

JOIN US FOR A SEMINAR ON THE TOPIC OF

Climate commons and “climate-smart” subjectivities

Many climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies in the global south are firmly rooted in participatory development paradigms and common property design principles first pioneered by Elinor Ostrom. These paradigms have led to the promotion of various measures intended to foster local level, collective investment in and responsibility for responding to environmental change. These programs seek to align how people see themselves and their environments (subjectivities) in ways that will increase resilience and adaptability.



While I do not question the need for adaptation and mitigation measures, nor do I reject local level, collective environmental management, I do want to probe the possibilities for radical transformation using these kinds of (ultimately) top down measures.

Drawing from case study material in Nepal and India, this seminar probes the commons as an emancipatory project, rooted in subjectivities and affects that go well beyond instrumental notions of livelihood security and climate change adaptation. The problematic nature of imposed commons that seek to create “climate-smart” subjectivities and collective action that is not sufficiently rooted in place, history and community, will be discussed. To conclude, some ways that communities can capitalise upon funds available for adaptation and mitigation on their own terms are put forward.

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Seminar on
13th November
15:00-16:30
Am Sande 3
Witzenhausen

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