

Postcolonial Ecologies in the Global South: Explorations at the Culture/Nature Interface

Consortium for the Global South

28th & 29th June 2018

Room SG1, Alison Richard Building, 7 West Road, Cambridge.

28th June

12:45 – 13:45: Registration

13:45 – 14:00: Welcome and Introduction

14:00 – 15:15: Keynote Address: *Greening African growth and international climate justice*, Chukwumerije Okereke (Professor in Environment and Development, University of Reading)

Green growth is now one of the dominant catch-phrases in global environmental sustainability discourse. This term not only communicates new aspirations that economic growth can be de-coupled from environmental degradation; it also suggests novel ways of resolving intractable North-South disputes over equity that have plagued international environmental politics for decades. In this talk, I will provide a conceptual mapping of the landscape of green growth discourse alongside an analysis of the implications for international climate justice. Then, drawing from Gramsci's theory of cultural hegemony, I argue that while green growth offers opportunities for international justice and sustainable development in Africa, it could also constitute part of a legitimating discourse to neutralize radical visions that challenge prevailing structures of global economic injustice and societal transformation in the face of climate change.

15:15 – 15:45: tea & coffee break

15:45 - 16:30: Conserving Biodiversity

- Hannah Mumby: *ဆင် (sain), ช้าง (chang), tembo, ndlovu: What elephants tell us about conservation and ecology in southeast Asia and sub-Saharan Africa*
- Josie Chambers: *Moving towards co-produced conservation and development models in Peru*
- Bill Adams: *Virtual elephants and the virtuous gaze: digital technologies in postcolonial conservation*

16:30 – 17:00: tea & coffee break

17:00 – 17:45: Environmental Conflicts

- Clare Bissell: *Can't see the forest for the trees: practices, perspectives and power driving land-use change in Kwahu, Ghana*
- Jennifer Chisholm: *The impact of environmentalism on the housing rights movement in Rio de Janeiro*
- Adam Branch: *Charcoal Power: the political violence of non-fossil fuels in Uganda*

19:00 – 22:00: Formal Hall, Hughes Hall

29th June

10:00 – 11:00: Alternative Epistemologies

- Andrew Buskell: *Counting cultures and contestation*
- Falk Parra-Witte: *Natural and cultural diversity as cosmological organization: the knowledgeable rationale of Kogi ecology in northern Colombia*
- Joanna Page: *New cosmologies in Latin American cinema and environmental art*
- Kat Buchmann and Victoria Tait: *Decolonisation in education about sustainability*

11:00 – 11:30: tea & coffee break

11:30 – 12:15: Diseases and Disasters

- Emmanuelle Roth: *Disease sentinels at 'risk interfaces': how to search for Ebola's reservoir after the West African outbreak*
- Amy Donovan: *Postcolonial perspectives on disaster risk: a case study from border volcanoes in Chile and Argentina*
- Adam Bobbette: *Volatile coastlines, an archipelago of churches: building an observatory in the Solomon Islands*

12:15 – 12:45: tea & coffee break

12:45 – 13:30: Food and Farming

- Ivan Scales: *Agriculture and the emerging political ecologies of ethical capitalism*
- Helen Curry: *Conserving corn diversity: indigenous maize and industrial corn in the Americas*
- Charlotte Payne: *Six-legged snacks: a changing food system, a changing climate*

13:30 – 14:30: lunch (provided)

14:30 – 15:15: Waterscapes

- Noura Wahby: *Cairo's urban waterscapes: between nature and the state*
- Eustace Barnes, Nimalika Perera, David Arvidssen Shukar: *Cultural landscapes and water in the Southern Andes of Peru*
- Adriana Laura Massidda: *Water as death and rebirth: the 1967 flood in Buenos Aires*

15:15 – 15:45: tea & coffee break

15:45 – 16:30: Posthuman Poetics

- Tim Cribb: *Re-writing man in the Guyana Shield, Thames Basin and the novels of Wilson Harris*
- Siddharth Pandey: *The bungalow and the cedar: traversing the terrain of natural and cultural beauty in an Indian-English hill town*
- Charles Pigott: *The Mayan literary renaissance: writing the land/writing humanity*

16:30 – 16:45: Conclusion

16:45 – 18:00: Wine Reception