2024 Industrial Ecology Project Grant Proposal

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1.   Project title

Mapping the origins of industrial ecology research and practice

2.   Project description

Industrial ecology has origins and first original applications in many different countries and cultures. As a global community of scholars, we should know about and archive the origins of our field in different countries.

What was the first LCA in the Netherlands about? The first publications on IE in China? The first time when a personal carbon footprint was calculated? Who conducted the first MFA in Latin America? The first legal document that mentions IE principles in Africa?

The goal of this proposal is twofold:
First, to call for all ISIE members, especially the elder ones, to help collect material (names, pictures, scans, pdfs) of the origins of our field. Stuff that was produced very early, often triggered by the environmental movement in the 60s and 70s, think of Bob Ayres publications from the late 60s, for example. The collection should include the names of the first IE scholars in different countries, first seminal scientific publications, first practical/industry applications, and first governance/legal applications where applicable.

Second, to build a public website, ideally a page on the ISIE homepage, where the most relevant material from across the world is made publicly available. This could be a website showing a world map, where the above-mentioned people and documents are shown after a certain country or world region is selected.

3.   How would this benefit industrial ecology?

To know the scientific origin of our discipline in different countries and the first applications. This should be interesting to many collegues, and it also helps to create a feeling of identity within the community. Additionally, if selected sections of such a platform (or the access for a specific user group) were to be commercialised, it would represent an additional source of income for the ISIE.

4.   Budget?

EUR 2000.

5.   Budget breakdown?

Student assistant to help compile the documents, remind the contributors to send them, prepare short descriptions and format them in html code for display on website: 100 hrs of 20 EUR/hr: 2000 EUR

6.   Who Would Govern or Operate the Proposal?

Stefan Pauliuk, Industrial Ecology Freiburg

7.   What Resources are Available to Support the Proposal?

With Nildem Atasayar, we have a programmer and web developer in house to support the setup of a functional and attractive website.

6.   Is this Proposal Defined within a Single ISIE Section or across Sections?

Across the different sections