



THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY IN CAIRO

الجامعة الأمريكية بالقاهرة

*AUC International Conference on Research in African Challenges (ICRAC)*

*Track H1: Economies of Poverty*

SUB-TRACK H3: RESOURCE SUSTAINABILITY IN AFRICA

**Chair: Dr. Tamer Elgindi**

**Co-chair: Dr. Richard Matthew**

The African continent is home to a significant amount of natural resource wealth. Not only does the region encompass an abundance of natural resources including but not limited to diamonds, gold, oil, natural gas, iron, and uranium, but it also contains the world's largest arable landmass along with some of the largest and longest rivers, and massive amounts of tropical forests. Despite the region's impressive economic growth rates in last couple of decades, the region still suffers from high poverty and indebtedness rates. The challenge then remains how to leverage the continent's natural resources for inclusive and sustained growth. The AUC International Conference on Research in African Challenges (ICRAC) with its sub-track on Resource Sustainability in Africa encourages submissions using interdisciplinary studies to examine the relationship between resource sustainability and poverty, income inequality, and debt rates in Africa. Given the emphasis that the recent sustainable development goals (SDGs) put on sustainability and the environment, it becomes necessary amongst African leaders and policymakers to implement public policies and development plans that both ensure resource sustainability along with inclusive growth.

### **Biographies**

**Tamer ElGendi** is assistant professor of political science at The American University in Cairo. He holds a PhD in planning, policy, and design from the University of California, Irvine, an MA and a BA in economics from The American University in Cairo. He wrote his PhD dissertation on the effects of neoliberal globalization and natural resource dependency on income inequality in developing countries. His current research interests broadly lie within the realms of economic development, inequality, natural resources, and sustainability with special focus on developing countries and the Middle East in specific.

His articles appeared in several renowned journals such as the Middle East Policy, Current Sociology, and the Review of Radical Political Economics. He also has a forthcoming article addressing inequalities in Egypt to appear later in 2017 in the Arab Studies Journal. He also wrote couple of online articles addressing the future of oil and gas in GCC countries in the online journal Academic Foresights, and more recently his article on rebuilding the Egyptian economy appeared in Muftah magazine. Before joining AUC, Tamer worked as assistant professor of policy, planning, and development at Qatar University.

**Richard A. Matthew** (BA McGill; PhD Princeton) is Professor of International and Environmental Politics in the Schools of Social Ecology and Social Science at the University of California at Irvine, and founding Director of the Center for Unconventional Security Affairs ([www.cusa.uci.edu](http://www.cusa.uci.edu)).



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He studies (a) the environmental dimensions of conflict and peacebuilding; (b) climate change adaptation in conflict and post-conflict societies; and (c) transnational threat systems. He has done extensive field work in conflict zones in South Asia and East, Central and West Africa.

In addition to his positions at UCI, he is also a Senior Fellow at the International Institute for Sustainable Development in Geneva; a Senior Fellow at the Munk School at the University of Toronto; a senior member of the United Nations Expert Advisory Group on Environment, Conflict and Peacebuilding; and a member of the World Conservation Union's Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy. Dr. Matthew has received Certificates of Recognition for his research and service activities from the U.S. Congress, the California State Legislature and the City of Los Angeles. He has over 150 publications including seven books and co-edited volumes.