

The International  
Center for Development  
and Decent Work



ICDD



10 Years of Promoting Decent Work (2009–2019)



UNI KASSEL  
VERSITÄT

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## Dear Readers,

Ten years ago, we started our ICDD network by bringing together partners on four continents and from diverse academic disciplines. We were committed to furthering the decent work agenda, firstly by conducting joint research into the causes of decent work deficits in both urban and rural settings, secondly by exploring strategies to address these deficits and thirdly, most importantly, by providing support for early-career scholars to carry out research for their master's and especially PhD theses on issues relevant to the decent work agenda. The following pages provide an overview of our activities and achievements during ICDD's first two funding phases within the 'Higher Education Excellence in Development Cooperation' ('exceed') programme, operated by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). A key achievement worthy of particular mention here has been the successful collaboration across the two broad academic disciplines of the agricultural and social sciences.

We are now entering the third phase of 'exceed' funding which is dedicated to transferring our knowledge and expertise to the new 'exceed' centres selected in late 2019. We are proud that many of us are also part of the new 'exceed' centre, the 'Global Partnership Network' (GPN), headquartered at Kassel University and spearheaded by the ICDD director Aram Ziai. Besides the transfer of knowledge, we aim to bring the heart of the ICDD, its graduate school, into the internet age with online colloquia and massive open online courses (MOOCs) catering to the needs of PhD candidates. In doing so we want to build on our expertise in joint supervisions, to awaken an interest in the decent work agenda amongst more early-career researchers and to ensure the graduate school's sustainability. I would like to thank everyone in our network for contributing to our achievements, and I look forward to further joint initiatives in the pursuit of better livelihoods and working conditions for people around the globe.

Sincerely, *Christoph Scherrer*  
*Executive Director, Kassel, January 2020*





GLU

Global Labour University Conference

celebrating 100 years of ILO –  
setting the rules for a new century of labour

March 27-29, 2019

Prof. Dr. Christoph Scherrer  
at the GLU conference hosted by FES, 2019.



# 1 Introduction

The International Center for Development and Decent Work (ICDD) can look back on ten successful years of research and knowledge creation in the fields of decent work and development. In celebration of this milestone, this booklet provides an overview of the centre's activities and achievements. It should also serve as a guide for our next three years as a 'transfer centre' in our collaboration with the newly established Global Partnership Network (GPN).

The ICDD is a global multidisciplinary network of eight partner universities on four continents with its head office at the University of Kassel (Germany). It cooperates closely with the International Labour Organization (ILO) and various non-governmental organizations. The centre contributes to the global fight against hunger and poverty through research and education on Sustainable Development Goal 8 with a special focus on the world's 805 million people living in rural areas who face food insecurity.

## History

In 2009, the University of Kassel, six partner universities in Africa, Asia, and Latin America as well as the International Labour Organization (ILO) created the ICDD with the aim of generating new knowledge towards achieving the United Nations' **Millennium Development Goal 1: 'Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger', Target 2: 'Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people'**. The ICDD acquired funding from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) via the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and its 'Higher Education Excellence in Development Cooperation' ('exceed') programme, initially for a five-year period (2009–2014).

The **'exceed'** programme encompassed five higher education institutions in Germany (the Technical University Braunschweig, the University of Hohenheim, the University of Kassel, Cologne University of Applied Sciences, and Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich) and their partners in developing countries between 2010 and 2019. Its main objectives have focused on strengthening these higher education institutions in the domains of education, research, and consultancy with a direct link to the development agenda of the United Nations.

According to the DAAD, "[t]he programme not only offers an exchange opportunity between German institutions and their partners from the South, but also supports university partnerships among the participants from developing countries. As a result, the expertise of the equal partners that work in tight and expanding global networks is highly demanded in politics and civil



society.”<sup>1</sup> Furthermore, “[i]n the long term, graduates will be qualified to take on leadership positions of responsibility as a result of studying in programmes that are practice-oriented and reflect the state of the art in the respective field.”<sup>1</sup>

