



GREEN ECONOMY IN THE SOUTH

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ABSTRACTS BOOK

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ABSTRACTS IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER

GREENING THE ECONOMY VIA BIOFUELS: BRAZILIAN ETHANOL DIPLOMACY IN AFRICA

Presenter: Stavros Afionis, Leeds University

Co-authors: Nicola Favretto, Lindsay C. Stringer

Brazil has put a strong emphasis on achieving international recognition in the global political and economic arena, and is now regarded as a major player in international affairs. To augment this status, Brazil has invested actively in developing both South-South and wider multilateral coalitions. The political and economic actorness of Brazil is becoming especially visible in developing countries, which increasingly compete to attract Brazilian's Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). In particular, Brazil is keen to spread its transport biofuels technology by showcasing its green credentials. This is an area in which Brazil has a long tradition, being currently the world's leading biofuels exporter, as well as the second largest producer (after the US). Africa is a region of great interest for Brazilian policymakers, given the comparative advantage of several countries in land, labour and climatic conditions favourable for growing energy crops. Aiming to promote biofuels as a new green global commodity, Brazil has heavily invested in "ethanol diplomacy". In practical terms, this translates into: i) coalition-building with northern actors, like the EU or the US, to run feasibility studies and finance potential projects; and ii) establishing direct bilateral partnerships with African countries to expand ethanol production. This paper examines Brazil's experiences with these policy routes and looks into the opportunities and hurdles that have emerged along the way. It also offers an insight into the extent to which Brazil's ambitions to establish an international biofuels market will be pursued in an environmentally friendly and sustainable way.

Keywords: Africa, biofuels, Brazil

CLAIMS MADE, UNMADE, AND AVOIDED: ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE IN AND AROUND A TANZANIAN WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

Presenter: Celeste Alexander, Princeton University

This paper considers governance through political claim-making practices as well as secrecy in and around the villages of Ikona Wildlife Management Area in north-western Tanzania, addressing competing notions of community and democratic governance in a context of increasing calls for decentralisation. Yet the scope of this paper goes beyond a notion of localised environmental management. In Tanzania, natural resources and tourism generate tremendous

revenues and international engagement. Viewing governance through practices of claim-making renders visible relationships of exchange that exist within a wider social field. Yet these relationships are seldom equal and point to power divides which such exchanges do not necessarily bridge or mitigate. This paper considers a continually shifting governance landscape that has come to exist within junctures and disjunctures between policy, law, and implementation in formal governance spheres as well as within public-private partnerships and engagements with and through donors, NGOs, CSOs and related organisations.

Based on over a year of multi-sited ethnographic research in villages in and around Ikona Wildlife Management Area, in relevant conservation and development organisations, among private investors, and in legal and governmental contexts, this work seeks to build on recent scholarship concerned with a pluralisation of governance actors and what has been termed the "recentralisation" of governance in purportedly decentralised governance contexts. Ultimately, this paper seeks to further develop a language of contemporary governance. Research of legal cases from the East African Court of Justice to the High Court of Tanzania to "customary" legal contexts reveals key terms, strategies and contradictions of claim-making practices, while the drafting of contracts and MOUs, the mediation work of conservation and development practitioners, formal and informal meetings, letter-writing and conversation also provide key spaces for political engagement. Finally, this paper contends with issues which are strategically avoided or elided in such forums.

Keywords: environmental governance, wildlife management areas, decentralisation

FROM INDIVIDUAL PATCHWORK TO LARGE-SCALE COLLECTIVE MARSHLAND CULTIVATION IN RURAL RWANDA: THE AMBIGUOUS ROLE OF COOPERATIVES IN COMMERCIAL AGRICULTURE

Presenter: An Ansoms, Center of Development Studies, Université Catholique de Louvain

Co-author: Jude Murison, University of Edinburgh

This case study of a marshland in Rwanda's Southern Province, illustrates how rural policies have impacted on land allocation for agricultural production, and on the well-being of the local rural population. Introducing collective cultivation — coordinated by cooperatives — combined with a mono-cropping policy for commercially-oriented crop types, have not improved local living conditions. On the contrary, the technical and organisational aspects of



reorganising the marshland have introduced additional barriers to smallholder farmers' access to land, particularly for the poorer categories among them. Cooperative structures function as mechanisms that exploit rather than facilitate smallholder farmers and the reorganisation of the marshland has contributed to replicating and reinforcing polarisation between rich and poor, within and outside the marshland arena. These lessons are particularly important given that marshlands are pilot areas for the Rwandan government's ambitions for a green revolution type of agricultural professionalisation. The potential of smallholder farmers in organising agricultural production should be reconsidered by exploring ways to reinforce smallholder agency.

Keywords: smallholders, collective cultivation, Rwanda

CARBON OFFSETS AND AGRICULTURAL LIVELIHOODS: LESSONS FROM A CARBON CREDIT PROJECT IN GHANA'S TRANSITION ZONE

Presenter: Albert A. Arhin, PhD Candidate, Department of Geography, University of Cambridge

As REDD becomes an integral part of the international response to climate change, it is important to learn from existing forest carbon offset projects to ensure that REDD+ does not undermine property rights, resource access and agricultural livelihoods. This paper therefore focuses on one project in Ghana, and is aimed at understanding how the Vision 2050 Forestry Carbon Credit Project (CCP) interacts with property rights, resource access and livelihoods of smallholders in the Forest-Savanna Transition zone of Ghana. This study exposes some dilemmas and challenges of REDD-type projects in agricultural areas, highlighting the social, institutional and political dimensions. The paper explores the land use history of the study area and how past land-use interventions are shaping farmers' perception of the carbon offset intervention. It draws out the narratives of the key actors about carbon and climate change and how these narratives converge and conflict. Differential interests and power relations of various actors and how they influence resource access and control in the CCP are also discussed. The paper assesses how carbon rights get appropriated and examines the local understanding of carbon as a commodity. It finally analyses the implications of the CCP on land-use change and livelihoods in the study sites and the transition zone. The paper brings into the limelight alternative narratives from the grassroots that had been obscured by the dominant narratives of the more powerful actors. Such counter narratives from the grassroots potentially provide policy spaces for making carbon offset interven-

tions more equitable, while enhancing the inclusion of marginalised local actors. The design of the CCP, the challenges faced by farmers and the project developer, and factors which contributed to the collapse of the project, all provide useful lessons for making REDD+ grassroots-centered and compatible with smallholder agriculture.

Keywords: carbon credits; carbon narratives; rural livelihoods

ARE LIVELIHOODS GAINING OR BEING THREATENED IN AN ERA OF GREEN ECONOMY? INSIGHTS FROM POLICY DISCOURSES ON LIVELIHOODS IN REDD+ POLICIES OF GHANA, KENYA AND ZAMBIA

Presenter: Albert A. Arhin, PhD Candidate, Department of Geography, University of Cambridge

Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) has been conceived globally as an effective and cost-efficient option for mitigating climate change. Proponents have hailed the mechanism for its potential to transfer a large amount of financial resources to support environmental protection and conservation efforts. Yet, there are some concerns that REDD+ can also have negative impacts on local livelihoods and create other harmful activities that either cause poverty or deprivation. While there is strong advocacy on the need for REDD+ to address livelihood concerns and other social issues, research examining how countries are responding to this call remains quite scarce. This paper presents findings on how Ghana, Kenya and Zambia's programs to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) are proposing to address livelihood concerns. A content analysis of these REDD+ policy documents show that while there is strong emphasis on benefits from REDD+, there is very little discussion on possible negative consequences of REDD+ on livelihoods, although some future analysis through Strategic Environmental and Social Assessments (SESA) and research have been proposed.

Keywords: REDD+, forests and livelihoods, green economy

COUNTER MAPPING AND THE COMPLEXITY OF 'INTIMATE ENGAGEMENT' BETWEEN CARBON CONSERVATION MECHANISMS AND CRITICAL RESISTANCE TOWARD 'LAND GRABBING'

Presenter : Rini Astuti, Victoria University of Wellington

On May 2013, the Constitutional Court of Indonesia accepted the Judicial Review of Forestry Law brought forward by, among others, the Indigenous People's Al-



liance of the Archipelago (AMAN). The delivered verdict is effectively returning the jurisdiction and ownership of customary forest to masyarakat hukum adat (indigenous people). Many have seen this as the opportunity for a stronger inclusion of indigenous communities in a green economy agenda such as REDD+. Drawing on the counter mapping process, a term coined by Peluso (1995), millions of hectares are mapped by indigenous communities with the help of several NGOs such as AMAN and Participative Mapping Network (JKPP). The NGOs funded with REDD+ readiness grants are drawing on the importance of secure tenure for successful REDD+ implementation, campaigning for the recognition of customary land. Whereas carbon forestry projects have been commonly seen as the new frontier of green grabbing (Fairhead et al, 2012; Corson et al, 2013), REDD+ has been widely perceived in Indonesia as a new chance to counterbalance the previous monopoly of authoritative resources by the state or capital. This paper seeks to unpack this paradoxical assemblage of countering existing land grabbing from corporate concession holders with possible 'green grabbing' mechanisms. The paper provides analysis of how this assemblage works through various technologies of government (techne) to normalise the two contradictory approaches. In particular it draws attention to the counter mapping process as an example of the complexity of "intimate engagement" between neoliberal carbon conservation mechanisms and critical resistance toward land grabbing.

Keywords: REDD+, counter mapping, land grabbing

THE POLITICAL ECOLOGY OF AGRICULTURAL CARBON FINANCE: THE CASE OF KENYA'S AGRICULTURAL CARBON PROJECT

Presenter : Joanes Atela, Leeds University

Carbon management in agricultural landscapes has attracted global and national policy and scientific concerns in the context of addressing the implications of climate change on agriculture. This paper contributes to the ongoing policy and academic debates on how globally framed agricultural carbon finance initiatives interplay with national and local socio-political and ecological contexts. The research draws evidence from the Kenya Agricultural Carbon Project, which has worked with western Kenya farmers since 2008, implementing sustainable land management activities to generate carbon credits in the context of climate-smart agriculture. Fieldwork and analysis of policy documents indicate that the project has engaged individual farmers on the premise of triple wins-conservation agriculture which does not resonate well

with farmers' livelihood perceptions and historical beliefs around increasing maize yields and state desire to mechanise agriculture for economic growth. Diverging interests associated with the project, long histories of farmer experiences with related interventions and state institutional gaps have yielded mixed outcomes for the project, and complex policy situations from which some actors draw benefit, but with little impact on farmers' resilience to climate change. This study calls for re-thinking of the top-down donor and science-driven projectisation of agricultural carbon finance. Approaches and associated capacity-building need to inform farmers more fully of links between sustainable farming practices and carbon; clarify their carbon rights, and attend to wider development issues such as water access and secure land tenure which bear heavily on such projects. This is vital if smallholder farmers are to become more empowered to expand their opportunities and wellbeing in the context of climate change.

Keywords: agricultural carbon finance; local livelihoods; land tenure

GOVERNING REDD+: GLOBAL FRAMINGS VERSUS EMPIRICAL EVIDENCE FROM THE KASIGAU CORRIDOR REDD+ PROJECT, KENYA

Presenter : Joanes Atela, Leeds University

This paper examines the unfolding of globally-linked REDD+ projects in local African settings, focusing on the Kasigau project in Kenya. This commercial project has, over the last six years, unfolded in a relatively vulnerable Kenyan setting. A policy process analysis, interactive fieldwork and document review has explored its interrelationship with local livelihood assets and state institutional capabilities. The paper reveals that while REDD+ institutions are globally standardised through negotiations interlocked with political and development interests, projects are faced with state and local resource histories and perceptions, and in responding to such settings, these projects become highly contextual. Locally, the Kasigau project links carbon benefits to specific and significant local vulnerabilities such as low 'value' dryland, water scarcity and illiteracy. This has yielded an apparently uncontested acceptance and favourable perception of the project among the Kasigau people, seeming to reverse long histories of exclusion from their resources by centralised state-based resource management regimes. Yet the negative perception of state institutions that the Kasigau people have built up over time raises questions as to whether the state can ably oversee a successful REDD+ process, as assumed by the international community. As such, international gains



in safe-guarding local communities in REDD+ could be seriously compromised. Kenya recently initiated land reforms as part of resource decentralisation, but the resulting regimes remain fuzzy, subordinate to powerful centralised interests, focused on individual title, and inadequately adapted to local contexts. Such reforms potentially reshuffle local engagement in the Kasigau project, which draws its apparent success partly from a communal land tenure system. The paper concludes that communal systems, if well-defined, may provide a better basis for REDD+ project governance, enabling inclusivity, collective action and societal benefits.

