

# *Ecologies of Social Difference Multimedia Resources*



This document lists various online multimedia resources for all ESD members to use as a tool for research, teaching, or just to learn about topics of interest. Access links are also provided. Enjoy!

## **TED**

### ***The other inconvenient truth by Jonathan Foley:***

A skyrocketing demand for food means that agriculture has become the largest driver of climate change, biodiversity loss and environmental destruction. At TEDxTC Jonathan Foley shows why we desperately need to begin "terraculture" — farming for the whole planet (filmed at TEDxTC).

#### **Link:**

[https://www.ted.com/talks/jonathan\\_foley\\_the\\_other\\_inconvenient\\_truth/transcript?language=en-t-194358](https://www.ted.com/talks/jonathan_foley_the_other_inconvenient_truth/transcript?language=en-t-194358)

### ***Environmental Studies: Climate Change***

TED Studies, created in collaboration with Wiley, are curated video collections — supplemented by rich educational materials — for students, educators and self-guided learners. In Climate Change, speakers give talks that boldly illuminate the nature and scale of current-day climate science, policy and ethics. They explore the economics and psychology of individual and collective action — or inaction — on climate change in order to assess the costs of our choices and opportunities for change. Relevant areas of interest, study and coursework include: ecology, atmospheric science, oceanography, glaciology, energy development, environmental policy,

science in the media, political science, ethics, sociology, behavioral psychology and cultural studies.

**Link:** <https://www.ted.com/read/ted-studies/environmental-studies>

### ***Marine Biology: The Deep Ocean***

TED Studies, created in collaboration with Wiley, are curated video collections — supplemented by rich educational materials — for students, educators and self-guided learners. In *The Deep Ocean*, aquatic explorers take the TED stage to share what they've seen in the abyss of Earth's last frontier: the deep ocean, home to massive underwater mountains and valleys, giant smoking chimneys and an amazing array of animals. Relevant areas of interest, study and coursework include: biological oceanography, chemical oceanography, geological oceanography, ocean engineering, ecology, sustainable consumption, resource management, cinematography, genomics and evolution.

#### **About the educator**



Alex Rogers is a marine biologist whose research focuses on deep-sea ecosystems including hydrothermal vents, cold-water coral habitats and seamounts. Rogers is a Professor of Conservation Biology at the University of Oxford.

**Link:** <https://www.ted.com/read/ted-studies/marine-biology>

### ***Urban Planning: Ecofying Cities***

TED Studies, created in collaboration with Wiley, are curated video collections — supplemented by rich educational materials — for students, educators and self-guided learners. In *Ecofying Cities*, speakers reveal ideas about sustainable development (and redevelopment) that aren't all about

setting limits, going without or preparing for the worst. Rather, they find solutions in resourceful, hopeful, beautiful communities. Relevant areas of interest, study and coursework include: urban renewal, new urbanism, architecture, economic development, green building, transportation planning, alternative energy production, environmental justice, civil engineering, environmental engineering and biomimicry.

### **About the educators**



Pierre Filion is a professor at the School of Planning of the University of Waterloo whose research focuses on efforts at recentralizing growth at the metropolitan scale.



Terri Peters is an architect, writer and researcher based in Copenhagen who's interested in the sustainable transformation of modern housing through radical strategies of reuse, inhabitation and transformation.



Andy van den Dobbelen is a professor of Climate Design & Sustainability at Delft University of Technology in the Netherlands, where he lectures and leads research projects in various areas of climate

design and sustainability in the built environment.

**Link:** <https://www.ted.com/read/ted-studies/urban-planning>

### ***Sustainable Consumption: Reworking the Western Diet***

TED Studies, created in collaboration with Wiley, are curated video collections — supplemented by rich educational materials — for students, educators and self-guided learners. In *Reworking the Western Diet*, speakers examine how that diet — processed, high in refined sugars, and heavy in corn, soy, meat and dairy — is making us and the environment sick. These TED Talks blaze the trail to sustainable farming and a more sensible diet. Relevant areas of interest, study and coursework include: sustainable agriculture, agricultural policy, food history, food science, environmental science, nutrition, culinary arts and horticulture.