Unlike other Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the goal of full employment and decent work for all was unfortunately missed by a large margin in 2015 according to the ILO. Poor employment is one of the main defining features of poverty, especially for those without access to land or the ability to grow their own food. In light of this, after an in-depth evaluation and based on the achievements of the ICDD and the other ‘exceed’ centres, the BMZ decided to prolong the ‘exceed’ programme for another five-year period (2015–2019). The post-2015 MDG debate, initiated by the United Nations,

kept the target of creating decent work on the agenda as **Sustainable Development Goal 8, which calls for the ‘promotion of inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all’**. During phase II, following SDG 8, the ICDD maintained its research focus, modifying and expanding it to six thematic areas:

- *Decent Work along Agricultural Value Chains*
- *Organizing the Informal Economy*
- *Extractivism and Rural Welfare*
- *Rural-Urban Linkages: Transformation Processes*
- *Livelihoods and Social Protection*
- *Rethinking Development Cooperation*

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1 [www.daad.de/de/infos-services-fuer-hochschulen/weiterfuehrende-infos-zu-daad-foerderprogrammen/exceed/](http://www.daad.de/de/infos-services-fuer-hochschulen/weiterfuehrende-infos-zu-daad-foerderprogrammen/exceed/), accessed 27 November 2019

## Partners and Cooperation

The ICDD is an interdisciplinary network and think tank that brings together partner universities from around the world. The network has expanded over the years by including new members, such as UCC (2012) and JNU (2020).

- Egerton University (EGU), Kenya
- Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), India
- Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán (UADY), Mexico
- Universidade Estadual de Campinas (Unicamp), Brazil
- University of Agriculture Faisalabad (UAF), Pakistan
- University of Cape Coast (UCC), Ghana
- University of the Witwatersrand (WITS), South Africa
- Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), India,  
is to join the network officially in 2020

Various civil society partners support the work of the ICDD, among them the German Institute for Tropical and Subtropical Agriculture (**DITSL**) and the Center for Advanced Latin American Studies (**CALAS**). The ICDD also cooperates closely with the Global Labour University (**GLU**). The GLU network includes trade unions, universities, the Friedrich Ebert Foundation (**FES**) as well as the International Labour Organization (**ILO**). It delivers high-level qualification programmes and offers master's courses in five different countries on trade unions, sustainable development, social justice, international labour standards, multinational companies, economic policies and global institutions. It also promotes research collaboration on global labour issues.