Keywords: REDD+; local perceptions; land tenure

LOCAL UNDERSTANDINGS OF MINING LIVELIHOOD CHANGES IN MELANESIA: RECONCILING THE EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL DIMENSIONS OF CHANGE

Presenter: Glenn Banks, Department of People, Environment & Planning, Massey University

Large-scale mining in Melanesia, as in other parts of the Global South, brings massive transformations to surrounding communities. While substantial resources are typically injected into the communities by way of negotiated compensation, royalties and employment benefits, profoundly unsettling social and economic changes also affect local people. In-migration is one, with populations at some mine sites doubling every decade, placing huge stress on already disturbed local environments, living conditions and social relationships. Inequality rises rapidly, with the arrival of the mine signalling a boom for locals designated as the 'landowning community', others typically have to struggle to gain far less from the mine. There are also concerns regarding excessive consumption (of alcohol and vehicles, for example) and the flagrant waste of resources by landowners who are frequently cajoled into 'thinking about the future' and discussions of their post-mining livelihoods. From the external perspective, then, communities seem to be subjected to dramatic change over which they have little control. From the perspective of local communities though, these transformative changes are typically viewed far less unequivocally, and often less critically. Migration, for example, is expected of kin from surrounding areas, and can bolster populations in claims against the company, provide additional income, and strengthen groups against others in the region. Problems with migrants are with those whose 'faces we do not know', and can lead to contentious internal debates about whose kin really represent the problem. Likewise, what may appear as 'waste' — in the form of highly inflated customary exchange payments, for example — can be seen as ful-

filling local aspirations connected to understandings of regional cultural connection and myth, as well as actually securing the future for those currently at the centre of distribution networks. Local cultural lenses then, typically provide a very different vision of local agency and futures to those of external observers which can be extremely problematic when the shape of external interventions is determined by external parties.

Keywords: mining, communities, migration

CONSERVATION, CROP-LOSS AND COFFEE: ADVERSE EFFECTS OF BANNING CUSTOMARY PRACTICES IN AN INDIAN TIGER RESERVE

Presenter: Tor A Benjaminsen, Department of International Environment and Development Studies (Noragric)

Co-author: Nitin D. Rai, Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment

Conservation policy in India is premised on the exclusion of people from forests and the suppression of their customary ecological practices. Using a chain of explanation framework this paper shows that the banning of indigenous practices such as early season fires, hunting and collection of forest produce has had a series of effects on not only the condition of the forest, but also on agricultural practices, cropping patterns and sources of income. The lack of fires has resulted in the proliferation of the invasive species *Lantana camara* and reduced forage availability for wildlife. The ban on hunting has increased the population of wild boars, which raid the rain-fed agricultural fields of Soligas, an indigenous community. As a consequence, Soligas have largely switched to cultivating coffee, which wild boar do not consume. The lower returns from agriculture and forest produce harvest has resulted in an increase in dependence on cash income from labour. Wage labour in large coffee estates and agricultural plantations are now the primary source of income. Conservation policy has transformed a community that was agricultural and forest-based into a wage labour class. Although proletarianisation of the Indian peasant is an ongoing rural phenomenon, conservation policy further exacerbates this process through appropriation of land and forests for conservation, increasing wildlife populations and changing forest structure.

Keywords: neoliberal conservation; protected areas; rural transformation



IF TANZANIAN WMAS ARE COMMUNITY-BASED NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROJECTS, THEN WHAT ARE THE COMMUNITIES AND HOW DO THEY PARTICIPATE?

Presenter: Jevgeniy Bluwstein, Department of Food and Resource Economics, University of Copenhagen

Co-authors: Stephanie Loveless, Jens Friis Lund

This paper seeks to understand the nature of community involvement in WMA management in Tanzania. WMAs are propagated as a CBNRM approach for wildlife management to protect wildlife and further rural livelihoods and development. Thus, WMAs are discursively being linked to participatory and decentralised approaches to NRM, thereby invoking the promises associated with such approaches in the sense of more equitable and efficient resource management and livelihood improvements. Yet, the theoretical promises of community participation are based on theoretical assumptions that, if not met in reality, render the promises unlikely to be fulfilled. Thus, we ask in what sense WMAs are community-based and how WMA management processes compare with the assumptions underlying the promises of CBNRM approaches. We do this by comparing WMAs management processes with the ideals of participation (Armstein), democratic devolution (Ribot), and collective action (Ostrom). Empirical evidence of this ongoing study points to very limited participation and collective action at the community level, which we define as the village; beyond the few people who are immediately involved in WMA management, there is little popular participation, transparency or sense of ownership and control of WMA management by the communities. Thus, it is difficult to argue that WMAs are community-based institutions in the theoretical sense of the word.

Keywords: REDD, Tanzania, Norway

HOW AND WHY CHIEFS FORMALISE LAND USE IN RECENT TIMES: THE POLITICS OF LAND DISPOSSESSION THROUGH BIOFUELS INVESTMENTS IN GHANA

Presenter: Festus Boamah, Department of Geography, University of Bergen

In the current land deals debate, land dispossession is often attributed to exploitative acts of agricultural investors. However, the role of equally active actors in the making of land deals such as chiefs, who customarily are custodians of land, does not feature prominently in the debate. The paper shows

that the recent surge in large-scale land deals in Ghana corresponds with chiefs' pre-existing motivation to re-establish authority over land, firstly, to formalise the use of 'stool land' to create rural development opportunities; secondly, to formalise boundaries of 'stool land' to avert potential future land litigations. Social groups lacking recognition from chiefs therefore often lose land, whereas land areas of those recognised by chiefs are protected, sometimes regardless of their 'citizenship' identity in project villages. The author argues that an understanding of how local social institutions and politics mediate investment in land will enrich analyses of processes of land dispossession.

NON-OUTCOMES IN CLIMATE GOVERNANCE

Presenter: Sarah Bracking, International Development, University of Manchester

This paper explores the practice of mainstreaming development in climate finance following Foucauldian insights on the roles of knowledge and power in public policy processes, using the short history of the emerging Green Climate Fund as a case study. The paper argues that the current influence achieved by international advocacy and civil society groups is found lacking in relation to the influence of international business and the private sector. But this is not merely derivative of an inequality in lobbying resources, it is more that key outcomes are successfully stalled by powerful states until a technical fix which favours business interests can be negotiated, while civil society claims an agenda decisions are stalled or postponed. If a balance of power is achieved, a new 'window' is opened to sidestep and relocate corporate influence in a new institutional entity. Overall the compliance and emasculation of climate justice groups is maintained by conditionality, where funding is only released in the event of corporate capture. This paper explores the technical language and devices which align 'rational' outcomes with effective non outcomes.

MINERAL EXTRACTION AND HYDROSOCIAL CHANGE: (RE)PRODUCING WATERSCAPES IN THE SOUTHERN PERUVIAN ANDES

Presenter: Jessica Budds, School of International Development, University of East Anglia

This paper employs the concept of the hydrosocial cycle to analyse the ways in which changing demand for and use of water as a result of the expansion of the copper mining sector in southern Peru shifts social relations around water, focusing on the community level. The hydrosocial cycle reconceptualises water from a material resource to a socio-nature that embeds and expresses



social and power relations, both material and discursive. This paper uses the framework to show how excavating the processes by which water is socially constructed and produced by different social actors in the context of mineral extraction reconfigures hydrosocial relations, whereby people shape water in ways that in turn influences social structures, relations and subjectivities. Drawing on largely qualitative research from highland communities in southern Peru, the paper examines how water is differentially understood and represented by mining companies, the state, indigenous-peasant communities, and anti-mining activists. The papers suggests that it is not simply ‘water’ that is at stake, but instances of water that are produced through its engagements with these groups, and which, in turn, shift relations among and between these groups.

Keywords: mining, hydrosocial cycle, power

ENCLOSURE, DISPOSSESSION, AND THE ‘GREEN ECONOMY’: NEW CONTOURS OF INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT IN LIBERIA AND SIERRA LEONE

Presenter: Connor Joseph Cavanagh, Department of Geography, York University and Department of International Environment and Development Studies (Noragric), Norwegian University of Life Sciences

Perhaps the most recognisable feature of the nascent green economy is the creation of new markets for so-called ‘socio-natural commodities’ and ecosystem services, including carbon and biodiversity offsets, payments for water catchment, biofuels, ecotourism retreats, and even so-called ‘species banks’. Simply put, this paper appraises the potential for these markets to catalyse new forms of conflict and internal displacement in West Africa, with specific emphasis on the post-war contexts of Liberia and Sierra Leone. Following the International Committee of the Red Cross’ Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, the primary drivers of forced migration are conventionally thought to include a combination of civil war, ethnic strife or cleansing, development-induced migration, or allegedly ‘natural’ disasters. Of course, both Liberia and Sierra Leone witnessed horrific levels of violence-induced displacement during their largely simultaneous civil wars, which ended in 2002 and 2003, respectively. However, displacements for large-scale conservation and commercial agriculture increasingly threaten to exacerbate the unresolved legacies, mapping onto enduring conflicts over land and resources that emerged during the civil war era. Such trends should concern us given that – as demonstrated by a sizeable literature on conflict causation in the Mano River Basin — agrarian grievances have repeatedly

served as a salient yet under-acknowledged driver of recruitment into militant organisations. Interrogating these apparent contradictions in Liberian and Sierra Leonean reconstruction efforts, this paper argues that the new drivers of internal displacement ultimately assist West African states in territorialising their authority over historically unruly populations, since conservation and agrarian reforms limit access to land and natural resources, and the relative autonomy that arises from such access.

Keywords: internal territorialization; green grabbing; state formation

NOT A GOOD YEAR FOR US: IMAGINARY VS. LIVING ECOLOGIES IN RWANDA

Presenter: Giuseppe D. Cioffo, Center for Development Studies, Université Catholique de Louvain

In 2007 the Rwandan government embarked on an ambitious project of agricultural modernisation based on land use consolidation, regional specialisation and increased use of chemical fertilisers and hybrid seeds. In 2013, while the motto ‘striving for self-reliance’ was chosen to commemorate the 19th anniversary of the genocide, the country experienced a bad agricultural season due to heavy rainfalls followed by a long drought. Based on in-depth, micro-level field research in two settings in Northern Rwanda’s highlands, this paper argues that the agricultural modernisation policies, aimed at ensuring food security and boosting productivity, have so far failed to deliver their goals to the country’s poorest rural households. On the contrary, the combination of consolidating land use, regional specialisation and climate-change-driven weather variability has increased food insecurity and the rate of self-exploitation of the rural poor. Such results are the by-product of the attempted imposition on the rural population of *imaginary ecologies* — new forms of relations between rural dwellers and their natural environment based on high productivity and surplus creation. Imaginary ecologies are conceived in the space of development and modernisation as part of the Rwandan government’s social engineering efforts (Ansoms, 2009). Meaning by ecology not only the ensemble of geo-physical phenomena but the ‘messy bundle of interactions’ between human and extra-human nature, the clash of imaginary ecologies with the reality of rural households’ *living ecologies* weakens rural dwellers’ ability to respond to environmental shocks and perpetuates patterns of low productivity, natural resource degradation, poverty and marginalisation.

Keywords: ecology, land consolidation, Rwanda



“WITHOUT PLANTATIONS, I CANNOT SURVIVE”: NEGOTIATED ACCESS TO THE AGRICULTURAL PLANTATIONS IN THE TERRITORY OF KALEHE, SOUTH KIVU, DRC

Presenter: Klara Claessens, University of Antwerp

This article analyses the land access arrangements of small-scale farmers in and around the agricultural plantations at the border of the Kivu Lake between Bukavu and Goma. The area is densely populated and suffers from an influx of refugees fleeing areas scourged by the presence of armed forces. This population pressure is leading to an adaptation and reinvention of existing access schemes and to more exclusive land access patterns. This article traces the historical roots of contemporary access mechanisms to the land on the agricultural plantations. The analysis is based on data collected during fieldwork in four villages. Data was collected through a combination of in-depth interviews, focus group discussions and participatory mapping. The article shows how, during different periods in history, formal and informal interventions established complex hierarchical power networks that influenced access mechanisms and contributed to the formation of new regulatory spaces and new processes of subject making.

PRODUCING KNOWLEDGE FOR THE GREEN ECONOMY: EXAMINING CLIMATE KNOWLEDGE NETWORKS IN EAST AFRICA

Presenter: Meaghan Daly, Environmental Studies Program, University of Colorado

The Green Economy movement aims to facilitate economies that promote equity and improved human wellbeing, while reducing environmental risks and ecological impacts. Importantly, the Green Economy discourse emphasises producing the necessary knowledge to support implementation of national and regional initiatives to enable transitions to economic systems that are socially equitable and ecologically sound. These knowledge production and dissemination efforts have included policy advice, technical assistance, and capacity building. A prime example of these knowledge production processes is the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) launched in 2009, which seeks to reduce the vulnerability of society to climate-related hazards and to advance key global development goals by providing climate information. In particular, the goal is to build capacities in developing countries, where vulnerabilities to climate impacts are high, but climate service provision is currently weak. Yet, there are ongoing questions about how “equitable” such climate services are, including: Who is able to access and use such

information and for what purposes? What are the consequences of promoting knowledge transfer across scales? Who gets to participate in processes of knowledge production? What other kinds of knowledge may be silenced in the process? This paper examines the dynamics of climate knowledge production, access, and use across scales in East Africa, within the context of GFCS and Green Economy initiatives. This includes tracing knowledge flows and networks, and specifically investigating: 1) who produces knowledge and how, 2) how the knowledge is accessed and used, 3) how knowledge gains validity among a range of actors, and 4) how relations of power among actors across scales and epistemologies influence knowledge flows. Findings draw on quantitative survey data and individual and group interview data collected at multiple scales (community, national, international), with local level data collection occurring in the semi-arid region of northern Tanzania.

