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Institute of Advanced Studies

## United Nations University Institute of Advanced Studies

*invites you to a*

### Public Seminar

*with*

## Professor Oran R. Young

**Director**, Program on Governance for Sustainability at the Bren School of Environmental Science and Management, University of California, Santa Barbara

**Scientific Chair**, International Human Dimensions Programme (IHDP) on Global Environmental Change

*on*

## Earth System Governance: A Key Challenge for Social Sciences

Large-scale scientific assessments such as the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA, 2000) and the most recent reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC, 2007) clearly show that urgent action is needed to address ecosystem degradation, and to respond to the societal, environmental and developmental consequences of climate change. The challenge for social scientists in this regard is to understand the human dimensions of global environmental change, and to develop knowledge on strategies and governance structures for Earth System management to secure sustainable development.

In this seminar Prof Oran Young – a key thinker on environmental governance and author of some twenty books – will introduce the work of the International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change (IHDP), an international inter-disciplinarily science initiative to promote, catalyse and co-ordinate research on the human dimensions of global environmental change. IHDP takes a social science perspective on global change and works at the interface between science and practice. IHDP is a joint programme of the International Council for Science (ICSU), the International Social Science Council (ISSU) and the United Nations University (UNU).

**Date:** 2:30-3:30 pm, Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> September 2007

**Venue:** United Nations University Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS)  
6F, International Organizations Center, Pacifico-Yokohama, Minato Mirai, Yokohama

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**RSVP** by Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> September

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