



Initiatives in Critical Agrarian Studies (ICAS) hosted by the Resources, Livelihoods & Environment (RELIVE) Research Cluster at the International Institute of Social Studies (ISS)





in collaboration with the Land Deal Politics Initiatives (LDPI)

Journal of Peasant Studies (JPS)

CRITICAL AGRARIAN STUDIES SEMINAR

21 January 2011, 9:30 - 18:30 hrs, International Institute of Social Studies (ISS), The Hague (see http://www.iss.nl for the visiting address and direction; free lunch will be provided)

PROGRAMME

THEMATIC SESSIONS: 9:30 to 15:00 hrs; Big Aula

REGISTRATION/COFFEE

Brief welcome remarks: Max Spoor, ISS

Session 1: Land Reform: Concepts, Myths and Realities (9:30-10:30)

Zimbabwe's Land Reform: Myths and Realities, Ian Scoones, Professorial Fellow, IDS, Sussex

Brazil's Land Reform: Debate on the concepts and the facts, Bernardo Mancano Fernandes, the UNESCO Chair in Countryside Development, UNESP (Brazil)

Chair: Cristobal Kay, Emeritus Professor, ISS

Session 2: Land Reform, State Power and Social Mobilization (10:30-11:30)

'Fragmented Sovereignty: Dispossession, Land Reform and Citizenship in Laos', Christian Lund, Professor of Development Studies, Roskilde University, Denmark From Mosquitoes to Marx: The Changing Dynamics of State and Social Mobilization in Brazilian Land Reform, Dr. Wendy Wolford, Cornell University, New York, USA Chair: Dr. Rosanne Rutten, University of Amsterdam

Session 3: Contemporary Land Issues in Africa (11:30-12:30)

Political dynamics of land restitution in South Africa, Cherryl Walker, Professor of Sociology, Stellenbosch University, South Africa Trends in contemporary land grabbing in Africa, Ruth Hall, PLAAS/University of the Western Cape, South Africa; Oxford University, UK Chair: Dr. Sandra J.T.M. Evers, VU, Amsterdam

LUNCH BREAK (12:30-13:30)

Session 4: Labour, Migration and Rural Development (13:30-14:30)

China's modernization and its rural left-behind population, Ye Jingzhong, Professor of Development Studies, COHD, China Agricultural University, Beijing Critical issues in migration and development, Raul Delgado Wise, Professor of Development Studies, Autonomous University of Zacatecas, Mexico Chair: Ashwani Saith, ISS (tbc)

Session 5: Radical Social Movements and Development in Latin America (14:30-15:00)

Left politics and development in Latin America, Henry Veltmeyer, Professor in International Development Studies, Autonomous University of Zacatecas, Mexico and Saint Mary's University, Canada

Chair: Kees Jansen, Wageningen University COFFEE/TEA BREAK (15:00-16:00)

DOUBLE SEMINAR: 16:00-17:30pm; Big Aula

Henry Bernstein, Professor of Development Studies, SOAS, University of London: 'Writing a Small Book on a Big Idea: Class Dynamics of Agrarian Change' Discussant: Jan Douwe van der Ploeg, Wageningen University

Ian Scoones, Professor, IDS Sussex, 'The Politics of Biofuels, Land and Agrarian Change'; Discussant: Annelies Zoomers, Utrecht University Chair: Bridget O'Laughlin, ISS

MULTIPLE BOOK LAUNCHES, ANNOUNCEMENTS & DRINKS: 17:30-18:30

Anchors: Saturnino ('Jun') M. Borras Jr., Max Spoor and Ben White, ISS

PART 1: Big Aula (17:30 – 18:00)

Special remarks by Prof. Dr. Leo de Haan, Rector, ISS (tbc)

Announcement of initiatives

Brief comments from Sofia Monsalve of Foodfirst Information and Action Network (FIAN-International) and IPC for Food Sovereignty, and Piet Posthuma of ICCO

- (1) Editorial HQ of the *Journal of Peasant Studies (JPS*)
- (2) Initiatives in Critical Agrarian Studies (ICAS)
- (3) Land Deal Politics Initiative (LDPI)
- (4) ISS hosting of multiple book series, brief introduction by Ben White, Max Spoor and Cristobal Kay
 - (a) ICAS book series in multiple languages
 - (b) Routledge Critical Agrarian Studies book series
 - (c) Routledge-ISS book series in Rural Livelihoods