Keywords: knowledge, climate, Tanzania

LAND OWNERSHIP AS A HUMAN RIGHT: “WE HAVE SEEN THE LIGHT AND WE CANNOT GO BACK INTO THE DARK AGAIN”

Presenter: Alicia Davis, University of Colorado

Co-author: Mara Goldman, University of Colorado

This paper discusses the gendered dynamics of land privatisation in Maasai communities in northern Tanzania. Large development organisations (and smaller NGOs that depend on them for funding) have been supporting the neoliberal ideal of privatisation of land ownership as an essential part of development. This process is complex and sometimes contested, notably in areas where land has been traditionally managed communally. Some suggest women may be disproportionately bearing the brunt of recent rural land grabs, as women are highly dependent on land yet have a distinctive lack of rights to land. Thus, efforts are being made across Maasai communities to educate women about how land ownership may empower them. However, there has been less focus on the potentially pivotal and empowered role women may play in the collective action of communities to keep their land communally. We present data from a five-year longitudinal and comparative study of Maasai communities in Monduli and Longido districts that complicates the gender and land question. We show that women are increasingly active in seeking land and land titles, notably after receiving adult education through NGO sponsored women's groups and in many cases women are at the forefront of a struggle to secure land in their communities. Our research highlights that Maasai women are making clear links between land, empower-



ment and human rights. They are starting to view owning land, both individually and as groups, as a means to access their rights and to secure the economic future for themselves and their children. Women also see owning land as a means to rectify past incongruities in land ownership and land alienation, and to keep land within the community. This gendered aspect of land privatisation puts a complex spin on current debates surrounding land in Maasai communities.

Keywords: Maasai, women's empowerment, land privatisation

GREEN ECONOMY DISCOURSES IN AFRICA

Presenter: Carl Death, International Political Economy, University of Manchester

Global interest in the concept of the 'green economy' has heightened since 2008, however most discussions fail to distinguish between very different versions of the discourse, and its different political implications. This article argues that there are four major discourses within the overall green economy framework, and these focus respectively on mitigation, growth, transformation and revolution. Moreover, most research on the green economy tends to focus on European and North American countries. In the context of a changing global economy and the 'rise of the South' the politics of the green economy in sub-Saharan Africa is of increasing importance. This paper takes the South African enthusiasm for green jobs, climate change targets and taxes, and renewable energy investments as a starting point to explore the politics of the green economy discourse: what do these rhetorical commitments and policy initiatives mean for regional political economies? It also uses the green economy framework as a means to explore South Africa's evolving relationship with the rest of the continent: as norm entrepreneur, investor, and regional hegemon. Green economy discourses in South Africa are contrasted with others in Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique, Botswana and Tanzania. This highlights the different ways in which the green economy discourses have been interpreted, shaped and translated in Africa, and contrasts some of the varied political effects of these discourses: including as carbon colonialism, 'land grabs', infrastructure investment, bioprospecting, natural resource governance, eco-tourism and transboundary conservation areas.

Keywords: green economy discourses, South Africa, Africa, policy

REDD+ GLOBAL VALUE CHAINS AND PRIVATE FINANCE IN INDONESIA

Presenter: Rowan Dixon, Victoria University of Wellington

In an effort to conserve forests while improving livelihoods in the south, REDD+ has been attracting and frightening finance

the world over, especially in Indonesia. The contested frame that finance inhabits in Indonesia's REDD+ institution offers a novel opportunity to test Global Value Chain (GVC) frameworks from the perspective of finance actors. This approach enables contemporary REDD+ projects to be analysed as exercises of commodification and relations within broader institutional contexts. REDD+ finance is deconstructed by GVC characteristics into government, donor, and private funding sources. This paper focuses on the complexities of private funding as these are the actors that the future REDD+ schemes envisage funding. Drawing on field data from Indonesia the paper finds that private REDD+ funding culminates into two separate but linked motivations that have driven the character of privately funded REDD+ projects thus far: Corporate Social Responsibility, and Profit Maximisation. These motivations and the resultant commodification processes and value chains they drive are investigated and compared within the context of the wider REDD+ institution and ambition globally and in Indonesia. On repositioning privately funded REDD+ processes within emerging Indonesian REDD+ systems, questions are raised as to how private finance might constitute the projected character of REDD+ grand designs and what this might mean for agreed REDD+ outcomes. This reflects on the potential realisation of intensioned green economies in the South when they are components of wider global finance and commerce systems.

CARBON FORESTRY, TRADE-OFFS IN ECOSYSTEM SERVICES, AND LOCAL KNOWLEDGE: INSIGHTS FROM RURAL KILOMBERO, TANZANIA

Presenter: Alex Dorgan, Sheffield University

Private investment in re/afforestation in rural communities is often presented as a 'triple-win' example of climate compatible development: working to mitigate climate change, enabling local communities to adapt to the impacts of climate change, and providing an additional source of income and thus helping to alleviate poverty. However, there has been a recent shift towards recognising that there can also be substantial trade-offs associated with these initiatives. This paper looks at two study sites in the Kilombero district of Tanzania, that have recently seen the establishment of large tree plantations by private-sector companies for timber, paper, charcoal making, and carbon-credits. Drawing on household surveys, and participatory methods (including focus group discussions, cause-effect diagramming, historical calendars, participatory mapping, and semi-structured interviews with key-informants), this paper examines the perceived impact of this private sector investment in re/afforestation on natural resources and ecosystem services, including indirect impacts on



ecosystem (dis)services and the observed consequent impact on the communities' livelihoods.

The paper argues that while the potentially positive impact of private investment in re/afforestation in these rural communities should not be underplayed, there is a need to consider the trade-offs in ecosystem services (and disservices) that may emerge from these activities. It is important to recognise that the impacts felt may vary between different groups within the communities and that there is not necessarily an equitable distribution of costs and benefits. Therefore care should be taken to ensure particular groups do not carry the weight of negative impact, and local understandings of carbon and related environmental processes should also be recognised.

Keywords: carbon forestry, ecosystem services, trade-offs

RURAL DISENFRANCHISEMENT THROUGH CARBON: THE CASE OF KARIBA REDD, ZIMBABWE

Presenter: Vupenyu Dzingirai, University of Zimbabwe

After initial years of indecision, Zimbabwe has now turned to carbon as a vehicle for forest conservation, local development and participation. In this, it has joined with the local and global private sector, and is now propagating carbon experiments in changing landscapes dominated by a differentiated peasantry. While it is fervently argued that carbon initiatives improve livelihoods and should be doing so, it remains unclear whether these indeed improve local people's lives and also expand their control of forestry resources on the ground. This paper looks at how carbon initiatives are performing in relationship to rural livelihoods and how communities are responding to this process, by examining the Kariba REDD unfolding in Hurungwe, a district with a sequence of displacements arising from development.

Keywords: carbon forestry; REDD; rural livelihoods

GOVERNING THROUGH NEOLIBERALISM: REDD+ PILOT PROJECTS AND STRUGGLES OVER ACCESS TO VILLAGE LAND AND FORESTS IN LINDI AND KILOSA, TANZANIA

Presenter: Melis Ece, Institute for Society and Natural Resources, University of Eastern Finland

The market-driven logic of REDD+ has become one of the leading avenues for research on the neoliberalisation of nature. However, in Africa, the persistent presence of the "state" in the area of nature conservation and recent decentralisation reforms that target forested village lands suggest that instead of a retrieval of the "state" in all domains, we may be witnessing a re-regulation of state institutions around environmental

governance. This indicates that there is a need for further research on the governance dimensions of the new climate mitigation-based conservation interventions like REDD+. What is the role of REDD+ in strengthening the neoliberal environmental governance in specific country and institutional contexts? Focusing on a REDD+ pilot project implemented by a Tanzanian para-statal NGO, this paper looks at how neoliberal environmental governance unfolds within the institutional framework of decentralised forest management in Tanzania.

In 2002, Tanzania adopted a decentralised approach to forest management — Participatory Forest Management' (PFM) — which claimed to give more powers to village councils by allowing them to pass agreements with national and district governments to establish forest reserves. With land use planning set as a pre-condition, elected village authorities were given the power to define the rules of access to forests under their jurisdiction through by-laws. Land use planning was also integrated into Tanzania's REDD+ strategy (2013) as a "social safeguard". Based on REDD+ projects implemented by MJUMITA/ TFCG this paper analyses how the land use planning process has been carried out in Kilosa and Lindi districts. It analyses village land conflicts that emerged or resurfaced after the introduction of REDD+ and, discusses the role of REDD+ in fueling land conflicts through speculations over forests' market value, and in maintaining the oversight of district officials over elected village councils despite its "participatory" claims.

Keywords: REDD+, neoliberal environmental governance, land conflicts

THE ULTIMATE EXPANSION: COMMODIFYING NATURE AND DEMOCRATISATION AS (NEO) LIBERALISATION OF FOREST GOVERNANCE IN AFRICA

Presenter: Melis Ece, University of Eastern Finland

Co-author: Manali Baruah, James Murombedzi

This paper interrogates the theoretical and material underpinnings of commodifying nature in Africa, expressed in the form of land and natural resource expropriation and privatisation of tenure. The process is facilitated by the hegemonic imposition of political conditionality of 'good governance' inter alia. We argue that this neoliberalisation is achieved in part through notions of procedural democracy. We contend that commodification, coupled with the democratisation project, contribute to the imperative to create in Africa patterns of transformation similar to those that characterised the transition to modernity in Europe. The paper explores the governance im-



pacts of the on-going commodification of African forests through the imposition of new governance regimes via global interventions such as REDD+ and situates the African state's collaboration in this expansionist project in the context of coloniality. This paper uses empirical evidence from the Responsive Forest Governance Initiative's (RFGI) Africa-wide research. We show that REDD+, forest carbon or payment for ecosystem services (PES) initiatives tend to be implemented through NGOs or civil society organisations (CSOs) rather than democratically elected authorities on the basis of their 'technical' capacities, 'proximity' to the concerned communities and mobilisation power. The capacity of NGOs and CSOs to represent community needs and interests is rarely a basis for selecting them as implementing partners for REDD+ or similar projects. This is part of the pluralising and depoliticising strategies of neo-liberalism. Through select case studies, we show the scope of natural resource decentralisation in Africa, located in the democratisation logic of neo-liberalism, and evaluate its implications for democratisation.

Keywords: democracy, neo-liberalism, REDD+

CAN HERDING AND MINING COEXIST? EVIDENCE FROM TANZANIA

Presenters: Jody Emel, Graduate School of Geography, Clark University & Heladius Makene, National Environmental Management Council, Tanzania

Can mining and livestock herding co-exist? This is an important question for many mining regions including Tanzania. What kinds of mitigation measures are put in place as part of the formal mine planning and baseline environmental assessment to protect the livestock industry? Are mining operations always fenced? Are common grazing lands and water sources included in resettlement and compensation programs? Research in Tanzania from 2005–2012 suggests that much can be done to plan for and mitigate livestock problems resulting from the mine lifecycle. This presentation will revisit some of the problems identified by interviewees living near large-scale mining sites in the Lake Victoria goldfields, provide an overview of the existing literature and policy on livestock-mining coexistence, and offer some thoughts on how mining companies might enhance the livestock industry and live better with herding neighbors in mining regions. The presentation also explores how catering companies that serve mine operators source meat products.

Keywords: mining, herding, mitigation

THE END OF LARGE SCALE LAND ACQUISITIONS IN AFRICA?

Presenter: Linda Engström, Nordic Africa Institute

The new rush for land in Africa for large scale agro investments has received much attention worldwide, not least the production of biofuel crops, but also of food. Tanzania has been mentioned to be in the top ten countries in Africa to allocate land to foreign investors for this purpose. However, recent research shows that the extent to which land has been allocated to these kinds of land deals in Tanzania have been greatly overestimated. This problem seems to apply for reports on land deals Africa-wide, not only in Tanzania. A recent issue of the *Journal of Peasant Studies* (40:3, 2013) scrutinises the methodology used when collecting land deal data as well as the links to transparency issues. My empirical research in Tanzania takes the picture one step further. Even when derivative rights have been granted by the government, the investors face problems with becoming, and staying, operational. Today, there is not one single operational biofuel investment in Tanzania. The biofuel investments that have become operational have all gone bankrupt or have been sold to other investors. The two investors that have received derivative land titles are delayed and have switched to food production. This paper will show that food investments in the new land rush face similar difficulty in becoming operational and profitable, drawing from cases in Tanzania, but also elsewhere in Africa. There are general as well as context-specific mechanisms behind this trend of delays and failures. The widespread strategy among African governments to facilitate large-scale agro investments seems so far to have been a failure. These investments will most likely not play the role that was anticipated in the path forward for African agriculture.

