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**J. David Tàbara** has 30 years of experience in EU and international interdisciplinary research on sustainable development and knowledge integration for sustainability. He is an independent senior researcher associated to the [Global Climate Forum in Berlin](#) and at the [Autonomous University of Barcelona \(UAB\)](#). He is also a member of the [Quality Research Group on Water, Land use, Tourism and Sustainability](#) at UAB. He has collaborated with international research institutions such as the Centre for International Climate and Environmental Research (CICERO) in Oslo, the University of Lund and acted as associated Phd Supervisor at the Environmental Change Institute at Oxford University. At UAB he lectured Environmental Sociology, Integrated Assessment methods and public participation in Sustainability Science. He was a founding member and a member of the Board of the Research Committee on 'Environment and Society' of the International Sociological Association (ISA -RC-24). Formerly, he was also a lecturer in environmental management and politics at the Pompeu Fabra University in Barcelona and also worked for the Institute of Advanced Social Research of the Spanish Higher Council of Scientific Research (IESA-CSIC). He obtained his Phd in the field of Environmental Sociology at the University of Barcelona and holds Degrees in Economics, Environmental Economics and Business Administration. He also holds the Advanced Research Professorship Habilitation provided by Agency for the Quality of Catalan Universities System. He was appointed member of the EU Mission Assembly on Climate Adaptation and Social Transformation for the EU Research and Innovation Framework Programme - Horizon Europe - and also became a member of the [Earth Commission Working Group on Transformations](#) of the Global Commons Alliance.

He has been involved in numerous international research projects, and within the GCF he was part of the executive coordination of the EU project *Global Systems Dynamics and Policy* ([www.gsdp.eu](http://www.gsdp.eu)) launching the foundational Orientation Paper on Global Systems Science (GSS). He also worked for the [EU project IMPRESSIONS](#) having defined the concept of [Transformative Climate Science](#) (TSC) and '[positive tipping points](#)' to address high-end climate change. At the EU project [GREEN-WIN](#) he explored the role of win-win solutions that yield both short-term economic gains and climate benefits aligned with sustainable development, with special emphasis in energy poverty eradication and resilient livelihoods. More recently, he investigated the role of participatory Arts-based Research integration methods for sustainability transformations and acted as Principal Investigator at EU project [TIPPING+](#) (2020-2023) exploring the enabling conditions and forces leading to positive tipping points towards sustainability in more than twenty coal and carbon intensive regions around the world. Now he is involved in the [TRANSPATH](#) project, exploring transformative pathways for synergising just biodiversity and climate actions. Together with Diego Galafassi he was the convener of the [Transformations 2021 Conference](#).

He has published extensively on socio-environmental science and participatory knowledge integration methods, with particular attention to questions of public perception, social learning, communication and public engagement for sustainability. He contributed to the first book on *Public Participation in Sustainability Science* (Kasemir et al. CUP, 2003) and among others, also to the following books: *Making Climate Change Work for Us* (Hulme et al. CUP, 2010), and *European Research for Sustainable Development* (Jaeger et al. Springer, 2011), *Reframing the Problem of Climate Change* (Jaeger et al., Earthscan 2012) and *The Routledge International Handbook of Social and Environmental Change* (Lockie et al., Routledge, 2013), and *Positive tipping points towards sustainability* (Springer 2024). In 2009 he received a best paper award at the EU Conference on Sustainable Development Research and also the award for Research Excellence at the Autonomous University of Barcelona.

## **Publications (selection):**

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5. Cots, F., **Tàbara J.D.**, Fosse J., and Codina G. 2024. Exploring the role of identities and perceptions of the future in a post-coal mining region. The demolition of Andorra coal-fired cooling towers (Spain) as a tipping point. In: **Tàbara J.D.**, Flamos, A., Mangalagiu, D. , Michas, S. (eds). Positive tipping points towards sustainability. *Understanding the Conditions and Strategies for Fast Decarbonization in Regions*. Springer. [https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-031-50762-5\\_10](https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-031-50762-5_10) ; [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-50762-5\\_10](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-50762-5_10)
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## In preparation:

1. Ismail, C. and **J. D. Tàbara**. Assessing relational attributes to achieve net-positive tipping points in social-ecological systems. An agent-based modelling approach.