Book Launches. Format – a short (5 minute talk) about each book, with a short, one minute response from the author

- (1) Henry Bernstein, Class Dynamics of Agrarian Change; Marc Wuyts, ISS
- (2) Ian Scoones, et al., eds. Zimbabwe's Land Reform: Myths and Realities; Henry Bernstein, SOAS, University of London
- (3) Paul Hebinck and Charlie Shackleton, eds. Reforming Land and Resource Use in South Africa: Impact on Livelihoods, Thea Hilhorst, KIT, Amsterdam
- (4) Cherryl Walker, Anna Bohlin, Ruth Hall, and Thembela Kepe, eds. Land, Memory, Reconstruction, and Justice: Perspectives on Land Claims in South Africa; Marja Spierenburg,

VU, Amsterdam
PART 2: Atrium (18:00-18:30)
Book signing & Drinks

NOTES ON SPEAKERS, CHAIRS, DISCUSSANTS

Henry Bernstein is Professor of Development Studies in the University of London at SOAS and Adjunct Professor in the College of Humanities and Development (COHD) of the China Agricultural University, Beijing. He was co-editor, with T.J.Byres, of the *Journal of Peasant Studies* from 1985-2000, and founding editor, again with T.J.Byres, of the *Journal of Agrarian Change* in 2001, of which he is now editor emeritus.

Saturnino ('Jun') M. Borras Jr. is Associate Professor of Rural Development Studies, International Institute of Social Studies (ISS), The Hague beginning in January 2011. He was Canada Research Chair in International Development Studies, Saint Mary's University, Canada from 2007 to 2010. He is currently a Fellow of the Transnational Institute (TNI) in Amsterdam where he is involved in its 'Agrarian Justice' program; and a Fellow of Food First/Institute for Food and Development Policy in California; Adjunct Professor in COHD of the China Agricultural University, Beijing. He was a founding member of *La Via Campesina* and was a member of its International Coordinating Commission in 1993-1996. Publications include: *Transnational Agrarian Movements Confronting Globalization* (2008, with M. Edelman and C. Kay as co-editors). His current research initiatives include the politics of global land grabbing and biofuels, and the politics of transnational agrarian movements. He is currently coordinator of ICAS, co-coordinator of the Land Deal Politics Initiatives (LDPI), and is the Editor of the *Journal of Peasant Studies*.

Raúl Delgado Wise is Director of the Doctoral Program in Development Studies at the University of Zacatecas (Mexico), President of the International Migration and Development Network, and co-Chair of the Critical Development Studies Network. He is author/editor of 15 books and more than 100 essays, including book chapters and refereed articles. Dr. Delgado is editor of the Journal Migración y Desarrollo and of the book series "Development and Migration" for Miguel Angel Porrúa. He is a member of the International Editorial Committee of the ICAS 'Agrarian Change and Peasant Studies' Book Series (in charge of the Spanish Edition), www.migracionydesarrollo.org and www.estudiosdeldesarrollo.net

Sandra J.T.M. Evers, Ph.D. (Amsterdam 2001), is associate professor and senior researcher at the Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, VU University Amsterdam. She specialises in Africa and South West Indian Ocean studies, with a particular focus on Madagascar, the Seychelles and Mauritius. Her principal areas of research cover the anthropology of children, (forced) migration, slavery, memory and cognition, natural resource management, foreign large scale land acquisitions in developing countries, poverty and sustainable development. She also acts as convener of an international working group on the anthropology of children and youth: www.anthropologyofchildren.net

Ruth Hall is a Senior Researcher at the Institute for Poverty, Land and Agrarian Studies (PLAAS) at the University of the Western Cape in South Africa. Her research interests include land and agrarian reforms, rural labour markets and farm worker rights, agricultural commodity chains, and the politics of rural development. She holds a Masters degree in Development Studies from the University of Oxford, where she is completing her doctoral studies. Publications include an edited volume entitled Another Countryside? Policy Options for Land and Agrarian Reform in South Africa and, with Lungisile Ntsebeza, The Land Question in South Africa: The Challenge of Transformation and Redistribution. She is a co-coordinator of the Land Deal Politics Initiatives (LDPI), and is Book Reviews Section Co-Editor of the Journal of Peasant Studies. Email: rhall@uwc.ac.za

