

## Call for Papers to Session S20042

XVIIth World Economic History Congress, Kyoto, Japan, 3-7 August 2015

### ■ Session Title

**Title : Long run economic growth and the environment: international comparison from a socio-metabolic perspective**

### ■ Call for Papers

**Deadline of the Call : 15 march 2015**

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We welcome paper proposals for presentation in the session “Long run economic growth and the environment: international comparison from a socio-metabolic perspective” (organized by Iñaki Iriarte –Goñi and Fridolin Kraussman)

Economic growth in the long run has been associated with major changes in the economy-environment relationship. In environmental perspective, the process of modern economic growth started with industrialization can be described as a metabolic transition which leads to fundamentally new patterns of material and energy use and also to new patterns of environmental waste generation. In this larger context, the concept of socio-economic metabolism and the related methods of material and energy flow accounting developed for biophysical economics are of big interest for Economic History. Socio-metabolic accounting methods applied to historical data are fundamental for a better understanding of the different paths of economic growth and the changing relations between the economy and the environment.

The aim of this session is to connect scholars interested in economic growth in environmental perspective and to engage them in discussion about long term historical trends in energy and material use. Among the key questions addressed in this sessions are: 1) how can the methods of material and energy flow accounting be applied to study historic development? Which sources are available in different world regions for that purpose? How to standardize methods and indicators for comparative analysis of historical cases?; 2) how can the concepts of socio-economic metabolism and socio-metabolic transition help to explain the emergence of different resource use patterns across countries? Can we distinguish different paths in socio-metabolic transitions related to different paths in economic growth? What are the differences in socio metabolic transitions between developed and no-developed countries along history? To sum up, how can the socio-metabolic perspective help to explain diversity in development?

The session welcomes empirical papers presenting results from case studies, investigating patterns and trends of material and energy flows or comparing different countries or regions. It will also be open to papers discussing concepts, sources and

methods.

Please send a summary of the proposed contribution including the title, an abstract (200-300 words) and your contact information to the session organizer: [iiriarte@unizar.es](mailto:iiriarte@unizar.es)

*\*Please change ' # 'to ' @ ' when you e-mail.*

Decisions will be made by March 30th.

Accepted papers must be submitted an extended abstract (or full paper) by April the 30th.