



AN of public / state institutions

AN of private companies involved

Partnerships

The 2012 call for projects showed a further increase in terms of partnerships. The trend for reinforced collaboration is confirmed.

All possible project partners - Swiss and foreign universities, IOs, NGOs, state actors, as well as private companies - were equally present in this increased partnership trend.

Average number (AN) of partners per project	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
AN of partners per project	3.95	4.08	3.95	5.80	6.49
AN of universities involved	2.65	2.56	3.14	3.12	3.61
AN of Swiss universities involved	1.73	1.64	1.88	1.59	1.74
AN of foreign universities	0.92	1.22	1.26	1.52	1.87
AN of Non-Governmental Organisations	0.40	0.61	0.29	0.76	0.86
AN of International Organisations	0.67	0.38	0.31	0.86	0.88

0.16

0.07

0.14

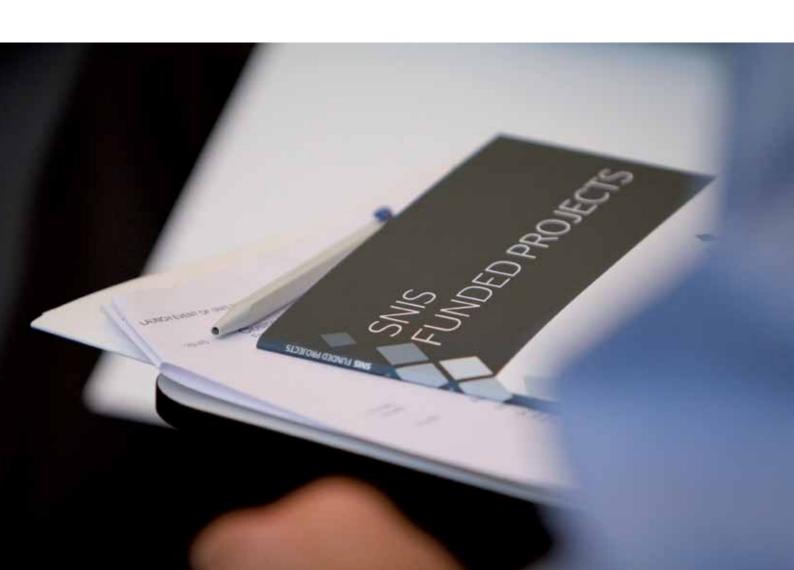
0.07

0.88

0.18

0.91

0.23



Abstracts of Funded Projects

Governance by Contract? The Impact of the International Finance Corporation's Social Conditionality on Worker Organisation and Social Dialogue

Lead: Professor Jean-Christophe Graz,

Institute of Political and International Sciences, University of Lausanne

Partners: Department of Political Science, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (USA), University of Kassel (Germany), Bureau for Workers' Activities, International Labour Organization (ILO), Building and Woodworkers International Union, Geneva

Disciplines: Political Science - Sociology - Human Rights - Development

Geographical Scope: Developing countries

In the context of the global financial and economic crisis, the International Labour Organization (ILO) has identified the encouragement and protection of independent worker organisation and social dialogue as being of particular importance. In its Global Jobs Pact, it argues that participatory mechanisms are vital in times of heightened social tension and are critical to recovery. However, the capacity of treaty-based international organisations to effectively promote social and environmental sustainability has been questioned. In reply to the difficulty to comply to formal transnational regulations, new forms of governance have emerged that include market incentives to promote compliance with voluntary standards. While a great deal of research exists on "private" governance on this model, such as corporate codes of conduct or certification and labelling schemes, less attention has been paid to regulatory approaches in which public international financial institutions make assistance or investment conditional on compliance with technical and normative standards set by other international agencies. The most significant example of this kind of approach is the International Finance Corporation IFC), the private sector lending and investment arm of the World Bank. Over 1750 loans have been made in the past years that include this contractual condition. This research project seeks to evaluate the effectiveness of this type of contractual governance mechanism with respect to the ILO's key labour standard of freedom of association. It will furthermore permit an assessment of the degree to which contract conditions on labour standards have affected worker organisation and social dialogue in IFC client firms, and to describe the means by which labour organisations have - or have not - been able to leverage labour standards conditionality in pursuit of goals related to the principle of freedom of association.

What are the effects of market incentives made by public financial institutions on worker organisations and social dialogue according to ILO key labour standards?



Environmental Change and Migration

Lead: Professor Vally Koubi,

Department of Economics, University of Bern, and Center for Comparative and International Studies, ETH, Zurich

Partners: International Organization for Migration (IOM), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University (USA)

Disciplines: Climatology - Development - Economics - Environment - Political Science

Geographical Scope: Worldwide

The debate on whether and how environmental changes affect human security and, ultimately, force people to leave their homes and migrate to places more conducive to their wellbeing, has experienced a strong revival in the climate change context. While various studies predict large environmental migration flows due to climate change and other environmental disorders, they do not investigate sufficiently whether the relationship between climate change and migration holds for a large set of countries and for different types of environmental afflictions. Most importantly also, the environment-migration relationship may be conditional on various individual, socio-economic, and political factors. This project aims at filling several of the theoretical, empirical, and methodological gaps that do persist in the existing literature in order to gain a better understanding of whether, when, and how environmental change might lead to migration. The findings of this research may be used by international organisations, such as the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) that seek to develop effective policies and programmes for dealing with environmental migration.

