State of the World 2013
Is Sustainability Still Possible?

Co-Directors

**Erik Assadourian** is co-director of *State of the World 2013* and a Senior Fellow at Worldwatch Institute, where he has studied cultural change, consumerism, economic degrowth, ecological ethics, corporate responsibility, and sustainable communities over the past 11 years. Erik has directed two editions of Vital Signs and four editions of State of the World. Erik also directs Worldwatch’s Transforming Cultures project (www.transformingcultures.org), which explores innovative new ways to intentionally and proactively transform cultural norms so that living sustainably feels as natural as living as a consumer feels today. Through this project, Erik directed *State of the World 2010: Transforming Cultures: From Consumerism to Sustainability* and designed *Catan: Oil Springs*, an eco-educational scenario for the popular board game Settlers of Catan.

**Tom Prugh** is co-director of the *State of the World 2013*. He was editor in chief of *World Watch* magazine from 2005 to 2010, and also co-directed *State of the World 2008: Innovations for a Sustainable Economy*. He spent nine years at the U.S. Energy Information Administration before coming to Worldwatch. His interests and writings include energy, ecological economics, and the relationship between modes of governance and sustainability. Tom is the lead author of two books, *Natural Capital and Human Economic Survival* (with Robert Costanza, Herman Daly, John H. Cumberland, Robert Goodland and Richard B. Norgaard) and *The Local Politics of Global Sustainability* (with Robert Costanza and Herman Daly).

Author Biographies

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Olivia Arnow is a former Nourishing the Planet intern at the Worldwatch Institute and is currently a senior at Vassar College, majoring in Science and Technology Studies. She is particularly interested in the way that science is perceived in society and the ways that people relate to their environment. She has previously worked as a science teacher with the Hudson Valley Youth, and has spent time studying in Cape Town, South Africa.

Dr. David G. Christian is a professor and historian credited with coining the discipline “Big History,” an interdisciplinary study that examines human life in the context of cosmic, geological, and biological history. He is winner of the 2005 World History Association Book Prize for his book, Maps of Time, and was featured at the TED 2011 Conference in Long Beach, California. Dr. Christian holds a PhD from Oxford University in England.

Dr. Dwight E. Collins is President and Founder of the Collins Educational Foundation, President of Colbridge & Company, and a teacher of Operations Management and Industrial Ecology at the Presidio World College. He is a member of the Institute for Operations Research and Management Science (INFORMS), the INFORMS Practice Section Advisory Council, and the INFORMS Roundtable. Previously, Dr. Collins has held positions as Director of Aspen Technology’s Strategic Planning Practice; Director of the Semiconductor Industry Practice at Chesapeake Decision Sciences, Inc.; Senior Project Manager at Exxon Corporation; Senior Consultant at the Logistics Management Institute; and Captain in the U.S. Air Force. He holds his PhD, Master of Science, and Bachelor of Arts in Operations Research from Cornell University.

Dr. Robert Costanza is Professor of Sustainability and Director of the Institute for Sustainable Solutions at Portland State University. Prior to joining Portland State, Dr. Costanza was the founding Director and Professor of the Gund Institute for Ecological Economics at the University of Vermont. He is the co-founder of the International Society for Ecological Economics and the founding co-editor of Reviews in Ecological Economics. Dr. Costanza holds a PhD in Environmental Engineering Sciences as well as both a Master of Arts and a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Florida.
Dr. Larry Crowder is Science Director at the Center for Ocean Solutions in California. He is also a Senior Fellow at the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment and a Professor of Biology at the Hopkins Marine Station. Dr. Crowder’s recent research focuses largely on food webs, sustainable seafood, nutrients and low oxygen, bycatch, and marine conservation. Prior to joining the Center for Ocean Solutions, he was the Stephen Toth Professor of Marine Biology at Duke University.

Dr. Herman Daly is Professor Emeritus of the School of Public Policy at the University of Maryland. Prior to joining the University of Maryland, Dr. Daly was the Senior Economist on the World Bank’s Environment Department as well as an Alumni Professor of Economics at Louisiana State University. He holds a PhD from Vanderbilt University and a Bachelor of Arts from Rice University.

Robert Engelman is President of the Worldwatch Institute. Prior to joining Worldwatch, Engelman served as Vice President for Research at Population Action International. Over the course of his career, Engelman has written extensively on population’s connections to environmental change, economic growth, and civil conflict. He currently serves on the boards of the Center for a New American Dream, the Population Resource Center, and the Nova Institute. Engelman holds a Master of Science degree from Columbia University’s Graduate School of Journalism and a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Chicago.