**UADY**  
UNIVERSIDAD  
AUTÓNOMA  
DE YUCATÁN



**TATA INSTITUTE OF  
SOCIAL SCIENCES**

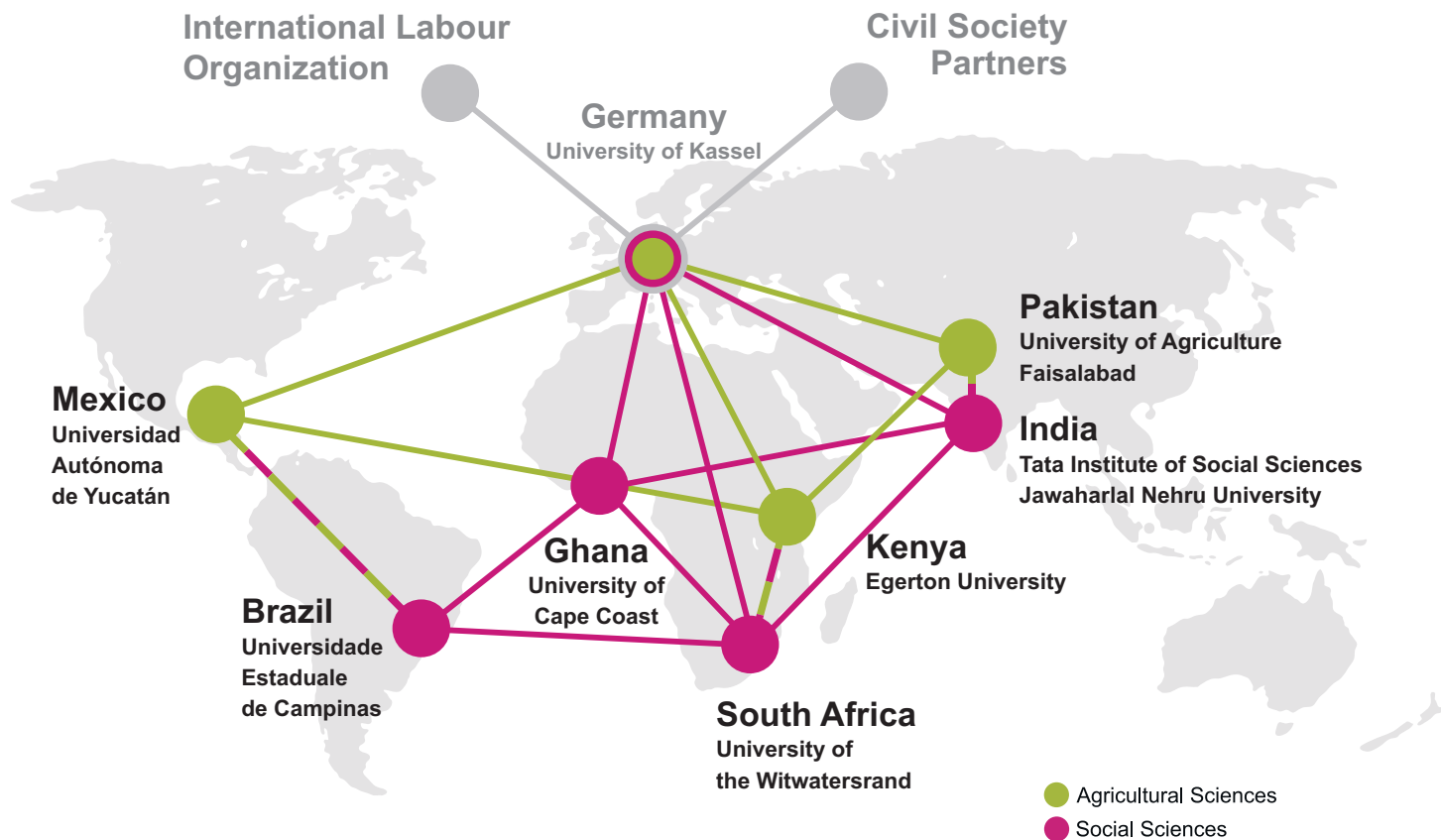
UNIVERSITY OF THE  
WITWATERSRAND,  
JOHANNESBURG



**UNIVERSITY OF  
CAPE COAST**



**जवाहरलाल नेहरू विश्वविद्यालय  
Jawaharlal Nehru University**





ICDD's partnerships involve various activities including a transdisciplinary, international graduate school for PhD students and postdoctoral researchers, new study programmes, student and faculty exchange, research collaboration, conferences, and workshops.

**Interdisciplinary collaboration** has significantly intensified ever since the ICDD was brought into being, mainly between the social sciences and the agricultural sciences, but also involving other disciplines, such as economics and engineering. The collaboration has raised awareness of the challenges to decent work in rural areas, not only in the agricultural sciences but also in the social sciences, which have traditionally been more focused on urban labour.

## The Decent Work Concept

The ICDD is built on the concept of 'Decent Work'. But what does that mean exactly?

The Decent Work Agenda is the International Labour Organization's strategic response to globalization. It highlights key dimensions of fair globalization in the world of work by grouping nearly 200 international labour conventions under the following four headings:

1. Full employment (including enterprise creation);
2. Respect for basic workers' rights;
3. Social protection; and
4. Social dialogue.



Road worker in Mumbai, India. Photo by Christoph Scherrer.

The Decent Work Agenda received a strong boost in 2005 when the UN World Summit proclaimed decent work for all to be part of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The summit formulated the target to 'Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people' and placed it under MDG 1: 'Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger.' For the first time, governments formally recognized the achievement of full and productive employment as a key instrument for breaking the cycle of poverty.

While this mainstreaming of labour concerns into the United Nations agenda can be attributed to the ILO's strategic focus on decent work, the world has not moved closer to the fulfilment of the Decent Work Agenda. In fact, the decent work deficit has actually grown. Not only has unemployment increased, but income inequality and informal employment have also been on the rise. The recent financial crisis has hindered the progressive achievement of decent work for all for years to come.



Child labourers along with adult labourers at a lock making factory in Aligarh, India. Photo by Shahana Purveen.

