

SUSTAINABLE TROPICAL AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS









#### INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

# FROM SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT TO GREEN CAPITALISM: MILESTONES IN THE MARKETIZATION OF NATURE.

Montpellier (France): 2-3 December 2015 Venue: SALLE BADIANE – AGROPOLIS INTERNATIONAL

#### **Organisers**

Marcel Djama (Cirad-Moisa & Universiti Putra Malaysia), Shaufique Fahmi Ahmad Sidique (Universiti Putra Malaysia), Stéphane Guéneau (Cirad-Moisa & Universidade de Brasília Centro de desenvolvimento sustentável), Syahaneem Mohamad Zainalabidin (Universiti Putra Malaysia & Université Paris 1 Sorbonne).

This workshop is organised as part of the "Privatising Global Environmental Governance" project bringing together researchers from CIRAD, INRA, CNRS and AGROPARISTECH, with financial support from the *Agence Nationale de la Recherche* (ANR) in partnership with the UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA international labex in Montpellier (Labex Sustainable Tropical Agriculture and Food Systems) and UNIVERSIDADE de BRASILIA (Centro de desenvolvimento sustentável).

#### The workshop

By calling to reconcile what have been until then split perspectives (economic growth, social development, environmental protection, intergenerational and North/South equity) and to promote Civil Society's participation in setting out public policy, sustainable development is part of a restructuring of modes of government that affects both the political decision-making process and the way in which public and special interests are combined.

Nearly three decades after the publication of the *Bruntland Report* in 1987 and while an international consensus on the reality of climate change seems to have been established, developments in the world economy have escalated the ecological crises.

As a matter of fact, the current driving forces of accumulation on a global scale – financialisation, commodification, expanding competition, and privatisation – have degraded the very notion of the common good. These processes undermine the collective action of states and citizens, and naturalise the idea that the market alone is capable of solving ecological crises.

In addition, the tilt of the world economy's centre of gravity towards Asia and the emergence of BRICS as new economic powers have occurred according to the same logics of exploiting natural resources as those which have contributed to the development of Euro-Atlantic economies. The rise of large middle classes in these emerging countries threatens unparalleled pressure on natural resources once they adopt the Northern countries' consumption models.

Building on the dominant model of economic growth, the numerous international meetings that followed in the wake of the 1992 Rio Summit have gradually imposed the use of market instruments in response to ecological crises: development of a carbon market, rise of sustainability standards, and introduction of payments for environmental services, among others.

Beyond the diversity of the arrangements implemented through these instruments – be they public, private or mixed – and the actors establishing them (states, international organisations, firms, NGOs), they share the common point of basing their action on a principle of commodifying nature. These regulatory mechanisms entrench the mitigating strategies of environmental crises within capitalist accumulation regimes: an effort which we refer to here as "green capitalism".

This workshop is intended as a space for reflection in order to grasp the evolutions, the scope and the effects of this movement to commodify nature, but also the resistances they elicit. Drawing on case studies mainly from (but not exclusive to) agricultural, agro-food and forestry sectors, we aim to address the following points:

- 1- Reconstructing the market inflexions or modalities through which the neoliberal imprint of global governance of the environment could be revealed. In this approach, we include works adopting a historical perspective allowing for an understanding of green capitalism's trajectories, works on the institutionalising processes of "alternative" political projects in relation to a dominant model (for instance, the institutionalisation of organic agriculture), the analysis of the professionalization of environmental NGOs, the rise of a market for environmental standard-setting, and so on.
- 2- Characterising the technologies of government mobilised to resolve the tensions between capitalist accumulation and the mitigation of environmental and social impact, as well as the effects of these instruments on the targeted actors (individuals, groups or social formations, organisations, etc.). This line of reflection welcomes, but is not limited to, empirical works on

the implementation of market instruments (CDM, PES), REDD projects, sustainability standards and certification, auditing practices, CSR.

3- Decentralising Euro-Atlantic approaches to the global governance of the environment by proposing viewpoints from the emerging peripheries (BRICS and other emerging economies of Southeast Asia). Alongside works addressing the hegemonic struggles between former and new economic powers and their impact on the global governance of the environment, viewpoints questioning the validity or inflexions of the postcolonial paradigm in a context of intensified South-South investments are desired.