INDIGENOUS ECOLOGY IN SOUTHERN AFRICAN CRIME NOVELS

Presenter: Karen Ferreira-Meyers, Institute of Distance Education, University of Swaziland

As crime novels, in general, use themes of public interest, more and more African crime novels now turn to environmentalism as one of their selected themes. It is noteworthy that this happens in a genre which often has the city, the urban environment as its main setting. While issues of pre-colonial, post-colonial and indigenous environmentalism in general literature have become of interest to researchers, little attention has been given to the same theme in contemporary crime fiction. In this paper focus will be put on Anglophone Southern African crime fiction (Jassy Mackenzie, *Worst Case*, Deon Meyer, *Blood Safari* and *Trackers* in particular, Mi-



chael Stanley, *Death of the Mantis*, Lauren Beukes' 2010 SF noir entitled *Zoo City*, Mike Nicol, *Out to score*, *Payback* and *Killer country*, etc.). Various literary tropes such as that of ecological disaster, the contentious nature of issues surrounding land-ownership, environmental policymaking, the distribution of natural resources, and the founding of a sense of self in relation to place are represented in the African crime novel. Even though crime fiction is still largely considered as parafiction, pulp fiction and associated with low-brow escapism, the paper seeks to show that postcolonial ecocritics also focus on the literary reconstruction and representation of postcolonial environments. It will also try to answer the question as to what extent African literature is a form of resistance against current environmental degradation in Africa caused by global capitalism and multi-national corporations' exploitation of natural resources in Africa. This paper draws on the field of eco-criticism, most notably the work of post-colonial eco-critic, Anthony Vital, South African eco-critic, Julia Martin, and the eco-philosophy of Giles Deleuze and Félix Guattari, as put forward in *A Thousand Plateaus*.

GREENING THE EXTRACTIVE ECONOMY: CSR AND MINING FROM CANADIAN PRESSURES TO AFRICAN IMPACTS

Presenter: Tomas Frederiksen, Institute of Development Policy and Management, University of Manchester

Recent years have seen an important shift in the international governance pressures on the extractive sector. Having a credible and comprehensive corporate social responsibility (CSR) programme that demonstrates that mining companies can manage the risk and complexity of their operations effectively is becoming a de facto requirement for access to finance. In turn, some companies have adopted elaborate CSR strategies which appear to move beyond former 'public relations' approaches. These changing norms and practices have potentially far-reaching consequences. With many sub-Saharan African countries resting their hopes for economic development on the extractive sector, and investment in the African extractive sector expanding, the changing practices of mining companies affect the lives of millions of Africans. The limited capacity of African governments to regulate international mining company activities means that global norms and voluntary CSR initiatives fill, however partially, an important regulatory gap. This paper presents early findings from research on the global governance and development impacts of changing CSR practice in the extractive sector; specifically, relationships between emerging international governance regimes, mining companies

and multi-faceted community development CSR programmes in Africa.

SISAL, OLD AND NEW: AGRARIAN CHANGE AND AN EXPERIMENTAL BIOGAS PLANT IN TANZANIA

Presenter: Elisa Greco, Research Associate, LeverHulme Centre for the Study of Value, IDPM, University of Manchester

Tanzania has stood out in the biofuel debate, both as a major geographical target for international biofuel ventures and as a site of political reactions to them. After recapitulating on the distinctiveness of Tanzanian political responses to international biofuel ventures, this contribution will present the little-known story of an high-tech experimental biogas plant in Hale, Korogwe District (Tanga region), where biogas pioneering seems not to have been altered by the national political shifts on biofuel production. Established in 2007, this demonstration project aimed to establish viable biogas and bio-generated electricity production using sisal waste as biomass. The physical infrastructure and the biogas technology have been secured through funds from the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) and the Common Fund for Commodities (CFC). Given its potential for carbon trade, it has been long seeking accreditation as a Clean Development Mechanism (CDM). Sisal, the main source of biomass, is presented as a traditional crop, historically grown in Tanga region. For this reason, contrary to other contested biofuel projects, the Hale biogas experiment has never been seen as competing with local food production or causing land dispossession. The biogas plant relies on sisal production from five sisal plantations held by Katani Ltd — a private company which acquired sisal plantations through privatisation bids, and is seen as the heir of the now dismantled Tanzania Sisal Authority. The company retains the land title to the plantations and the control over sisal marketing and processing, while sisal production is almost entirely carried out by small, private contract farmers living around the plantations.

This contribution problematises the revival of sisal production in Tanga region, by reflecting on the long history of land and labour struggles in and around sisal plantations and on the contested presence of sisal monoculture. The impact of sisal revival for biofuel production is better grasped through a historical analysis of agrarian change in the region, where "old sisal" — for cordage production — had declined since the mid- 1970s and "new sisal" — for alternative uses, such as biogas has been spearheaded throughout the last two decades as an alternative to the dismantling of large sisal plantations for land redistribution to local claimants, as recommended by the Presidential Commission of Enquiry into Land Matters in the early 1990s.

Keywords: biofuels, Tanzania, sisal



CONSERVATION FOR CARBON OR COMMUNITIES? SWEDISH CLIMATE AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY INITIATIVES IN UGANDA AND TANZANIA

Presenter: Flora Hajdu, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) allows rich countries to buy carbon dioxide emission rights through contributing to emission reductions in poorer countries. Sweden has around 40 CDM projects, some of which conserve/replant forest in Africa. CDM projects aim to contribute to sustainable development in the target countries, but research on previous projects with reforestation/conservation aims in Africa has shown that degradation often has been assumed and connected to local practices without empirical proof, with negative outcomes for local people. The tendency to talk about degradation without demanding scientific proof of its existence fuels an 'African degradation narrative' that is unhelpful in locating and dealing with real problems. There are also other well-established ways to conserve forest jointly with local communities, such as Community Based Forest Management (CBFM), which usually have as a main aim to benefit local livelihoods. The underlying most basic motivation for the projects, to sequester carbon on the one hand and to benefit local communities on the other, thus seems to have an impact on project outcomes. This project, studied a CDM project in Uganda and a CBFM project in Tanzania, both financed by Sweden. The projects have similar stated aims of conserving forest and benefiting local livelihoods, but pilot studies suggest that the differing underlying basic motivations of the projects as well as differing assumptions about causes of degradation and the importance of local livelihoods lead to different outcomes. Project ideas and their local effects are studied through discourse- and livelihoods analysis.

THE IMPACT OF POWER STRUCTURES ON GREEN ECONOMY INVESTMENTS: HOW STRUCTURAL POWER RELATIONS CHALLENGE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH

Presenter: Anne Hennings, Research Fellow, University of Muenster

Due to the myth of vast idle land and resources worth protecting, (private) investors are increasingly invited either for green commercialisation or nature conservation purposes. Simultaneously, incidents of green washing, land grabbing, displacement, and conflicts over new resource tenure systems occur. Hence the question arises, what undermines the inclusive equi-

ty approach of the green economy concept and instead contributes to market-driven unsustainable investments? The paper scrutinizes the impact of power relations and develops a typology of stakeholder relations by applying Bas Arts' threefold approach of distinguishing discursive, decisional and regulatory power. Moreover, the neo-Gramscian theory plays a pivotal role to reveal historic power disparities. Key findings show the necessity to differentiate two types of actor relations affecting the sustainability and equity policy of green economy projects. First, on the state-society level the degree of community participation and general access to power mechanisms are crucial. Post-colonial developments, ethnic or religious discrimination determine which communities benefit from green economy investments and who remains excluded from socio-economic prosperity. Secondly, on the state-economy level the power constellation between investors and governments need to be considered. Apart from historically rooted disparities between the Global North and the South the global constellation slightly diversifies. Southern investors from emerging countries increasingly enter the market of green economy. Thus, not only alternative commercial relationships but also new power relations evolve. The paper findings demonstrate the policy relevance of reflecting structural power disparities within a society as well as in the context of government-investor relationships. Approaching them might be a first step towards genuine eco-friendly green economy investments contributing to poverty reduction and ensuring regional stability.

A CRITICAL EXAMINATION OF AGRICULTURAL CARBON INTERVENTIONS IN AFRICA

Presenter: Rebecca Joy Howard, PhD candidate, Leeds University

Agricultural carbon projects designed to generate carbon credits for sale on the Voluntary Carbon Market are cropping up across sub-Saharan Africa. Most are embryonic, and the environmental, social and economic returns on investments are still difficult to discern. While some projects may be contributing to mitigation, adaptation and sustainable development, unexpected negative outcomes are also showing through. Carbon credits have been bought and sold while the whereabouts of the carbon and its likely duration in the soil or the trees is still ambiguous; methodologies for estimating carbon baselines and measuring carbon storage have proved to be highly subjective or approximated in practice, and land owners and tree-planters have been asked to sign contracts without a clear understanding of what they are committing themselves and future generations. Are these limitations due to fundamental design flaws? Or are they just 'teething problems', corrigible over time, through bigger investments, larger-scale operations, and more rigorous certification systems? This question is timely, because new investment mo-



dels and certification schemes are appearing on the agricultural carbon horizon.

Agribusinesses are currently entering into Public-Private-Partnerships to pool expertise, capacity and investments in schemes enabling them to source not only cash crops but also carbon credits from producers in their supply networks. In close cooperation, standards organisations are developing carbon certification tools and methodologies amenable to the specific circumstances of small producers scattered over large areas. This paper explores to what extent the design and application of pro-smallholder agricultural carbon standards can ensure mechanisms for smallholders in Africa to negotiate their share of benefits, assert their rights, participate meaningfully in projects and contribute criteria for judging their success.

Keywords: standards, smallholders, agricultural carbon

POWERS OF INTIMATE EXCLUSION WITHIN SUNGAI LAMANDAU'S REDD+ COMMUNITIES

Presenter: Peter Howson, Victoria University of Wellington

The Sungai Lamandau REDD+ demonstration activity is unique in Indonesia as the first REDD+ project officially proposed by a community group, on land they manage autonomously. Community groups in Sungai Lamandau are promoting and shaping REDD+ to fit local conservation priorities, defending local livelihoods by resisting more destructive land-use practices. Despite its 'bottom-up' architecture, the project comes with a distinct set of historical baggage from perceived social injustices. Just as multi-scalar policy legacies have excluded the region's forest communities, for many, access to Sungai Lamandau's REDD+ benefits remains exclusive. However, this exclusion from project engagement is not only imposed by powerful external actors, but emerged endogenously, through the everyday functioning of local markets, community-based socio-environmental and ethno-territorial movements. This paper uses Hall, Hirsch and Li's conceptualisation of 'exclusion' to examine the inequitable allocation of benefits within Sungai Lamandau's REDD+ communities. The paper focuses primarily on 'intimate exclusions' — everyday processes of accumulation and dispossession among villagers in the context of agrarian capitalism. In doing so, the paper highlights the dangers of developing mechanisms structured with limited sympathy for the dispossessed. Although excellent ethical carbon credit ratings may be achieved, the project may still fail to address (or even exacerbate) this root cause of Sungai Lamandau's forest degradation.

Keywords: REDD+, exclusion, communities

LEARNING FROM THE OTHER: BENEFIT SHARING LESSONS FOR REDD+ IMPLEMENTATION BASED ON CBFM EXPERIENCE IN NORTHERN TANZANIA

Presenter: Thabit Jacob, Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, University of Dodoma

Co-author: Faustin Maganga, Institute of Resource Assessment, University of Dar es Salaam

REDD+ has emerged as a means through which communities, projects and countries can be financially rewarded for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation. Tanzania's efforts to include community based forest management (CBFM) as a climate mitigation option is also seen as the way to benefit forest dependent communities through carbon credit payments. However, if not well executed, REDD+ may accelerate poverty if benefit sharing arrangements are not well addressed. This paper investigates benefit sharing issues at a CBFM site (Duru-Haitemba Villages Land Forest Reserve) which is getting ready to participate in the REDD+ strategy. Field work was conducted in two villages (Riroda and Ayasanda) adjacent to DHVLFR in Babati District, northern Tanzania. A total of 101 households were randomly interviewed with a sampling intensity of 8%. Mixed research methods (both quantitative and qualitative) were used for collection and triangulation of information and included extensive literature review, household interviews using a structured questionnaire; key informant interviews, transect walks, observations, and focus group discussions. Regarding community perception on benefit sharing, the findings of the study revealed that most (68%) respondents felt benefits are not well shared. On the other hand, although there are no substantial cash related benefits at the moment, 43% of respondents felt that current benefits — especially financial ones — are mainly shared among the ruling class and those connected to them. Furthermore there are no specific criteria for sharing benefits although formal arrangements for sharing current limited benefits are in place. Weak governance mechanism and lack of transparency further affects benefit sharing. Local governance mechanisms and institutions must be strengthened if proper benefit sharing is to be realised under REDD+.