The Decent Work Agenda cannot be blamed for this setback. However, the crisis exposes tremendous obstacles encountered on the way to the stated goal of achieving 'full and productive employment and decent work for all'. For some critics, the concept itself needs

to be reevaluated. Some consider full employment to be a utopian goal and look for alternatives to social integration. Others criticize the focus on rights such as the right to collective bargaining; this right is considered of little use for the many who do not wield power in the labour market. Many see the entire decent work concept as too closely associated with the experiences of rich countries, where formal employment has traditionally been the rule.

While not all of this criticism is valid, the issues raised deserve further scrutiny. Given the unacceptably high decent work deficit, much more research is needed concerning the adequacy of the Decent Work Agenda as well as policies for its implementation.

**“The decent work deficit is not only palpable on the streets of Mumbai but exists especially in rural areas in many parts of the world.”**

*Christoph Scherrer*

## Aims and Aspirations

The basic aim of the ICDD is to **generate** and **transfer knowledge** in a transcontinental, transdisciplinary, and sustainable fashion. To name but a few instruments for achieving this purpose, the centre has established an interdisciplinary graduate school, the Ela Bhatt Visiting Professorship, an innovative Alumni Applied Research School (AARS), several transcontinental and transdisciplinary research projects, and it has created new teaching offers, such as massive open online courses (MOOCs). Additionally, the ICDD launched a working papers series which currently contains 27 volumes and a book series 'Labor and Globalization', consisting hitherto of 19 volumes. Moreover, the centre also introduced the ICDD Breakfast Talks, numbering up to now 20 individual sessions, with network members as well as experts and visiting scientists as presenters.

As a think tank, the ICDD and its partners have gained recognition for competency in the fields of development and decent work. They are approached by other academics, civil society organizations, and government agencies for expert lectures, consultancy, and policy advice. Beyond its expertise on decent work issues, the ICDD has attracted attention with four innovative features:

- Collaboration between agricultural and social sciences on issues of labour
- Triangular cooperation South-South-North
- Capacity building through the graduate school
- Research with alumni



## 2

## ICDD Graduate School

*'The core of the ICDD is the Graduate School'*

– Prof. Dr. Christoph Scherrer

### **Eight Universities – Four Continents – One Graduate School**

ICDD's core programme for knowledge generation is its Graduate School of Socio-Ecological Research for Development. In the period from 2010 to 2019 it offered a multidisciplinary research and education environment for more than 80 PhD and postdoc researchers, with PhD and postdoc projects being either rooted in the social or agricultural sciences and primarily pursuing actor- and problem-oriented approaches on sustainable human-environmental relationships and decent livelihoods.

Graduate school fellows are based at one of the ICDD's partner universities in Africa, Asia, Latin America or Europe. At the same time they benefit from, as well as contribute to, the unique and innovative effort of the ICDD network, building a truly global postgraduate programme. Apart from providing a common core curriculum and international co-supervision, it enables vibrant collaboration in the fields of fellow exchange, joint research projects, and knowledge transfer.

## The ICDD Graduate School in Brief

### *Main features include:*

- Close doctoral supervision by an international group of PhD supervisors
- PhD and postdoc scholarships, funding for field research, and conference participation
- Regular exchange possibilities for graduate school fellows within the ICDD network
- Integration of fellows into the international scientific community of the ICDD network and beyond
- Alumni network



### *The Graduate School curriculum offers:*

- Seminars and workshops on theory, methods, decent work, and development
- Workshops on practical problems of the PhD process
- Weekly meetings for presenting and discussing research-in-progress
- Financial and organizational support for self-organized workshops/conferences
- Funding for field work of PhD students and conference/workshop participation
- Grants for publication of PhD theses

### *Members of the Graduate School:*

- Amount to more than 70 PhD and 13 postdoc fellows (since 2009)
- Come from more than 20 countries and all continents
- Constitute a nearly gender-balanced group
- Work mostly in academia, but also in policy research, inter-/national (N)GOs and consultancy after finishing the program

Hitherto no less than 37 candidates have acquired their PhD.

### *Post-Doctoral Scholarships*

In line with the recommendations of the mid-term evaluation, the ICDD has started to broaden its networking activities and action arenas by granting postdoctoral fellowships to selected former alumni and external applicants.

## 3

## Annual Thematic Conference & Exceed Conference



Exceed Conference in Bonn, Germany, 2018.