What are the generalised, large scale factors of the environment-migration relationship and to what extent is it conditional on various individual, socio-economic, and political factors?

From Rule-Takers to Rule-Makers: Emerging Powers in the Regulation of International Trade

Lead: Professor Sandra Lavanex,

Department of Political Science, University of Lucerne **Partners:** International Relations Department, Universidade
Federal de Paraíba (Mexico), Research Center for Chinese Politics
and Business, Indiana University Bloomington (USA), University of
St. Gallen, World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), World
Trade Institute, University of Bern, Ministry of Economics, Mexico

Disciplines: Economics - Law - Political Science **Geographical Scope:** *Brazil - China - India - Mexico*

Over the past two decades, new economic powers have arisen within the world trading system. Brazil, China, India and Mexico are becoming influential players within an international regime whose core principles, rules and procedures have been shaped by others, notably the US and the European Union, prior to the formers' ascent. Whereas the shifts in economic power are by now well documented, we know relatively little about what large emerging economies seek from the global system and how they pursue their interests in particular in the global trade regime. This project features a comparative research design examining the foreign economic policy behaviour of Brazil. China. India and Mexico in three contested fields of trade regulation: competition law, intellectual property rights and services-related labour mobility. These regulatory fields touch so-called "behind-the-border" issues and have far reaching implications for the role of the state in economic development. Two of these fields flow directly from the regulatory agenda of the EU and the US - competition law and IPR - partly evoking vivid resistance and alternative approaches from countries such as Brazil and India in particular, whereas the promotion of labour mobility is a priority of the emerging countries meeting the resistance of Western powers. In short, this project seeks to understand when and under which conditions emerging powers evolve from rule-takers to rule-makers in trade regulation, through which venues and with which implications for the substance and architecture of the international trade regime.

When and how does increasing market power translate into regulatory power to shape the rules of international trade?





Trends and Influence of Private Finance on Global Health Initiatives and Development Goals in Resource-constrained Countries

Lead: Professor Marcel Tanner,

Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, Basel

Partners: Centre for Socio-Economic Development, Geneva, Franklin College, Lugano, Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies, City University, New York (USA), Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (Global Health Programme)

Disciplines: Development - Economics - Health/Medicine - Political Science

Geographical Scope: Angola - Burkina Faso - Ghana - Liberia - Mali - Senegal - United Republic of Tanzania - Zimbabwe

Over the last 20 years, the persistence of the global burden of diseases particularly in resource-constrained countries and the emergence of diseases raises concern about how global health goals can be met with the current governance of global health initiatives. New models of collaboration and partnerships have emerged. At the national and also international level, a move towards private-public partnerships has gained prominence as a means to meet the health needs of the citizens especially in poor countries. The project aims at reviewing the impact of private finance on the governance and management of individual global funds, private-public partnerships (PPP) and organisations. The main research question focuses on whether the current global health architecture and the variants of PPPs generate effective and efficient vehicles for implementing health policies and delivering desired health outcomes. The project represents the first comprehensive review and offers a comparative scientific analysis of the new approaches in terms of management and financing of global health initiatives and PPPs. It will thus further contribute to the understanding of the consequences of the growing trend of private philanthropy in developing countries, particularly its impact on existing development assistance approaches and effectiveness of health policy arrangements within resources constrained countries. Results of this study will allow a better understanding of the global health architecture and the challenges it faces in the near future. It will also contribute to the reflection on effective operational choices in achieving better health outcomes by providing clearer scenarios in terms of how to envisage more effective roles, functions and partnership arrangements of global development agencies and PPPs in mediating between the private capital and the public health needs.

How efficient are the current global health architecture and the variants of private-public partnerships on global health policies and targeted achievements?



The Proliferation of Multilateral Funds

Lead: Professor Simon Hug,

Political Sciences and International Relations, University of Geneva

Partners: Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Ruprecht-Karls-Universität, Heidelberg, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, United Nations Educations, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), Department of Political Science, University of Zurich, World Bank Group, World Trade Institute, University of Bern, World Trade Organisation – International Trade Centre (WTO-ITC)

Disciplines: Economics - Political Science - Finance - Statistics - Development - Diplomacy **Geographical Scope:** Developed countries - developing countries - Switzerland - United States of America

