**The Inscribing Environmental Memory Project**

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Research clusters within the Nordic Network for Interdisciplinary Environmental Studies (NIES), the North Atlantic Biocultural Organization (NABO) and the Global Human Ecodynamics Alliance (GHEA), in cooperation with partner networks in the USA, the UK and the Nordic countries, have undertaken a major interdisciplinary research initiative that aims to examine environmental memory in the medieval Icelandic sagas, with a prominent focus on historical processes of environmental change and adaptation. The medieval *Sagas of Icelanders* constitute one key corpus, among other literary and documentary corpora, to be investigated in this initiative.

Anchored in traditional fields of study (e.g. saga studies and various medieval-studies fields) as well as newer and emerging fields (e.g. integrated history and historical ecology, ecocriticism, digital and environmental humanities, etc.), the initiative brings together literary scholars, anthropologists, archaeologists, historians, geographers, digital humanities specialists and environmental and life scientists in a coordinated set of sub-projects.

The initiative seeks to foreground evidence of changing environmental conditions in Iceland, Greenland and Scandinavia from the late Iron Age through the pre-Industrial period, with a guiding focus on long-term human ecodynamics and the relations among ecological change and adaptation, on the one hand, and resource management, social organization/conflict and resilience on the other.

In response to a call for preliminary abstracts, 28 IEM sub-project proposals were submitted in fall 2012. Not all of the sub-projects proposed will be part of the final IEM program; many will be consolidated into a more manageable number of sub-project nodes and some may not move forward as prioritized focuses of the IEM initiative in the immediate future. We anticipate this will largely be a process of self-selection.

Numerous IEM workshops organized by NIES, NABO, GHEA and various university networks are taking place in 2013 in Sweden, Scotland and Iceland. IEM project development work in 2013 is expected to culminate in several major bids for research funding to be submitted to research financing agencies in various national and international contexts between fall 2013 and summer 2014. This talk briefly sketches how this initiative began and how it has developed over the past year. More importantly, it looks ahead to where we expect IEM to be heading in the next year and beyond.