

2ND ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE WORKING GROUP ON "AGRI-FOOD GEOGRAPHIES"



Who MAKES Our Food?

Power and Powerlessness of Actors in the Agri-food System

March 23-25, 2023, Hohenheim University, Germany (hybrid)

DETAILED PROGRAMME

In the current debate on transformations towards sustainable and just food systems, focus is often put on the diverse local approaches and movements (e.g. Alternative Food Network) which build dynamic alternative structures for the production, trade, purchase and consumption of food that are in contrast with the conventional food system. These diverse initiatives appeal to many, but often remain in spatial and socio-economic niches. Much less attention is paid to the 'big picture' - the set-up, operation and structural challenges of the conventional agri-food system. Our knowledge about, for example, the 'big players' of the current agri-food system (such as agroinvestors, agribusinesses, transnational agribusiness corporations, the food industry, retail chains, certification agencies, lobby groups) is surprisingly limited. Likewise, research on the historical or postcolonial, socio-economic and political causes of power imbalances in the global agri-food system and on perspectives of empowerment is relatively rare.

At this conference, we would therefore like to focus on the economic, institutional, and civil society actors in global and regional agri-food systems as well as on their diverse power relations. We would like to work towards unveiling the causes of inequalities in terms of power, resources, as well as division of labour and roles along the value chain - from seed production, on-farm production, marketing to food waste.

The conference is being organized by the recently founded working group "Agri-Food Geographies" in cooperation with the chair for "Societal Transition & Agriculture" at the University of Hohenheim. Moreover, we are grateful to Foundation Fiat Panis that is sponsoring the travel expenses of two participants from the Global South.

Thursday, 23 March 2023		
Time	Programme	Lecture hall
1pm -1.30pm	<p>Welcome addresses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. Dr. Claudia Bieling (Chair of Societal Transition & Agriculture, University of Hohenheim) • Dr. Andrea Fadani (Foundation Fiat Panis) <p>Introduction to the Global Food Security Center, University of Hohenheim</p>	Katharinensaal
1.30pm - 1.45pm	<p>Introduction to the Working Group Agri-food Geographies, Who-is-who</p>	Katharinensaal
1.45pm - 2.45pm	<p>Keynote</p> <p>Prof. Dr. Damian Maye (University of Gloucestershire): <i>"Food and power in the making: the double movement and new geographies of food"</i></p>	Katharinensaal

2.45pm - 3.15pm	Coffee break, Katharinensaal	
3.15pm - 3.45pm	Presentation international guest speaker Dr. Elena Lazos (Universidad Nacional Autónoma México): <i>"Meat power in Mexico: Unequal vulnerabilities and uncertainties between the transnational industrial producers and the small cattle raisers of a tropical region"</i>	Katharinensaal
3.45pm - 4.45pm	Introductory Presentations (I) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Andrea Fadani (Fiat Panis): <i>"The incomplete integration of coffee into Cameroon's agriculture, between German colonial heritage and expectations from the world market"</i> • Dr. Timothy G. Williams (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam): <i>"Who exercises power in European agri-food systems? A meta-study of the diversity of actors and network configurations"</i> (digital) 	Katharinensaal
4.45pm - 5pm	Coffee break, Katharinensaal	
5pm - 6pm	Introductory Presentations (II) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stefan Ortiz-Przychodzka (Leuphana University of Lüneburg): <i>"Bees-human relations towards diverse economies in the Bolivian Chiquitania dry forest"</i> • Dr. Michael Spies (HNE Eberswalde): <i>"Local seed systems and global China: Insights from Pakistan and Tajikistan"</i> (digital) 	Katharinensaal
From 6pm	Schnippeldisco (chopping disco against food waste) organized by the student initiative FRESH	TMS