Paul Hebinck, Wageningen University, Rural Development Sociologist specialized in agrarian transformation processes in Africa with an emphasis on land reform, small scale farming, technology development and social change, endogenous development and rural livelihoods. Over the years, he has done substantive fieldwork on socio-technical dimensions of maize and soil fertility (re)production in Kenya and land reform in South Africa. Theoretically he combines actor perspectives with broader questions related to political economy. He supervises a substantial number of MSc and PhD research projects and is external examiner and reviewer of journals. He is also member of the Netherlands Committee of the South African Netherlands Research Programme on Alternatives in Development (SANPAD). In 2006 he is appointed adjunct Professor at the University of Fort Hare, Alice, South Africa. He is co-editor of Reforming Land and Resource Use in South Africa: Impact on Livelihoods (Routledge, 2011).

Thea Hilhorst is a senior advisor at the Royal Tropical Institute in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. She works on decentralisation and local governance processes; land tenure, rural livelihoods, local economic development and faming systems, mostly in Sub-Saharan Africa and to a lesser extent Latin America. Another interest is the role of development aid modalities in supporting institutional development. She works as an advisor, analyst, editor, process facilitator and coordinator of networks, such as for multi-country collaborative research and exchange programs. She is particularly interested in how best to use research outcomes for informing policy-making processes. She is the Coordinator of LANDac- the IS Academy on Land Governance for Equitable and Sustainable Development

Bernardo Mançano Fernandes, professor of geography, and UNESCO Chair in Territorial Development and Education for the Countryside, Department of Geography, Univ. Estadual Paulista (UNESP), Brazil. Researcher and Referee, National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq). He is a member of the International Editorial Committee of the ICAS 'Agrarian Change and Peasant Studies' Book Series (in charge of the Portuguese Edition)

Kees Jansen is Lecturer, Technology and Agrarian Development Group, Wageningen University, Netherlands. Research interests include: agricultural technologies, global commodity chains, knowledge conflicts in social struggles, culture and political ecology; Latin America. Key publications include: Agribusiness and Society: Corporate Responses to Environmentalism, Market Opportunities and Public Regulation (with S. Vellema, Zed, 2004).

Cristobal Kay is Emeritus Professor of the International Institute of Social Studies, Erasmus University Rotterdam; Adjunct Professor in International Development Studies at Saint Mary's University, Halifax; and Professorial Research Associate of the Department of Development Studies at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. His research interests are in the fields of rural development and development theory, with particular reference to Latin America. He is a co-editor of the Journal of Agrarian Change, Series Co-Editor of the Routledge-ISS Book Series in Rural Livelihoods, and is a member of the International Editorial Advisory Board of the Journal of Peasant Studies.

Christian Lund (PhD in International Development Studies, Roskilde University, 1996) is Professor of International Development Studies, Roskilde University. Research interests include: land and politics issues in West Africa, state and politico-legal institutions, the ways in which social action produces institutions of public authority, specifically on local politics and conflicts over natural resources; the ways in which local and wider political histories impinge upon land disputes, and how the nature of land tenure conflicts influence the local political arenas. Key publications include: Local Politics and the Dynamics of Property in Africa (Cambridge University Press, 2008) and Twilight Institutions: Public Authority and Local Politics in Africa (Blackwell, 2007).

Sofia Monsalve, coordinator of the Global Land Programme of Foodfirst Information and Action Network (FIAN) – International Secretariat based in Heidelberg, Germany. http://www.fian.org; co-coordinator of the Land Research and Action Network (LRAN) and the 'right to land' work area of the IPC for Food Sovereignty. She is a co-convenor of the Global Campaign for Agrarian Reform (GCAR) of La Via Campasina. LRAN and FIAN.

Bridget O'Laughlin, itinerant scholar, was formerly an associate professor of population and development at the ISS. Her work has focused on intersections of gender and class in agrarian change in Africa. Her current research interests are in histories of socialisms in Africa and in rural social health in Mozambique (see 'Questions of Health and Inequality in Mozambique', Cadernos IESE no 4/2010). She is a member of the editorial board of *Development and Change* and of the international advisory board of the *Journal of Agrarian Change*.

