

Projet de recherche
« COMPENSER LA NATURE ? »
Financé par la Région


Gouverner le Vivant

Savoirs, cultures et politiques
de la biodiversité

CAK

Centre Alexandre-Koyré
Histoire des sciences et des techniques

UMR 8560 EHESS-CNRS-MNHN



Capitalizing nature.
Forms and strategies for economizing the environment, 19th to 21st century

Capitaliser la nature.
Les mises en forme économiques de l'environnement du XIXe siècle à aujourd'hui.

Conference convened by
Christophe Bonneuil, Benoît Dauget and Yannick Mahrane (CAK, EHESS-CNRS)

12-13 juin 2017
École Normale Supérieure. 45, rue d'Ulm. 75005 Paris.
Salle Dussane (12 juin) and Amphithéâtre Rataud (13 juin).



From calculating the costs of ending slavery and of compensating industrial pollutions in the 19th century to today's valuation and offsetting of 'ecosystem services', via post WW2's measurement of ecosystem's "biological productivity" and cost-benefit analysis, the forms of economizing the environment have been diverse and changing in the last two centuries. The conference will explore this diversity of knowledges, tactics, instruments and mechanisms that undertook to render natural entities and processes amenable to private property, government, commensuration, monetization or commodification. It also aims at understanding how these went hand in hand with capitalism's transformations.



Des calculs du coût de l'émancipation des esclaves et de dédommagement des pollutions industrielles au XIXe siècle à la monétarisation contemporaine des « services écosystémiques » et la « compensation écologique », en passant par la mesure de la « productivité biologique » des écosystèmes et l'analyse coût-bénéfice, les mises en forme économiques de l'environnement ont été multiples et changeantes depuis deux siècles. C'est cette diversité des savoirs, tactiques, instruments et dispositifs de mise en économie visant à transformer les êtres et processus naturels en entités appropriables, gouvernables, commensurables, 'monétarisables' ou 'marchandisables' que ce colloque ambitionne d'explorer ainsi que la façon dont ils ont accompagné les transformations du capitalisme

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Monday June 12th - salle Dussane. École Normale Supérieure.

9h. Welcome

9h15. Convener's introduction : *Waves and ways, tactics and regimes for economizing nature in the Anthropocene*

10h-12h30 Panel 1. Economizing life, land and nature in the 19th century

Chair : tbc

François Vatin (Univ. Paris Ouest), *Le coût des arbres et le prix du temps : ingénierie forestière et théorie économique (XVIII-XIXe siècles)*.

Philippe Steiner & Caroline Oudin-Bastide (Univ. Paris-Sorbonne), *Calculer les coûts de l'esclavage et de l'émancipation (1770-1848)*.

Julien Vincent (Univ. Paris 1), *Les mises en économie de la terre sous la Révolution et l'Empire (1789-1815)*.

Thomas Le Roux & Jean-Baptiste Fressoz (Cnrs-Ehess) *Les compensations financières des dégâts industriels sur les biens naturels au XIXe siècle*.

Note: This panel will be held in French

13h45-14h45. Keynote lecture: Clive Spash (WU Vienna University of Economics and Business), *Beyond economicization. Re-establishing an ecological discourse in the policy debate over how to value ecosystems and biodiversity*

14h45-16h45 Panel 2. Nature into numbers. Strategies for economicizing the environment since 1945

Chair: Fabien Locher (CRH)

Yannick Mahrane (CAK, Ehess), *Governing environmental limits to economic growth through economization: from the Paley Commission to the RFF, 1952-1963*

Richard Lane (Univ. Sussex), *Economicizing the environment at EPA, 1970-1990*

Jessica Dempsey (Univ. of British Columbia, Canada), *Rendering biodiversity economic: at Stanford and at the Beijer Institute*

16h45-17h15. Coffee break

17h15-18h15 Keynote lecture: Vincent Devictor (CEFE, Montpellier)
Ecological and epistemic limits to measuring and offsetting nature

18h15-19h30 Science and Policy of ecological offsetting.

Roundtable convened by Nature Paris with Marc Barra (Nature Paris), Vincent Devictor (CEFE), an executive from CDC biodiversité and from academic research in Ecology (UPMC).

Tuesday June 13th - amphithéâtre Rataud. École Normale Supérieure.

9h. Keynote lecture : Eve Chiapello (Ehess), *Financialization via instruments*

10h-12h30 Panel 3. Valuations, evaluations, privatization

Chair: Liliana Doganova (Centre de Sociologie de l'Innovation, Mines Paris Tech)

Marion Fourcade (Univ. Berkeley), *Lost in translation: the qualification of expertise in environmental valuation in U.S. Courts*

Dominique Pestre (CAK, Ehess), *Business on board? TQM, audits, certifications and labels as instruments of sustainability*

Marie Hrabanski (ART-dev Cirad, Montpellier), *"Ecosystem Services" in global environmental agenda: origins and uses*

14h-17h Panel 4. Seing nature like a stock exchange. Offsetting practices and instruments

Chair: Sarah Benabou (Paloc, IRD),

Sian Sullivan & Mike Hannis (Bath Spa U.), *'Mathematics maybe, but not money': on balance sheets, numbers and nature in ecological accounting*.

Benoit Dauguet (CAK, Ehess), *The manufacture of commodities in biodiversity offsets*

Morgan Robertson (Univ. Wisconsin), *The neoliberal rollout in US ecosystem service markets: a history of metrics and mechanisms*

17h15-18h30 Keynote lecture and final discussion: Kean Birch

Chair: Christophe Bonneuil

Kean Birch (York Univ.): *Bioeconomies. The co-construction of markets and natures*

Discussant: Valérie Boisvert (Univ. Lausanne).