



Announcement

4th Global TraPs Workshop on March 17–18, 2012*

Location under negotiation (will be announced soon)

Tentative Title: *“Defining Case Studies – Setting Priorities”*

* Due to location, may be March 16–17, 2012

70+ participants from all continents on 3rd Global TraPs Workshop

The 3rd Global TraPs workshop on “Setting the Stage for P Research: Identifying Guiding Questions, Critical Issues and Case Studies” was held at ETH Zurich on August 29–30, 2011. Over **seventy representatives** from industry (e.g. Mosaic, Arianne Resources Inc.), UNEP, NPOs (e.g. IFDC, IFA, IPNI) and

science gathered for the event (follow this link to see the global distribution). The involvement of NGOs, farmer organizations and further stakeholders is currently in progress.

Global TraPs guiding question:

“What new knowledge, technologies and policy options are needed to ensure that future phosphorus use is sustainable, improves food security and environmental quality and provides benefits for the poor?”

Summaries of the meetings of (i) the Steering Committee, (ii) the Transdisciplinary Coordinators, (iii) the discussion group “Engagement of underrepresented countries and stakeholders” and of (iv) the evaluation of the third workshop are available at www.uns.ethz.ch/gt/downloads/ws3present. Please follow this link to access our speaker’s input presentations.



The participants of the 3rd Global TraPs workshop in Zurich

Photo: © Matthias Dhum, ETH-NSSI

Global TraPs welcomes new Project Partners

- Ludwig Hermann takes over practice leadership in Processing Node. Ludwig Hermann is Senior Consultant at Outotec, a leader in the minerals and metals processing technologies.
- Reyes Tirado, working for Greenpeace, approved the participation and cooperation in the Global TraPs project and will be a member of the steering committee. Greenpeace will focus on the Use Node and the Dissipation and Recycling Node.

Important Next Steps in Global TraPs

- **Discussion with Node Leaders:** Roland Scholz and Fridolin Brand will have skype talks with all node leaders from science and practice together with the Td coordinators in October and November 2011. In this way, the management team tries to assist in developing the node work.
- **NGOs and farmer organization representatives:** After having composed a strong alliance of research groups interested in sustainable P management and partnership building with industry organizations in 2010 and early 2011, companies and international organizations were contacted (still ongoing). We are currently working on contacting NGOs focusing on environmental as well as poverty issues and farmer representatives to represent a best possible scope of actor perspectives.
- **“SpringerBrief”:** The project leaders Roland W. Scholz and Amit Roy plan to publish a book this winter in the Springer Publishing House. The book will be a short (max. 125 pages) SpringerBrief outlining the structure and organization of Global TraPs, the nodal work already accomplished (e.g. the critical questions and the planned case studies) and a few other important issues, such as the discussion on peak phosphorus. The tentative title of this important book is “Roadmap to Sustainable Phosphorus Use, Management and Stewardship: Orientations of a Global Transdisciplinary Process”. Roland Scholz will contact the node leaders regarding this topic.

For general News and Events in Global TraPs please refer to www.uns.ethz.ch/gt/news.

Personnel Changes in the Global TraPs Management/Coordination Team

We like to acknowledge the following staff and task changes in Global TraPs management and coordination.

- As of September 1, 2011, **Andrea Ulrich** stepped out of daily Global TraPs activities for some time to focus on key papers/chapters of her doctoral thesis. Andrea, who co-initiated, conceptualized and developed Global TraPs alongside Roland Scholz from early 2010 onward and assumed a project management function will stay in close proximity to the project and remain available for urgent development and management issues.



- **Rebecca Cors**, who was responsible for the newsletter and the evaluation, left the NSSI chair. The Global TraPs Team likes to take this as an opportunity to thank Rebecca for all her help and support in the project and wish her all the best for her future!



In order to assure a continuous organization and management, Andrea's and Rebecca's tasks will now be shared by a team under the leadership of Dr. Fridolin Brand.

- **Dr. Fridolin S. Brand:** Frido, postdoc at ETH NSSI, will coordinate the management activities in Global TraPs from the science side. He will work on the newsletter, and will be responsible for day-to-day tasks and serve as a primary contact person.
- **Vera Grubenmann:** Vera is currently doing an internship with Maria Rey (office of Roland Scholz) at ETH NSSI. She will take care of keeping track of the growing network as well as participate in the elaboration of the newsletter.
- **Leonhardt Jancso:** Leo is conducting his Master's in environmental sciences at ETH and will work as research assistant in the next months. He is planning to write his master thesis in the context of Global TraPs. He is also involved in the elaboration of the newsletters.