Over the last decade, Official Development Assistance (ODA) experienced a hidden transformation. Since the late 1990s, traditional multilateral aid has been on the decline while non-core multilateral aid has been rising steadily. Non-core multilateral aid, which includes trust funds, global programs, and joint programming, enjoys considerable popularity among bilateral donors: it allows them to earmark their contributions for specific development objectives, which provides them with more influence on aid allocation and makes ODA more visible to their national constituencies. However, non-core multilateral aid may pose severe risks for aid effectiveness. It may replace the core contributions to multilateral aid institutions (MAIs), complicate the budgeting of these organisations, inflate administrative costs and governance structures due to additional reporting, relinquish the expert knowledge of experienced MAI staff, and attract their attention for shopping for funds. From the perspective of recipients, non-core multilateral aid undermines developing country ownership and tends to make aid flows less predictable. The rise of noncore multilateral aid may threaten aid effectiveness through an increased fragmentation and proliferation of funds. This would contradict the international commitments laid down in the Paris Declaration and the Accra Agenda for Action. The rise of non-core multilateral aid over the last years hence constitutes a research puzzle that needs to be addressed. Clarifying the concept of non-core multilateral aid and exploring recent trends, the project seeks to identify the motivations of the key actors from MAIs and bilateral donor ministries, as well as to assess the consequences with respect to aid effectiveness. It will be the first systematic and comprehensive analysis of the new multilateral financing mechanisms. The results should help raise awareness among both international organisations and bilateral donors, of the associated problems and opportunities and help MAIs to take a strategic approach towards these contributions.

What are the recent trends of non-core multilateral aid? To what extent do they threaten aid effectiveness through an increased fragmentation and proliferation of funds?



(Un)Sustainable Food Consumption Dynamics in South/Southeast Asia: Changing Patterns, Practices and Policies Among "New Consumers" in India and the Philippines

Lead: Professor Suren Erkman, Institute of Land Use Policies and Human Environment, University of Lausanne

Partners: Ataneo de Manila University, Quezon City (Philippines), Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Zurich, International Labour Organisation (ILO), Resource Optimization Initiative, Bangalore (India), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), World Economic Forum (WEF)

Disciplines: Anthropology - Environment - Development **Geographical Scope:** India - Philippines

In emerging economies and among the growing middle classes, changing labour markets and production processes along with rising purchasing power is translating to a moving up on the energy and protein ladder. The consumption patterns of these new consumers raise concern among policymakers and researchers in terms of environmental impact and social inequalities.

Very little empirical data exists at the sub-national level on the challenges and opportunities their consumption patterns actually represent and what role households might play in charting transitions to more sustainable patterns. This research project will contribute new and inter-disciplinary research on the dynamics of consumption patterns, practices and policies among new consumers in two mega-cities of South and Southeast Asia: Bangalore, India, and Metro Manila, the Philippines. This project is timely relevant, as the global economic slowdown will affect job opportunities in emerging economies, where concerns about wage and employment prospects have already subdued household consumption which in turn may have unfavourable effects for promoting more sustainable forms of consumption. While the research is city-specific, consumption must also be understood against the backdrop of change and continuity in the broader world system, including the labour market, migration and remittances, and global media flows. This project proposes an approach that is relevant to studying consumption in other contexts and proposes research findings that will transcend the local to offer insights into how social practices emerge in a context of globalisation - towards a deeper understanding of sustainable consumption pathways.

What are the consumption patterns of the growing middle classes in emerging countries? What are the environmental and social impacts of these practices? How can more sustainable consumption pathways be reached?

Integrated Analyses of Human Dimensions and Policy Implications of Cross-Border Migration on Vector-Borne Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in the Andes-Amazon Region

Lead: Dr Esther Schelling,

Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, University of Basel
Partners: Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia, Lima (Peru),
Universidade de Franca (Brazil), Universidade Federal de Goiás
(Brazil), Department of Geography - University of Zurich
Disciplines: Anthropology - Biology - Development - Geography
- Health / Medicine

Geographical Scope: Brazil - Peru - Switzerland

The municipality of Assis Brasil is the main border crossing point between Brazil and Peru. Increased migration in this area of the southwestern Amazon has been facilitated through the recent pavement of the Pacific Highway through the region, connecting Brazilian agricultural and commercial shipments to Peruvian coastal ports. The role of migration and temporary cross-border movements in transmission and occurrence of American Cutaneous Leishmaniasis (ACL) and Bartonellosis is unknown in the region, but thought to be important. Assis Brasil has the highest incidence of ACL of all municipalities in Brazil and Acre's incidence is 11 times the national average, while the distribution of Bartonellosis is moving from districts in Peru towards Brazilian borders. As non-immune migrants move into areas of endemicity for NTDs, and infected migrants return to non-endemic areas, population movement can complicate disease control efforts, and many diseases have re-emerged over the past decade. These diseases present trans-national challenges requiring multi-lateral approaches between governments. A comparative survey involving Acre, Brazil and the districts of Madre de Diós and Cusco in Peru will provide information on social determinants associated with migration, health seeking behaviour, health care access and an observational assessment of environmental risks associated with ACL and Bartonellosis comparing migrants from Peru and Brazil, with the respective resident populations. This project provides a focused look at the role of migration and drivers of migration and environmental risk in the distribution of disease. It thus replies to the need of an improved surveillance and disease forecasting through a multidisciplinary approach for NTD control elimination strategies. This research has the potential to target and integrate high-risk groups into current WHO elimination and control strategies for NTDs.

What are the effects of cross-border migration in the southwestern Amazon on the transmission of two neglected tropical diseases (Amercian Cutaneous Leishmaniasis and Bartenellosis)?