## Other public links:

- ORCID: [0000-0002-3086-5414](https://orcid.org/0000-0002-3086-5414)
- Google scholar: [link here](#)
- Research Gate: [link here](#)
- Global Climate Forum [link here](#)

## Supervision of PhD dissertations:

### At the Autonomous University of Barcelona:

- Cynthia Juwita Ismael. On the emergence of positive tipping points in socio-energy systems. Building enabling capacities and conditions through transformative social-ecological networks in Indonesia (December 2024; with David Sauri and Takeshi Takama).
- Francesc Cots. Mainstreaming sustainable development in EU climate, biodiversity and cohesion policies. The role of cross-border cooperation (September 2017; With John Etherington). Autonomous University of Barcelona.
- María Heras. Towards new forms of learning. Exploring the potential of participatory theatre in Sustainability Science (December 2015; with Louis Lemkow). Autonomous University of Barcelona.
- Feliu Lopez-Gelats. Are mountains leaving agriculture behind? Agricultural abandonment in the Pyrenees (June 2010; with Jordi Bartolomé). Autonomous University of Barcelona.
- Akgun Ilhan. Social movements in sustainability transitions. Identity, social learning & power in the Spanish and Turkish water domains (December 2009). Autonomous University of Barcelona.
- Elisabet Roca. Bringing public perceptions in the Integrated Assessment of Coastal Systems (April 2008; with Miriam Millares). Autonomous University of Barcelona.
- Gregor Meerganz von Medeazza. Freshwater scarcities and desalination: evidence from Morocco, Spain, the Occupied Palestinian territories and South India (June 2007; With Sybille van der Hove). Autonomous University of Barcelona.

### At the University of Oxford:

- Dina Hestad. Organising Urban Sustainability Transformations. Exploring the role, abilities, and potential of Sustainability-Oriented Hybrid Organisations, (with Thomas Thornton). Submitted at the School of Geography and The Environment, Environmental Change Institute. University of Oxford (Jan 2020).

## Involvement in international research projects (selection):

- **TRANSPATH - Transformative pathways for synergising just biodiversity and climate actions** (2022-2026) Led by Wageningen University and Research. <https://transpath.eu/about>
- **TIPPING+ - Enabling positive tipping points towards clean-energy transitions in coal and carbon intensive regions** (2020-2023; Principal Investigator). <https://tipping-plus.eu/home>
- **ARTS4SDG - Arts for Sustainable Development Goals**. On examining, learning-with and further elaborating novel Arts-based Sustainability Research approaches for realizing the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Lead by University of Lund and funded by Swedish FORMAS (2019).
- **TRANSFORM - Accelerating Sustainability Entrepreneurship Experiments at the Local Scale** (2019-2026) on developing a global network of Research and Practice Hubs for sustainable business models and SMEs engaged in sustainability transformations. Led by University of Waterloo. <https://www.transformcities.ca/>; <https://www.transformcities.ca/team-page-1>
- **GREEN-WIN - Green growth and win-win strategies for sustainable climate action** (2015- 2018). On developing a global dialogue on green economy based on the identification of successful experiences of win-win solutions, new forms of green business and enabling conditions to address climate change and sustainable development challenges. <http://www.green-win-project.eu/> .
- **IMPRESSIONS - Impacts and risks from high-end scenarios: Strategies for innovative solutions** - (2013-2018) on exploring impacts and risks from high-end climate scenarios and developing strategies for innovative systemic solutions [www.impressions-project.eu](http://www.impressions-project.eu); [www.highendsolutions.eu](http://www.highendsolutions.eu)