Rosanne Rutten is Associate Professor in Anthropology and Non-Western Sociology, University of Amsterdam. Research interests include: social movements and collective action, rural change, and livelihood strategies of peasants and workers; Philippines. Key publications include: Brokering a Revolution: Cadres in a Philippine Insurgency (ed., Ateneo de Manila University, 2008), Popular Intellectuals and Social Movements: Framing Protest in Asia, Africa, and Latin America (co-edited with M. Baud, Cambridge University Press, 2006), Artisans and Entrepreneurs in the Rural Philippines: Making a Living and Gaining Wealth in Two Commercialized Crafts (VU University Press, Amsterdam, 1993).

lan Scoones is a Professorial Fellow at the Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, UK. He has a background in agricultural ecology and his interdisciplinary research links the natural and social sciences and focuses on the relationships between science and technology, local knowledge and livelihoods and the politics of policy processes. He has worked on issues such as pastoralism and rangeland management, soil and water conservation, biodiversity and environmental change, land and agrarian reform, dryland agricultural systems, crop biotechnology and animal health science policy, mostly in Africa. He is a co-coordinator of the Land Deal Politics Initiatives (LDPI). He is an Associate Editor (member of the Editorial Collective) of the *Journal of Peasant Studies*

Marja Spierenburg joined the department of Culture, Organisation and Management (COM) at the VU University Amsterdam in September 2001. Before that, she had worked for UNESCO in Senegal and in France. Her fields of specialisation are conservation and land rights, they were also the subject of her PhDresearch in Zimbabwe. Before joining COM, Marja Spierenburg focused mainly on the impacts of conservation and land reform projects on local communities. However, over the years she also developed a keen interest in the organizations that were designing and implementing these conservation and land reform projects. At COM, Marja Spierenburg is focusing on public private partnerships (PPPs), especially in conservation and land reform projects in Southern Africa. She is studying how governments work together with private non-profit organizations (or NGOs), but increasingly also with private forprofit organizations, to implement conservation and land reform projects. How do these organizations, with their different objectives and mandates, but often also with different organization cultures, work together to design and implement projects? Such forms of cooperation are often presented as win-win solutions, bringing together types of organizations with complementary functions and skills. What is often neglected, however, are the different interests that these organizations may have, as well as power relations between the organizations involved, but also between the organizations and the public that is supposed to benefit from public-private partnerships. Marja Spierenberg is involved in three main research projects in South(ern) Africa

Max Spoor is Professor of Development Studies (in particular regarding economies in transition) at the International Institute of Social Studies, The Hague/Erasmus University (EUR, and Visiting Professor at the Barcelona Institute of International Studies (E-mail: spoor@iss.nl). His research interests are mainly focused on Eurasian transition countries, with special attention to rural and environmental issues, poverty reduction and inequality. His most recent book is: The Political Economy of Rural Livelihoods in Transition Economies, London and New York: Routledge (2009). He is a member of the International Editorial Committee of the ICAS 'Agrarian Change and Peasant Studies' Book Series, and a Series Co-Editor of the Routledge-ISS Book Series in Rural Livelihoods.

Jan Douwe van der Ploeg is currently holding the Chair of Transition Processes at Wageningen University. Previously he held the Chair for Rural Sociology. He has been member, for eight years, of the Council for the Rural Areas. His first work experience was in Peru (where he was involved in the land reform process), Colombia (formation of rural cooperatives) and in Guinea Bissau (construction of rural water supply services). He developed with his colleagues a new theoretical approach that made it possible to understand the impressive and multi-dimensional heterogeneity of European agriculture - conceptualized in terms of farming styles. The attention for heterogeneity and endogenous development patterns translated, in the early 1990's in an increased interest in new forms and patterns of rural development. It was shown, in a range of publications (Renewing the Countryside, 1997, and Living Countrysides: Rural development Processes in Europe - the State of Art, 2002; both published by Elsevier) that rural development practices are wide spread and promising phenomena that entail considerable potential for revitalizing the rural economy. Recently, he published 'The Virtual Farmer' (2003; Royal van Gorcum). In this study it is argued that knowledge on agriculture as produced and accumulated by expert systems such as universities and ministries of agriculture, is increasingly at odds with reality.