Dr. Joshua Farley is an Ecological Economist and Associate Professor in Community Development and International Applied Economics at the University of Vermont. Prior to joining the University of Vermont, Dr. Farley served as Program Director at the School for Field Studies, Executive Director of the University of Maryland International Institute for Ecological Economics, and Adjunct Faculty and Licensed Examiner at the University of the West Indies. He holds a PhD from Cornell University as well as a Master’s degree in International Affairs from Columbia University and a Bachelor of Science from Grinnell College.

Dr. Carl Folke is Chair of the Natural Resource Management group at the Department of Systems Ecology and Professor at Stockholm University in Sweden. He is also Director of the Center for Transdisciplinary Environmental Research. Prior to joining Stockholm University, Dr. Folke was Deputy Director of the Beijer International Institute of Ecological Economics at the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. He has acted as a scientific advisor to the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, the United Nations, and the Swedish Government. He is a major contributing author to the environmental field and the recipient of the 2004 Sustainability Science Award from the Ecological Society of America as well as the 1995 Pew Scholar Award in Conservation and the Environment. Dr. Folke holds a PhD in Ecological Economics and Natural Resource Management from Stockholm University in Sweden.
Carol Franco is Mexico-REDD Project Administrator and Research Associate at the Woods Hole Research Center. Her research has focused on environmental and socio-economic policies, food security, and climate change policies. She has worked as the Carbon Finance Officer of the United Nations Development Programme in the Dominican Republic, and held a position at the National Council for Climate Change in the Dominican Republic, where she was responsible for managing adaptation and mitigation projects, supporting the development of national strategies for climate change, assisting in the climate change negotiations, and designing and implementing carbon workshops. Dr. Franco received her PhD from the State University of New York (SUNY) College of Environmental Science and Forestry.

Gary Gardner is a Senior Fellow at the Worldwatch Institute in Washington, D.C. Prior to working at Worldwatch, Gardner served as the project manager of the Soviet Nonproliferation Project. He also developed training materials for the World Bank and for the Millennium Institute. He has contributed regularly to Worldwatch publications, including *State of the World* and *Vital Signs*, and is the author of the 2006 book *Inspiring Progress: Religions’ Contributions to Sustainable Development*. Gardner holds Master’s degrees in Politics from Brandeis University and in Public Administration from the Monterey Institute of International Studies, as well as a Bachelor degree from Santa Clara University.

Dr. Russell M. Genet is an astronomer, professor, and author who specializes in photometric observations and the study of short-period eclipsing binary stars. He is the founder and former director of the Fairborn Observatory in Mount Hopkins, Arizona, where he led the development of robotic telescopes. His work has been featured in the documentary “The Perfect Stargazer” on PBS, as well as in various publications. He has received the Amateur Achievement Award of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific, the Leslie Peltier Award of the Astronomical League, and was elected President of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific in 1993. Dr. Genet holds a PhD in astronomy, a Master of Science in Management, and a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering.

Dr. Paula Green is Founder, former Director, and Senior Fellow of the Karuna Center for Peacebuilding, and has worked as an international consultant, educator, and peace builder on five continents. She currently serves as a Professor of Conflict Transformation at the School for International Training in Brattleboro, Vermont, where she founded and now co-directs the Conflict Transformation Across Cultures program. Dr. Green is an active board member of several international peace organizations, including the International Fellowship of Reconciliation. In 2009, she was presented with the Unsung Heroes of Compassion Award by the Dalai Lama. She holds a Master of Arts in Intergroup Relations from New York University as well as an EdD in Behavioral Studies and Psychology from Boston University.

Jeff Hohensee is Director of Strategic Partnerships at the Alliance for Sustainable Colorado. Prior to joining the Alliance, Jeff served as Vice President at Natural Capitalism Solutions as well as Program Director and Education Director at TreePeople. He has over 35 years of experience as a leader in sustainability working not only in the non-profit sector, but also in business and education. Hohensee received an undergraduate degree in human development from Pacific Oaks College.
Tim Jackson is an Ecological Economist and Professor of Sustainable Development at the University of Surrey. He is also the founder of the Research Group on Lifestyle Values and Environment and Director of the Sustainable Lifestyles Research Group. Prior to joining the University of Surrey, Jackson worked at the Stockholm Environment Institute as well as the Sustainable Development Commission.

Dr. Ida Kubiszewski is a Visiting Fellow at the Crawford School of Public Policy at the Australian National University. Prior to that, she was an Assistant Research Professor and Fellow at the Institute for Sustainable Solutions at Portland State University. Dr. Kubiszewski is also currently Managing Editor of both Solutions magazine and Reviews in Ecological Economics. She holds a PhD from the Gund Institute for Ecological Economics and a certificate in Ecological Economics from the School of Natural Resources at the University of Vermont. She earned her Master’s in Energy and Environmental Analysis and Bachelor of Arts degree in Astronomy and Physics from Boston University.