- **IPCC AR5 in EUROPE. Usability, framing, and communication of scientific knowledge** (2014 – 2016). JPI lead by the Centre of International Climate and Environmental Research (CICERO), Oslo, Norway. <https://prosjektbanken.forskingsradet.no/en/project/FORISS/230604>
- **KLASICA - KNOWLEDGE, LEARNING AND SOCIETAL CHANGE ALLIANCE** (2011-2021). An International Research and Action network and IHDP initiative based at the Institute of Advanced Sustainability Studies in Potsdam. <https://klasica.org/>
- **VISION RD4SD - Producing a shared vision on how to harness Research & Development for Sustainable Development** (2010- 2013) on developing, together with EU science policy makers, a shared vision to harness Research and Development for Sustainable Development (RD4SD). (<https://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/97101/factsheet/en>)
- **GLOBAL SYSTEM DYNAMICS AND POLICY** (2010 – 2013) to develop the first EU Orientation Paper on Global Systems Science. <http://blog.global-systems-science.eu/?p=1473> ; <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/95741/factsheet/en>
- **RESCUE - Responses to Environmental and Societal Challenges for our Unstable Earth** (2010-2011) an European Science Foundation foresight initiative on developing integrated science responses to global environmental change and unsustainability. [http://archives.esf.org/fileadmin/Public\\_documents/Publications/rescue.pdf](http://archives.esf.org/fileadmin/Public_documents/Publications/rescue.pdf)
- **INTEGRATED RISK GOVERNANCE PROJECT** (2009-2019) of the International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change, on large scale risks that exceed the current human capacities to cope with them. <https://futureearth.org/networks/global-research-networks/irg-integrated-risk-governance-project/>
- **ADAM - Adaptation and Mitigation Strategies. Supporting European Climate Policy** (2006-2009) on developing innovative climate appraisal processes using a comparative regional perspective. I developed the transition-oriented concepts of 'Integrated Climate Governance' and the 'climate learning ladder', based on empirical insights obtained in five regional case studies. <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/78409/factsheet/en>
- **MATISSE - Methods and tools for Integrated Sustainability Assessment** (2005-2008) it developed the approach for Integrated Sustainability Assessment (ISA). Case study leader in the domain of water. <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/4059>
- **SUSTAINABILITY A-TEST – Advanced - Techniques for Evaluation of Sustainability Assessment Tools Sustainability Advanced Test;** (2004-2006) on defining and inventorying Sustainability Assessment tools and methods. <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/505328/de>
- **PEG: Precautionary Expertise on GM crops** (2001-2004) on the Precautionary Principle and Integrated Assessment of GM crops in Europe. <https://oro.open.ac.uk/48291/>
- **HARMONICOP - Harmonising collaborative learning** (2002-2005) on social learning in river basin management in Europe. Main author of the integration report containing 10 national and 10 river basin case studies. <https://www.eugris.info/displayproject.asp?Projectid=4630?Projectid=4630>
- **FIRMA Freshwater Integrated Resource Management with agents** (1999-2003) on agent-based participatory modelling: <https://www.eugris.info/displayProject.asp?ProjectID=4165&Aw=FIRMA&Cat=Project>
- **ULYSSES Urban Lifestyles, Sustainability and Integrated Environmental Assessment** (1996-1999): which developed the concept and seminal methods for public participation in sustainability science. <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/31818/factsheet/en> ; <https://www.jvds.nl/ulysses/>
- **GOVERNANCE AND THE ENVIRONMENT** (1995-1996) with the United Nations University and Universitat Pompeu Fabra.

### Some academic awards:

- Best paper selection of the 1<sup>st</sup> International Conference on Sustainability Measuring and Modelling. Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, Nov 2006
- Best Paper Award given at the conference 'Sustainable Development. A Challenge for European Research. Organised by the European Commission: DG Research, Brussels, May 2009.
- Research Excellence Award of the Autonomous University of Barcelona 2009.

## Reviewer activities:

I have been part of the Foundation Editorial Board and reviewer of *Environmental Sociology*, and a member of the *Sustainability Science* Editorial Board. I have also acted as anonymous reviewer of the following journals:

- Ambio
- Case Studies in the Environment
- Climate Policy
- Climatic Change
- Complexity Economics
- Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability
- Ecology and Society
- Elementa
- Emotion, Space and Society
- Energy Policy
- Energy Research and Social Science
- Environment and Planning C - Government and Policy
- Environmental modelling and Software
- Environmental Politics
- Environmental Research Letters
- Environmental Science and Policy
- Environmental Science and Technology
- Global Environmental Change
- Global Sustainability
- Integrated Assessment
- Journal of Cleaner Production
- Journal of Environmental Management
- Journal of Environmental Planning and Management
- Journal of Environmental Science and Health, Part A
- Journal of Hydrology
- Local Environment
- Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies for Global Change
- Nature and Culture
- Nature – Climate Change
- One Earth
- Papers –Revista de Sociologia.
- People and Nature
- Population and Environment
- Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America
- Progress in Industrial Ecology
- Society and Natural Resources
- Sustainability Science
- Sustainability
- Resources, Conservation and Recycling.
- Revista Internacional de Sociología.
- Revista Española de Investigaciones Sociológicas
- Regional Environmental Change
- Restoration Ecology
- Risk Analysis
- Water resources Management
- Water Alternatives
- Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews: Climate Change.