Sustainable Land Management in Mountain Regions of Bolivia and Nepal in the Context of Outmigration, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction

Lead: Professor Michel Jaboyedoff, Institute of Geomatics and Analysis of Risk, University of Lausanne

Partners: Agroecología Universidad de Cochabamba (AGRUCO), (Bolivia), Centre for Development and Environment (CDE), University of Bern, Helvetas-Swiss Intercooperation, Institute of Geography, University of Neuchâtel, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), South Asia Regional Coordination Office, National Centre of Competence in Research (NCCR) North-South

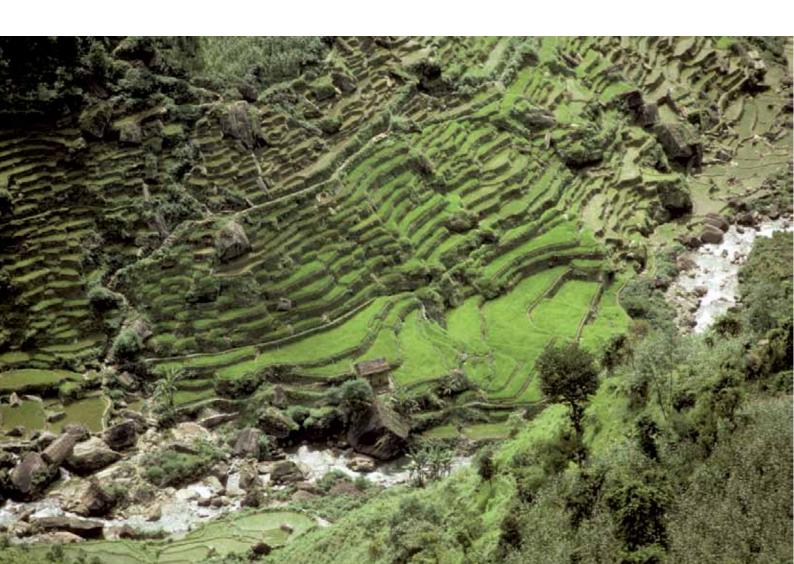
Disciplines: Environment – Geography – Demography –
Development

Geographical Scope: Bolivia - Nepal

Climate change is expected to place significant strains on natural resources, in particular for managing water, while strongly impacting small scale and traditional agriculture practices. In Bolivia and Nepal, home to some of the world's largest and poorest mountain populations, rural-urban and foreign out-migration is producing a feminisation of the rural population. Women and

elderly are thus left to deal with adapting to changing environmental conditions, alongside managing daily life: maintaining terraces, irrigation canals, stabilising slopes, etc. Few studies only have analysed the consequences of changing demographics on land management in mountains. This project will address this research gap by exploring the interface between people dynamics with mountain dynamics in a context of climate change. The main research question upon which this trans-disciplinary study is based: How is land management in mountains being affected by three main factors: migration, climate changes (temperature and rainfall patterns) and hazard events in Cochabamba region of Bolivia and Dhankuta District in Eastern Nepal. The hypothesis is that climate change is creating water management problems, increasing mountain hazards and out-migration, leading to a feminisation of mountain populations who are less able to address needed changes in agricultural practices, water management, landslides and flooding. The expected results will be used to develop practical tools for guiding decisions on promising sustainable land management practices for agricultural advisors, disaster risk and water managers, local NGOs and policy makers, in order to effectively support female headed households and other land users and finally lead to more sustainable livelihoods and well-functioning ecosystems.

How is land management in mountains being affected by migration, climate changes and hazard events in Cochabamba region (Bolivia) and Dhankuta District (Nepal)?



International Geneva Award 2012

The International Geneva Award launched in spring 2012 was answered by twenty high-profile submissions. The Jury, composed of members of the International Geneva Committee, attributed three awards each endowed with CHF 5'000.

The following three articles, all considered particularly policy relevant for international organisations, were prized:

The Peaceful Conspiracy: Bond Markets and International Relations During the Pax Britannica

Published in: International Organisation 66, Spring 2012, pp. 211-41

Authors:

Marc Flandreau

Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva

Juan Flores

Institute Paul Bairoch of Economic History, Department of Economic Sciences University of Geneva

This article investigates the foundations of Polanyi's argument that monopoly power in the global capital market served as an instrument of peace during the Pax Britannica (1815–1914). Polanyi's conjecture does not, however, provide empirical or theoretical foundations for explaining how Haute Finance became the 'anonymous factor' that helped prevent wars.

The article focuses on the role of intermediaries and certification. The authors show that when information and enforcement are imperfect, there is a scope for the endogenous emergence of 'prestigious' intermediaries who enjoy a monopoly position, and as a result control government actions. Through the lending made conditional on peaceful policies, these intermediaries influenced government policies and actions. The article concludes that prestigious intermediaries – the Haute Finance at the time of the Pax Britannica – acted that way because of their concern with maintaining an unblemished track record when wars increased risks of default. This research, which brings together insights from various disciplines, provides a significant extension to, and departure from, recent research on how countries accumulate reputational capital.

The magazine 'Alternatives Economiques' (No 313 - May 2012) took up the subject in an interesting article, published in French.

