

Towards a Sustainable Future Earth: Challenges and Research Agendas, Internationally and in Brazil

This presentation evaluates current knowledge production and science-policy interface structures in place internationally and in Brazil to support a transformation to sustainability, with central focus on efforts to redesign research agendas and institutions to better support a transition towards sustainability. Highlighting both accomplishments and continued challenges such efforts face, it identifies powerful resistances favoring habitual rather than innovative lines of research – resistances that need to be recognized and countered in both international and national scientific institutions to nurture the needed knowledge and action for a transformation to a more environmentally sustainable and just world. Draws on two decades of observant participation in environmental research communities in the United States, Europe, Brazil, and internationally, including the Visioning Process that led to *Future Earth*, the presentation discusses research implications of climate- and water-related risks generated by agricultural expansion in the Brazilian Savanna, including needed contributions from the environmental social sciences and humanities.

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- Myanna Lahsen is Senior Associate Researcher in the Earth System Science Center of the Brazilian National Institute for Space Research (INPE, Brazil). Her research focuses on decision making and the politics of knowledge related to climate change and a transformation to environmental sustainability in the United States and Brazil.
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- Myanna Lahsen is Senior Associate Researcher in the Earth System Science Center of the Brazilian National Institute for Space Research (INPE, Brazil), Executive Editor with WIREs Climate Change and Environment Magazine, and advisor to Nature Climate Change. She has also served on review and advisory panels at the U.S. National Science Foundation and as advisor to the United Nations on science-policy interface and global sustainability issues. Her research focuses on decision making and the politics of knowledge related to climate change and a transformation to environmental sustainability in the United States and Brazil. She is recipient of numerous awards and fellowship, among others the U.S. Jacob Javits and EPA "STAR" fellowships and postdoctoral fellowships at the U.S. National Center for Atmospheric Research and in the J.F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, where she also was Lecturer on Environmental Science and Public Policy.