

## **THE SOCIAL SYSTEMS NETWORK: SYSTEMS- THEORETICAL PERSPECTIVES AND ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Parsonian social systems perspectives can enhance our thinking about the environment. Using twentieth-century sociological theory, I explore the utility of integrating social system frameworks in various environmental management initiatives. Principles of communication and consensus formation among various social actors should be the goal of such initiatives and this paper critiques the environmental governance literature, recognizing opportunities to utilize a social systems lens when trying to co-manage environmental governance in a globalized economy.

**Keywords:** Environmental Management; Co-Management; Traditional Ecological Knowledge; Social Systems.