

# Postface

For many populations that are already socially marginalized, resource dependent, and with limited capital assets, human security will be progressively undermined by environmental change. Throughout this volume, it has been demonstrated that global environmental change in general, and climate change in particular, are putting both human security and human rights (such as right to life, health, shelter, and food) at risk. The volume's authors have investigated how global environmental/climate change may worsen threats to human security by focusing on specific dimensions – such as food, water, health, and economic security – from the primarily regional focus of the Middle East and Africa and explore critical perspectives and approaches to address the identified impacts. Through its theoretical essays and a range of country-level case studies and experiences, the volume aims to provide readers with access to valuable research material and insights about the interactions between environmental change and human security from a range of perspectives.

The contributions demonstrate above all that the risks posed by environmental/climate change to human security arise through multiple and interconnected processes operating across diverse spatial and temporal scales. This complexity means that there is no single conceptual model or theory that can fully capture all interactions between all environmental/climate changes and dimensions of human security. For this reason, and as highlighted by the IPCC's AR5 report, many environmental risks to human security warrant further investigation (i.e. links between environmental change and migration, between climate change, conflicts and instability, between climate change and health security, etc.) (Adger 2014). This publication aims to contribute to the growing academic literature while enhancing political discussions and policy agendas on how to address current and future challenges. Indeed, and as suggested by Gasper (2010), we hope that the framing of environmental/climate change as a human security issue can facilitate and provide the space for exchanges across academic disciplines and the boundaries of diverse policy communities to take place.

The Institute of Research for Environment, Human Security and Governance (INRES), former North-South Center for Social Sciences (NRCS), intend to investigate in future research projects the current and expected state of human and environmental security in the era of global risks and how to efficiently manage it. The recent international conference organized by the NRCS in November 2015<sup>1</sup> – covering the same topics – was an opportunity to understand the relevance of these areas for both research and policy making agendas. Future projects will be conceived in such a way as to build on some of the many issues highlighted by this volume and the recent conference outcomes. We hope that this process will open further points for discussion and offer readers some thought-provoking insights.

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<sup>1</sup>The International Conference on “Human and Environmental Security in the Era of Global Risks” (HES2015) was organized on November 25–27, 2015 in Agadir (Morocco) by the North–south Center for Social Sciences (NRCS) and the UMR ESPACE-DEV, Research Institute for Development (IRD), France in collaboration with many national and international partners (such as the GIZ, the CIRAD, the Universidade Federal do Pará (UFPA) and the Universidade Federal da Bahia (UFBA), Brazil...).

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Stefania has been invited to give talks in national and international meetings, including a keynote speech at the European Geosciences Union (EGU) general assembly 2014 titled “Linking water resources to food security through virtual water”. As a convener and as a chairman, she also organized and led four sessions at different editions of the EGU general assembly, the last of which about “Water and food security: integrating perspectives from geophysics and social sciences” in collaboration with Marta Antonelli.

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