Friday, 24 March 2023		
Time	HS 34, analogue	HS 36, digital
9am - 10.30am	Session 1: Global-Local Value Chains (I) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Xiomara F. Quiñones-Ruiz (BOKU Vienna): <i>"Brokerage processes of social relations and knowledge across global value chains for coffee – The case of Colombian and European coffee players"</i> • Gustavo Cruz (SOAS, University of London): <i>"Cacao's identity displacement through its commodification, an overview comparison with coffee"</i> • Carola Wilhelm/Prof. Dr. Tobias Chilla (FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg): <i>"The regional dimension in Global Production Networks (GPN) – mapping value creation and governance of the Bavarian beer sector"</i> 	Session 2: Global-Local Value Chains (II) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Henryk Alff (HNE Eberswalde): <i>"A trajectory towards farmer empowerment? Soybean cultivation in post-Soviet Kazakhstan"</i> • Miriam Klein (RWTH Aachen): <i>"Systemic lock-in and resistance to change in the German meat system"</i> • Danko Simić/Prof. Dr. Ulrich Ermann (University of Graz): <i>"What's for dinner? On power relations in the meat industry and how we research them"</i>
10.30am - 11am	Coffee break, HS 35	
11am - 12.30pm	Session 3: Power relations in agricultural production <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Gideon Tups (University of Cologne): <i>"Supplying lead firms, intangible assets"</i> 	Session 4: Diverse knowledge(s), actors and powerful networks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Bosco Bwambale (Mountains of the Moon University): <i>"Eri birya amalhambo"</i>

	<p><i>and power in agro-industrial value chains: Explaining governance from the supply-side of the fertilizer chain"</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kushala Nuwanthi/Akanksha Singh/Dr. Christine Bosch/Prof. Dr. Regina Birner (University of Hohenheim): <i>"How do gender–caste intersectionalities influence the involvement of communities in organic cotton farming?"</i> • Karlotta Koch (University of Hohenheim): <i>"Participation and power in the organic association certification process"</i> 	<p><i>['cleansing of ridges']: The importance of indigenous farming systems for sustainable livelihoods and climate resilience in the Rwenzori area, Uganda"</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alejandra Guzmán Luna (Universidad Veracruzana, México): <i>"How to play with fire: farmers' wanderings in the global coffee chain"</i> • Joshua Oduyero/Christiana Olufunmilayo Ojo/ Mary Oluwagbemisola Adetula (Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria): <i>"Expanding the narratives for bargaining, unequal power relations in the Nigerian policy formulation and implementation of Nigerian agricultural policies: the roles of farmer's associations and civic organizations"</i>
12.30pm - 1pm	<i>Brown Bag Lunch, HS 35</i>	
1pm - 3pm	<p><i>Campus tour: Alternative food places on Hohenheim Campus (Anna Struth)</i> Meeting place: Entrance HS 35</p>	
Time	HS 34, analogue	HS 36, digital
3pm - 4.30pm	<p>Session 5: Conceptual approaches to frame power relations in agri-food systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marie Reusch (University of Gießen)/ Carla Wember (University of Kassel): <i>"Interpretive power in ecological and socially alternative agriculture – contesting and negotiating völkisch ideology"</i> • Nora Katharina Faltmann/Dr. Rike Stotten (Universität Innsbruck): <i>"Trifurcation and incorporation in the corporate food regime in Switzerland"</i> • Dr. Meike Brückner (HU Berlin)/ Dr. Birgit Hoinle (University of Hohenheim): <i>"Culinary justice – caring for food and meal cultures in private and public spaces"</i> 	<p>Session 6: Policy analysis of agricultural and food policies: Negotiations, regulations and power struggles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nikola Blaschke (University of Hohenheim): <i>"The divide in agricultural politics - a look at the counterdiscourse of La Via Campesina"</i> • İpek Ronahi Gündüz/Pinar Ertör-Akyazi (Boğaziçi University, Turkey): <i>"The role of agroecology and ecological production in urban food policies: The cases of Nilüfer and Seferihisar Municipalities in Turkey"</i> • Ronja Herzberg (Thünen Institute of Market Analysis): <i>"Market power and food loss at the producer–retailer interface of fruit and vegetable supply chains in Germany"</i>
4.30 - 5pm	<i>Coffee break, HS 35</i>	
5pm - 6pm	<p>Session 7: Policy analysis of agricultural and food policies: Negotiations, regulations and power struggles (II)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vida Mantey (University of Hohenheim): <i>"Understanding the roles, interactions and power relations of actors in smallholder carbon projects; insights from Kenya"</i> • Prof. Dr. Tim Dorlach (University of Bayreuth)/Dr. Sandya Gunasekara 	

