

ISA's 54th Annual Convention

**The Politics of International Diffusion:
Regional and Global Dimensions**

**SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, USA
APRIL 3-6, 2013**

Thursday, 4 April 2013, 4.00-5.45pm (TD63)

Sustainability Transition: Theories, Approaches and Perspectives from Europe and Latin America

Chair: Hans Günter Brauch, Free University of Berlin and AFES-PRESS

This panel addresses the debate on 'sustainability transitions' since the Amsterdam conference (2009) when the 'Sustainability Transitions Research Network' (STRN) was established, the 'Routledge Studies in Sustainability Transitions' (2010) and the 'Environmental Innovation and Sustainability Transitions' (EIST) Journal were launched (2011), and a WBGU Report on a 'Social Contract for Sustainability' was published taking up a proposal by W.C. Clark, P.J. Crutzen and H.J. Schellnhuber who called for a new paradigm of a 'Science for Global Sustainability' (2004). This panel brings together researchers from the Netherlands, Belgium, Poland, Germany, Mexico, Brazil and Canada who address this emerging research field from the perspective of policy science, international relations, ecology, geography, economics and from different theoretical perspectives. While the first paper discusses transitions from a governance perspective, the second proposes taking international developments into account by adding scale to the debate on sustainability transitions. The third paper offers a case study on sustainability transitions in the Yautepec River Basin in Mexico, while the fourth assesses sustainability in divided Brazil contrasting conservative and reformist perspectives. The last two papers address the diffusion of innovations for the sustainability transition and the approach of complexity studies and sustainability transition.