Dr. Melissa Leach is a Professorial Fellow at the Institute of Development Studies in Brighton, England. Her career has closely involved her with ethnographic fieldwork, and she has led several large, interdisciplinary, and international research projects. She is the current director of the STEPS (Social, Technological, and Environmental Pathways to Sustainability) Center. Leach earned her PhD in social anthropology from the University of London.

Annie Leonard is Co-Creator and Coordinator of the Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives, and currently serves on the board of the International Forum on Globalization and the Environmental Health Fund. Previously she has held positions at Greenpeace International, Essential Information, and Health Care Without Harm. She is the founder of the nonprofit Story of Stuff Project, and is the creator of a number of films critiquing American consumerism, most notably the award-winning animated documentary, *The Story of Stuff*. Leonard holds an undergraduate degree from Barnard College as well as a graduate degree in city and regional planning from Cornell University.

Shakuntala Makhijani is a Research Associate with the Climate and Energy Program at the Worldwatch Institute in Washington, D.C. Prior to joining Worldwatch, Makhijani served as a Research Assistant at the Center for Clean Air Policy where she worked on international climate policy issues. She has a Master of Science degree in Sustainable Systems from the University of Michigan’s School of Natural Resources and Environment and a Bachelor of Science in Foreign Service in science, technology, and international affairs from Georgetown University.
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Dr. Brian Martin is an author, researcher, and professor, who currently serves as International Director of Whistleblowers Australia. He is also a Professor of Science, Technology and Society at the University of Wollongong in Australia. His work focuses on the dynamics of power and strategies for resisting repression and exploitation, and he has authored 13 books and over 200 articles on such topics. Martin holds a PhD in theoretical physics from the University of Sydney.

Dr. Pamela Martin is an Assistant Professor of Geophysical Sciences at the University of Chicago. Her most recent research has been focused on environmental science related to present climate change and disruption of natural biogeochemical cycles. Dr. Martin holds a PhD in Geophysical Sciences from the University of California at Santa Barbara.

Jennie Moore is the Director of Sustainable Development and Environmental Stewardship in the School of Construction and the Environment at the British Columbia Institute of Technology. Her PhD research explores the potential for one-planet living in Vancouver. Previously, Moore served as Division Manager of Strategic Initiatives for Metro Vancouver, where she coordinated the Sustainable Region Initiative. She also served as a Demand Side Management Planner and Air Quality Planner in charge of climate action, where her work received recognition of Environmental Citizenship from the Government of Canada’s Minister of the Environment.

Dr. Kathleen Dean Moore is an environmental philosopher, author, and lecturer on the moral responsibilities associated with climate change and species loss. She holds the title of Distinguished Professor of Philosophy at Oregon State University, and is Co-founder of and Senior Fellow at the Spring Creek Project for Ideas, Nature, and the Written Word. Her book, The Pine Island Paradox, was winner of the Oregon Book Award, and she has been published in numerous academic journals of both philosophy and environmental science. Dr. Moore holds a PhD from the University of Colorado, with a focus on the philosophy of law.

Faith Morgan is Executive Director of Community Solutions. She has focused her studies on Cuba and its energy resources since 2003, and helped to organize the first five U.S. conferences on Peak Oil and Community Solutions. In 2004, she led a team of researchers to document Cuba’s response to the collapse of the Soviet Union, and her award-winning film, The Power of Community: How Cuba Survived Peak Oil, premiered in 2006.

Pat Murphy’s main interest lies in developing strategies for reducing the per capita use of fossil fuels, and he has written several books on the topic. He is Research Director for Community Solutions, and previously served as the organization’s Executive Director. Before working for Community Solutions, Murphy founded a software company that focused on strategies to reduce waste in the construction of residential buildings.

Tom W. Murphy, Jr. is an associate professor of physics at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD), where he leads a project to test Einstein’s General Relativity by bouncing lasers off of the reflectors left on the lunar surface by the Apollo astronauts, achieving one-millimeter range precision. In teaching a course at UCSD on energy and the environment, Murphy applied quantitative estimation with an experimentalist’s consideration of practical feasibility to conclude that the transition away from fossil fuels may not be as graceful as previous energy transitions have been. He has communicated these concerns on a blog called Do the Math, which has garnered over 2 million page views since its start in July 2011.
Dr. Melissa K. Nelson is a professor of American Indian Studies at San Francisco State University, and the President and Executive Director of the Culture Conservancy. Her research and writing is focused on indigenous revitalization, environmental protection and restoration, and the promotion of community and cultural arts. She produced the award-winning film, The Salt Song Trail, in 2005, and received the Switzer Environmental Fellow and Leadership Award in 2000. Nelson holds a PhD in Cultural Ecology from the University of California, Davis.