The **Annual Thematic Conference (ATC)** was an international conference organized within the framework of the ICDD to discuss and formulate strategies for building capacity and supporting research on topics related to decent work and development.

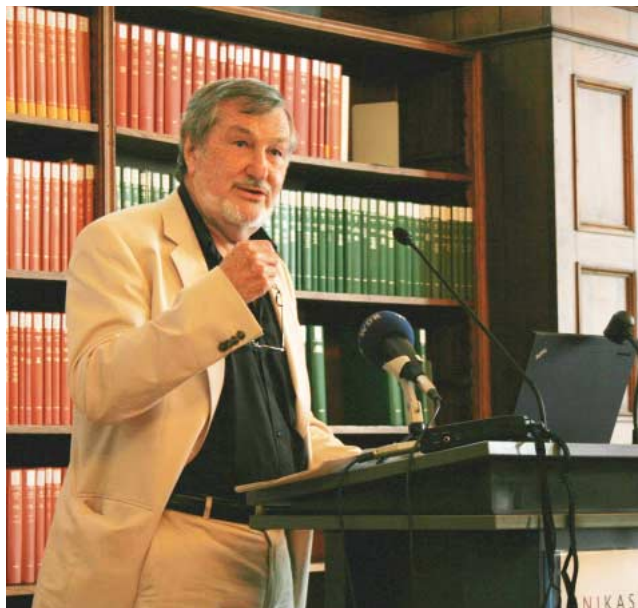
With the cooperation of eight international universities and public and civil society partners, the conference took place at a different partner university each year. It brought together central actors in higher education, international institutions, non-governmental organizations as well as scholars from various regions and multiple subject areas. In the second phase of the ICDD and 'exceed' funding (2015-2019), collaboration between the 'exceed' centres themselves became more important and intensified. 'exceed' Conferences, jointly organized by the 'exceed' centres, have superseded the ATC format. Whilst essentially retaining the same design, the conference no longer has just the ICDD network as its focus, but has become a joint endeavor of the 'exceed' centres that reaches out to all of the programme's partners at the same time.



ATC	Theme	Venue
2010	<b>ATC:</b> Migration and Decent Work – Challenges and Opportunities	Institute of Economics at Campinas State University (Unicamp), Brazil
2011	<b>ATC:</b> Urban, Peri Urban Agriculture: Empowerment and Value Chain Management	University of Agriculture Faisalabad, Pakistan
2012	<b>ATC:</b> The Food Crisis: Implications for Decent Work in Rural and Urban Areas	University of Kassel, Germany
2013	<b>ATC:</b> The Roles of Work, Food and Cash in Overcoming Poverty	Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) Mumbai, India
2014	<b>ATC:</b> Reflections on MDG 1 “Decent Work for All”: Where Do We Stand?	Kassel/Witzenhausen, Germany
2016	<b>exceed Conference:</b> Forced Migration – Environmental and Socioeconomic Dimensions	Berlin, Germany
2017	<b>exceed Conference:</b> Occupational Health and Safety in Agriculture	Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán (UADY), Mérida, Mexico
2018	<b>exceed Conference:</b> Rethinking Development Cooperation	Bonn, Germany

## 4

## Visiting Lecturers and Researchers



First Ela Bhatt visiting professor,  
Prof. Dr. Edward Webster from South Africa.

The ICDD strongly promotes academic exchange. This includes inviting visiting scientists and lecturers to enrich teaching and student supervision, as well as engaging staff and student exchange with international partner universities. The Ela Bhatt Visiting Professorship is awarded to candidates with a proven record of academic excellence and substantial contributions to the field of decent work at universities or research institutions in developing countries. The professorship was named after Ela Ramesh Bhatt, founder of India's Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA). She is a respected leader within the international labour, cooperative, women's, and micro-finance movements, who has won several national and international awards, such as the Right Livelihood Award (1984) and an honorary doctorate from Harvard University (2001). Together with the late Nelson Mandela and former President Jimmy Carter she belongs to a very select group called "The Elders".

