

PROGRAM

“Protest over Investment Projects in Land and Natural Resources”

Workshop of the Working Group “Nature, Resources, and Conflicts”
of the German Association for Peace and Conflict Studies

and

Collaborative Research Centre 923
“Threatened Order – Societies under Stress”,
University of Tübingen

27-28 November 2015, Tübingen

Abstract

There has been a recent boom of investment in land and natural resources in the global South. In many cases these investments (often termed resource ‘grabbing’) disadvantage local communities and thereby create conflicts between them and national governments as well as major corporations. So far, there has still been a striking lack of research on the questions of when, where, why, and how people have protested (or not) to reclaim their land and natural resources. Furthermore, the role that international organizations, transnational advocacy networks, and international law/human rights have played in both facilitating and constraining such protests has hardly been analyzed. The workshop deals with many of these aspects by

- investigating the various forms and dynamics of protest ranging from non-violent claim-making via everyday resistance to full-scale insurgency as well as the absence of protest over land and other resources,
- examining how investment projects and related protests have affected communities and especially how they have re-shaped local political, economic, social, and cultural orders,
- taking a focus on various levels from the local to the transnational arena and also their interplay,
- reviewing the meaning of and the meaning-making (e.g. framing) within protest,
- assessing the opportunities that international law creates for the framing of protest, and
- working on research methodology for the analysis of these subjects.

Timetable

Friday, 27 November 2015	
18:00 – 18:30	<p>Introduction: Land Grabbing Research at the CRC 923, University of Tübingen</p> <p>Annette Schramm & Jan Sändig</p>
18:30 – 20:00	<p>Keynote Speech by Roman Herre (FIAN):</p> <p>“Contested Terrains: Social and Normative Struggles for Control over Land & Natural Resources”</p> <p>Policy Advisor Land & Agriculture with FoodFirst Information and Action Network (FIAN)</p>
thereafter (20:30)	Swabian-style Dinner at Tübinger Wurstküche, Am Lustnauer Tor 8
Saturday, 28 November 2015	
9:00 – 10:15	<p>Panel: Resource Conflicts and Violence – Identifying General Patterns</p> <p><u>“From Conflict to Violence Over Natural Resources?”</u></p> <p>Tobias Ide, Georg Eckert Institute (GEI), Braunschweig</p> <p><u>“Divisive Riches: Resource Ownership and Social Conflict in Sub-Saharan Africa”</u></p> <p>Tim Wegenast, University of Konstanz (co-authored by Gerald Schneider)</p>
10:15 – 10:30	Coffee break
10:30 – 12:15	<p>Panel: Case Studies of (Non-)Protest – Local and (Trans)National Dynamics</p> <p><u>“The Transnationalisation of Nature Conservation in Conflict affected Areas: Making the Virunga National Park a ‘State within a State’ in the DR Congo?”</u></p> <p>Esther Marijnen, Institute for European Studies, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB)</p> <p><u>“Resistance and Media Activism of the Waorani in the Oil Conflict in the Amazon Lowlands of Ecuador”</u></p> <p>Philip Gondecki, University of Bonn</p> <p><u>“‘Game Changer’ for Whom? Local Communities’ Perceptions Towards Ghana’s Developing Gas Sector”</u></p> <p>Johanna Rapp, Zentrum für Entwicklungsforschung (ZEF), Bonn</p>
12:15 – 14:00	Lunch break
14:00 – 15:15	<p>Panel: Human Rights – Which Opportunities for Protest?</p> <p><u>“Die Bedeutung der Globalen Sozialen Rechte für den Kampf um Ernährungssouveränität“</u></p> <p>Mônica Weitzel, University of Bremen</p> <p><u>“Normative Void or Effective Rules? – Large-scale Land Acquisitions in the Global South and the Role of Human Rights Law in protecting the Land Rights of Local Communities”</u></p> <p>Yorck Diergarten, University of Freiburg</p>
15:15 – 15:30	Coffee break

15:30 – 16:30	Reflection: Concepts and Methodology – From Local to Transnational Dynamics Louisa Prause (FU Berlin) & Anne Hennings (University of Münster)
16:30 – 17:30	Outlook and Discussion regarding the Working group “Nature, Resources, and Conflicts” Louisa Prause (FU Berlin) & Anne Hennings (University of Münster)
	Break
19:00	Drinks and Dinner at Schlosscafé, Burgsteige 7

Venue

Room 0.36, Keplerstr. 2, Tübingen

Info for Participants without Paper Presentation

For attending the introduction and the keynote speech on Friday evening, no registration is required!

If you want to participate on Saturday too, please let us know by sending a short e-mail, at latest by **22 November 2015**.

About the Organizers

The workshop is organized by Annette Schramm and Jan Sändig, SFB 923 “Bedrohte Ordnungen“ (Collaborative Research Centre 923 “Threatened Order – Societies under Stress“), University of Tübingen. You find further information about the CRC 923 online: www.sfb923.uni-tuebingen.de

Furthermore, the workshop is part of the recently-founded Working Group “Nature, Resources, and Conflicts” of the German Association for Peace and Conflict Studies (Arbeitsgemeinschaft Friedens- und Konfliktforschung, AFK): www.afk-web.de/arbeitskreis-natur-ressour-cen-konflikte.html

Questions?

Feel free to contact us!

E-Mail: jan.saendig@uni-tuebingen.de, annette.schramm@uni-tuebingen.de

We are looking forward to meeting you for the workshop at Tübingen!

Best regards,

Annette Schramm & Jan Sändig