HARD EARTH
Shock to the System
THE INTERCONNECTED IMPACTS OF GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE

TALKS BY STANFORD GRADUATE STUDENTS EXPLORING TOUGH ENVIRONMENTAL DILEMMAS
SPRING 2019-20 | TUESDAYS 4:30-5:20pm | ONLINE VIA ZOOM

The COVID crisis makes one thing clear: society is ill-equipped to deal with disasters that do not respect borders and can cripple social and economic systems. Climate change, though radically different from a virus, similarly is a global threat. Hard Earth’s Spring 2020 series will feature virtual biweekly talks by four graduate students whose research probes a changing climate’s already-occurring impacts on livelihoods, jobs, food, and social safety nets around the world.

Click into any talk or register for 1-unit online course CEE126Z | EARTH126Z that encompasses all sessions.

APRIL 14 | FISHY THINKING
FISHING AS A WINDOW INTO THE GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY DILEMMA
In Indonesia’s Banggai Archipelago, where once-rich marine life is dwindling, there are two types of fishers. One continues using destructive practices such as bombs and cyanide to kill fish. The other has transitioned to more-sustainable practices such as small nets and hand lines. Why the difference? The answer is a dichotomy common to pressing environmental threats: Some fishers are willing to make short-term sacrifices for long-term gain. Some aren’t.
Shannon Switzer Swanson | PhD Candidate, E-IPER

APRIL 28 | MAKING RAIN
HOW CLIMATE CHANGE CAN INFLUENCE FOOD PRICES IN AFRICA
Sub-Saharan Africa’s rapidly growing population is straining local food systems. These systems operate with the expectation of predictable wet and dry seasons, but climate change has made them more irregular and extreme. Satellites can suss out how rainfall and flooding affect food prices. That knowledge can help food security.
Amina Ly | PhD Student, Earth System Science

MAY 12 | (UN)SHELTERED IN PLACE
HOW THE HOMELESS ARE HURT BY THEIR ENVIRONMENT
For many people who are homeless, the day-to-day determines health. Exposure to the elements, for instance, can be dangerous or even deadly. Climate change and emerging infectious disease make the homeless even more vulnerable. In this time of global change, housing is the best healthcare we can provide to the homeless. In the meantime, however, it is critical to understand how extreme and unpredictable environments affect the health of the unhoused.
Mary-Catherine Anderson | PhD Candidate, Earth System Science

MAY 26 | SEEING THE LIGHT
HARNESSING RURAL ELECTRIFICATION TO BOOST DEVELOPMENT
Human development depends on electricity. But, around the world, rural areas often lack power. How to best bring them electricity in ways that both spur economic development and help curb global warming? It’s a knotty question. Electricity to pump groundwater can facilitate more productive agriculture. But it also wastes groundwater, which is becoming more valuable with climate change.
Sudatta Ray | PhD Candidate, E-IPER

QUESTIONS? CONTACT FACILITATORS:
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ZOOM DETAILS
Link for all talks: https://stanford.zoom.us/j/553908789.
Meeting ID, if needed: 553-908-789.