Dr. Michael P. Nelson is Co-founder and Co-director of the Conservation Ethics Group, and an Associate Professor of Environmental Philosophy and Ethics at Oregon State University. He was awarded the University Excellence in Teaching and the Teacher/Scholar in Residence Award from the University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point. His book, Moral Ground, received two ForeWord Reviews Book Awards in 2010. Dr. Nelson holds a PhD in philosophy from Lancaster University in England and a Master of Arts from Michigan State University.

Simon Nicholson’s academic focus is on global agricultural policies and technology. He is currently an Assistant Professor of International Relations at American University, and a member of the Global Environmental Politics faculty. Previously, he served as a lecturer and director of Clinical Legal Education at the University of Waikato in New Zealand, and as a Visiting Lecturer for the University of Virginia. He received his PhD in international relations from American University.

Danielle Nierenberg is the Food Security Adviser for Citizen Effect and a Co-founder of FoodTank: The Food Think Tank. An expert on sustainable agriculture, her work has been cited in more than 3,000 major publications. In the past, she served as Director of the Worldwatch Institute’s Nourishing the Planet project, and worked for two years as a Peace Corps volunteer in the Dominican Republic. Nierenberg holds a Master of Science in Agriculture, Food and Environment from Tufts University, and a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Policy from Monmouth College.

Alexander Ochs is Director of the Climate and Energy at the Worldwatch Institute. He is Chief Editor of the ReVolt blog and a co-editor of the transatlantic newsletter Connected. Ochs is the President of the Forum for Atlantic Climate and Energy Talks, a Senior Fellow at the American Institute for Contemporary German Studies at Johns Hopkins University, and an Adjunct Lecturer for George Washington University’s Sustainable Urban Planning Program. He has held senior research and teaching positions at the Center for Clean Air Policy and the German Institute for International and Security Affairs, the City University of New York, as well as the Munich, Princeton, Freie, and Humboldt Universities. Ochs holds a Master of Arts in political science, philosophy, and literature from Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität in Munich.
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Sandra Postel serves as both a Freshwater Fellow of the National Geographic Society and Director of the independent Global Water Policy Project. Prior to her current positions, Postel has served as a Visiting Senior Lecturer in Environmental Studies at Mount Holyoke College as well as the Vice President for Research at the Worldwatch Institute. She is widely published and spends a great deal of time consulting, lecturing, and writing about topics related to global water issues. Postel holds a Master of Environmental Management with an emphasis on resource economics and policy from Duke University and a Bachelor of Arts in geology and political science from Wittenberg University.

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Kate Raworth is a Senior Researcher at Oxfam in Great Britain. Her work is focused on rethinking global economic development in the face of planetary boundaries and extreme global inequalities. Prior to joining Oxfam, she worked as Co-Author and Economist for the United Nations Development Programme’s Development Report. She also served as a Fellow working with the Ministry of Trade and Industry of Zanzibar for the Overseas Development Institute. Raworth holds a Master’s degree in Economics for Development and a Bachelor of Arts in Politics, Philosophy and Economics from the University of Oxford.

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Michael Renner is a Senior Researcher at the Worldwatch Institute and manager of the Institute’s Vital Signs publication. His work focuses on the relationship between the environment and the economy, and between the environment and peace and conflict. He was Co-director of the 2012 edition of State of the World, and directed Worldwatch’s Global Security Project from 2005 to 2007. Renner is also a Senior Adviser to the Institute for Environmental Security, and serves on the board of the Global Policy Forum. He holds an undergraduate degree from the University of Konstanz in Germany, and a Master’s degree in international relations from the University of Amsterdam in the Netherlands.

Kim Stanley Robinson is a science fiction author, best known for his work The Mars Trilogy. His writing focuses on the themes of ecological sustainability, social justice, and humanism. His novels have won 11 major science fiction awards, including the Hugo Award for Best Novel, the Nebula Award for Best Novel, and the World Fantasy Award. He earned his PhD in English from the University of California, San Diego.

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Bron Taylor is a Professor of Religion and Nature, a discipline which he took a leading role in creating at the University of Florida. He has written extensively on environmental philosophy and religious studies. Taylor is also Editor-in-Chief of the Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature; founder of the International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture; and a fellow at the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität in Munich, Germany. He holds a PhD in Social Ethics from the University of Southern California.

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