



ECO_CARE 2022: Exploring pathways to strengthen participatory climate governance

Law Open Talk Series

Dipartimento di Eccellenza MIUR
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PRESENTATION OVERVIEW:

- Introduction to ECO_CARE
- Case study: The Chiquitano people & the Tarumã river
- Developing a CWG model
- Applying visual law & legal design
- Our holistic methods toolbox
- Relevant publications



Meet ECO_CARE :

Applying empathy, compassion & care to environmental law

ECO_CARE is an interdisciplinary, cross-sectoral, international research and educational programme that combines insights from marine science, indigenous and local knowledge bases and international environmental law to better protect our marine and coastal environments and rivers.

Partner countries:

Norway, Italy, Germany, Brazil, Tanzania, Kenya





Why does ECO_CARE operate in the EU?



RATIONALE:

- 1. Provides an opportunity for EU academic institutions to explore global, regional, and local governance projects which promote the practice of participation-based water governance
- 2. Early and senior career level researchers in the EU can learn how to effectually incorporate local concerns and actions into regional and international environmental (water) governance. Notably, this R&E programme tackles the communication gaps between public and private sector stakeholders and local communities.

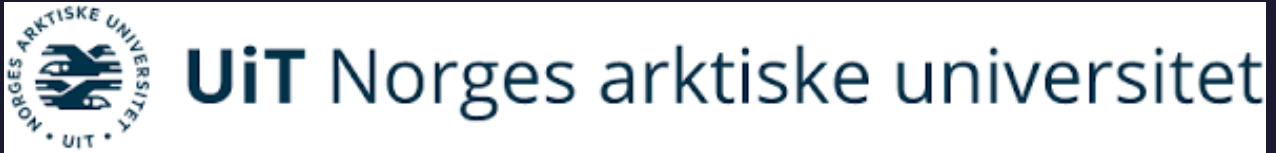
• RESULTS:

Researchers cooperate to develop cutting-edge, interdisciplinary RR&I projects that can increase multi-sector adherence to EC and international water legislation.

EU member states can participate as active contributors in strategic expansion and internationalisation possibilities.



ECO_CARE at UNITO



- Research project : “An Exchange Program on Empathy, Compassion and Care in Water Governance, from the Perspective of Integral Ecology”
- Project foci: Right to/of water, and indigenous environmental justice.



Case context: The Chiquitano people & demarcation of land

Q: Why does the demarcation of lands matter to the Chiquitano ?

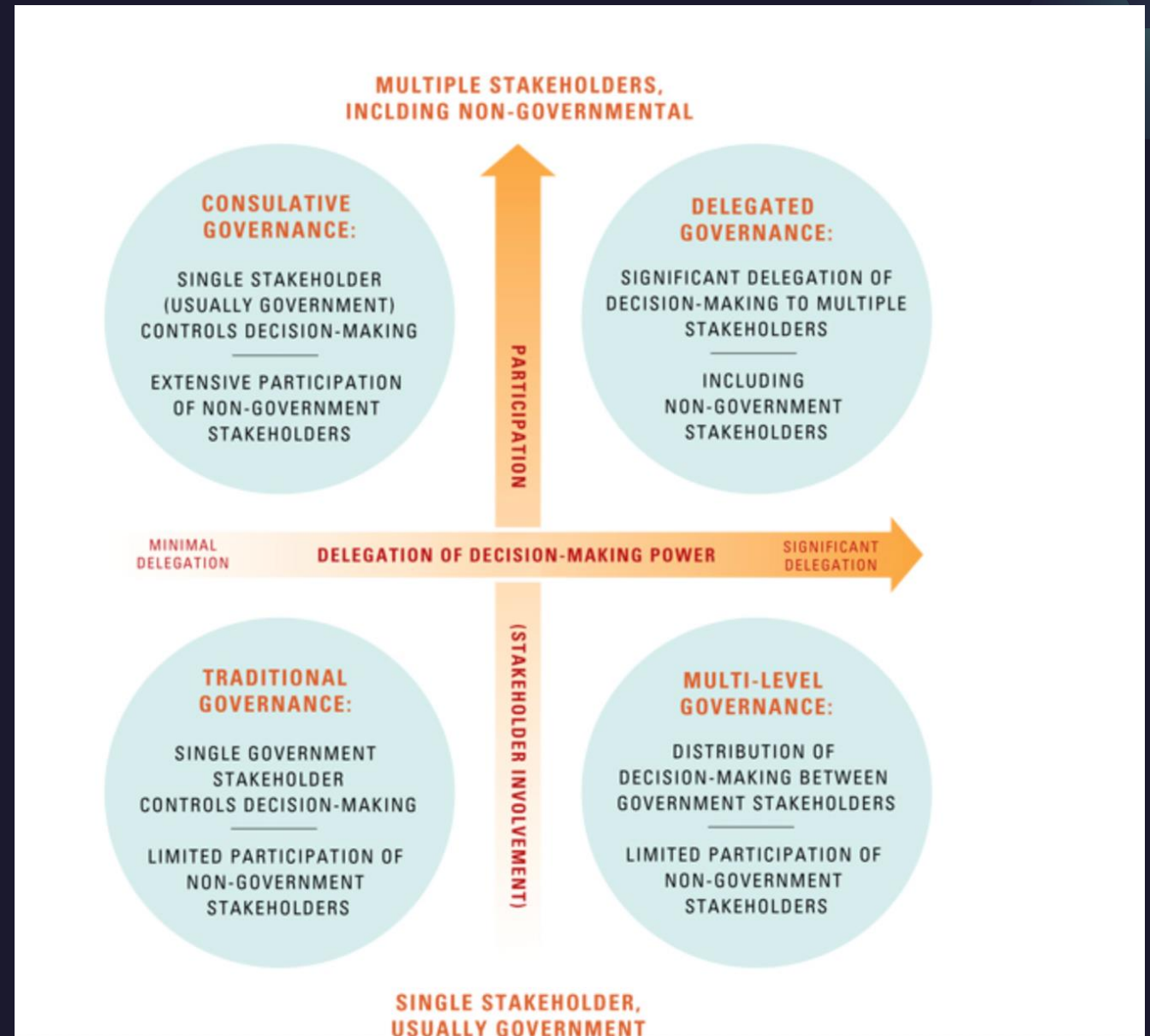
A: The demarcation of lands surrounding the transboundary Tarumã river has threatened the Indigenous peoples (in particular the Chiquitano) access to safe, potable water. Shortages, poor water quality, and insecure access poses a risk to the health, security, self-determination, and spiritual practices of the community.