#### **About the educators**



Amy Bentley is an associate professor in the Department of Nutrition, Food Studies and Public Health, New York University. Her co-authors, Michael Bulger, Boaz Hillebrand, Allison Mountjoy, and Stephanie Rogus, are 2013 graduates of the NYU food studies program, with a concentration in food

systems.

**Link:** <https://www.ted.com/read/ted-studies/sustainable-consumption>

### **The Feminist Wire**

A website that seeks “to provide socio-political and cultural critique of anti-feminist, racist, and imperialist politics pervasive in all forms and spaces of private and public lives of individuals globally. Of particular critical interest to us are social and political phenomena that block, negate, or limit the

satisfaction of goods or ends that humans, especially the most vulnerable, minimally require for living free of structural violence. The Feminist Wire seeks to valorize and sustain pro-feminist representations and create alternative frameworks to build a just and equitable society.” This website offers several resources on topics related to the research network.

**Link:** <http://thefeministwire.com/#article/28279>

## **Livestream**

The livestream website offers a great variety of live events like conferences, music concerts, etc. to watch online. The search engine is very useful to find conferences or any other events on the topics related to the research network. It also offers the possibility of broadcasting your own events, which might be very useful to broadcast ESD talks, thus capturing more audience.

**Link:** <http://livestream.com>

### ***Border, borderlines, and disposable women: a look at ecofeminism and the maquiladora murders.***

Excerpt of the introduction: “I wanted to talk with you tonight about the issues of the unexplained deaths of so many hundreds of young women in the city of Juarez, Mexico, commonly known as the ‘Maquiladora murders’ and to juxtapose those deaths referred to by some writers as ‘the blood in the desert’. With the general disregard and destruction of the ecology of the border region. A region which is home to a diverse yet fragile series of ecosystems; an area of variable rainfall, extreme water scarcity; a zone of rapid industrialization, surging human populations, and frenzied international trade. [...] I think that the connection between ecological degradation and the degradation of human life is an important one and when places in the socio-economic context, that includes border economic politics, the impact of the North Atlantic fair trade agreements (NAFTA), as well as the maquiladora working conditions and ethics, what we find is the indifference of both corporations and governmental policies with regards to the border’s vulnerable female workforce and its vulnerable ecology. My

analysis makes a connection between ecological degradation or ecological violence, and violence against poor women. In this case specifically, poor, brown women”

### **About the Educator**



Daisy Machado is Dean for Academic Affairs and Professor of the History of Christianity at Union Theological Seminary in New York City. She has also taught an immersion course for seminary students on the U.S.-Mexico border for over a decade; the course focuses on globalization and women’s labor as found in the maquiladora industry of Northern Mexico.

**Link:** <http://livestream.com/accounts/565116/machado>

### **Powershow**

This website offers the possibility of sharing Power Point Presentations online. Hence, you can upload your own, watch, and/or download other’s presentations –most of them are for free.

**Link:** [http://www.powershow.com/view/771-NTImY/Ecofeminism\\_Sustainability\\_and\\_Women\\_powerpoint\\_ppt\\_presentation](http://www.powershow.com/view/771-NTImY/Ecofeminism_Sustainability_and_Women_powerpoint_ppt_presentation)

### **Festival of Dangerous Ideas**

Leading thinkers and culture creators from around the world gather to present a series of talks that bring contentious ideas to the fore and challenge mainstream thought and opinion.

Speakers at the festival are asked to take their ideas to its extreme to create

lively and thought-provoking discussions. Our aim is for audiences to leave each session having experienced the excitement of dangerous ideas being brought to life, and having heard arguments being debated that have made them look at things in a different light.