Henry Veltmeyer is Professor of Professor of Sociology and International Development Studies at Saint Mary's University (Halifax, Canada) and Development Studies at the Universidad Autónoma de Zacatecas in Mexico. He is author, coauthor and editor of over 40 books on Latin American social movements and issues of Latin American and world development, including Dynamics of Social Change in Latin America (2007); and, with James Petras, Unmasking Globalization (2001); System in Crisis (2003); Social Movements and the State (2005); Empire with Imperialism (2005); Multinationals on Trial (2007); and What's Left in Latin America (2009). He is a member of the International Editorial Committee of the ICAS 'Agrarian Change and Peasant Studies' Book Series.

Cherryl Walker (DLitt, University of Natal) is Professor of Sociology, Stellenbosch University, South Africa. Research interests include: sociology of land, land reform and land restitution, gender relations and gender policy, rural social change, identity, property rights, HIV/AIDS and domestic violence; Southern Africa. She is currently completing a book manuscript on land restitution in South Africa.

Ben White is Professor of Rural Sociology at the International Institute of Social Studies (ISS) and Professor of Social Sciences at the University of Amsterdam in the Netherlands. He is part of the Resources, Environment and Livelihoods (RELIVE) research cluster at ISS. He has carried out research on the themes of agrarian change, social differentiation of the peasantry, contract farming, rural labour, land policies, among others, mainly in Indonesia. He has published extensively on these themes. For 17 years, he was Co-Editor of *Development and Change*, until mid-2009. He is a co-coordinator of the Land Deal Politics Initiatives (LDPI). Email: white@iss.nl.

Wendy Wolford is the Polson Professor of Development Sociology at Cornell University. Her research interests include the political economy of development, social movements, land distribution and agrarian societies. Key publications include To Inherit the Earth: the Landless Movement and the Struggle for a New Brazil (co-authored with Angus Wright, Food First Books, 2003) and This Land is Ours Now: Social Mobilization and the Meaning(s) of Land in Brazil (2010, Duke University Press). She is a co-coordinator of the Land Deal Politics Initiatives (LDPI). She is an Associate Editor (member of the Editorial Collective) of the *Journal of Peasant Studies*. Email: www43@cornell.edu.

Marc Wuyts (PhD in Economics, The Open University, Milton Keynes, UK, 1986) is Professor of Quantitative Applied Economics at the Institute of Social Studies (ISS) in the Hague, Netherlands. His present research interests – with a regional focus on Tanzania and Mozambique – concern the

macroeconomics of development and, more specifically, the role social protection and development finance can play in fostering innovation and broadbased productivity growth, particularly within rural economies and societies. He has a long-standing collaboration in research with the economics and development studies departments of The Open University (Milton Keynes, U.K.). Most recently (in 2007), jointly with Maureen Mackintosh (Economics, OU) and Joanna Chataway (Technology and Development, OU), he co-edited a special issue for the European Journal of Development Research on the linkage between innovation and poverty reduction in developing countries context.

Ye Jingzhong is Professor of Development Studies and deputy dean at the College of Humanities and Development Studies (COHD), China Agricultural University. He has published more than 100 papers in Chinese academic journals and a few in international journals. He has authored more than 10 books. His research interests include: development intervention and rural transformations, rural left-behind population, rural education, development planning and development policy, and environment and health. He is a member of the International Editorial Committee of the ICAS 'Agrarian Change and Peasant Studies' Book Series (in charge of the Chinese Edition).

Annelies Zoomers is Professor of International Development Studies (IDS) at Utrecht University and chair of the IS-academy on land governance (LANDac). After finishing her PhD in 1988, she worked for the Netherlands Economic Institute (Rotterdam) and the Royal Tropical Institute (Amsterdam) on long and short-term consulting assignments for various organizations (Worldbank, IFAD, DGIS, ILO, EU, DGIS etc.) in various countries in Latin America, Africa and Asia. Between 1995 and 2007, she was Associate Professor at the Centre for Latin American Research and Documentation (Amsterdam), and was Professor of International Migration at the Radboud University (Nijmegen) between 2005 and 2009. She has published extensively about sustainable livelihoods; land policies and the impact of privatization, tourism and international migration. She is member of the permanent commission for development cooperation (COS) under auspices of the Advisory Council on International Affairs (AIV) and member of the world connectors.

