



SESYNC Feedbacks

News from the National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center

LIVE WEBCAST Confronting Issues of Scale in Socio-Environmental Systems Modeling



Sondoss El Sawah
Welcome &
Moderator



Val Snow
Panelist



Derek Robinson
Panelist



Volker Grimm
Panelist



**Hsiao-Hsuan 'Rose'
Wang**
Presenter

Hosted by: The Integrated Assessment Society, The National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center, and the journal, *Socio-Environmental Systems Modeling*

REGISTER NOW | SES Modeling Webinar Series Continues

Join us for the next webcast in our series on Socio-Environmental Systems (SES) Modeling. Co-hosted by SESYNC, [The Integrated Assessment Society \(TIAS\)](#), and the journal [Socio-Environmental Systems Modelling \(SESMO\)](#), this series will explore the development and application of models to investigate complex problems arising from interactions between human and natural systems.

NEXT SEMINAR: [Confronting Issues of Scale in Socio-Environmental Modeling](#)

WHEN:

Mon. 28 June 2021, 15:00-16:30 (EDT UTC -4)
Mon. 28 June 2021, 21:00 – 22:30 (CEST UTC +2)
Tues. 29 June 2021, 05:00 - 06:30 (AEST UTC +10)

This is the third in a series of webcasts based on the 2020 article [“Eight grand challenges in socio-environmental systems modelling”](#) by Sondoss El Sawah and colleagues. This webcast will explore the types of scale issues likely to arise in each modeling phase, while highlighting how to deal with them, based on the 2021 article [“Socio-technical scales in socio-environmental modeling: Managing a system-of-systems modeling approach.”](#) It is intended for practitioners and scholars who commission, sponsor, or use SES models. It will begin with a pre-recorded presentation by the author, Hsiao-Hsuan ‘Rose’ Wang, briefly describing the scale issues and paths forward. Comments from each panelist and then an open discussion will follow. Viewers may post questions and comments.

WATCH NOW | Recording of the First SES Modeling Webinar

In Case You Missed It—Catch Our First SES Modeling Webinar

Based on the 2020 article **“Eight grand challenges in socio-environmental systems modeling,”** this webcast explores the present status and future of SES modeling, while highlighting current challenges and paths forward. It is intended for practitioners and scholars who commission, sponsor, or use SES models. It will begin with a pre-recorded presentation by its lead author, Sondoss El Sawah, briefly describing the major challenges, followed by panelist presentations by Jill Jäger, John Robinson, and Detlef van Vuuren. [Learn more.](#)



SESYNC NEWS | Congratulations to SESYNC's Jon Kramer!



Above: Dr. Jon Kramer leading a SESYNC program

SESYNC Director of Interdisciplinary Science Jon Kramer Moves into New Role as Director of the Hudson River Foundation

SESYNC would like to congratulate Dr. Jonathan (Jon) G. Kramer for starting a new role as the Director of the **Hudson River Foundation**. Committed to improving stewardship of the Hudson River and New York-New Jersey Harbor Estuary, the Foundation supports scientific research, community outreach and education, and collaborative exploration and management of these resources. Prior to entering this role, Jon was a member of the Foundation's Board of Directors.

Having been part of SESYNC since its inception more than a decade ago, Jon has played an integral role in the creation and evolution of the Center as we know it. As the Director of Interdisciplinary Science, Jon has overseen the progress of SESYNC's 200+ research teams and carefully co-developed SESYNC's one-of-a-kind Graduate Research Program—committed to nurturing the development of our future leaders in socio-environmental research. As one of the Center's most familiar faces, Jon has been known

for his close involvement with our researchers, particularly as a skilled facilitator, working closely with teams to help them make the most of their in-person collaborations.

Though we are saddened to see Jon leave SESYNC, we are excited for him as he moves onto this next chapter, and we can't wait to see the positive impact he will bring to the Hudson River Foundation as its Director. We are immensely grateful for all of Jon's hard work and contributions to the SESYNC community over these last 10 years and wish him the best of luck in this new role. Congratulations, Jon!

PLAYING WITH SCIENCE | Video Game Takes On Climate Change

SESYNC Pursuit's New Climate Change Video Game Gives Players Control Over Whether or Not They 'Survive the Century'

When it comes to climate change, many people feel powerless to implement changes on a scale that's actually large enough to make a difference.

A new video game, developed by members of a SESYNC pursuit, aims to change that feeling however, by empowering people to make climate-related decisions.