Previous FODI guests have included Julian Assange, Sam Harris, Alan Dershowitz, Jonathan Safran Foer, Christopher Hitchens, Germaine Greer, Susan Greenfield, Dambisa Moyo, Geoffrey Robertson, David Simon, Dan Savage amongst others.

This year (2015), our cast of speakers included Salman Rushdie, Steven Pinker, Nadezhda (Nadya) Tolokonnikova and Maria (Masha) Alekhina, Lydia Cacho and John Pilger. Over the weekend of 30-31 August, FODI speakers had us questioning our view of ourselves and our place in the world. Whether it was ideas about loneliness, masculinity, narcissism, complicity in modern slavery, the buying and selling of women or the return of the class system in Australia – they all jolted our view of who we are and where we fit in.

**Link:**

[http://www.sydneyoperahouse.com/about/festival\\_of\\_dangerous\\_ideas.aspx](http://www.sydneyoperahouse.com/about/festival_of_dangerous_ideas.aspx)

***Vandana Shiva – Growth = Poverty***

When natural resources like timber, water and mineral deposits can be extracted from ecosystems, they become assets with dollar values that can be bought and sold internationally and enable developing countries to grow and participate in the global economy. If growth is the key to emerging from poverty, then this might seem like a good thing. But what if these same resources being sold to richer nations come from an ecosystem that people depend on for their livelihood? What if new growth is actually proportional to the creation of new poverty?

The cult of 'growth' has dictated policy for decades. But if well-being, not growth, is our goal, selling resources that bring long term wellbeing to communities for short-term gain is a very bad deal. Hard as it may be for the

West to understand, protecting the ecological resources of communities might be more important than GDP figures.

Vandana Shiva holds a PhD in physics, but is best known as an environmental, and anti-globalisation activist and as a leading figure of 'ecofeminism.' Shiva is based in India and is the author of over twenty books, including *Staying Alive* and *Biopiracy*. She is a former recipient of the Sydney Peace Prize.

Chair: Simran Sethi is an award-winning Indian American journalist. She is currently undergoing a research fellowship at the University of Melbourne in Australia on the loss of agricultural biodiversity in our food system.

**Link:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7M3WJQbnHKc>

## **The Atlas of Environmental Justice**

One of the primary objectives of EJOLT is to compile and make available an Atlas of Environmental Justice. The Atlas of Environmental Justice is a practical and intuitive online platform that allows searching and filtering across 100 fields, as well as browsing by commodity, company, and type of conflict. With one click you get, for example, a global map with just the world's nuclear, waste or water conflicts – depending on your interest. In one click you find the 22 place where people have some issue with Shell or the 97 places where gold leads to some sort of conflict. Click on any point and you'll get everything from actors and a description to mobilization, outcome and sources. Any map you create using the search and filter can be embedded on your webpage or shared with friends on facebook. In the last 3 years, the massive database behind the map has been carefully crafted by a team of over 100 scientists and activists all over the world. It promises to become a reference for scientists, journalists, teachers and activists alike.

**Link:** <http://www.ejolt.org/maps/>

<https://ejatlas.org/>

## **Environmental Justice Organization, Liability and Trade**

As global consumption of resources and human populations increase, the search for energy and materials cause the “commodity frontiers” to expand. Along the entire global chain of production, from extraction, to processing, to disposal, the impacts of pollution are distributed unequally among populations. Those most heavily impacted are marginalized sectors of the population including poor people, women, minorities and particularly indigenous peoples, who depend most directly on natural resources for their livelihood. Environmental Justice Organisations (EJOs) are civil society organisations involved in conflicts over resource extraction or waste disposal, focusing on the link between the need for environmental security and the defence of basic human rights with the aim to redress inequitable environmental burdens.