NOTES ON SOME OF THE INITIATIVES Land Deal Politics Initiative (LDPI)

In-depth and systematic enquiry is urgently needed in order to have deeper, meaningful and productive debates around causes and implications of 'global land grabbing'. We propose this initiative as a means to study the extent, nature and impact of what we define as define as cross-border, large-scale land deals that involve changes in land use and land property relations – through land purchases, land leases, and contract farming. The objective of this initiative is to provide a platform and network to generate solid evidence through detailed, field-based research that incorporates and complements a range of policy-oriented donor and NGO-led reviews, as well as more activist political work. We hope to build a public database with different viewpoints, studies and surveys outlining the extent, nature and impact of changes in land use and land property relations around the world. We will focus, ultimately, on the politics of land deals – something often lacking in the current debate – and therefore we embed the commercial act of exchanging land titles into a broader framework concerned with 'land deal politics'. Through this initiative, we hope to dialogue with social movements, activists, policy makers, and concerned academics to produce data and discuss their implications. This research initiative will initially be the joint effort of research initiatives or clusters in four academic institutions, namely, (i) the International Institute of Social Studies (ISS), specifically with the Initiatives in Critical Agrarian Studies/ICAS (Saturnino M. ('Jun') Borras Jr.), and the Resources, Environment and Livelihoods research cluster (Ben White); (ii) Institute for Development Studies (IDS) at the University of Sussex, particularly the Future Agricultures Consortium (Ian Scoones); (iii) the Institute for Poverty, Land and Agrarian Studies (PLAAS) at the University of the Western Cape in South Africa (Ruth Hall); and (iv) the Polson Institute for Global Development in the Department of Development Sociology at Cornell Un

Initiatives in Critical Agrarian Studies (ICAS)

The Initiatives in Critical Agrarian Studies (ICAS) has been established as *community* of like-minded scholars, development practitioners and activists from different parts of the world who are working on agrarian issues. Its secretariat is currently hosted by the International Institute of Social Studies (ISS), The Hague, Netherlands. ICAS is a *common ground*, a common *space*, a *bridge*; it responds to the need for an initiative that builds and focuses on *linkages* -- between various development actors. ICAS advocates for a *mutually reinforcing* co-production and *mutually beneficial* sharing of knowledge; it promotes *critical thinking*, which here means: conventional assumptions are interrogated, popular propositions critically examined, and new ways of questioning composed, proposed and pursued. ICAS believes in and promotes *engaged research and scholarship*; emphasising on research and scholarship that is both academically interesting and socially relevant, and further, implies taking the side of the poor. For further information, visit our website: http://www.iss.nl/icas; or send email to: icas@iss.nl (email will be activated only around mid-January).

The Journal of Peasant Studies (JPS)

The *Journal of Peasant Studies* is one of the leading journals in the field of rural development. It was founded on the initiative of Terence J. Byres and its first editors were Byres, Charles Curwen and Teodor Shanin. It provokes and promotes critical thinking about social structures, institutions, actors and processes of change in and in relation to the rural world. It encourages inquiry into how agrarian power relations between classes and other social groups are created, understood, contested and transformed. The Journal pays special attention to questions of 'agency' of marginalized groups in agrarian societies, particularly their autonomy and capacity to interpret – and change – their conditions. The Journal promotes contributions that question mainstream prescriptions or interrogate orthodoxies in radical thinking. It welcomes contributions that explore theoretical, policy and political alternatives. The Journal encourages contributions about a wide range of contemporary and historical questions and perspectives related to rural development. These are issues that confront peasants, farmers, rural labourers, migrant workers, indigenous peoples, forest dwellers, pastoralists, fisherfolk and rural youth – both female and male – in different parts of the world. Beginning in January 2011, the international editorial office of JPS will be hosted at the ISS in The Hague. http://www.informaworld.com/ips

For further information about ICAS & LDPI, click: http://www.iss.nl/icas; on the *Journal of Peasant Studies*: http://www.informaworld.com/jps; to register for the 21 January colloquium, please send email to: icas@iss.nl or junborras@yahoo.com



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