In the choose-your-own-adventure-type game, called **Survive the Century** (recently featured in a [Reuters article](#)), players face various scenarios in which they can make different choices that can ultimately impact the extent of climate change.

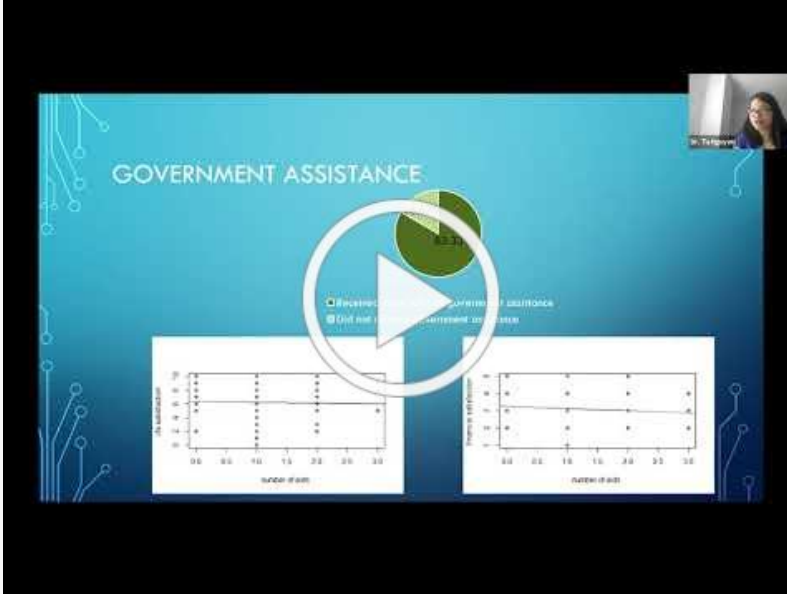
The game is a result of the Pursuit, "[New Scenarios and Models for Climate Engineering](#)," led by Dr. Simon Nicholson, of American University, and Dr. Christopher Trisos, of the University of Cape Town's African Climate and Development Initiative and a former SESYNC postdoc. Nicholson and Trisos collaborated with author Sam Beckbessinger on the project. Learn more about the game and its origins [here](#). Watch the game's trailer [here](#).

SEMINARS | Catch Our Spring Series on YouTube

If you've missed any of our spring seminars, check out the [Spring 2021 Seminar playlist](#) on our [YouTube channel](#) now to hear our seminar guests speak about their research, ranging from topics such as climate change to COVID impacts to justice and sustainability.

You can catch our final spring seminar, with **Dr. Tu Nguyen** of Dalhousie University, on the "**COVID-19 Economic Impact on Fisheries Workers**" below.

And don't forget to [subscribe](#) to SESYNC's YouTube channel to be the first to know when new videos are added!



NEW PUBLICATIONS | SESYNC in the Journals

"Exploring sustainable aquaculture development using a nutrition-sensitive approach."

Published in *Global Environmental Change* by former SESYNC postdoc Jessica A. Gephart and colleagues Alon Shepon, Christopher D. Golden, Patrik John Gustav Henriksson, Robert C. Jones, J. Zachary Koehn, and Gidon Eshel.

"What's left before participatory modeling can fully support real-world environmental planning processes: A case study review." Published in *Environmental Modelling & Software* by Beatrice Hedelin, Steven Gray, S. Woehlke, Todd K. BenDor, Alison Singer, Rebecca Jordan, Moira Zellner, Philippe Giabbanelli, Pierre Glynn, Karen Jenni, Antonie Jetter, Nagesh Kolagani, B. Lauresn, Kirsten M. Leong, Laura Schmitt Olabisi, and Eleanor Sterling. This paper resulted from the pursuit [Participatory Modeling](#).

"Forests moderate the effectiveness of water treatment at reducing childhood diarrhea."

Published in *Environmental Research Letters* by Ranaivo A. Rasolofoson, Taylor H. Ricketts, Kiersten B. Johnson, Anila Jacob, and Brendan Fisher. This paper resulted from the Pursuit, "[Evaluating relationships among human health & welfare, ecological condition & natural resource governance.](#)"

"The value of facilitation in interdisciplinary socio-environmental team research."

Published in *Socio-Ecological Practice Research* by SESYNC staff Dana J. Graef, Nicole Motzer, and Jonathan G. Kramer.

www.sesync.org