The Environmental Justice Organisations, Liabilities and Trade is an FP7 project supported by the European Commission that will run from 2011-2015. The project supports the work of Environmental Justice Organisations, uniting scientists, activist organisations, think-tanks, policy-makers from the fields of environmental law, environmental health, political ecology, ecological economics, to talk about issues related to Ecological Distribution. Central concepts are Ecological Debts (or Environmental Liabilities) and Ecologically Unequal Exchange. We focus on the use of these concepts in science and in environmental activism and policy-making.

### **The Action Plan**

The Action Plan of EJOLT comprises the production of databases, networking platforms, mutual casestudy development, workshops, possible legal actions, policy papers, dissemination of best practices, round-table events, and training materials on environmental conflicts for EJOs, other stakeholders and policy-makers, geared to a key issue of great immediate interest to society, namely:

Which are the underlying causes of increasing ecological distribution conflicts at different scales, and how to turn such conflicts into forces for environmental sustainability?

This entails:

- To compile a large database, ‘The Map of Environmental Justice’, that will comprise an atlas of thematic and regional maps covering ecological distribution conflicts around the world, drawing on activist knowledge and linking them with material trade flows among other variables, and providing a platform for communication among EJOs and scientists working on related issues.
- To make available the latest knowledge on indicators of social metabolism for the analysis of the environmental impacts of nuclear energy, oil and gas extraction, biomass extraction, mining and ship breaking and e-waste, focusing on the whole ‘commodity chains’ (from extraction to waste disposal or recovery).
- To unveil some of the socio-environmental and public health impacts which are invisible to the consumers in the main resource importing and waste exporting countries, and to empower stakeholders to monitor and understand risks to environmental health.
- To apply methodologies that allow the study of the valuation languages deployed in ecological distribution conflicts, particularly related to environmental liabilities.
- To improve the basis for EJOs to undertake legal actions regarding environmental liabilities or campaign for institutional changes in corporate accountability.
- To develop the basis for EJOs to use notions and methods of calculation of ecologically unequal exchange and ecological debt.
- To hold workshops and develop an online resource library for EJOs on political ecology and public policies, environmental health (including popular epidemiology), ecologically unequal trade and the ecological debt, and legal redress.
- To translate project findings into concrete policy proposals to be communicated to decision makers in European, international institutions and corporate bodies. The emphasis of the recommendations will be on increasing corporate accountability and on legal institutional mechanisms to seek alternatives to and minimize harmful resource extraction and waste disposal.

**Link:** <http://www.ejolt.org/>

## **The Environmental Justice Project**

The Environmental Justice Project is directly affiliated with the Center for Environmental Philosophy, a non-profit organization, at the University of North Texas. The purpose of the EJP is to expand the dimensions of environmental philosophy to include a transdisciplinary orientation of networks, scholarship, and actions towards environmental justice. The EJP includes a variety of avenues to relevant environmental scholarship that respects the voices of the grassroots struggles around the globe.

### **About the Educator**



Robert Figueroa has also worked on diversity in the study of science and technology in society co-editing with Sandra Harding, *Science and Other Cultures: Issues in the Philosophies of Science and Technology*, which was one of the major products of his primary investigation over an NSF grant to the American Philosophical Association. A large part of his current transdisciplinary research continues to be with

Latin communities in the US; in addition to, indigenous populations addressing joint-management of National Parks and environmental heritage, as well as refugee populations in terms of environmental and climate refugees, conditions in refugee camps, and relocated communities.

**Link:** <http://environmental-justice-project.weebly.com/>

### **Communities for a Better Environment**

Founded in 1978, Communities for a Better Environment (CBE) is one of the preeminent environmental justice organizations in the nation. The mission of CBE is to build people's power in California's communities of color and low income communities to achieve environmental health and justice by preventing and reducing pollution and building green, healthy and sustainable communities and environments.

CBE provides residents in blighted and heavily polluted urban communities in California with organizing skills, leadership training and legal, scientific and technical assistance, so that they can successfully confront threats to their health and well-being.

