### **UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON**

# University of London

# **EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS**

For The Following Qualification:-

M.Sc.

**ESGY3: Urban and Regional Political Ecology** 

COURSE CODE : ENVSGY03

DATE

: 01-APR-03

TIME

: 14.30

TIME ALLOWED : 3 Hours

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**TURN OVER** 

PAPER ENVSGY03: Urban and Regional Political Ecology

DURATION: 3 Hours.

Please answer TWO questions only, ONE from Section A and ONE from Section B. All questions carry equal marks

#### Answer only ONE of the following questions:

#### **SECTION A**

- What are the main dilemmas faced in the understanding and pursuit of collective action to solve environmental conflicts? Focusing on two contrasting environmental discourses, compare their approaches to collective action and the implications of these for environmental policy making.
- How could you trace the operation of discursive practices in an environmental conflict?
  What questions should you ask in order to unveil such practices? Why is the social
  constructionist approach helpful to understand environmental conflicts? Illustrate your
  discussion with one or more examples.
- 3. Hardin's famous argument about the 'Tragedy of the Commons' is still at the heart of contemporary debates about natural resource use and control. Departing from the analysis of Hardin's argument, identify and compare the different positions that characterise today's debate in relation to the commons.
- 4. Are environmental sustainability and social justice two complementary or competing policy objectives? Examine how different environmental discourses frame this relationship and position yourself in the debate.

### **SECTION B**

#### Answer only ONE of the following questions:

- 5. Focusing on a case study of your choice, examine the different options available in managing the commons. What are their potentials and limitations? Which one would you choose in this particular situation and why?
- 6. Increasingly, the provision of urban basic services, such as water and sanitation, is subject to complex institutional arrangements, characterised by the participation of more than one agent (i.e. public-private; public-community; private-community). Focusing on a case study of your choice, examine the potentials and constrains of different collaborative arrangements.
- 7. Focusing on a case study of your choice, examine the main policy options available to curb industrial pollution in the context of developing countries. What are their limitations and potentials? What criteria would you adopt to choose among them and why?
- 8. Focusing on a case study of your choice, examine the role of the state and the market in steering the environmental policy process comparing the assumptions underlying formal regulation and the use of market mechanisms. Critically assess the potentials and constraints of both mechanisms and explain if there are any alternatives to them.

**END OF PAPER**