Xavier Arnauld de Sartre

Multiscale environmental governance in a time of global change

Xavier Arnauld de Sartre is a geographer. He is currently a full-time researcher at the Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS), and the vice-head of the UMR PASSAGES, a joint laboratory between the CNRS and the university of Pau.

From the early 1990's, the UMR PASSAGES has engaged with global changes, then referred as “ecological concerns”, and their impacts on planning and public concerns, as well as on geography as a discipline. X. Arnauld de Sartre has a particular interest in multiscale environmental governance in a time of global change, and thus joined the UMR PASSAGES, a fusion of regional research laboratories and the UMR SET, of which he was the head in 2014 and 2015.

Xavier Arnauld de Sartre develops two main sub-topics.

* He pays special attention to the strategies of local communities and inhabitants. His first publications centered on family farmers’ practices in the deforestation areas of the Amazon, and he has then engaged with local actors and communities in the Brazilian and Colombian amazon, the Argentinean Pampas, Central Africa, and France. He focuses on the logics operated by populations targeted by public policies or technical innovations bearing environmental impacts, as for instance the genetically modified plants in Argentina.
* He also worked on the application and the logics of environmental based policies or projects, at various scales – from local to global. He studied or coordinated studies on the transformations of global governance, particularly in the case of biodiversity policies (he coordinated a book on ecosystem services), climate change negotiation or debates around agriculture. He worked on policies or projects at national and local scales, particularly in Brazil and France, aiming both at understanding the policies defined in relation with global scales, and how they are applied at local scales.

These topics lead him to developing a reflection on how ecological modernization shapes modernity, and the existing models present various transition paths to more sustainable organizations. He published three books, 32 papers in international peer-reviewed journals and 17 book chapters; he also edited 9 books and special issues of review and organized and coorganized 10 international events.