



Fellow's Individual Project

Fellow	Host Institution	PhD enrolment	Start Date	Duration
ESR 6	UofB	Y	Month 9	36 months

Project title and related WP(s): Community, commoning and care in the ruins of post-oil palm landscapes in Indonesia (WP3, WP7).

Objectives: Oil palm investments on a large and smaller scale have transformed people-nature relationships in Indonesia, drawing considerable critical attention from academics and activists alike. Studies emanating from feminist political ecology have drawn attention to the gendered dimensions of alienation and dispossession of resources and livelihoods, and this kind of approach tends to centre attention on the transition to oil palm landscapes. The ESR will examine community efforts to tackle social and environmental injustices in the acquisition process focusing on establishing sets of rights within affected communities (e.g. clarity of tenure, transparency and access to information) or on responsabilising the oil palm supply chain through corporate zero deforestation pledges. It will explore how, given that Indonesia's forest-based communities are largely lost to oil palm and other extractivist industries, and that green economy initiatives seemingly bring with them new forms of enclosure and dispossession there is a need for new imagining and transforming post-oil palm futures. Drawing inspiration from Anna Tsing's exploration of the possibility of life in capitalist ruins, this study will draw from and contribute to transformative postcolonial material feminist political ecology to ask what forms of community, commoning and care are emerging in the ruins of post-oil palm landscapes, how do these draw on and shift nature-cultures and configurations, and might these be shaped (or be shaping) new configurations of power/knowledge.

Expected results: A study of gendered power, authority and resource entitlement in ethnically-diverse settings of oil palm plantations in Indonesia.

Planned secondments: UPAS (3 months) to compare research on intersectional gendered power and resource entitlement in Indonesian extractivist landscapes and CIFOR (3 months) to explore commoning in practice.

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