#### **Workshop format:**

The workshop is organised into four thematic sessions. Each session comprises keynote lectures of 45 minutes followed by presentations of 30 minutes each (20 minutes + 10 minutes of discussion per presentation), and concluded with a general discussion of 45 minutes.

## **PROGRAM**

## DAY 1: Wednesday, 2 December

9.00 - 9.30	Welcome Coffee
9.30 – 10.00	<b>Marcel Djama</b> (Cirad & Universiti Putra Malaysia).  Introduction – On neoliberal rationalities in Global Environmental Governance
10.00 – 12.30	Session 1  The new spirit of green capitalism  Moderator: Maya Leroy
10.00 – 10.45	Benoit Daviron (Cirad) From the organic to the mineral: a history of the role of the agriculture in development
10.45 – 11.15	Eve Fouilleux (Cnrs & Cirad) &  Alison Loconto (Inra)  Institutionalizing the global organic agriculture field: Voluntary standards, markets and politics.
11.15 – 11.30	Coffee/Tea Break
11.30 – 12.00	Pierre Alphandery (Inra) &  Agnès Fortier (Inra)  Data producing NGOs confronted with the demand to professionalize
12.00 – 12.45	Discussion
12.45 - 13.45	Lunch

14.00 – 17.30	Session 2
	Manufacturing Sustainability
	Moderator: Shaufique Fahmi Ahmad Sidique
14.00 – 14.45	Chukwumerije Okereke
	(University of Reading).  Environmental Justice and Conception of the Green Economy.
14.45 – 15.15	Emmanuelle Cheyns
	(Cirad) &
	Ninon Sirdey
	(Supagro-Montpellier)
	Social sustainability in transnational voluntary standards: rights, equity and capacities.
15.15 - 15.30	Coffee/Tea Break
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15.15 – 15.30 15.30 – 16.00	Marie Gabrielle Piketty (Cirad)
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	Marie Gabrielle Piketty (Cirad) & Isabel Drigo
15.30 – 16.00	Marie Gabrielle Piketty (Cirad) & Isabel Drigo (Universidade Sao Paulo)  Shaping the implementation of the FSC standard: the case of auditors in the Brazilian Amazon
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15.30 – 16.00	Marie Gabrielle Piketty (Cirad) & Isabel Drigo (Universidade Sao Paulo)  Shaping the implementation of the FSC standard: the case of auditors in the Brazilian Amazon  Stephane Guéneau (Cirad & Universidade Brasilia) & Fabiano Toni (Universidade Brasilia)

## DAY 2: Thursday 3, December

9.30 – 12.30	Session 3  Politics of the governed  Moderator: Eve Fouilleux
9.00 - 9.30	Welcome Coffee
9.30 – 10.15	Bobby Banerjee (Cass Business School-City University London) Voices of the governed. Towards a theory of the translocal
10.15 – 10.45	Claudia Vitel (AgroParistech) &  Maya Leroy (AgroParistech)  Indigenous associations testing the voluntary carbon market
10.45 - 11.00	Coffee/Tea Break
11.00 – 11.30	Marcel Djama (Cirad & Universiti Putra Malaysia) A neoliberal way to emancipation? Indigenous struggles, mining and decolonization in New Caledonia
11.30 – 12.15	Discussion
12.30 – 13.45	Lunch

14.00 – 17.00	Session 4  Frontier Capitalism: perspectives from the rising peripheries.  Moderator: Stéphane Guéneau
14.00 – 14.45	Padraig Carmody  (Trinity College-Dublin)  The rise of the BRICS in Africa. The geopolitics of South-South Relations
14.45 -15.15	Shaufique Fahmi Ahmad Sidique (University Putra Malaysia) & Syahaneem Mohamad Zainalabidin (Universiti Putra Malaysia & Université Paris 1 Sorbonne) Malaysian Palm oil Corporations going global
15.15 – 15.30	Coffee/Tea Break
15.30 – 16.15	Discussion
16.15 – 17.00	General Discussion on <i>Green Capitalism</i> and Global Environmental Governance: Directions for Future Research