



Public Lecture Series Invitation

Professor Pavel Kabat, Director General of IIASA, and Professor Anton Zeilinger, President of the Austrian Academy of Sciences (ÖAW), have the pleasure to invite you to attend the fifth lecture in the series of joint ÖAW/IIASA public lectures.

Obstacles and Opportunities in Environmental Management

By **Professor Simon Levin**, Princeton University

on: Monday 10 November 2014

17:45–18:30 Cocktail reception

18:30–19:20 Lecture

19:20–19:40 Awarding the IIASA Distinguished Visiting Fellowship to Professor Simon Levin

Venue: Conference Center Laxenburg, Schlossplatz 1, 2361 Laxenburg

There will be a bus leaving at 17:00 from Museum für angewandte Kunst (Stadtpark entrance), Weiskirchnerstrasse 3, 1010 Vienna, and returning to Vienna at 19:45.

RSVP by 4 November 2014 (indicating also whether you need a bus transfer):

Ms. Claudia Heilig-Staindl (staindl@iiasa.ac.at or 02236-807-266) or

Mag. Marie-Therese Pitner (Pitner@oeaw.ac.at or 01-51581-3452)

Obstacles and Opportunities in Environmental Management

Environmental management presents major challenges, and a variety of obstacles stand in the pathways to solutions. These obstacles, however, also present opportunities, and this lecture will explore some of these. Key among them are the development of truly multidisciplinary approaches, exemplified by the Beijer Institute and the Stockholm Resilience Centre, through the development of general conceptual and theoretical frameworks that lead to practical solutions to specific problems. Ecosystems and the biosphere are complex adaptive systems, and are parts of a larger coupled social-environmental complex adaptive system that presents unique challenges for management.

Simon A. Levin received his B.A. from Johns Hopkins University and his Ph.D. in mathematics from the University of Maryland. At Cornell University (1965-1992), he was Chair of the Section of Ecology and Systematics, and then Director of the Ecosystems Research Center, the Center for Environmental Research and the Program on Theoretical and Computational Biology, as well as Charles A. Alexander Professor of Biological Sciences (1985-1992). Since 1992, he has been at Princeton University, where he is currently George M. Moffett Professor of Biology at the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. He retains an Adjunct Professorship at Cornell. His research interests are in understanding how macroscopic patterns and processes are maintained at the level of ecosystems and the biosphere, in terms of ecological and evolutionary mechanisms that operate primarily at the level of organisms; in infectious diseases; in ecological economics; and in the interface between basic and applied ecology. Levin is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Association for the Advancement of Science as well as a Member of the National Academy of Sciences and the American Philosophical Society and a Foreign Member of the Istituto Veneto and of the Istituto Lombardo. He is the former Chair of IIASA's Governing Council (2003-2008). Levin is a former President of the Ecological Society of America and the Society for Mathematical Biology, and a past Chair of the Board of the Beijer Institute of Ecological Economics. He has won multiple awards, including the Eminent Ecologist Award (2010) of the Ecological Society of America, the Kyoto Prize in Basic Sciences (2005) by the Inamori Foundation, and the John and Alice Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement (2014). Levin has mentored more than 100 graduate students and postdoctoral fellows.