Since the first Earth Summit in Rio, the focus of governmental efforts has primarily been on the economic and environmental pillars of sustainable development, but the social pillar needs much more attention. The repeated economic crises demonstrate that the global economy is far from sustainable. Income inequality has grown, millions still live in poverty, and the natural environment is highly stressed. International environmental negotiations have been largely disconnected from international economic affairs and development programs, and many of these environmental negotiations are mired in stale debates. The Rio+20 theme of the “green economy” once again places emphasis on economic development with an environmental flavor. Improvement of the human condition is secondary, and the idea of the “green economy” does not seem to offer any solutions on how to escape the international gridlock on issues like climate change. A re-framing is badly needed. This event will explore ideas for how to shift the approach from “burden bearing” to “opportunity sharing.” The focus will be on how the current negotiations can shift from a pollution prevention framework to opportunities for sustainable development through access to cleaner energy technologies, resilient development, access to fresh water, and improved health. The role of the World Health Organization’s environmental health indicators in sustainable development will be discussed.

Opening:
Dr. Bettina Menne,
Climate Change, Sustainable Development and Green Health Services (CGS),
WHO European Centre for Environment and Health,
Bonn, Germany

Moderator:
Professor Kelly Sims Gallagher,
Center for International Environment and Resource Policy,
The Fletcher School, Tufts University

FROM BURDEN BEARING TO OPPORTUNITY SHARING:
Reframing Environmental Negotiations

MONDAY
18 JUNE 2012
19:30 – 21:00
P3-F, RIO CENTRO
RIO DE JANEIRO
BRAZIL

Energy for a Shared Development Agenda
Måns Nilsson, PhD,
Stockholm Environment Institute

Sustainable Energy for All
Richenda Van Leeuwen,
United Nations Foundation

Clean Energy in the Climate Negotiations
Jennifer Morgan,
World Resources Institute

Globalizing Cleaner Energy Technologies
Professor Kelly Sims Gallagher,
The Fletcher School, Tufts University

Adaptation, Resilience, and Water
Laura Kuhl, PhD candidate,
The Fletcher School, Tufts University

Resilience, Health, and Water
Professor Elena Naumova,
Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering,
Tufts School of Engineering