**Link:** <http://www.cbecal.org/>

## **The Coalition Against Environmental Racism**

The Coalition Against Environmental Racism (CAER) is a student organization committed to bridging the gap between the struggle for social and environmental equality. CAER has the dual mission of educating the campus about Environmental Racism and building coalitions within the University community to foster activism in the Environmental Justice Movement.

Environmental Racism addresses the fact that poor communities, but specifically communities of color, are disproportionately impacted by pollution, waste disposal, hazardous sites, resource depletion, and natural disasters in the natural and built environment. Environmental Racism further emphasizes that communities of color are targeted by racist public policies and private interests, which refuse to involve them in decision-making processes.

CAER exists as a resistance to this inequality and as a strong and visible piece of the Environmental Justice Movement, a mobilization of people, communities, and organizations committed to fighting Environmental Racism in urban and rural settings across the country and the world. CAER works to build alliances with student unions, social justice groups, environmental organizations and the community in order to educate and take action locally, regionally, and globally.

**Link:** <http://blogs.uoregon.edu/caer/>

## **The Beehive Collective**

The Beehive Design Collective is a wildly motivated, all-volunteer, activist arts collective dedicated to “cross-pollinating the grassroots” by creating collaborative, anti-copyright images for use as educational and organizing tools. We work as word-to-image translators of complex global stories, shared with us through conversations with affected communities.

**Link:** <http://beehivecollective.org/about-the-hive/who-we-are/>

## **Village Vancouver**

Village Vancouver inspires individuals and organizations to take actions that build resilient and sustainable communities. We are one of several hundred official Transition Town Initiatives spreading across the globe, the first in the Lower Mainland of British Columbia and pleased to join our fellow sustainability pioneers in Victoria, Nelson, Salt Spring Island, and Powell River.

We are first and foremost a hub of knowledge and resources, helping both to spawn walkable neighbourhood Villages within our 115 square kilometre and 612,000 person city, and to assist other cities in our region with Transition. Promoting social, environmental and economic change in the face of profound ecological stresses and economic crisis, we encourage individuals and groups to unite and collaborate in support of common goals and actions.

Most importantly we strive to have fun in the process, proving that doing the right thing can be a holistically profitable and endlessly enjoyable experience.

**Link:** <http://www.villagevancouver.ca/>

## **Environmental Media Lab**

By 2050, there will be more than 9 billion of us on the planet—radically altering everything around us, from the climate to the web of life. In this new human age, the defining environmental question is not so much: How can we protect nature from people? But rather, how can we balance human affairs with healthy ecosystems? The answers that take shape over the next century will largely depend on how we frame the conversation now.

In the 20th century, we framed the environmental conversation around dire warnings and recounted losses. But as we head further into the Anthropocene, it's time for a new story line—one built more around solutions than problems.

The Environmental Media Lab (EML) rises to that challenge. Our mission is to curate a far-reaching environmental conversation about a green Anthropocene. To that end, we scout out innovative and often counterintuitive solutions to persistent environmental challenges and craft in-depth stories about the people and the science behind those innovations.

EML stories, for example, capture how the insurance industry is quietly and doggedly leading the way to a more climate resilient future; how urban biodiversity can combat the recent surge of allergies and chronic inflammatory diseases; and how crowdsourcing satellite technology can crack down on illegal fishing and other environmental crimes.

Rapid turnaround, low effort stories are everywhere in the new media landscape. EML stands out from its competitors by investing in stories with legacy value—deep dives into thought provoking ideas that don't fade with the latest news cycle. We amplify each story by expanding it across multiple platforms. We start with interactive digital stories, compile the best into newsstand quality print editions, and then take them from page to stage, showcasing innovators featured in the stories through salon-style events.

**Link:** <http://conservationmagazine.org/about-the-empl/>

## **Green for All**

The two biggest problems facing our country—and the world—are runaway climate change and rising inequality. We can't full solve one without addressing the other.

If we eliminate racism and poverty but do nothing to address climate pollution, we'll all be equal on a planet plagued by floods, drought, disease, and disasters. And we can't win on climate unless we build a bigger and broader movement that meets the needs of the hardest-hit Americans.