Keywords: climate change, REDD+, benefit sharing, Community Based Forest Management



EVALUATING THE SUSTAINABILITY OF PRIVATISATION AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN DECISION-MAKING OVER NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Presenter: Ruth John, MA student, Department of Geography, University of Dar es Salaam

Co-author: Opportuna L Kweka, Senior Lecturer, Geography Department, University of Dar es Salaam

Tanzania has embarked on privatisation and governance as part of neoliberal processes of rolling back of the state and creating accountability and democracy. While initial studies on the impact of neoliberal policies in the global South have pointed out that neoliberal policies have more of negative impact on natural resources thus unsustainable, recent studies have praised the privatisation process arguing that it can influence devolution by providing capital, expertise and market access. This paper draws from a case study where there is private and community involved in management of forest and wildlife resources. The paper first examines the processes of privatisation and decentralisation in Tanzania. It then outlines the practices of private and community actors in managing natural resources. Finally, the paper evaluates the extent to which the practices are geared towards sustainable development. Various actors involved in the process and their roles will also be identified.

GREEN POLITICS, FOOD SECURITY AND SOVEREIGNTY IN TANZANIA

Presenter: Richard Kangelawe, Institute of Resource Assessment, University of Dar es Salaam

Co-authors: Christine Noe, Emmanuel Luoga, Mette Fog Olwig

Issues of the global food crises have brought a number of responses in development, access to food, poverty and power relations between the South and North, peasants and elites and with corporate regimes in agribusiness, forestry and eco/bio-energy production. Rather than averting insecurities, these relations have further fuelled the current speculative large-scale land investments and acquisitions as investors seek to exploit new market opportunities for food and cash crops, eco/bio-energy production along with forestland for carbon sequestration. This paper is based on a study to examine the socio-economic and environmental impacts of changes from smallholder to large-scale land holdings. Using the literature on food security and sovereignty and experiences from the southern highlands of Tanzania, the paper argues that improving food security is seen as a global priority to be addressed

urgently in developing countries. Yet foreign land acquisition and investments in Africa already seem to directly interfere with the right of the rural poor to feed themselves and forecloses the lands taken for land-less who can make alternative, and potentially better, use of the resources. In many parts of Tanzania trees are emerging as a dominant feature of village agricultural landscapes. This may have considerable future impacts on food security especially since much land is already being taken up for large-scale tree plantations. Using a case study of Mufindi district we demonstrate how the increasing trend of forest plantations, mainly owned by private companies, central government and individuals, and where large-scale land acquisitions and/or transfers have taken, and are taking place, in the context of the global 'land grab', have potentially affected food production, food security and general livelihoods of the local populations and compromised their land sovereignty.

Keywords: land acquisitions, food security, forest plantations

ASSESSING THE STATUS OF HUMAN-RED COLOBUS MONKEYS CONFLICT AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR PEOPLES' LIVELIHOODS IN JOZANI CHWAKA BAY NATIONAL PARK

Presenter: Abagore L Kaswamila, Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, University of Dodoma

Co-author: KH Khamis

Three villages around the Jozani Chwaka Bay National Park (JCBNP) which are Pete-Jozani, Unguja Ukuu Kaebona and Kitogani were surveyed so as to assess the status of human-red colobus monkeys conflict and its implication to livelihood. Data for this study were collected using questionnaire survey, key informants interviews, physical field observations and literature reviews. 120 households, 10 JCBNP officials and three village leaders were involved in the study. Others were Jozani Environmental Conservation Organization (JECA), Organization of the people who own farms around JCBNP (UWEMAJO) and South district forest officials. Field findings indicate that human-colobus monkeys conflict, particularly crop damage — coconuts, mango and yams is on the increase. To mitigate this problem farmers have been using different methods which among others include guarding, fencing, doll/model, poisoning and trapping. On the other hand, The JCBNP has been using different mitigation measures, including providing conservation education, working with community organisations, establishing villagers' projects in the park and tourism revenue sharing. To reduce conflicts, communities and other stakeholders gave several sugges-



tions such as compensating affected farmers, providing employment opportunities, initiating non-farm income generating projects, translocating the colobus monkeys to other areas, reducing the number of colobus by killing them and intensifying rangers around the park. Apart from existing mitigation measures the following are recommended: compensating individual affected farmer, increasing employment opportunities to the local communities around the park, developing communities productive projects as alternative means of income to improve welfare and provide knowledge and skills to the farmers on how to mitigate the problem using non-lethal measures.

CLIMATE EMERGENCY, CARBON CAPTURE, AND COERCING CONSERVATION ON MT. KILIMANJARO

Presenter : Martin H Kijazi, CODESRIA

Through analysis of policy, discourse and practice, this paper examines the politics of climate and carbon forests on Mt. Kilimanjaro. Climate change and carbon-sequestration sensationalism have raised the forest's political profile: the Regional Commissioner (RC) declared a ban on tree-cutting on all public and private lands in Kilimanjaro. RC's office also houses a UNDP sustainable land management programme which is prospecting on 'scaling-up' carbon-financing. But often, without (or contrary) to sound evidence, alarmists sensationalise local forest 'degradation' as the main or sole contributor to climate change. They also blame local forest users' practices, ignoring the role of many complex and dynamic political, economic and ecological drivers of change. Conversely, sensationalism unrealistically views local forests as a panacea through which all climate change, carbon emissions and environmental change woes would be erased. Thus central and regional government decision-makers have undertaken a series of interventions to reclassify the forests of Mt. Kilimanjaro and the associated forest governance institutions. This reconfiguration reversed earlier efforts to devolve forest management to local people. The changes have favoured centralisation of forests and fortress conservation using coercive state apparatus. This is claimed to protect ecosystem integrity, yet, through syndicates of corruption, the rich, powerful and well-connected continue to extract forest resources, particularly valuable timber species. But local people are not simply sitting outside the fortress as spectators. Widespread forms of local resistance are also observed. The paper does not simply add to calls for a more socially just conservation: rather it suggests that carbon-forest enthusiasts and other conservationists ought to consider local representation in conservation – as a matter of justice, a matter of rural emancipation, and a practical basis for achieving their own goals.

Keywords: climate change; carbon capture; fortress conservation

THE MABIRA DEBACLE AND ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVISM IN UGANDA: A SOCIETAL REJECTION OF DESTRUCTIVE CAPITALISM?

Presenter: Fredrick Kisekka-Ntale, Development Research and Social Policy Analysis Centre

Capitalism has facilitated the creation global wealth and unprecedented global consumption. Nevertheless there are growing concerns about capitalism's destructiveness to global environment and nature, exacerbating the concerns and fears of the extreme impacts of climate change. In Uganda, this scenario is well represented in an almost decade-long debate regarding the Executive's proposition to give away a substantial chunk of Mabira forest to the Sugar Corporation of Uganda (SCOUL), largely owned by the Metha Family of Indian descent. This proposed give away has consistently met stiff resistance from all sections of society including the Indian community, arguing that the interests of one capitalist ought not to affect the broader public interests. Thus the response to the proposed forest give-away represents state and society's varied interpretation of capitalism. For, the people's disappointment, grief, worry, and anger represent a critique and contestation to capitalism. In this regard, this article seeks to engage with the new forms of mobilisation and environmental activism in Uganda and locate it within the wider global debate on environmental justice. In so doing we shall engage with the view as that this response constitutes a societal rejection of destructive capitalism.

Keywords: destructive capitalism; environmental justice ; Mabira Forest

LIVING IN BWABWATA NATIONAL PARK, NAMIBIA: HOW TOURISM AND CONSERVATION STRATEGIES TURN DWELLERS INTO LODGERS

Presenter : Stasja Koot, Institute for Soc

Co-authors: WEA van Beek and J Diemer

This article examines the plight of the Khwe Bushmen, a group of (former) hunter-gatherers in the Bwabwata National Park in Northern Namibia. The Khwe have lived for a long time in the area of Bwabwata, which consequentially entails their automatic engagement in the park's conservation activities that altered their environment seriously. Although they were historically hardly involved in the implementation of such activities, this was supposed to change with the rise of Community-Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) in the 1990s. Still, in many ways these changes did not materialise and in 2011 the approval of the Kavango Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation



Area (KAZA TFCA) is aimed at the increase of conservation in the area. An important element in these plans is to boost 'green economic' growth by increasing tourism, also involving the Khwe Bushmen.

As a theoretical starting point, we use Ingold's dwelling perspective, based on hunter-gatherer ontologies, in which the world comes into being because an organism/person is continuously interacting with their environment, through bodily activity. Dwelling is contrasted with building, in which (wo)man constructs the world cognitively before (s)he can live in it. The paper applies a third notion, namely lodging, to refer to a situation in which people live in an essentially foreign environment. Today many changes in the environment of the Khwe are triggered beyond their control, instead of through their interaction with their environment. In this concept, the environment is dominant and the people have no option but to adapt to changes in their environment outside their control.

Using these three notions of dwelling, building and lodging we analyse various conservation and tourism developments in the environment of the Khwe, historically as well as more recently. In so doing, we show the transformation of the cultural understanding the people have of their environment, of their interaction with it (and with the various actors and stakeholders) and with each other.

Keywords: dwelling perspective, hunter-gatherers, Namibia, tourism

RETHINKING EXTRACTION: APPROACHES TO MATERIALITY, ONTOLOGIES, AND KNOWLEDGE IN THE ANTHROPOLOGY OF MINING

Presenter: Fabiana Li, Department of Anthropology, University of Manitoba

The past two decades have brought about a proliferation of conflicts over mining, as well as a growing literature on the dynamics of these conflicts. Using a political ecology framework, some scholars have elucidated the processes that shape new geographies of extraction. This paper seeks to contribute to this literature by drawing on the methods and theories of anthropology, and science and technology studies. Specifically, the focus is on the role of expertise and contested knowledges about nature, pollution, and water to understand community responses to mining in the Peruvian highlands. This paper focuses on two emblematic conflicts involving the Yanacocha mining company. In campaigns against the proposed Quilish project, protestors maintained that Mount Quilish was an aquifer and an Apu (usually translated from Quechua as "sacred mountain"). They argued that mining would not only af-

fect water quality and quantity, but would raze a mountain that holds special significance for the local population. In protests over the Conga project, activists opposed the destruction of four mountain lakes at the mine site, while the company promised to mitigate these impacts by building four reservoirs for local communities. For the protestors, however, natural watersources were not commensurable with reservoirs, or with gold. Water's central role in recent controversies has generated new forms of political action in Peru, and has also influenced corporate practices and state responses to the conflicts. In studies of environmental controversies, some scholars have emphasised the social meanings of water in different cultural contexts. Others have suggested that an entity such as water is not a single phenomenon, but takes multiple forms. This paper considers these and other theoretical approaches to materiality, ontological conflict, and expert knowledge to examine how water became a life-sustaining element, an aquifer, a sentient being, and a resource to be chemically treated, monitored, and technically managed.

Keywords: mining, water, expertise

RESISTING BINGO-SPONSORED CONSERVATION TANZANIA: COMMUNITY RESPONSE TO AWF-SUPPORTED CONSERVATION PROJECTS IN BABATI AND LONGIDO DISTRICTS

Presenter: Faustin P. Maganga, Institute of Resource Assessment, University of Dar es Salaam

In Tanzania, big international conservation NGOs (BINGOs) play a significant role in shaping and facilitating environmental interventions. They also have a major role in promoting "participatory" management of wildlife, forestry and other resources. In wildlife management, organisations such as AWF and WWF have been active in shaping the wildlife management policy and legislation, as well as promoting Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) on village lands. These environmental interventions are normally accompanied by restrictions which result in resistance by communities who bear the cost of conservation. There are cases where communities have vehemently resisted the restrictions related to creating WMAs on their village lands, in spite of some benefits that have been promised by the promoters of WMAs. This paper discusses two cases of AWF's role in fast-tracking the creation of WMAs, and the resulting community resistance in Babati and Longido districts.