In her honour and highlighting her significance for the professorship, Edward Webster, the first Ela Bhatt Visiting Professor, dedicated the first ICDD working paper to her: 'Work and Economic Security in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. What can we learn from Ela Bhatt?'. In 2020, ICDD Visiting Lecturer Prof. Dr. Pravin Sinha, will return to the work of Ela Bhatt with a working paper titled 'A Take on Ela Bhatt – Informal Economy, Collective Cooperation, and Decent Work: Lessons from India'.

*"I cannot think of anyone who better captures the spirit of the ICDD than the iconic figure of Ela Bhatt. I had the privilege of spending an afternoon with her in Ahmadabad in 2011 and accompanying some of her organisers in the Self Employed Workers Association (SEWA) in their successful organisation of informal women workers. Her great contribution to the struggle for decent work was to get policy makers and trade*

*unionists to recognise that the self-employed street traders and home workers that eke out a living in the sprawling slums, informal settlements and the favelas of the developing world are workers. As workers they have the rights of workers worldwide. They have a right to a decent income, a right to safe working conditions and, above all, when they come together collectively they can change their world."*

Prof. Dr. Edward Webster on Ela Bhatt

The Ela Bhatt Visiting Professorship contributed to research and training in various fields related to decent work in the Graduate School and MA/MSc programmes at the University of Kassel. Additionally, short-term lectureships enriched the curricular programme and professional expertise available. The visiting professors and guest lecturers in turn benefited by developing stronger professional ties within the ICDD.

## Ela Bhatt Visiting Professors

■ **2009/2010 | Prof. Dr. Edward Webster**

Professor emeritus from the School of Social Sciences at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg (WITS), South Africa

■ **2010/2011 | Prof. Dr. Muhammad Younas**

Professor and Chairman of the Faculty of Animal Husbandry, Department of Livestock Management at the University of Agriculture in Faisalabad (UAF), Pakistan

■ **2011 | Prof. Dr. Juan José Jimenez-Osornio**

Professor at the Campus of Biological and Agricultural Sciences at the Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán (UADY), Mexico

■ **2011/2012 | Prof. Dr. Sakhela Maxwell Buhlungu**

He came as a professor in the Sociology Department at the University of Pretoria, South Africa. He is now the vice chancellor of the University of Fort Hare.

■ **2012 and 2013 | Prof. Dr. Sharit K. Bhowmik †**

He was until his retirement a professor of Labor Studies and Dean of the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) in Mumbai, India.

■ **2012/2013 | Prof. Dr. B. V. Chinnappa Reddy**

Professor of Agricultural Economics at the University of Agriculture (UAS) in Bangalore, India

■ **2013/2014 | Prof. Dr. Paulo Baltar**

Professor at the State University of Campinas (Unicamp), São Paulo, Brazil

■ **2014 | Prof. Dr. Michelle Williams**

Associate professor of Sociology at the University of the Witwatersrand (WITS) in Johannesburg, South Africa and chairperson for the Global Labour University Programme (GLU) at WITS



- **2014 | Prof. Dr. Gordana Kranjac-Berisavljevic**  
Director of the Office for Linkages and International Relationships of the University of Development Studies (UDS), Ghana
- **2015/2016 | Prof. Dr. Gaochao He**  
Former Co-Director of the International Center for Joint Labor Research in the Department of Political Science – Sun Yat-Sen University, Guangzhou, China
- **2015/2016 | Prof. Dr. William Baah-Boateng**  
Professor at the Department of Economics of the University of Ghana, Accra, Ghana
- **2016 | Prof. Dr. Joseph Matofari**  
Associate Professor, Food Safety and Microbiology at Egerton University (EGU), Kenya
- **2016 | Prof. Dr. K. N. Ganeshaiah**  
Professor at the University of Agricultural Sciences, GKVK in Bangalore, India
- **2016/2017 | Prof. Dr. Akua O. Britwum**  
Associate Professor at the Department of Labour and Human Resource Studies at the University of Cape Coast (UCC), Ghana
- **2017 | Prof. Dr. Praveen Jha**  
Professor of Economics, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), India
- **2017/2018 | Prof. Dr. Devan Pillay**  
Associate Professor at the Department of Sociology, University of the Witwatersrand (WITS), Johannesburg, South Africa
- **2018 | Prof. Dr. Eleonor Faur**  
Professor at National University of San Martin and Researcher at Programa Ciudadania y Derechos Humanos, Instituto de Desarrollo Económico y Social (IDES), Argentina