New IFDC staff supporting Global TraPs includes:

- **Dr. Sampson Agyin-Birikorang:** Scientist-Systems Analysis at IFDC, brings experience from the practice and academia perspectives to the Global TraPs project. Prior to joining IFDC, Sampson worked in the extension system of the Ministry of Agriculture in Ghana and served as a post-doctoral research associate at the University of Florida. Sampson will assist the Global TraPs project in identifying knowledge gaps and identifying case studies in areas related to recycling P and environmental impacts of phosphorus fertilizer use.
- **Mr. Steven Van Kauwenbergh:** Principal Scientist and Project Leader, Phosphate Resources and Research Initiative at IFDC, has over 30 years of experience in providing technical assistance in fertilizer and agro-mineral-related projects. Steve's current responsibilities include developing a program to estimate world phosphate rock (PR) reserves and resources, analyzing the chemical and mineralogical characterization of phosphate rocks, and conducting mineral resource surveys and mining studies in developing countries. Steve will assist the Global TraPs project in activities related to efficient exploration, mining and processing of PR.



The new management/coordination team is looking forward to a fruitful cooperation in Global TraPs!

Educational Offers on Transdisciplinarity

Education in transdisciplinarity (Td) will be followed in different streams. Firstly, existing teaching programmes of the Td coordinators will be opened for participants of Global TraPs: e.g. the [CCES Winter School "Science Meets Practice"](#) at the ETH Zurich, Switzerland and the [Td Summer School](#) of the Tsama Hub in Stellenbosch, South Africa. Secondly, a proposal for an International Training Network (ITN) is currently being prepared under the lead of Daniel Lang and Ulli Vilsmaier (Leuphana University Lüneburg). The ITN program forms part of the European Commission FP7 People – Marie Curie Actions. It aims to improve early stage researchers' career prospects both in the private and the public sector by

supporting them with a customized joint research training program. The ITN proposal (termed TraPs_T) will be linked to the Global TraPs initiative. PhD research projects in the ITN will support and complement the Transdisciplinary Case Studies along the phosphorus supply chain underpinning Global TraPs.

Social fairness and the poor in Global TraPs

Kjell Törnblom (Swedish-American Professor Emeritus) and **Pius Krütli** (Td coordinator processing node) are working on a proposal regarding case studies focusing on the interference in the shape of disagreements and conflicts between different human systems (e.g., the individual and his membership group) in the context of the phosphorus challenge. Particular emphasis will be placed on the impact of (a) fairness conceptions, (b) mode of resource production, and (c) resource characteristics on access, distribution, usage and exchange of phosphorus.



Kjell Törnblom has been working on fairness issues for decades focusing the integration of procedural and distributive justice and resource theory on a theoretical and conceptual level. He published a number of articles and books on the justice issue. Kjell Törnblom is the current editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Social Justice Research*.

New Global TraPs project logo finalized

Global TraPs Management launched the use of the new project logo during the third workshop in Zurich. The logo is now used on all project-related documents and available for participants to download on the [Global traPs webpage](#).



Important upcoming events on sustainable P use, management and stewardship

Fertilizer Trade Africa Conference, Nairobi, Kenya
(24th – 25th November 2011)

A Forum for producers, traders, importers and financiers in the fertilizer sub-sector, the Fertilizer Trade Africa 2011 provides a space to interact and exchange views and network.

»» www.fertilizerafrica.com

*Soils in a Changing Environment:
Towards the Global Soil Week 2012*
(7th – 8th December 2011)

Given the urgent need for sustainable management of the finite resource soil and the opportunities offered by the Rio+20 process, the organizers believe that time is of the essence to contribute to a joint global endeavor to put soils on the global agenda.

»» www.iass-potsdam.de

*Fertilizer Latino Americano (FLA) 2012,
Buenos Aires, Argentina*
(18th – 20th January 2012)

The FLA is one of the major networking events in the context of fertilizers for the Latin American industry and its suppliers with its last event (Lima, 2011) hosting 380 delegates.

»» www.crugroup.com/events/fla

Third Intergovernmental Review on the Implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities (GPA), Manila, Philippines
(23rd – 27th January 2012)

Adopted by the international community in 1995, GPA is a global initiative focusing on the linkages between terrestrial, freshwater, coastal and marine ecosystems. It “aims at preventing the degradation of the marine environment from land-based activities by facilitating the realization of the duty of States to preserve and protect the marine environment.”

»» www.gpa.unep.org

3rd Sustainable Phosphorus Summit, Sydney, Australia
(29th February – 3rd March 2012)

The 3rd Sustainable Phosphorus Summit – hosted by the Institute for Sustainable Futures, University of Technology, Sydney – will bring together key science, policy and industry stakeholders from different parts of the food production and consumption chain. Its focus lays on the role of phosphorus availability and accessibility in global food security, on the protection of the environment, and on ways of how to support rural and urban livelihoods.

»» globalpnetwork.net/PSummit3

*Phosphates 2012 International Conference & Exhibition,
El-Jadida, Morocco*
(19th – 21st March 2012)

Phosphates 2012 will create a platform for experts and decision-makers from leading companies within the fertilizer, industrial and feed phosphate industries. It is a global event, thought to attract over 350 delegates from 40 countries.

»» www.crugroup.com/events/phosphates



GLOBAL TraPs

TRANSDISCIPLINARY PROCESSES FOR SUSTAINABLE PHOSPHORUS MANAGEMENT

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For updates about the Global TraPs effort, visit our website: »» <http://www.uns.ethz.ch/gt>