Keywords: environmental governance; African Wildlife Foundation; conservation; resistance; Tanzania



UNPACKING BENEFIT SHARING IN COLLABORATIVE FORESTRY: THE POLITICAL ECOLOGY OF JOINT FOREST MANAGEMENT IN TANZANIA

Presenter: Faustin Maganga, Institute of Resource Assessment, University of Dar es Salaam

Co-author: Mathew Bukhi Mabele, Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, University of Dodoma

A key driver for the evolution of people-centred approaches to forest management has been the call for adjacent communities to benefit from the resource management. However, the benefits that communities do get under collaborative forestry have been very contentious, and highly influenced by political economy of forest–society interactions that have been narrowly studied and documented. This paper draws perspectives from political ecology and theory of access to determine how power relations and competing interests influence benefit sharing amongst the actors involved, drawing on a case study of Nou forest reserve, a forest under collaborative forestry. A qualitative methodological approach is used where narrative interviews, expert interviews, in-depth interviews, oral stories and focus group discussions build discourse on how benefits shared among the actors are shaped by existing power dimensions and competing pursuits over forest resources. Conversation, narrative and critical discourse analyses are employed to reveal the meaning of messages and expressions contained in the built discourse. Results reveal that state actors, village leaders, influential villagers and local politicians hold more power over forest resources and benefits than most villagers. Informant interviews, oral stories and focus group discussions further indicate that such powers have made it easier for those actors to fulfil their interests at the expense of the majority. The paper concludes that benefit sharing in Nou forest is very much shaped by political economy of forest–society relations. These relations led to the emergence of few powerful actors and winners at the expense of the majority of community members, which allowed these powerful actors to create losers in their own backyard.

Keywords: political ecology, joint forest management, resource access, power relations, Babati

ECOLOGICAL CONSEQUENCES OF LARGE SCALE LAND ACQUISITIONS AND AGRICULTURAL MODERNISATION IN CENTRAL UGANDA

Presenter: Josh Maiyo, VU University Amsterdam

This paper presents preliminary findings from a detailed research on the social and ecological impacts of large-scale land deals in communities around four farms: a private Chinese farm, two Indian owned farms, and a Swe-

dish farm in Nakaseke district of central Uganda. Despite clear land use regulations, and legal procedures and standards for environmental protection, some land was leased or allocated in breach of guidelines on land use in fragile ecosystems. In some cases, proper environmental impact assessments were not carried out before operations commenced, and where restrictions were issued, these were violated leading to potentially significant ecological consequences to fragile ecosystems and users in the communities concerned. Weaknesses in enforcement, lack of political will and interference as well as inadequate resources for monitoring are just some of the gaps that need attention to ensure socio-ecological balance is achieved.

MORE GREEN, LESS BLUE? EXPLORING THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF WATER RESOURCES IN THE WATERBERG, SOUTH AFRICA

Presenter: Michela Marcatelli, PhD Student; International Institute of Social Studies, Erasmus University

The Waterberg is an emerging destination for eco-tourism in South Africa, where traditional farms are progressively being converted into game farms and private nature reserves and where municipalities and ‘green’ entrepreneurs are developing together a distinctive brand aimed at identifying this area as a site of wilderness and conservation.

This paper aims to reveal that the socio-ecological reality of the Waterberg is much more complex than that depicted by conservation discourses and initiatives and it will do so by focusing especially on the political economy of its water resources. Access to water resources in the Waterberg is strategic for a number of reasons, ranging from reaching substantial equality for historically disadvantaged groups to attracting tourists by offering them comfortable and even luxurious services. Yet, three major aspects seem to make it a highly contested issue: water needs are indeed multiple and competing, with a growing demand coming from (poor) domestic users and the mining and energy sectors (in relation to the current development of the Waterberg Coalfield); access to water is still largely private and dependent upon access to land; and water resources are commonly perceived and defined as ‘scarce’, albeit the social factors contributing to scarcity (also related to the booming eco-tourism sector) are overlooked, while water shortages are suffered the most by the poorest residents.

By drawing on the preliminary findings of a one-year period of fieldwork in the Waterberg plateau, this paper analyses the local water value chains from a political economy perspective. How much water is made available



for whom, for what, on what terms, and how is the value of water constructed and marketed? These are fundamental questions that will broaden our understanding of how ‘green’ economic initiatives have an impact on access to natural resources and also further their commodification.

Keywords: water, value chains, eco-tourism

WILDLIFE ECONOMIES, ENVIRONMENTAL ASSET PROTECTION, AND A NEW CONSERVATION FRONTIER: PRIVATISED WILDLIFE CONSERVATION IN THE MOZAMBIQUE–SOUTH AFRICA BORDERLANDS

Presenter : Francis Massé, PhD Candidate, Department of Geography, York University

Privatised conservation spaces and ‘green grabs’ are proliferating in southern Africa as land set aside for wildlife conservation is expanding via private concessions, effectively privatising conservation governance across massive tracts of land. In Mozambique, for example, a contiguous space of over 150 000 hectares has been allocated to the private sector to create the Greater Lebombo Conservancy – a collection of private reserves looking to develop trophy hunting and eco-tourism. This has happened in response to new imperatives for wildlife conservation, ‘environmental asset protection’, and the desire to develop a viable wildlife economy. Located in Mozambique, but along the border of South Africa, the conservancy is supported by both countries. Mozambique, a country with a weak history of conservation, sees the conservancy as a viable approach to developing its wildlife economy and conservation credentials. South Africa, currently battling an unprecedented level of rhino poaching, sees the conservancy as a buffer zone to its iconic Kruger National Park that can help stem the flow of poachers entering it from Mozambique to kill its rhinos. As a result, large tracts of land, along with security forces, wildlife management, market-led conservation initiatives, and even community relations are now under private control. The purpose of this paper is to conceptualise the Greater Lebombo Conservancy as a new frontier of land control and value with the objective of contributing to debates surrounding green grabbing and privatised conservation by asking: What conditions give rise to the privatisation of conservation governance at different scales? How do the private and public sectors (in a cross-border context) come together to consolidate and secure territories for wildlife and market-led conservation? What are the implications for resource access, communities, and the territorial integrity of the state?

Keywords: private conservation governance; wildlife conservation; Southern Africa

NATURE, STATE AND LOCAL PEOPLE: REPERTOIRES OF RESISTANCE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

Presenter: Frank Matose, University of Cape Town

Conceptual and empirical analyses of the effects of neo-liberal conservation/green imperialism are undertaken on the basis of observations of three contexts in Southern Africa. Rather than retain these analytics at the political economy level, the agency resulting from the collusion of the state with capital is examined in this paper. One central problem tackled lies with the nature of State property — converting communal resources into state resources in a context in which the other actors/parties have different notions of property creates tensions that were repressed under colonial and/or apartheid rule. With the onset of post-colonial or democratic dispensations, these tensions then rose to the surface leading to challenges of previous impositions of property relations. The second problem lies with the notion of resistance — agency by local people — engaging the thesis that political economic analysis of the effects of neo-liberal conservation neglects to interrogate the issue of agency. Under what circumstances do certain forms of resistance manifest themselves? What forms and strategies of resistance are deployed? Three contexts around protected forests in Zimbabwe and South Africa are compared. The first is in western Zimbabwe where local people resisted being moved from their settlements to make way for a wildlife habitat in the late 1990s to 2000. The second context focuses on another Zimbabwe site in which local people chose to squat on forest land (from 2001) from which they had previously been evicted in colonial and post-colonial times. The third focuses on the Wild Coast in Eastern Cape of South Africa, where local people continue to struggle against the state, twelve years after their rights to a state protected area were restored.

Keywords: nature, state, resistance

UNEVEN CONSERVATION DEVELOPMENT

Presenter: Brett Matulis, University of Edinburgh

In 2000, Costa Rican government began a partnership with the World Bank that transformed the face of Costa Rica's national “payments for ecosystem services” (PES) program. The Bank's influence is particularly evident in the evolution of the program's financing mechanisms, which have shifted towards direct financialised transactions between ecosystem service “users” and “providers”. This paper explores the social and ecological implications of these changes and concludes that they are contributing to producing geographically uneven patterns of conserva-



tion–development. This assessment is situated in a theoretical framework informed by Neil Smith's “production of nature” thesis, but also draws upon a distinction between “immanent” and “intentional” development. Doing so enables the exploration of both the capitalist and more-than-capitalist production of uneven space. This is necessary because of the important role that government has played in the neoliberalisation of Costa Rican nature. Rather than designing the PES program to break the patterns of uneven development associated with capitalist production, the government chose to emulate the market, thus reproducing familiar patterns of accumulation and inequality.

Keywords: uneven development; neoliberalism; PES

ENHANCING KNOWLEDGE ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND GREEN AGRICULTURE AT LOCAL LEVEL USING STORYTELLING

Presenter: Yassin B Mkwizu, Institute of Resource Assessment, University of Dar es Salaam

Co-author: RYM Kangalawe

Green economy is increasingly gaining momentum in development discussions in view of its potential for economic growth and poverty reduction. At local level, green agriculture is one possible route that local communities can play a noticeable role in green economy. However, agriculture is facing challenges from climate change, making local communities more vulnerable. Knowledge on how green agriculture can contribute to addressing climate change is therefore needed at local level, requiring effective communication. The question of who facilitates local level information and knowledge management processes, using which communication techniques is critical and the environment must make knowledge sharing possible. This paper examines how storytelling can enable local actors to access and disseminate climate change and green agriculture information. Based on an ongoing study, this paper examines on the role of storytelling in enabling access to climate change information by users in the Eastern Arc Mountain Forest Ecosystem of Tanzania where climate change, agriculture and water-related initiatives are taking place. Information about the basics of climate change and links with water, agriculture and health were presented in conventional and storytelling modes. Participants, comprising of councillors and technical officers, were allowed to read two sets of documents and then asked choose their preferred presentation modes. The findings showed that 79% of women preferred storytelling against 21% who preferred conventional presentation. Corresponding proportions for men were 65% and 35% respectively. Overall, 68% of participants preferred storytelling; this preference for storytell-

ing, has development implications particularly regarding packaging and presentation of climate change and green agriculture information to be used at local levels.

WHY REDD+ REMAINS ELUSIVE AND HOW TO MAKE IT WORK IN HUMAN-DOMINATED MIOMBO ECOSYSTEMS OF SOUTH-EASTERN TANZANIA

Presenter: Barwani Mshale, PhD Candidate, School of Natural Resources and Environment, University of Michigan

The realisation that avoided deforestation in the tropics has the potential to reduce up to 20% of global green-house gas emissions saw the introduction of the international funding mechanism to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) in several tropical developing countries since 2009. Combined with increased hegemony of neoliberal tenets of market-based approaches, democratic decentralisation and participatory approaches, REDD+ has fuelled the expansion of community-based forest management initiatives for the triple goals of reducing emissions, conserving forest biodiversity and improving local livelihoods in human-dominated forest ecosystems. However, empirical investigation on whether and how that approach is achieving the intended impacts under different forest systems is just emerging. Using cases of REDD+ experimentation in Kilwa and Lindi Districts in south-eastern Tanzania, this paper empirically investigates why REDD+ has remained elusive in that context and how to make it work. Drawing on data from extensive ethnographic field research (participant observations, oral histories, focus group discussions and semi-structured in-depth interviews) spanning four years (2010-2013) combined with household surveys, standard forest inventories and geospatial analytics, this paper argues that REDD+ remains elusive for three interlinked reasons. First, given low prevailing carbon prices and low carbon stocks in *miombo* ecosystems, carbon payments remain inadequate in making avoided deforestation a competitive land, compared to shifting-cultivation and wood extraction. At the same time increased demand and prices for agricultural and forest products often make it more profitable to clear forests than maintain standing forests. Second, local people are hesitant to accept REDD+ given the social memory of harsh exclusionary forest conservation approaches during colonial and post-colonial socialism eras. They contend that REDD+ is just another state project to control local residents' access and use of forested places. Third, the uncritical embrace of western-style deliberative democracy for negotiation and consensus building among diverse local actors remain ineffective in serving as effective spaces for multi-actor negotiations about forest access and control. The strict rules in running village assembly meetings and insensitivity of deliberative democra-



cy to pre-existing systems of deliberation, information inadequacies, and power imbalances make such democratic spaces undemocratic and ineffective mechanisms for claim-making by local forest residents. Instead, local forest residents have adopted varieties of violent and non-violent resistance to assert claims and challenge introduced forest management institutions. Using this detailed description of the nuanced social-ecological, historical and current political-economic context of forest governance, this paper provides a rare empirical critical analysis of two neo-liberal conservation approaches: payment for environmental services (PES) and community based forest management (CBFM) approaches which are uniquely combined under REDD+ arrangements.