	(University of Queensland): <i>"Pesticide politics in the Global South: The turbulent regulation of glyphosate and organic agriculture in Sri Lanka"</i>	
6pm - 7pm	Poster Session - Pitches and discussions: HS 35 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anna Struth (University of Hohenheim): <i>"Exploring existing and possible food utopias in and around universities"</i> • Franziska Mohr (Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research WSL): <i>"Agricultural trajectories in post-socialist countries – a perspective based on 'a theory of access'"</i> • Anja Roßmanith/Caroline Brinck/Luisa Raitzel/Dr. Gerhard Rainer/Prof. Dr. Hans-Martin Zademach (Katholische Universität Eichstätt): <i>"Food rescue in Alternative Food Networks using the example of the B2C marketplace Too Good To Go: A contribution to the dialogue between practice theory and diverse economies"</i> • Francisco Hidalgo (University of Hohenheim): <i>"Farmers as agents and techno-governed citizens. Examining the politics of digital agriculture"</i> • Matheus Dezidéro Busca (University of Campinas, Brazil/Innsbruck): <i>"Socio-environmental and economic impacts of globalized soy agribusiness in the Cerrado of Centre-North Brazil"</i> (digital) • Arezou Babajani (University of Hohenheim): <i>"Barriers to formal certification and empowerment of organically producing small-scale farmers in developing countries"</i> • Dr. Athena Birkenberg/Anna Grigoreva/Marianne Schapperer/Anika Winter/ Prof. Dr. Regina Birner (University of Hohenheim): <i>"Set Cascara free! A story of power and regulation in introducing an innovative novel food by-product of coffee"</i> • Ángela Navarrete-Cruz (University of Hohenheim): <i>"Can sustainability certification trigger cooperation between exporters and local players in Agricultural Value Chains? The case of the coffee sector in Colombia"</i> (digital) 	
From 7pm	Get-together: Dinner at Café Denkbar (Campus)	

Saturday, 25 March 2023		
Time	HS 34, analogue	HS35, digital
9am - 10.30am	Session 8: Methods for researching and teaching power relations in agri-food systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Christine Bosch (University of Hohenheim): <i>"Mapping actors, networks and influence: a review of the Net-Map tool"</i> • Sarah Graf (University of Hohenheim): <i>"Class structures as social networks: How social network analysis can inform research on rural class relations"</i> • Dr. Jutta Kister/Dr. Robert Hafner (University of Innsbruck): <i>"Beyond</i> 	Session 9: Perspectives on food system transformations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anna-Katharina Demes/Bärbel Mohr (University of Gießen): <i>"Network analyses and food system transformations"</i> • Louisa Prause (HU Berlin): <i>"Re-centering labor and technology in the debates on corporate power and food system transformations"</i> • Susanna Raab/Hannah Müller (Bauhaus-Universität Weimar): <i>"Negotiating the social right to food in the local welfare regime"</i>

	<i>supermarkets!' Integrating teaching into research and research into teaching - a practical approach"</i>	
10.30am - 11am	<i>Coffee break, HS 35</i>	
Time	Programme	Lecture hall
11am - 11.30am	Presentation international guest speaker: Dr. Alexander Panez (University of Bio-Bio, Chile)/ Dr. Ilka Roose (HNE Eberswalde): <i>"Food systems and constitutional changes in Latin America: The agrarian disputes within the constitutional convention in Chile"</i>	Katharinensaal
11.30am - 12.30am	Keynote Prof. Dr. Marit Rosol (Würzburg University): <i>"Power and powerlessness in the agri-food system – Dilemmas and strategic orientations for food movements"</i>	Katharinensaal
12.30am - 1pm	Final discussion, feedback & farewell	Katharinensaal



We look forward to welcoming you to the conference!

Dr. Birgit Hoinle (University of Hohenheim), Prof. Dr. Doris Schmied (University of Bayreuth), Dr. Anika Trebbin (Thünen Institute Braunschweig), Prof. Dr. Amelie Bernzen and Franziska Czernik (University of Vechta)
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