

Dear readers,

I am pleased to present Issue XVII of *Consilience: The Journal of Sustainable Development*. This issue arrives at a time of broad uncertainty. The headwinds of challenged globalism, as demonstrated by 'Brexit' and President Trump's first week in office, face equal opposition from an international community of alarmed stakeholders, from Chinese leaders at COP 22 to American pro-refugee protestors. The optimism accompanying 2015's SDGs and Paris Agreement encountered a sobering 2016, in which many sustainable development issues suffered significant momentum-checks. While Western powers look inward in search of identity, new leaders look to lead the way for a sustainable future. In this issue, the editing team has curated an inclusive collection of articles that reflect the diversity of topics implicated by these changing circumstances. Staying true to *Consilience's* interdisciplinary mission, we look in settings small and large, near and far as we analyze our way to a more sustainable future.

Issue XVII invites you to consider a range of topics across polity levels and engage with a diverse set of actors. At the national level, Bakari offers a topical reflection of the 'anthropocentric-ecocentric dualism' of past U.S. presidencies and its resulting affect on environmental policy. Jayawardhan provides poignant and timely discussion of the legal protection gaps of those displaced by climate change. No less relevant is Palliam's examination of a sustainable path forward for Gulf countries facing the economic pressure of low oil prices. In his opinion piece, Porter posits an environmentally inclusive economics needed to adjust growth along such a sustainable trajectory. We hope that together these pieces, as well as their equally insightful companions, inspire dialogue that will ultimately prompt sustainably minded leadership and policy.

As always, we welcome constructive feedback and hope that our work inspires you to engage with the issues. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us at contact@consiliencejournal.org.

Regards,

David Medoff

Editor-in-Chief