- 66 Extremely interesting, original and well-written paper, accessible to a large, non-specialist audience. The subject matters, as well as the time-frame in which it is set and researched is most certainly of relevance to today's debate about the role and links between the private financial sector and the public one. 99
- 66 Given the search for an explanation of the 2008 crisis by academics and IOs alike, this paper may well stimulate further research into less common and more political territory. 99

Assessment comment by a Jury member

Factors Determining the Adoption and Impact of a Postharvest Storage Technology Published in: Food Security, June 2012, Volume 4, Issue 2, pp 279-293

Authors:

Raushan Bokusheva, Robert Finger Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, ETH, Zurich

Martin Fischler HELVETAS Swiss Inter-cooperation, Bern

Robert Berlin Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture, Basel

Yuri Marin Francisco Pérez Francisco Paiz Institute of Applied Research and Local Development (Nitplan), Managua, Nicaragua

This paper evaluates the determinants and impact of adopting the metal silo – a postharvest storage technology for staple grains — which was disseminated by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), from 1983 to 2003, in four Central American countries. The aim of the SDC program was to diminish smallholder farmers' postharvest losses by facilitating the manufacture and dissemination of metal silos, and thereby improving regional food security. The empirical analysis is based on a unique data set obtained from a survey of 1,600 households from El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. The researchers employed a double-hurdle model to identify factors that contributed towards the adoption of metal silos and used Tobit and standard regression models to assess the impact of adopting the silos on food security and well-being of households. Their results show that both the household demand for metal silos and the impact of their adoption varied across the four countries, demonstrating the relevance of regional policies for their adoption, as well as their impact. Furthermore, the results indicate that, in addition to achieving household self-sufficiency in maize, the main determinants of adoption were household socioeconomic characteristics such as age, land ownership, completion of a training course, and quality of basic infrastructure. Finally, when considering a group of economic and social indicators of household well-being, they found that, compared to the silo non-adopters, the adopter households experienced a significant improvement in their food security and well-being between 2005 and 2009.

- 66 This is an empirically sound piece of work on an important topic which has implications elsewhere and is based on research partnerships between researchers in Switzerland and Central America. 99
- **66** The research topic and the conclusions are very relevant for IOs working in areas of food security, agriculture and rural development. **99**

Evaluation remarks by a Jury member

Climate Change and International Water-Conflict in Central Asia Published in: Journal of Peace Research, January 2012 (49)1, 227-239

Authors:

Thomas Bernauer

Centre for Comparative and International Studies & Institute for Environmental Decisions, University of Zurich / ETH Zurich

Tobias Siegfried Hydrosolutions GmbH, Zurich

The authors engage in a critical assessment of the neo-Malthusian claim that climatic changes can be an important source of international tensions, in the extreme, even militarised interstate disputes. The most likely scenario is conflict over water allocation in international catchments shared by poorer, less democratic, and politically less stable countries, governed by weak international water management institutions, and exposed to severe climatic changes.

The Syr Darya in Central Asia, which is part of the Aral Sea basin, corresponds quite well to all these characteristics. If the neo-Malthusian spectre of conflict over water is empirically relevant, signs of this should be visible in the Syr Darya. The riparian countries of the Aral Sea basin have experienced international disputes over water allocation ever since the USSR collapsed and, with it, existing water management institutions and funding. The worst such dispute concerns the Syr Darya, one of the two largest rivers in Central Asia. Based on hydrological data and other information the authors find that the only existing international water management institution in the Syr Darya has failed.

Based on a coupled climate, land-ice and rainfall-runoff model for the Syr Darya, the authors then examine whether, in the absence of an effective international water allocation mechanism, climate change is likely to make existing international tensions over water allocation worse. They find that climate change-induced shifts in river runoff, to which the Uzbek part of the Syr Darya catchment is particularly vulnerable, and which could contribute to a deterioration of already strained Kyrgyz–Uzbek relations, are likely to set in only in the medium to long-term. This leaves some time for the riparian countries to set up an effective international framework for water allocation and prevention of climate-induced geohazards. By implication, the findings suggest that a climate change-induced militarized interstate dispute over water resources in Central Asia is unlikely.

- **66** The strength of this paper is its strong interdisciplinary view as it looks at water management, climate change and potential conflicts. **99**
- 66 The findings are highly relevant for IOs since many organisations are looking into issues of climate change. 99

Assessments by a Jury member

SNIS Award for the Best PhD thesis in International Studies

The fourth edition of the SNIS Award that prizes the best PhD thesis received in a Swiss University was launched at the end of 2012. Since the submitting procedure extended until spring 2013, the SNIS changed the Award's nomenclature to the year 2013. Like other SNIS activities, this award is highly competitive: Twenty-one theses were submitted. The winner will be known and announced in spring 2013.

Aim

The SNIS Award has been established to encourage outstanding **young** research scientists at the beginning of their careers. The SNIS Award will be given for the best PhD thesis received in a Swiss University in 2012 on a subject related to International Studies.

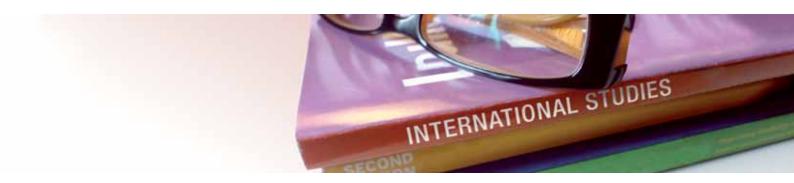
The SNIS considers that International Studies deal not only with the analysis of international relations, but also with political, economic, social, environmental, legal, and health issues that extend beyond national boundaries. Submitted PhD theses can deal with a wide range of academic disciplines, such as political science, economics, sociology, social and cultural anthropology, law, history, geography or environmental sciences.