**Link:** <http://www.greenforall.org/>

## **The Breakthrough**

Breakthrough's unique approach is rooted in a positive, optimistic paradigm called ecomodernism, which embraces modernity to leave more room for nature and expand human prosperity. Breakthrough advances the ecomodernist paradigm in three main ways: research, communications, and network-building.

Our research is designed to illuminate pathways to “decouple” the link between human development and environmental destruction. Our communications work, which includes our website and the *Breakthrough*

*Journal*, advances a positive vision of our environmental future grounded in real-world trends. Our network-building work takes multiple forms: Breakthrough convenes a broad-based, ideologically diverse group of scholars, experts, and policy makers to engage in robust discussion and debate, particularly at our annual event, the Breakthrough Dialogue. We also run Breakthrough Generation, a 10-week research fellowship that prepares young scholars to tackle the big challenges of the 21st century.

### **About the Educators**



Stewart Brand is co-founder and president of The Long Now Foundation and co-founder of Global Business Network. He created and edited the Whole Earth Catalog (National Book Award), and co-founded the Hackers Conference and The WELL. His books include *The Clock of the Long Now*; *How Buildings Learn*; and *The Media Lab*. His most recent book, titled *Whole Earth Discipline*, is published by Viking in the US and Atlantic in the UK. He graduated in Biology from Stanford and served as an infantry officer.



Michael Shellenberger is coauthor of *An Ecomodernist Manifesto*, co-founder of, and Senior Fellow at, the Breakthrough Institute. In 2007, he received the Green Book Award and Time magazine's "Hero of the Environment." His recent TEDx talk is "How Humans Save Nature."

**Link:** <http://thebreakthrough.org/programs/Ecomodernism>

## **Bioneers**

Bioneers is a fertile hub of social and scientific innovators with practical and visionary solutions for the world's most pressing environmental and social challenges.

Bioneers is an innovative nonprofit educational organization that highlights breakthrough solutions for restoring people and planet. Founded in 1990 in Santa Fe, New Mexico by social entrepreneurs Kenny Ausubel and Nina Simons, Bioneers has acted as a fertile hub of social and scientific innovators with practical and visionary solutions for the world's most pressing environmental and social challenges. A celebration of the genius of nature and human ingenuity, Bioneers connects people with breakthrough solutions and each other. Our acclaimed annual national and local conferences are complemented by extensive media outreach including an award-winning radio series, book series, and role in media projects such as Leonardo DiCaprio's film *The 11th Hour*. Our programs further focus on Women's Leadership, Indigenous Wisdom, Community Resilience Networks, and Leadership Development and Youth.

**Link:** <http://media.bioneers.org/>

## **Africa is a Country**

The title of the blog is ironic and is a reaction to old and tired images of "Africa". We deliberately challenge and destabilize received wisdom about the African continent and its people in Western media — that definition includes "old (nationally oriented) media," new social media as well as "global news media".

Africa is a Country is also about constructing a state of mind. One where the "nation" operates outside the borders of modern nation states in Africa and its continental and conceptual boundaries. So, yes, the blog announces that Africa is indeed a "country," an imagined community whose "citizens" must reinvent the narrative and visual economy of Africa.

### **About the Educator**



Africa is a Country was founded by Sean Jacobs and developed over time into a collective of scholars, writers, artists, filmmakers, bloggers, and curators who together produce online commentary, original writing, media criticism, short videos, and photography.

Jacobs is a scholar of media and international affairs. He was born and grew up in apartheid South Africa, where he finished college before studying for a master's in political science at Northwestern University on a Fulbright Scholarship. Dr. Jacobs has held fellowships at Harvard University, New York University, and The New School for Social Research. He has worked as a political analyst at the Institute for Democracy in South Africa in Cape Town and as a journalist.

**Link:** <http://africasacountry.com/>