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Immediate job openings:

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FinanzadministratorIn am IFF Social Ecology, 30 Std./Wo.  
Informationen auf [www.iff.ac.at/socec](http://www.iff.ac.at/socec)  
Bewerbungen bitte per e-mail bis spätestens 28.3.2003  
an: [gerda.hoschek@univie.ac.at](mailto:gerda.hoschek@univie.ac.at)  
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Sozialwissenschaftliche/r DiplomandIn  
für Diplomarbeit zum Thema "Veränderungen in Arbeitszeit  
und Time Use in den Ländern der Europäischen Union  
(EU-15) seit 1970"  
Kontakt: [marina.fischer-kowalski@univie.ac.at](mailto:marina.fischer-kowalski@univie.ac.at)  
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Events:

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IFF Lecture with Faye Duchin  
"Household Lifestyles and the Future of the Environment"

Faye Duchin, Professor of Economics, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (Troy, New York), will be Visiting Professor in our department throughout April. During her stay she will give a public lecture. Ms. Duchin is a former student of Nobel Laureate Wassiliy Leontief and is world famous for her work on the extension of input output analysis for sustainability questions.

April 9, 18:30, IFF Schottenfeldg. 29, 1070 Vienna  
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IFF Lecture with Univ.Prof. Dr. Marina Fischer-Kowalski  
"Zur Naturgeschichte der Gesellschaft"

May 8, 19:00, IFF Schottenfeldg. 29, 1070 Vienna  
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3rd Ramingstein meeting  
on the Foundations of a Social Ecology of Time and Space

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Jointly organized by Verena Winiwarter (Forschungsinitiative Umweltgeschichte) and Helga Weisz (IFF-Social Ecology) the third Ramingstein meeting took place between February 19th to 22nd . The meeting was funded by the Austrian Ministry of Science, Education and Culture, research program: sustainable development of cultural landscapes, as part of the project "Foundations of a Social Ecology of time and space".

A interdisciplinary group of scientists came together to discuss the relevance of time and space for social ecological research. Lectures were give by Prof. David Auerbach, physicist University of Graz, Prof. Joan Martinez-Alier, economist, UAB Barcelona, Dr. Helga Weisz, biologist, IFF-Social Ecology, Prof. Helmut Haberl, biologist, IFF-Social Ecology, and Dr. Verena Winiwarter, historian, University of Vienna. The Ramingstein meetings will be continued.

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Department News:

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Colleagues from Laos back in Vienna

Two Laotian researchers who are participants in the SEATrans (Southeast Asia in Transition) project are currently in Vienna for their second sojourn. Their objective is to complete the report on the findings in the country study undertaken jointly in the Lao PDR. There, socio-ecological indicators were assessed for the national level and for a case study in a remote village in Vientiane Province. The report will serve as one of the inputs for the third SEATrans workshop scheduled in June 2-5, 2003.

Mr. Bounnam Pathoumthong and Mr. Sithong Thongmanivong are also pursuing Ph.D studies at the University of Vienna, Institute of Anthropology under the supervision of Prof. Harald Wilfing. At the IFF-Social Ecology, they cooperate closely with Heinz Schandl, Clemens Grunbuhel, and Niels B. Schulz.

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Marina Fischer-Kowalski back in Vienna after sabbatical

Guest Professorship at Yale,  
CENERGIA in Rio de Janeiro,  
Workshops on MFA in Brazil

Marina Fischer-Kowalski spent the first part of her sabbatical as guest professor at the Center for Industrial Ecology (Faculty of Forestry and the Environment, Yale University, New Haven), where she had a wonderful opportunity to encounter the challenge of a highly-trained US-American perspective on social ecology and utilize Yale's excellent library and research facilities

The second part of her sabbatical was spent at CENERGIA, a newly created Center for interdisciplinary postgraduate studies at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, coinciding with the take-off of Brazil's new leftist government led by "Lula" who promptly chose Marina's academic host, Mauricio Tolmasquim, for Secretary of State in energy policy. Nevertheless, she returned very impressed with the "Carioca" (i.e. Rio de Janeiro's) way of organizing interdisciplinary research.

Marina's presence was taken advantage of for organizing two workshops on material flow analysis. One took place in the 18-million-inhabitants city of Sao Paulo, organized by professor Helena Ribeiro at the School of Public Health.

The second workshop was organized by Ricardo Gorini at Cenergia, exploring the insights provided by MFA for understanding Latin America's international role as "extractive economies". This workshop bore the stamp of the international IHDP-program on "Industrial Transformation" and brought together some of Brazil's most advanced research on material and energy flow analysis. Apart from Marina, key presenters were José Alberto Machado (Federal University of Manaus) who had collaborated with the IFF on an EU-financed MFA-study on the Amazon region (Amazonia 21), and Roberto Schaeffer who published an input-output analysis of Brazilian trade in the journal Ecological Economics that confirmed the diagnosis of the MFA-studies concerning energy and carbon.

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Sommersemester 2003 at IFF Social Ecology

Die Lehrveranstaltungen des Sommersemesters 2003 sind letzte Woche angelaufen. Spätentschlossene können nach Absprache mit den verantwortlichen LehrveranstaltungsleiterInnen gerne noch einsteigen.

Nähere Informationen finden Sie online unter [http://www.iff.ac.at/socec/lehre/lehre\\_aktuell.php](http://www.iff.ac.at/socec/lehre/lehre_aktuell.php)

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Publications:

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EUROSTAT 2002: Revised time series accounts on material use in the European Union

In 2002 the IFF-Social Ecology undertook a material flow study with the goal to revise, improve and extend the EUROSTAT 2001: Material Use Indicators for the European project was funded by and carried out for the Commission's Directorate General for the Environment and EUROSTAT. The results of the revision are now published as EUROSTAT working paper (EUROSTAT 2002: Material Use in the European Union 1980-2000: Indicators and Analysis. Working papers and studies). The working paper is available online under:

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/eurostat/Public/datashop/print-product/EN?catalogue=Eurostat&product=KS-AO-02-005-\\_\\_-N-EN&mode=download](http://europa.eu.int/comm/eurostat/Public/datashop/print-product/EN?catalogue=Eurostat&product=KS-AO-02-005-__-N-EN&mode=download)

The revisions predominantly referred to the accounting of biomass, which was substantially improved. As a result the levels of the indicators are substantially lower in the revised estimate (minus 17 % for the European Union as a whole). The working paper documents the data sources and applied methods used for establishing the accounts in great detail, thus contributing to a further refinement of MFA methods. In the analytical part the revised indicators are used in Environmental Kuznet Curves analysis, IPAT decomposition analysis and in physical trade balance analysis. The reports concludes with recommendations on how to further improve the analytical and policy use of these accounts.

The project is now in the second year. We will extend the time series back to 1970 and continue to work on the analytical value of the MFA approach by combining MFA and Input output analysis.

For further information on this study feel free to contact project leader Helga Weisz ([helga.weisz@univie.ac.at](mailto:helga.weisz@univie.ac.at)).

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V. Gaube, 2003. Land-Use Change and Socioeconomic  
Metabolism in Austria, Part I: Driving Forces of Land-Use  
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globale Umweltverträglichkeit. Kann eine Verbindung der  
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Metabolismus zu einem besseren Verständnis beitragen? In:  
Kurswechsel 4/2002: Nachhaltigkeit - zwischen Vereinnahmung  
und Alternative, S. 85-98

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Questions, comments, etc: [socec.newsletter@iff.ac.at](mailto:socec.newsletter@iff.ac.at)

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