Award & Jury

The SNIS will award one prize annually. In case of equally remarkable theses, the SNIS jury can decide to split the prize. It can also decide not to award any prize if no work is deemed of sufficient quality. The prize will be awarded to a thesis that can convince the jury of its interdisciplinarity.

The amount that will be awarded by the SNIS is CHF 5'000.

If possible, prizes will be presented annually in the framework of a SNIS event where the awardee(s) will be invited to present their thesis results. Applications will be judged by a committee composed of six professors with expertise in one or several areas relevant to International Studies as described above.



EVENTS

Academic Council Debates on Global Trends in Inequalities

The SNIS again approached Swiss universities to hold round-table debates on highly relevant topics. The yearly theme of these round-table debates was defined by the International Geneva Committee the previous year (former Academic Council of International Geneva). The two debates held in Neuchâtel and Zurich respectively treated the general theme of 'Global Trends in Inequality'.

The University of Neuchâtel hosted the first debate on May 3 2012, bringing together representatives of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the World Trade Organization (WTO), and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Charles Gore, Honorary Professor of Economics at Glasgow University and former head of research at UNCTAD, opened the debate by addressing the issue of the increasing income inequalities that are noticed on global as well as inter-country levels. Some striking figures showed the rising gap in income between the North and the South over the last thirty years. **Michele Falavigna**, former humanitarian coordinator of UNDP in Chad and Niger, shared his reflections on the humanitarian crisis management in regions such as the Sahel zone in Africa, where extreme poverty leads to cyclic food crises. While the international community usually provides immediate response and relief over a period of about thirty-six months, it is legitimate to ask what long term measures should be taken to avoid these recurring and sadly foreseeable crises. The question of trade and access to the global market was addressed by **Bernard Kuiten**, Head of External Relations, World Trade Organization. He reminded the audience that the WTO, set up in 1995, was created in order to establish equal and transparent trade rules among the 155 member states. The existing dispute settlement mechanism, whose rulings are final, ensures that members adhere to the rules they have established. This mechanism is therefore an important lever for poorer countries to ensure that they get their appropriate share of trade, thus enabling them to partake in growth and consequentially find a way out of poverty. Bernard Kuiten underlined that, in the current times of financial and economic crisis, an important objective of the WTO is to fight the looming spectre of protectionism. Trade negotiations, where political power is reflected, have very much evolved over the past 10 years as the dominant trade blocks (USA, Canada, Japan and the European Union) have been joined by China and Brazil as significant actors.

The round-table debate gathered not only students and scholars of the University of Neuchâtel, but also participants from IOs and NGOs in Geneva, all of which were interested by the topic and the opportunity to exchange with high-level professionals.

The ETH in Zurich hosted the second debate entitled 'Sustainability and Challenges for the Development Progress'. A few weeks before the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development 'Rio+20', the debate held at the Centre for Comparative and International Studies (CIS), was extremely topical. Practitioners from different international organisations held keynotes and discussed with students:

- Constanza Martinez, Senior Policy Officer, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Gland.
- Ronal Gainza-Carmenates, UNEP'S Green Economy Initiative, Economics and Trade Branch, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Geneva.
- Adam Rogers, Senior Advisor and Head of Unit, Strategic Communication, United Nations Developments Programme (UNDP), Geneva.

SNIS Award Ceremony

The World Trade Organization (WTO) co-organised the award ceremony to celebrate the two authors whose theses were rewarded.

Dr Joan Apecu Laker, Economic Affairs Officer at the Council and Trade Negotiations Committee Division of the WTO, was rewarded for her PhD thesis submitted at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (Geneva) on the subject of the African participation at the World Trade Organisation (thesis' title: African Participation at the World Trade Organisation Legal and Institutional Aspects (1995 - 2010). During the ceremony, Dr Joan Apecu Laker gave an interesting overview of her research work that investigates the level of commitment and participation of individual and collective African members in the WTO, from 1995 to 2010. The study goes beyond earlier research by analysing recent evidence of committee work, dispute settlement, and negotiations over a longer period - 1995 to 2010 - and in different circumstances. The strength of the thesis is that it concludes with recommendations for the improvement of Africa's participation at the WTO. Mr Chiedu Osakwe, Director of Accession of the WTO, explicitly lauded this practical aspect of the thesis, which then gave ample grounds for an inspired debate on the African members' participation in the WTO. Many senior staff members of the WTO took part in a lively debate with academic experts of international commercial law.

Dr Kun Fan, author of the thesis entitled 'The Law Practice of International Commercial Arbitration in China Measured by Transnational Standards. A Legal, Cultural, Sociological, Economic, and Political Analysis' (University of Geneva), was co-winner of the SNIS Award in 2011. Due to professional commitments, she was not able to take part in the award ceremony. Nevertheless, her husband (Mr Emmanuel Gillet) attended the award ceremony where he expressed his thanks and exposed the key research findings of Dr Fan's thesis.