L'ACCAPAREMENT DES TERRES EN ZONE DE CONFLITS: RÔLES DES FORCES ARMÉES À L'EST DE LA RD

Presenter: Emery Mudinga, Center for Development Studies, Université Catholique de Louvain

Les accaparements de terres à grande échelle ont tendance à préoccuper une bonne partie des analyses actuelles sur ce phénomène dit de 'land grabbing'. Très visiblement, ces analyses ignorent les pertes quotidiennes de terres dont sont victimes les petits paysans, à petite échelle, mais surtout ne prennent pas en compte la singularité des contextes dans lesquels se déroulent ces accaparements. Parmi ces contextes on note ceux des milieux déchirés par les conflits ethniques, où opèrent des groupes armés et ceux où l'Etat négocie lui-même sa propre légitimité. Pourtant, il me semble évident que l'accaparement des terres ne peut être analysé et compris sans que soit pris en compte la singularité des contextes dans lesquels il s'opère ; car ce sont ces contextes qui conditionnent et dictent les stratégies des acteurs. A travers deux cas d'étude tirés du Sud Kivu à l'Est de la République Démocratique du Congo, l'hypothèse qu'avance le présent article soutient que dans un contexte d'Etat failli, la jouissance des droits fonciers n'est pas (principalement) fonction de la détention des titres légaux mais plutôt de la capacité des acteurs à mobiliser des stratégies alternatives obéissant beaucoup plus au pragmatisme qu'aux normes formelles. Il soutient que le recours aux forces armées est non seulement une forme de résistance paysanne à l'accaparement de terres mais surtout la traduction de la méfiance de la population envers les instances officielles réglementant le foncier. Cette méfiance participe par conséquent à la fragilisation de l'Etat et des structures formelles de gestion des conflits et de protection des intérêts des populations.

Keywords: land grabbing, armed conflicts, DRC

CERTIFICATION IN ECOTOURISM: REVIEW OF EXPERIENCES AND IMPACTS OF USING "GREEN CREDENTIALS" IN KENYA

Presenter: Joseph K Muriithi, School of Environmental Studies, Kenyatta University

Embraced with much vigour in the 1990s, ecotourism was adopted as a more socio-economically and environmentally responsible form of tourism, and as an alternative to conventional safari tourism in Kenya. Tourism actors had many expectations and hopes that ecotourism was the "silver bullet" to the many ills and impacts such as economic exploitation of local communities by private tourism operators and destruction of local environments, in many of Kenya's popular safari tourism destinations. Kenya was also among the first African countries to initiate home-grown initiatives to realise ecotourism's green credentials agenda. One initiative saw the introduction of an eco-certification scheme, the eco-rating scheme, a market-focused initiative conceptually geared towards establishing socio-economically, culturally and environmentally responsible tourism practices in Kenya. It is now more than a decade since the eco-rating scheme was implemented in 2002. What gains have been realised through eco-certification? How have actors fared under ecotourism certification environment? Has certification in ecotourism helped reverse the ills associated with conventional safari tourism practice in Kenya? Using specific case study examples, this paper highlights the state of affairs since the introduction of eco-certification in terms of developing and implementing the eco-rating scheme and the impacts associated with eco-certification in the tourism sector in general.

Keywords: certification, ecotourism, green-credentials

PAYMENT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES AND LOCAL REPRESENTATION: LESSONS FROM HOIMA DISTRICT, UGANDA.

Presenter : Agrippinah Namara, Responsive Forest Governance Initiative, IUCN-Uganda Country Office

About 70% of the forest estate in Uganda is privately owned. Oversight of forests outside protected areas is decentralised to District Local Governments, which also legally hold riverine forests in trust for the people. Due to insufficient human and logistical resources, Local Government institutions do not enforce forestry regulations effectively, so deforestation is rampant, at about 2.6% annually. Consequently, the central agencies are slowly re-introducing their influence on the local arena, through financially-based conservation interventions targeting forests outside protected areas. This research analysed the democracy effects of a UNEP-implemented Pay-



ment for Ecosystem Services pilot project in Hoima and Kibaale Districts of Uganda. The project aims to procure biodiversity conservation outside protected areas using experimental methodology. Results show that through this project and other NGO-implemented interventions, external actors are entrenching their influence over decision-making processes in the local arena, and simultaneously over-riding the legal mandate of the Local Government. Rather than enhance Local Government capacity to enforce forestry regulations, NGOs are promoting privatisation of riverine forests legally held by Local Government. NGOs have empowered adjacent individual landowners to exclude subsistence forest use by other community members, in order to comply with PES contracts, and resource access conflict has increased. Forest privatisation also gives individual forest owners the right to clear the forest in future if they opt for landuse that yields more returns than forestry. Consequently, the goal of forest connectivity that is essential for biodiversity conservation may become even more difficult to realise in future.

Keywords: PES, representation, forest governance

MARKET ENVIRONMENTALISM AND RETERRITORIALIZATION: A CRITICAL GEOGRAPHY OF CARBON FORESTRY IN UGANDA

Presenter: Adrian Nel, University of Otago

In an era when the global community is increasingly concerned about a changing climate, Carbon Forestry projects, including REDD+, are promoted as a 'win-win' for climate change mitigation and community development, and often evaluated in isolation. However, this paper argues that in order to understand carbon forestry, and engage questions concerning the efficacy of carbon sequestration, or the potential of carbon forestry to address, improve or exacerbate equity problems, it is crucial to understand changes in forestry governance in particular places. Based on empirical data from qualitative research on how carbon forestry 'takes place' in Uganda, this presentation draws from materialist political ecology perspectives in geography to highlight that the contemporary assemblage of carbon forestry and market environmentalism in Uganda is complicit in a process of *reterritorialisation*; altering territorial and governance arrangements. This change can be described as a shift from territorial governance (the control of forest territories) to flow based governance (through 'flows' of biomass) to control populations of trees and people. This paper contends that, in order to understand carbon forestry in Uganda (and potentially how it might apply elsewhere), it is necessary to understand three territorial processes that characterise forestry governance changes; of territorialisation, reterritorialisation and deterritorialisation.

Within this theoretic we can see that, contrary to win-win meta-narratives, contemporary forestry governance arrangements such as carbon forestry might accommodate and extend processes of deforestation, and result in the ongoing marginalisation and exclusion of rural poor.

Keywords: carbon forestry; Uganda; neoliberal governance; green exclusion

L'IDEOLOGIE DE LA SECURISATION FONCIERE AU BURUNDI: DOMINATION, POUVOIR ET 'AGENCEITE'

Presenter : Aymar Nyenyezi, Center for Development Studies, Université Catholique de Louvain

Bien que déconstruit dès les années 1970 (Gontard, 2001), le paradigme de la modernité continue encore aujourd'hui de dicter ses logiques universalistes à l'essentiel des politiques de développement (Peemans, 2013) visant entre autres les petits paysans (Ansoms, 2012). Certes, la reconnaissance des paradigmes de la *complexité* et du *relativisme* portés par la pensée post-moderniste a tenté de mettre fin au savoir global et au sens univoque des phénomènes au profit de leur pluralité (Otis, 2012), valorisant ainsi les pratiques locales (Baret, 2012). Cependant, les politiques de développement n'ont pas arrêté d'imposer leurs idéologies censées promouvoir un certain «développement»...; un certain «développement durable» de ces paysans (Charlier 2013). Il s'agit ici, pour Scott, des paysans qui n'ignorent pas les idéologies hégémoniques promues par ses agents politiques et intellectuels, mais des paysans qui essaient juste de résister dans la limite de leurs ressources et opportunités (1956).

C'est à travers cette grille, que nous situons d'emblée dans la «political ecology», que le présent article va essayer d'appréhender la politique de la sécurisation foncière telle qu'appliquée actuellement au Burundi. Il tentera tout d'abord de capter et de comprendre la dimension idéologique dans le mode de sécurisation foncière y importé par les acteurs dominants – ici les bailleurs des fonds (1). Il essaiera ensuite de comprendre la notion de «conscience de la domination» par les paysans à travers l'analyse de la manière dont l'action idéologique de sécurisation foncière passe par le renforcement d'acteurs locaux existants – ici les agents des cadastres fonciers. Il s'agit des acteurs étatiques plus ou moins proches des dominés et incarnant leur idéologie (2). Enfin, sur base de l'expérience paysanne de sécurisation foncière au Burundi, il proposera un passage de la lecture domination/résistance vers une lecture pouvoir/«agenceité». A partir de là, il essaiera de montrer comment la conscience de la domination n'est pas toujours nécessaire pour qu'il y ait résistance à l'idéologie portée par la même domination (3).

Mots clé : arène foncière, contextes post-conflits, Burundi



LAND BASED INVESTMENTS FOR FORESTS IN TANZANIA: GREEN GROWTH OR GREEN WASHING?

Presenter: Mette Fog Olwig, Roskilde University

Co-authors: Christine Noe, Richard Kangalawe and Emmanuel Luoga

The growth in land acquisitions is partially being attributed to the need for mitigation measures in the face of climate change. As a result, many initiatives have been focused on land-based investments concentrated on biofuel production as a means to alleviate the global fuel crisis and reduce carbon dioxide emissions. In Tanzania, however, biofuel projects are being significantly downscaled, partly because few initiatives have been successful economically, and partly because of international criticism of using potential food resources for fuel. Investor focus is instead shifting to forestry plantations. These plantations are being established through reforestation as well as afforestation, and on lands perceived and presented as idle. Being framed as a means of furthering a global common good of a healthy environment, the land acquisitions are often supported globally, sometimes even financially through e.g. World Bank funding. Using an empirical approach, and emphasising local perceptions, this study investigates the growing trend in Tanzania of investing in land to establish forest plantations. We will argue that these forest plantations, and the supposed economic and environmental benefits they accrue, may come at the expense of the future livelihood, land and food security of the local populations. This paper will thereby question the common wisdom of trees being “green”, “idle” land being waste and global investments being beneficial locally.

Keywords: carbon forestry, land acquisitions, idle land

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AND THE PLIGHT OF PASTORALISTS IN TANZANIA: A CASE OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS

Presenters: Valentin Ngorisa Olyang’iri and Godfrey Massay, HAKIARDHI/Land Rights Research and Resources Institute

In recent years, Tanzania has experienced mushrooming Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) along conservation and protected areas. This has caused loss of grazing lands and water points for pastoralist communities which live along such areas. The result is that pastoralists have been evicted from such areas in the name of conservation without proper compensation or alternative grazing land. WMAs are established with a view to creating an opportunity for the community surrounding the national parks, and game reserved areas to benefit from the resources found in such areas. Prior to this initiative local communities were not benefiting from wildlife resources while poaching of animals and conflicts between local communities

and conservation authorities were the order of the day. At the moment there are 16 pilot WMAs in Tanzania, mostly found around pastoralist-inhabited areas hence causing competing livelihood and conservation interests. This paper analyses the theoretical legal framework governing WMAs in Tanzania by showing both the strengths and weaknesses of the current legal regime. The paper argues that pastoralists are at losing end due to gaps in the legal framework and the hostility between the law and practice. Using the best cases of WMAs the paper proposes policy options to rescue the situation and argue for change in practices within the current legal framework to achieve the intended objectives.

Keywords: Wildlife Management Areas, pastoralists, policy

SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES IN THE BIOFUEL SECTOR: WHAT DO THEY MEAN FOR THE GLOBAL SOUTH?

Presenter: Stefano Ponte, Department of Business and Politics, Copenhagen Business School

The willingness of public authority to delegate social and environmental regulation has led to the establishment of a large number of ‘voluntary’ standards and certifications on sustainability. Many of these have taken the form of ‘stewardship councils’ and ‘sustainability roundtables’ and have been designed around a set of institutional features seeking to establish legitimacy, fend off possible criticism, and ‘sell’ certifications to potential users. As procedures and features of these councils and roundtables become increasingly complex, they are accompanied by higher expectations on accountability, transparency and inclusiveness. This paper examines to what extent these expectations are being met through the comparative case study of two sustainability certifications in the biofuel industry — in the context of a wider set of experiences in the agro-food and forestry sectors. It shows that the increased complexity these initiatives face in standard setting and management is opening space for competing schemes (that are less democratic, quicker, and more aligned with industry interests) to establish substantial presence in the market for sustainability certifications. The latter tend to more easily discriminate on the basis of size (against small players) and geography (against actors in the global South). The paper concludes with a reflection on what can be done, through appropriate regulation, to address this situation.



COMMUNICATING AND NEGOTIATING VALUE IN PARTICIPATORY FOREST MANAGEMENT: AN ETHNOGRAPHIC APPROACH TO EXCHANGE IN TANZANIA'S EASTERN ARC NATURE RESERVES

Presenter: Jessica Pouchet, Northwestern University

This paper calls for a more holistic approach to studying exchange in the green political economies of places experiencing community-based conservation. The pervasiveness of market-based logics in the design and assessment of community-based conservation render the green economy and the politics of protected areas inseparable. Contemporary debates in conservation governance, for instance, concern ecosystem services, compensation, income-generation, and cost-benefit sharing and are often cast in neoliberal terms of economic exchange. Yet pushing social and ecological processes through the market prioritises commodities at the expense of other, equally significant factors, thereby obscuring much of what shapes the political ecological reality of life inside and surrounding protected areas. With insights gained from preliminary fieldwork in and around nature reserves in Tanzania's Usambara Mountains, the paper explores how an anthropological perspective on exchange and value can contribute greater nuance to the study of participatory forest management in the Eastern Arc and beyond. Drawing on theoretical developments to bring the material and social dynamics of exchange into the same analytical frame, the paper outlines how qualitative yet systematic documentation of communication, negotiation, and inequality in participatory forest management can illustrate the multiple ways in which the value of forest resources are created and contested. This ethnographic approach can illuminate the chain of communicative events through which global conservation priorities come to shape the political economic contexts of forest-adjacent communities, as well as how members of these communities impact global debates about forest conservation and value. Indeed, this approach to participation can complement quantitative evaluations of participatory forest management to address some of the challenges faced by scholars and practitioners seeking to reduce inequalities in forest conservation and governance while also mitigating ecological degradation.