■ **2018 | Prof. Dr. Carlos Salas**

Professor from Centro de Estudos Sindicais e Economia do Trabalho (Unicamp), Brazil

■ **2018 | Prof. Dr. Anjum Munir**

Associate Professor/Chairman at the department of Energy Systems Engineering at the University of Agriculture Faisalabad (UAF), Pakistan

■ **2019 | Prof. Dr. Vishwas Sagtar**

Associate Professor of International Relations at the University of the Witwatersrand (WITS), Johannesburg, South Africa

■ **2019 | Prof. Dr. Nicolas Pons-Vignon**

Senior Researcher at the School of Economic and Business Sciences, University of the Witwatersrand (WITS), Johannesburg, South Africa

■ **2019 | Prof. Dr. Iqrar Khan**

Former Vice Chancellor of the University of Agriculture Faisalabad (UAF), Pakistan

The Ela Bhatt Visiting Professorship as well as the many additional ICDD guest lectureships have led to further collaboration in research and in teaching. For example, the University of Kassel, the Berlin School of Economics, and the University of the Witwatersrand established a **double degree programme** in 2015. Teaching in Kassel has been significantly enriched by enhancing the variety of lecturers and integrating the southern perspective into its curriculum, which in turn, led to an overall broader perspective for both professors and students.

## 5

# MA Programmes and Scholarships

All ICDD-affiliated universities have their own MA/MSc programmes feeding into the ICDD approach to foster relevant capacities in the field of development cooperation. At the University of Kassel, the ICDD offers scholarships for MA and MSc degrees to students from developing countries within the following programmes: 'Global Political Economy and Development (GPED)' (MA), 'Labour Policies and Globalisation (LPG)' (MA), and 'Sustainable International Agriculture' (MSc). In GPED, students learn about postcolonial perspectives and critical reflections on the traditional development paradigm. The LPG programme is geared towards trade unionists around the globe and focuses on the challenges for trade union work and representation. It is offered as a joint degree with the Berlin School of Economics and as a double degree with the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa.

The ICDD also supports MA and MSc students at the different partner universities and their respective programmes. The University of the Witwatersrand in South Africa, Unicamp in Brazil, the University of Cape Coast in Ghana, and the Tata Institute of Social Sciences offer MA programmes in the field of labour and workers' representation. Egerton University in Kenya, the University of Agriculture in Faisalabad, Pakistan, and the Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán, Mexico, offer courses in the field of sustainable agriculture.



Students of the MA program “Labour Policies and Globalization” working with Prof. Dr. Devan Pillay from the University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa, at the ICDD in Kassel, Germany, October 2015.

Furthermore, smaller grants support MA and MSc students to conduct short-term field research for their theses. In return, the ICDD gains a large pool of students familiar with the network and who may become PhD fellows or partners to the ICDD in the future.

Notably, during their involvement with the ICDD, the ICDD network partners create a considerable amount of **new curricula and other teaching offers** around decent work and the SDGs, mostly for MA and PhD students, but also for trade unionists and other practitioners.

## 6

## New Curricula

In total, since 2015, more than 80 new teaching and study courses have been devised within the ICDD network. In addition to regular study programmes at the MA/MSc level, the ICDD has hosted a number of **short-term trainings** for professionals. The certificate programme **'Empowerment and Capacity Building Network for Global Labor Activists and Trade Union Officials on Global Economic Policies' (ENGAGE)** was funded and organized in close cooperation with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and the ILO. It was conducted successfully at the University of Kassel and the Berlin School of Economics from 2010 to 2013 with a total of 44 alumni.

From 2013, the programme was transferred to the University of the Witwatersrand (WITS) in South Africa where it continues to run successfully. From 2013-2019 the programme counted 120 participants. Currently an equivalent programme is being established for Latin America by Unicamp in Brazil and Universidad Nacional Tres de Febrero (UNTREF) in Argentina. The CUT (Central Única dos Trabalhadores/Unified Workers' Central) in Brazil, CTA (Central de Trabajadores) of the trade union confederations in Argentina, and the Friedrich Ebert Foundation (FES) supports this endeavor.