Launch Workshop of the SNIS Projects 2012

The project coordinators and their teams met in September in Geneva at the Villa Rigot for a kick-off meeting. The workshop allowed an informal exchange between the different teams and also helped clarify the terms of collaboration between the secretariat and the coordinators.

To foster 'inter-generational' learning, Professor Vally Koubi, coordinator of a 2009 SNIS project (Climate Change, Economic Growth and Conflict) shared her experience on how a SNIS projects runs, from initiation to completion.

In line with its general ambition to foster original communication strategies, the SNIS secretariat had invited Dr Agathe Charvet, in charge of relations between the Swiss Western Universities and the Swiss Radio Television (RTS). Agathe Charvet talked about research and science in the media in general, but also gave some very specific and helpful hints on how to get media attention.

What happens to academic research projects once they conclude? Dr Maria-Ruxandra Stoicescu, who looked into five projects funded by the former Geneva International Academic Network, presented the conclusions of her study (cf. page 19 - Publication).

The eight teams invited to present their work not only focused on the contents, but also discussed the collaborative process, i.e. how their research idea took shape and how they proceeded to find the right partners and include them in the design of the project. In order to create an interaction between the different teams, project coordinators commented on thematically close projects.



PUBLICATION

The Afterlife of Academic Research Projects -A primer



The report is available on the SNIS website: snis.ch/snis_publications

What becomes of research projects after their completion? Are the publications, websites and conferences they generate the end of all of the efforts invested in their realisation, or do they continue to exist in different forms, such as a continued cooperation between project members, the development of new projects, or the perpetration of their results and practices?

Dr Maria-Ruxandra Stoicescu looked into this matter by examining projects funded by the former Geneva International Academic Network (GIAN) – the predecessor organisation of the SNIS. The results are presented in the study commissioned by the SNIS and entitled 'The Afterlife of Academic Research Projects - A primer'.

Most of the GIAN projects ran for two or more years, making not just the financial, but also the human investment an important one. It is believed that finding out how and which of their results and outputs continued to travel beyond the official closing event can provide the SNIS and other interested actors with ideas on how to best pilot current and future projects. Also, these projects' afterlives might suggest the most efficient funding options depending on the aims of each project submitted to the SNIS.

The analysis identified five indicators most often present in projects that continued to exist after their formal conclusion:

- dissemination strategy, events
- another project derived from the initial one
- institutionalisation and the consolidation of the project strategies and aims in further actions
- elaboration and perpetuation of practices in the given area of research
- further use of the materials and tools elaborated as part of the project
- further collaboration between team members and institutions of the initial project

The indicator most often encountered was a dissemination strategy of results and the organisation of further events related to the project. The indicator most seldom encountered was further collaboration between team members and institutions of the initial project. This second indicator points to the vulnerable feature of cooperative research projects in international studies

The report also suggests a set of elements to be taken into account in the evaluation of project proposals in international studies, and in addressing issues of project continuation after formal conclusion.

FINANCIAL and administrative matters

Financial Statement for the Year 2012

The financial year 2012 closed with a positive balance of CHF 20108.

The overall expenses decreased by CHF 125' 050 compared to the previous year, which is mainly due to lesser expenses for scientific activities. Therefore, while spending for the yearly call for projects increased by 4% (79% in 2012 vs. 75% in 2011), spending for networking activities went down (-6%). This decrease is mainly explained by the GC's decision to hold the SNIS conference bi-annually, thus leaving 2012 without a SNIS-organised conference with associated costs.

After a steady reduction of operating costs during the past few years, the 2012 financial year showed a slight increase (CHF 50'093) due to salary expenses for a newly created 60% position of an IT and multimedia collaborator (cf. page 21 - Staff).

Overview of the results of the financial year 2012

Incomes

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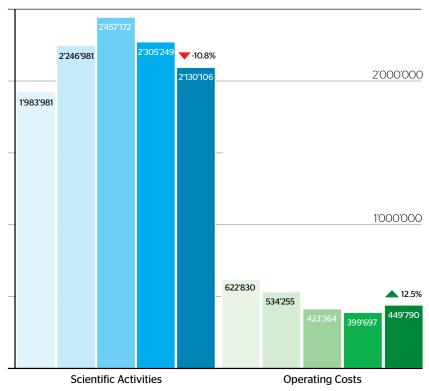
Swiss Confederation	CHF	1'350'000
Canton of Geneva	CHF	1'205'622
Various others	CHF	44'382
Total	CHF	2'600'004

Expenses

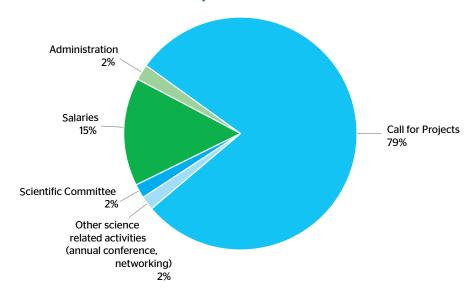
Scientific Activities	CHF	2'130'106
Operating Costs (Administration and Salaries)	CHF	449'790
Total	CHF	2'579'896

CHF	20'108
	CHF

Scientific activities and expenses 2008 - 2012



Breakdown of expenses in 2012



Staff

Four permanent staff members composed the SNIS Secretariat in 2012. **Dr Bernhard Fuhrer**, Director, is successfully heading the SNIS Secretariat.

