



## SESYNC Feedbacks

News from the National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center



### NOT-SO-SCARY SCIENCE | Exploring Positive Research Impacts

#### **Don't Be Spooked by Scary Environmental Issues—SESYNC Researchers Are Finding Actionable Solutions!**

Thinking about the slew of challenges that the natural world is facing can be frightening—to say the least. But, over the past decade, SESYNC researchers have been continuously working toward finding and implementing valuable solutions to everyday socio-environmental (S-E) issues.

Explore some of SESYNC's resources and content below to learn more about how S-E researchers are creating positive impacts in combatting environmental challenges.

#### **Case Study: Sustainably Managing a Hawaiian Nearshore Marine Resource**

In the state of Hawai'i, a management goal has been set to sustainably manage 30% of nearshore marine resources by 2030. While learners are encouraged to consider the full nearshore marine ecosystem, this case study focuses on the *Acanthurus triostegus*, a small surgeonfish commonly referred to as the convict tang by visitors to the islands or as manini by people more familiar with local culture. [Learn more.](#)



## Advancing Sustainable Development Goals Lesson: Gender Equality & Environmental Health

This lesson uses a recent literature review by [Call and Sellers](#) to detail the most effective women's empowerment initiatives to achieve more sustainable methods in the three environmental occupations of agriculture, fishing and aquaculture, and forestry. [Learn more.](#)



## Framework Developed by SESYNC Team Adopted by UNESCO

Since its publication by the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Climate Risk Informed Decision Analysis (CRIDA) methodology has come to embody “actionable science”—with its adoption and implementation by decision makers around the world. The CRIDA methodology is a framework developed for water resource managers and policy makers to integrate the uncertain effects of climate change into [water resource management and adaptation](#). It emerged from the SESYNC project EcoEngineering Resilience. [Read more.](#)



## Cutting Food Waste in Half Could Benefit Biodiversity As Much As Overhauling Diets

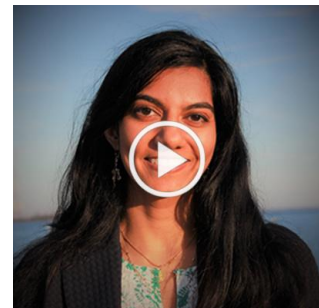
Simply cutting avoidable food waste in the United States by 50% could be almost as beneficial to biodiversity as switching the entire United States' population to a planet-conscious diet, a [new study](#) finds. The study, conducted by researchers at SESYNC, appears in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. Lead author Quentin Read says,

“Food waste has been a hot topic for a while, but it's time for us to really get serious about reducing it. People working in both the food space and the conservation space can point to our study to make the connection between food waste reduction and preserving biodiversity.” [Read more.](#)



## Audio Interview: Protected Areas

In this audio interview, SESYNC's Erin Duffy speaks with former SESYNC postdoc Varsha Vijay about her paper published in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, entitled: “[Pervasive cropland in protected areas highlight trade-offs between conservation and food security](#).” Here they discuss the paper's findings and how the authors envision this new information can be used to help ensure the long-term efficacy of protected areas in meeting both ecological and socio-economic goals of conservation. [Learn more.](#)



## Green Infrastructure Lesson: Urban

## Stormwater, Policy, and Justice

This lesson challenges learners to create a white paper that synthesizes green infrastructure (GI) hydrology, public policy, and environmental justice (EJ) into co-beneficial policy. First, learners will review research by [Hopkins et al. \(2018\)](#) that examines the considerable growth in city planning and installation of GI following a 2007 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) memorandum. Next, learners will integrate research by [Hoover et al. \(2021\)](#) that reveals how EJ considerations are rarely built into city plans for siting GI and what to do about it. [Learn more.](#)



## NEW PUBLICATIONS | SESYNC in the Journals

**"Relational resiliences: reflections from pastoralism across the world."** Published in [Ecosystems and People](#) by former SESYNC postdoc Ryan Unks and colleagues Greta Semplici, L. Jamila Haider, Tahira S. Mohamed, Giulia Simula, Palden Tsering (Huadancairang), Natasha Maru, Linda Pappagallo, and Masresha Taye.

**"The Global Dam Watch database of river barrier and reservoir information for large-scale applications."** Published in [Scientific Data](#) by Bernhard Lehner, Penny Beames, Mark Mulligan, Christiane Zarfl, Luca De Felice, Arnout van Soesbergen, Michele Thieme, Carlos Garcia de Leaniz, Mira Anand, Barbara Belletti, Kate A. Brauman, Stephanie R. Januchowski-Hartley, Kimberly Lyon, Lisa Mandle, Nick Mazany-Wright, Mathis L. Messenger, Tamlin Pavelsky, Jean-François Pekel, Jida Wang, Qingke Wen, Marcus Wishart, Tianqi Xing, Xiao Yang, and Jonathan Higgins. This paper resulted from the Pursuit, [Global Dam Watch](#).

**"Seafood traceability program design: Examination of the United States' Seafood Import Monitoring Program."** Published in [Ambio](#) by Andrew Steinkruger, Kailin Kroetz, Kaitlyn L. Malakoff, former SESYNC postdoc Jessica A. Gephart, Gloria Luque, Patrick Lee, Katrina Chicojay Moore, and C. Josh Donlan.

## CONTACT US | We Want To Hear From You!

We'd like to hear from you! Do you have updates or outcomes tied to your SESYNC research that would make for an interesting research spotlight? Are you looking for a resource on a topic that we haven't covered yet? Do you want to share an idea? Contact us at [communications@sesync.org](mailto:communications@sesync.org).

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