Keywords: Participatory forest management; value; political economy

EXTRACTIVE PHILANTHROPY: NEW STRATEGIES FOR SECURING LABOUR FOR THE CONSERVATION ENTERPRISE

Presenter: Maano Ramutsindela, University of Cape Town

The conservation enterprise has emerged as a platform on which ecological, social, economic and political spheres interact, and are also in conflict with one another, with wide ranging implications for society and the environment. The interactions among these spheres are neither organic nor static but are rather spatio-temporal, mainly as a consequence of human actions and interests, evident in theoretical and empirical studies on society and nature, and the whole history of protected areas. Such interactions and the consequent relationships are a reference point for understanding the ways that environmental governance structures are constituted for various purposes. Many scholarly insights have been gained from nature and the various contexts in which it is embedded, but there is still a considerable lack of attention to the ways in which changes in the conservation enterprise impact on labour. What is the nature of labour in conservation areas and associated activities? What happens to labour when conservation areas undergo considerable changes? And, how is labour organised and reorganised as a result of such changes? This paper grapples with these questions to tease out the fortunes of labour in conservation areas and to bring questions of labour within the broader social science research on conservation areas into sharp analytical focus. For a start, an inquiry into the fortunes of labour in conservation areas should appreciate the ways in which labour is sourced and reproduced: a combination of philanthropy and notions of development are deployed as a double-edged strategy by which labour is sourced and organised to ensure its long-term service to conservation areas. This form of extractive philanthropy is more pronounced in private nature reserves such as Londolozi outside South Africa's Kruger National park, and is being replicated elsewhere.

FACT OR FICTION? COMMUNITY IMAGINATION OF THE MTWARA NATURAL GAS AND ITS ETERNAL BENEFITS

Presenter: Nancy A Rushohora, Stella Maris Mtwara University College and PhD student, University of Pretoria

This paper presents the perceptions of the Mtwara people over the discovered natural gas in Msimbati area. The paper presents the facts and fictions surrounding the discovery, extraction and the benefits anticipated thereafter. Furthermore, the communities of Mtwara imagine the benefits of the natural gas to eternity with nobody mentio-



ning of the adverse environmental impacts of its extraction. Through participatory observation and informal interviews, the study indicate that people of all walks of life and with no disparities in gender expect immense benefits will result from extracting natural gas. To them the power plant for extracting gas for electricity should be based at Mtwara and nowhere else and they expect a symbiotic benefit. For example, a bricklayer expects to benefit from the workers in the energy sector who will probably need housing. The benefits of gas as imagined by the communities of Mtwara seem to include the several generations of children. With so much emphasis placed on the benefits, the disadvantages and challenges of natural gas observed elsewhere need to be highlighted in awareness campaigns for the local people for a proper management, benefit and maintenance of the perceived eternal benefits.

Keywords: gender, environment, resource use

"IN LOCAL COLLABORATION WE TRUST": THE DYNAMICS OF TRUST NETWORK RELATIONSHIPS IN TANZANIA'S COLLABORATIVE NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Presenter: Mathew Agripinus Senga, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Dar es Salaam

The existence of relational trust among network actors is said to facilitate collective action and enhance successful collaborative practices of natural resource management. This paper uses a stochastic actor-oriented modelling approach to provide two simple models for dynamics of trust relationships in a network of Village Conservation and Development Committee (VDC) in Amani Nature Reserve, Tanzania. By simultaneously modelling network (social selection) and behavior (social influence) this paper tests the hypothesis whether or not actors with similar attribute(s) tend to trust similar influential actors on the decisions about issues related to local collaborative practices of natural resource management. Results show that homophily effect for actor attribute and behavior (influence on decisions of natural resource management) average similarity have an important role to play on selection, maintenance or dissolution of trust ties among VDC actors in the context of collaborative practices of natural resource management. This paper contributes theoretically and methodologically to a discussion of the importance of trust in interaction of actors involved in collaborative practices of natural resource management, particularly in developing countries such as Tanzania. The literature on such framework is still underdeveloped.

Keywords: trust, collaborative natural resource management, network

GREEN ECONOMY: SECURING A FUTURE FOR TOURISM?

Presenter: Melanie Stroebel, University of Manchester

This paper explores the contradictions between the tourism industry's aspirations for future growth in the Green Economy and the concerns of NGOs and academics regarding the actual potentials of industry benefits and efficiency claims. Tourism is considered an important strategy for development in the South, but tourism is also a major contributor to climate change. With emissions forecast to grow substantially in the coming decades and no technological solution to reduce emissions in sight, a low carbon future appears difficult to achieve for tourism. This paper argues that in this context, industry representatives employ a number of arguments that reflect Green Economy ideas in an attempt to protect the tourism industry from regulatory limitations. Debates in global environmental governance literature provide the framework for a thematic analysis that reviewed stakeholder documents and 21 semi-structured interviews with representatives from tour operators, industry associations, NGOs and academia. From this analysis, different strategies of framing tourism and climate change emerged. The focus of this paper is on two framing strategies that are central to Green Economy ideas and practices: the role of industry for development and poverty alleviation and the potentials of technology in improving resource efficiency.

Analysis of these framings revealed two discursive clusters, one comprised of industry representatives and one comprised of representatives from NGOs and academia. Their contradictory framings of tourism's potential for development and poverty alleviation and the differently perceived possibilities for emissions reductions give an indication that Green Economy ideas are evaluated subjectively. The contradictions furthermore reveal that in the case of tourism ideas of Green Economy are employed as framing strategies to protect existing consumption patterns of the North.

Keywords: global environmental governance, climate change, tourism

ENVIRONMENTAL INJUSTICE IN CONSERVATION: EVIDENCE FROM TANZANIA AND UGANDA

Presenter: Hanne Svarstad, Development Studies, HIOA

Co-authors: Connor Cavanagh, Pål Vedeld, Tor A. Benjaminsen, David Tumusiime, Espen Sjaastad, Faustin Maganga, Helga Lerkelund

State agencies, international environmental NGOs and donors often present the establishment of conservation areas in Africa as a triple-win solution for biodiversity protection, climate change mitigation,



and poverty reduction. Conversely, activists and critical scholars have recently framed such enclosures as part of a global ‘green grab’, in which external actors impose unjust restrictions on local land and resource access. We suggest moving beyond this polarised debate, albeit in ways that also depart from recent discussions of ‘trade-offs’ and ‘hard choices’ between conservation and development. Instead we propose requiring from all the actors behind established as well as new environmental interventions that they ensure all the affected communities and households at least minimum economic requirements for environmental justice. Such requirements imply that local inhabitants are relieved from costs of an environmental intervention that exceed their benefits. Our suggestion is based on investigations of local perceptions and economic impacts of national parks in Tanzania and Uganda. Even in our studies of two ostensible ‘best cases’ — Kilimanjaro National Park and Bwindi Impenetrable National Park — we conclude that the conditions are unacceptable from an environmental justice perspective. By the use of narrative analysis, we found strong senses of injustice within selected villages around both parks. Furthermore, our livelihood studies showed that people have a good reason to be discontent, since only a small part of their costs of the conservation is compensated for with benefits. Moreover, some households and ethnic groups bear a disproportionate share of the negative consequences from current policies and practices. Additional studies of one more case in each country confirm the expectation of even lower environmental justice than in the two assumed ‘best cases’.

Keywords: conservation, protected area, environmental justice, narratives, green grab, Africa, Tanzania, Uganda

WHAT IS CARBON? CONCEPTUALISING CARBON AND CARBON CAPABILITIES IN THE CONTEXT OF COMMUNITY-BASED SEQUESTRATION PROJECTS IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH

Presenter: Tom A. Smith, University of Sheffield

Co-authors: Chasca Twyman, University of Sheffield, and Alex Amall, University of Reading

Carbon has been described as a ‘surreal commodity’. Whilst carbon trading, storage, sequestration and emissions have become a part of the contemporary climate lexicon, how ‘carbon’ is understood, valued and interpreted by actors at the sharp end of carbon sequestration projects is still unclear. In this review paper, we are concerned with how carbon has come to take on a range

of meanings, and in particular, we appraise what is known about the situated meanings of those who are involved in delivering, and participating in, carbon sequestration projects in the global South. While there has been considerable reflection on the new meanings conferred on carbon from the neoliberal processes of marketisation, as well as historical and contemporary narratives of environmental change, less is known about how these meanings are (re)produced and (re)interpreted locally. This paper reviews how carbon has been defined both as a chemical element and as a tradable, marketable commodity with associated values and meanings, and discuss the implications these ‘global’ meanings might have for situated understandings amongst communities in the global South. The paper discusses the implications of specific values attributed to carbon, and therefore to different ecologies, for wider conceptualisations of how nature is valued, and particularly how this may impact on community understandings. Furthermore, the paper considers how the concept of ‘carbon capabilities’, alongside theoretical notions of networks, assemblages and local knowledges of the environment and nature might be useful in beginning to understand how communities might engage with abstract notions of carbon.

Keywords: carbon, local knowledge, community

NATURAL RESOURCES, LIVELIHOODS AND SOCIO-CULTURAL DYNAMICS: A CASE STUDY OF A TRANSNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL PROJECT IN BAKO TIBE (ETHIOPIA)

Presenter: Theodros Woldegiorgis, VU University

The 2007–2008 food and fuel crises have triggered an unprecedented surge of transnational agricultural investments in the global South. Endowed with natural resources, Ethiopia is one of the countries that has been targeted for large-scale agricultural projects with investors from particularly the Middle East, South East Asia and Europe. Early desk studies conducted by the World Bank argue that the economic benefits of large-scale agricultural investments in countries with major agricultural development potential and little capital wealth are considerable. They highlight the development opportunities of large scale agricultural investments, such as employment possibilities and major infrastructural improvements. However, NGOs, activist groups and academics have severely critiqued this positive evaluation, arguing that the World Bank has taken a narrow economic approach, in which environmental, socio-cultural or political impacts of large-scale mono-cropping projects are ignored. Still others have pragmatically argued that an international regulatory frameworks can provide the necessary conditions for large land use changes to be beneficial to local people and the environment.



This paper explores the impact of foreign large-scale agricultural project on land use management, livelihoods, and the environmental and socio-cultural dynamics in the Oromia region of Ethiopia (Bako-Tibe). To explore the above themes the analytical model of ‘zones of intermediarity’ is used. Facilitating a multi-level, multi-spatial and multi-cultural analysis, the model is particularly suited to draw into the analysis different levels of stakeholder communication and interaction. The researcher used qualitative data collection instruments, and will share preliminary findings of his field research.

Keywords: transnational agricultural investment, livelihood, environment and socio-cultural dynamics

ture prospects, it emphasises complexity and the importance of not discounting the role of community actors to resist and influence neoliberal trajectories.

Keywords: governance, resistance, Tanzania

IRONY AND RESISTANCE IN THE TANZANIAN GREEN ECONOMY

Presenter: Victor Corey Wright, PhD Anthropology candidate, McGill University

In Tanzania, Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) are facilitating an entrenchment and expansion of the green economy — purportedly, offering new opportunities for conservation, tourism and subsequently, prosperity. The debate concerning their effectiveness and impact has polarised the conservation community. Much of the academic literature on the topic has clearly and definitively elucidated their challenges, pitfalls, and the adverse impacts they’ve had on many communities. This paper doesn’t dispute the discouraging status of WMAs in Tanzania or the potential threat they represent to communities. Nevertheless, it highlights a case in Enduimet WMA of Northern Tanzania that differs from the common narrative, and may provide some cause for optimism. The paper emphasises complexity in our consideration of environmental governance, including the multiple, dynamic levels of authority, diverse actors, and their invariably complex, often-conflicting interests. Drawing on current field research in Enduimet, the paper outlines a conflict between WMA members, and a foreign tour operator. Prior to the WMA, the operator has allegedly taken advantage of communities for years. Now, however, he faces increasing challenges arising from the Authorized Association (AA) — the body of elected village members who are responsible for managing WMAs and foreign investments. Based on this experience in Enduimet, the paper considers the rather ironic role of AAs in contesting neoliberalism and constraining the state. It poses the question, ‘could the collectivising process, which underpins WMA creation, empower communities and provide a platform for contesting neoliberal trends in Tanzania?’ While the paper remains cautious in its assessment of fu-