In 2012, the SNIS created a new 60% position to coordinate IT and multimedia projects that have become increasingly important. **Reto Steffen**, a former civil service officer, holds this position since April 2012.

A new programme manager was also hired: **Helena Ziherl** joined the SNIS in April 2012 to handle the day-to-day management of the SNIS funded projects and to oversee the SNIS' networking operations.

The communication and events management is competently taken care of by **Christa Allot**.

The permanent staff could again count on the helping hands of civil service officers. **Jean-Marc Solleder,** IT Engineer, and specialist in the field of IT security, helped maintain and develop the current IT infrastructure. **Renzo Scuderi** joined him to take up the crucial IT support. **Evariste Maïga**, a skilled graphic designer (a graduate of the Department of Art at Goldsmiths, University of London) contributed his artistic talents towards the creation of graphic guidelines for the web design and created several print products, such as project posters, Christmas cards and flyers, in addition to the SNIS graphic charts. **Assad Ali** joined the SNIS for a short affectation in summer. An intern, **Raphaël Kunckler**, completed the temporary staff at the end of the year and contributed towards several tasks in setting up the new SNIS website.

Conclusion and Outlook

The year 2012 was decisive for the SNIS as its key mission was confirmed by its donors, the canton of Geneva and the Swiss Government. With this important backing assured, the SNIS can now look ahead and devise new projects aimed at facilitating the exchange between academics and practitioners. The presence of an IO representative in the Governing Committee is likely to catalyse such new initiatives, increasing the SNIS' institutional leverage in the process.

The SNIS will also continue its efforts to bring audio-visual dissemination practices to the mainstream. The key will be to make this process cumulative, each generation of project teams learning from their predecessors. Having gained considerable experience in this domain, we know that this will be far from easy, but the SNIS team is committed to take on the challenge and create a tangible value added for the research teams, thus serving International Geneva and Switzerland.

Structure of the SNIS (as of 31.12.12 - current status availiable on the SNIS website)

Governing Committee

- heads the Swiss Network for International Studies and the bodies and organs created within
- validates the selection made by the Scientific Committee of projects that qualified for funding
- defines and takes decision with regard to the budget
- defines long term strategies
- approves the evaluations made the Jury of the SNIS Award as well as of the International Geneva Award

Members

Thomas Bernauer Philippe Burrin Thomas Cottier Sandrine Kott Elisabeth Prügl Yves Flückiger

Scientific Committee

- acts as in independant body in its decisions
- evaluates and selects research projects submitted in the annual call for projects
- evaluates the funded projects in their intermediary phase and their final version

President

Laurence Boisson de Chazournes

Members

Edouard Dommen Wolf-Dieter Eberwein Till Förster Pierre Sauvé **Jacques Silber Gerald Schneider Doris Wastl-Walter**

The Secretariat

- is the executive body of the Swiss Network for Internatio-
- implements decisions taken by the Governing Committee
- organises the annual call for projects and supports the Scientific Committee
- ensures the follow-up of funded research projects
- involves the International Geneva Committee in SNIS activities in order to create a network between IOs and researches in Switzerland
- promotes International Studies in Switzerland
- establishes the budget line and controls available funds
- is responsible for the SNIS communication through various tools, including the website
- organises events and conferences

Director Staff members

Christa Allot Bernhard Fuhrer

Reto Steffen

Ruxandra Stoicescu

Helena Ziherl

Civil Service Officers

International Geneva Committee

(former Academic Council of International Geneva)

- is composed by representatives of scientific branches of International Organisations (IOs) in order to establish the link between Swiss scientists and IOs
- defines the yearly thematic issue for the call for projects
- contributes to the round-table debate series organised in various academic institutions in Switzerland
- acts as a Jury of the International Geneva Award that rewards three outstanding scientific articles from the point of view of policy relevance

Members

Andrea Aeby Jefferey Crisp Doreen Bogdan-Martin Theresa Hitchens Maurizio Bona Marcia Kran **Mohand Cherifi Bernard Kuiten**

Cécile Molinier Gonzalo Oviedo Marcelo Di Pietro Peralta **Taffere Tesfachew**

Raymond Torres Peter Utting Charlotte Warakaulle

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Center for Comparative and International Studies (CIS), ETHZ / University of Zurich

Doreen BOGDAN-MARTIN

Chief of the Strategic Planning and Membership Department, International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

Laurence BOISSON DE CHAZOURNES

Professor of International Law, University of Geneva

Maurizio BONA

External Relations Division, European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN)

Philippe BURRIN

Director,

The Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva

C

Mohand CHERIFI

United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)

Thomas COTTIER

Director,

World Trade Institute (WTI), University of Bern

Jefferey CRISP

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

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President of the Voluntary Organization of Humanitarian Organization in Cooperation in Emergencies (VOICE), Brussels

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Acting Director, WIPO Academy, World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

Edouard DOMMEN

Former Researcher, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

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Department of Social Anthropology, University of Basel

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