ECO_CARE's response: Developing a CWG model

CWG- Collaborative Water Governance

A CGW model is designed to stimulate and promote the participation of government officials, the community, private sector, and third sector (NGOs) parties to work together to achieve the desired outcome/s pertaining to water (i.e. reforms, regulations, new policies, codification).

- * model: Nolan and Baker, 2007



Our legal CWG toolkit: Visual law & legal design

Aarhus Convention 3 pillar system:

- 1) Access to information
- 2) Public participation
- 3) Access to justice

Q: How can we translate the three pillars into practice for vulnerable, under serviced pillars ?

A: co-creating (participatory) accessible approaches to requisite legal knowledge, education and research.



Escazú Agreement in Comics with and for the Chiquitano People

A Co-Created Project of
Legal Design and Visual
Law



VL & LD as translators Aarhus Convention (1998) & Escazú Agreement (2021)

Comics aren't just for kids...

A) Culturally aware, community directed, visual descriptions of the legal problem at hand and potential remedies can be presented using creativity.

B) Visual presentations of international conventions and agreements can break down opaque legalese, difficult concepts, and encourage learning about and participation in governance matters.



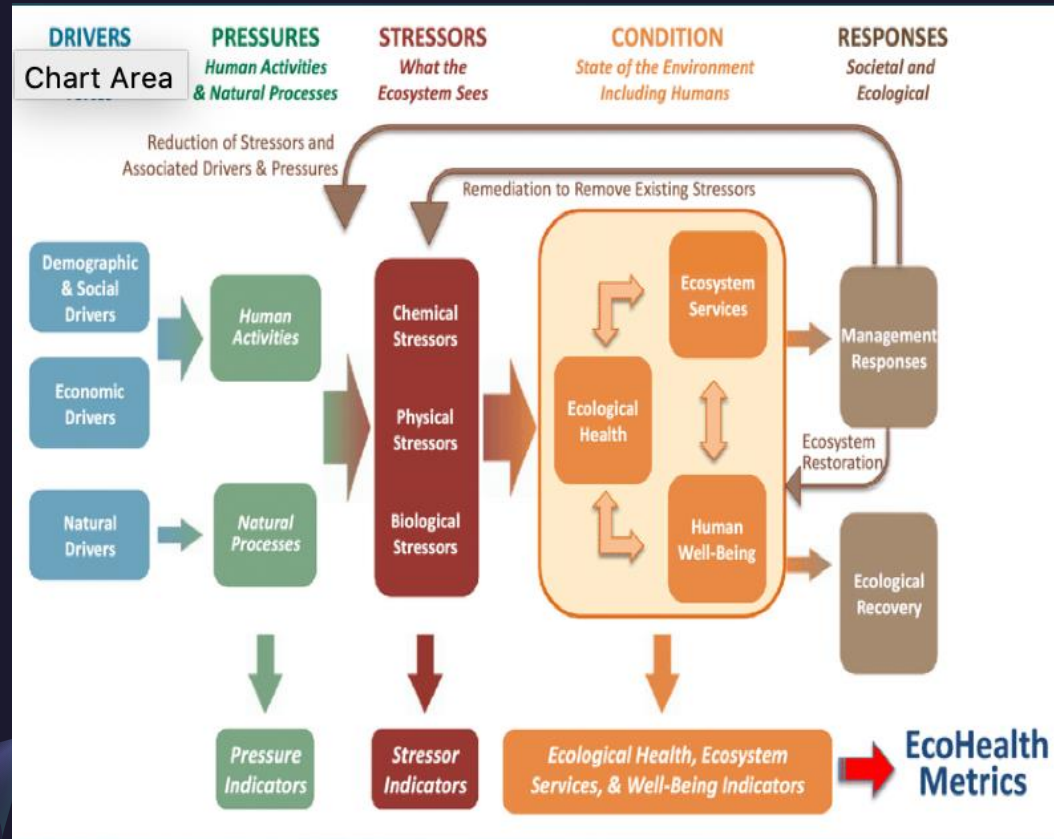
Next steps in ECO_CARE's legal education & research: Developing a holistic methods toolbox

