

Editorial

In this issue of TES we have three articles on different aspects of the environment.

The first article concerns central Vietnam and a number of concepts related to climate change. *Different ways to decrease vulnerability to increased climate variability and extremes* by Buch-Hansen looks at two approaches to decreasing vulnerability to the impacts of increased climate variability and extremes: One based on investments in infrastructure to protect the environment (referred to as ecological resilience) and another emphasizes decreasing vulnerability through development more broadly, namely by increasing incomes, especially for the poor, and strengthening of social capital and institutions (referred to as social resilience). The two approaches are analysed within the framework of sustainable adaptation. The author describes how rapid economic growth and socio-economic differentiation in Vietnam over the past 25 years have diversified social resilience and the ability to adapt to the impacts of climate change.

The second article focuses on China and the water crises. This article *Villagers' perception of water crises and the influencing factors of local perceptions: A case study in the Shiyang river Basin, Northwest China* by Haiyan, Lora-Wainwright, Edmunds and Thomas investigate the integration of people's perceptions concerning water into policy and planning. They undertook interviews with a total of 119 villagers in two different villages in the upper and lower reaches of the Shiyang River Basin. The article shows that instead of being physically determined, water crises are locally lived and constructed within specific social, economic and political situations. Such knowledge is essential for successful water resources management.

Finally the third article *Public archives and other sources for surveying of dumpsites and polluting enterprises before 1950* by Michaelsen presents a methodology based on historical information provided by former Danish authorities and their minute books. The study describes how various historical sources can be used to identify old dumpsites in the former Ballerup-Maalev municipality close to Copenhagen. Sources of information like the minute books, health regulations, tax index cards, writings on local history, letters and newspaper clippings provide much historical information on the utilization, handling and transport of waste, dumpsites and urban development and the development of industry, agriculture and business in the municipality. The procedure provides much better results identifying old dumpsites than using the traditional sources like old topographical maps, old aerial photographs, the present municipality's files and interviews with landowners.

Henning Schroll
Bente Kjærgård
Kristian Syberg
Editors