Mission

The Center for Trans-disciplinary Study of Institutions, Evolution and Policies is research centre dedicated to introduce ideas from institutional, co-evolutionary and ecological economics into the European research, public debate and policy making. CETIP is associated with the Institute for Forecasting, Slovak Academy of Sciences, the largest research organisation in the Slovak Republic.

CETIP concentrates on trans-disciplinary research and training in Europe, primarily in the region of Central and Eastern Europe, presently undergoing the transition from totalitarian to free market and democracy. Main concern is to continue in existed inter and trans-disciplinary cooperation on international research projects. Providing adequate opportunities for intergenerational cooperation, such conditions for trans-disciplinary career development of early stage and experience researchers in European research Area, supporting flexible research teams and interdisciplinary cooperation across natural and social sciences. CETIP ambitious is also to provide a platform for science and policy interface through public seminars or discussion forums at regional, national or international level.

Research Foci

- Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change

The separation of humans and nature obscures the dependence of the society on ecosystem services and functions and in contrast with the history when humans where managed by their environment. Today human driven management control most of socio-ecological transactions, resulting in unsustainable resource use and environmental degradation. Long lasting dualism between social and natural sciences has resulted in incompatible theoretical concepts and methodological approaches where natural and social systems are understood as highly complex but each explained purely by internal disciplinary mechanisms. Interdisciplinary research of last decade has added to the growing knowledge on global environmental change (GECH) by investigating the human causes and consequences of environmental change as well as the human responses to these changes, using for example concept of socio-ecological resilience of interconnected socio-ecological systems. In particular understanding complexity of biophysical transformation of ecosystems due to human and natural drivers, how these
complex transformations take place and interact at varying scales and how concept of sustainable development can be interpreted and incorporated into the policies and environmental governance is main concern of human dimension research on global environmental change.

Co-evolution of institutional and technology change

Radical innovations and shifts in technology and economic paradigms, generated by interactions of economic agents and institutions, may result in profound changes in institutional settings. A flexible system of well-developed institutions supports a smoother operation of production factors and a faster introduction of new technologies. Well-designed institutional settings promote decreases in transaction costs and increases in efficiency of economic and social systems. This process is identified with co-evolution of technology and institutional change. The CETIP aims at research of co-evolution of institutional and technology change in small countries of central and eastern Europe (CEE). These countries account for open economies, strategic geographical location and specific institutional legacies. The legacy is manifested in particular local varieties of global capitalism. The CETIP examines co-evolution of institutional change in CEE countries via application of advanced methods of institutional, evolutionary and behavioral economics.

Management and Partners

CETIP has virtual character, it is established to support and facilitate mission and main objectives (above). CETIP is directed by Dr. Tatiana Kluvankova-Oravska, vice-directed by Research professor Vladimir Balaz. Research secretary Veronika Chobotova.

Academic advisory board:

Professor Carl Folke, Stockholm Resilience Centre

Professor Konrad Hagedorn, chair of the Division of Resource Economics Humbolth University Berlin

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Professor Arild Vatn, Norwegian University of Life Sciences
CETIP co-operate with similar research centres such as Center for the Study of Institutional Diversity, Arizona State University, Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis, Indiana University (http://www.indiana.edu/~workshop), Stockholm Resilience centrum (www.stockholmresilience.su.se) and IEEP (www.ieep.cz) at the Economic University in Prague. CETIP is in close cooperation with other open research and policy centres such as Center for Institutional Analyses, Development and Policy (CADI) in Romania (www.cadi.ro) or IREAS in Czech Republic (www.ireas.cz) and with related international academic programmes such as International Human Dimension Programme of Global Environmental Change (IHDP) (www.ihdp.org) or academic societies as European Society for Ecological Economics (ESEE) (www.ecolecon.org).