The holistic toolbox has two main components :

- 1) Using participation- based approaches to environmental decision making and regulation processes.
- 2) Integrating science-based knowledge into best practices, scenario planning, and adaptive water (marine, coastal, river basin) strategies.

Participation based models	Primary methods	Application setting
CoPK	Co-creation: 1.knowledge sharing 2. experimental learning and pro-dev experiences 3. joint projects and publications	International (Global North/ South)
PBL (problem based learning)	Scenario specific forecasting, mitigation, adaption. 1.Common actions 2.Adaptive innovation actions	International/ regional / national
Delphi rounds	Expert consensus building: 1.Surveys 2. Review rounds 3. Compromise	Regional/ national

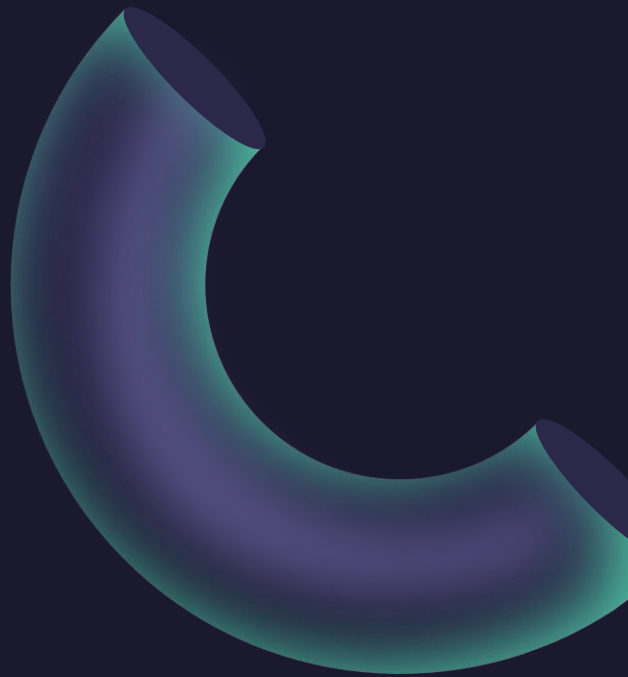
Applying an ecohealth conceptual framework to water governance.



An ecohealth conceptual framework uses a systems approach to promote the health and wellbeing of people, animals, and ecosystems. This framework can be used to analyze the context of social and ecological interactions. A multidisciplinary field of research and practice, ecohealth may draw on natural sciences, health sciences, SSH disciplines and law in order to address issues at the crux of health, the environment, and society. An ecohealth conceptual framework often extends to collaboratively working with community members.



Research project publication outcomes:

- **Hayden J., Poto MPP, Owens A., Morrison A., Blackburn K.** (2022), *Co-creation of knowledge for the governance of the commons: literature review and a case study on 'Community Conversations', a Wiltshire Council's Project Initiative* in LOHSE E., POTO MP, Coproduction of knowledge in Climate Governance, Berliner Wissenschafts -Verlag (forthcoming)
 - **Hayden J., Poto MP, Porrone A.** (2022), Knowledge Co-creation as a Methodological Approach: Participatory Approaches to Environmental Legal Research, in LOHSE E., POTO MP (ed. by), Coproduction of knowledge in Climate Governance, Berliner Wissenschafts-Verlag (forthcoming).
 - **Hayden Juliana, Lohse Eva Julia, Porrone Arianna, Poto Margherita Paola** (2022), Strategic Scientific Workshop “Co-production of knowledge in climate governance”, Septentrio UiT The Arctic University of Norway 2022
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Thank you!

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