ENGAGE training workshop at the Sanctuary of Food Sovereignty Centre (WITS), South Africa, 2018.



The new teaching format **‘MOOC’ – massive open online course** – deserves special attention and was jointly employed by ICDD and GLU (Global Labour University) partners in close collaboration with trade union officials, experts from academia, and labour organizations. By July 2019, the number of participants enrolled had already exceeded 15,700, the majority coming from trade unions and labour-oriented organizations.

The MOOCs provide users from across the world with an opportunity to learn more about labour issues, combining theoretical knowledge and practical skills. The involvement of experts from various institutions in different countries ensures that the contents respond to challenges in varying contexts. The residential activities conducted by the local partners (in many cases alumni of the Global Labour University) link global discussions to local challenges and theoretical debates to experiences on the ground. The MOOCs provide opportunities to network with thousands of trade unionists and labour activists from around the world. A wider reach is aimed for by translating some

of the MOOCs into other languages (e.g. Spanish) or even adapting MOOCs to local contexts (e.g. Bangladesh in Bangla). Thus the knowledge is not only reserved for practitioners, unionists, and academics, but also reaches the affected workers themselves.

The online courses are used by various campuses and other academic institutions, trade unions, and labour-oriented institutions. In this way the MOOCs help to introduce new teaching methods in combination with face-to-face interactions, thereby allowing students the chance to meet international experts they could not meet otherwise.

Individual sessions from the jointly developed MOOCs on ‘Decent Work in Global Supply Chains’, ‘Fair Wages in a Global Economy’, and ‘International Labour Standards: how to use them’ are integrated into the regular curricula at the partner universities.

Moreover, a GLU Online Academy degree is under preparation, which will include the MOOCs as modules towards an MA degree.

Presently, the following MOOCs have been created:

- Decent Work in Global Supply Chains (English)
- Fair Wages Strategies in a Global Economy (English)
- International Labour Standards: how to use them (English, Spanish, French)
- Workers' Rights in a Global Economy (Russian)
- Global Workers' Rights (English)
- Sustainable and Inclusive Development in Bangladesh through Workers' Rights (Bangla)
- Trade Unions in Transformation (English)
- Towards Sustainable and Inclusive Development in Bangladesh: The Role of Industrial Relations and Workers' Rights (Bangla)
- Towards Decent Work in Global Supply Chains (English)

For more information, please visit the GLU website **[www.global-labour-university.org](http://www.global-labour-university.org)** or go directly to [iversity.org](http://iversity.org), the platform on which the majority of the MOOCs are offered.

## New Degree Programmes and Courses at the Partner Universities (Selection)

During their membership in the ICDD network, a wealth of new courses and degree programmes have been created by the ICDD partner universities around labour, development, decent work, and the SDGs.

At the **University of Agriculture Faisalabad**, the new degree programmes 'Energy Systems Engineering' and 'Food Engineering' were established as an outcome of the ICDD research cluster on 'Adding Value to Agricultural Products Using Solar Energy'. In addition, the courses 'Sociology of Development' and 'Women and Development' were revised with regard to decent work and the SDGs. Furthermore, the BSc programme 'Bachelor in Solar Energy' was developed.

In addition to the Double Degree MA programme it shares with the University of Kassel, the **University of the Witwatersrand** generated a rich variety of short courses, such as 'Social Theory' or 'Research Writing for Trade Unionists'. These short courses address the

education gap between those with trade union experience and those with tertiary education. The courses aim to skill trade unionists in order to enhance their ability to respond to SDG issues, resulting in robust, vibrant organized labour practices. Post-graduate courses specifically assist trade unions.

At **Egerton University**, the teaching module 'Gender and Agriculture, Gender and Employment' is currently being piloted. It has been devised as a mass training tool for education on decent work and gender issues with an initial focus on the agrarian community. Building on practical examples set in a comparative perspective, its aim is to equip students with helpful knowledge, which will in turn lead to more refined policy recommendations and enhanced research skills. The module was influenced by the ICDD research project on 'Women's Empowerment for Sustainable Rural Livelihoods: Voices from Ghana, Pakistan, and Kenya'.

The **Tata Institute of Social Sciences** is offering a new MA module ‘Trade Union Movements’. It deals with the currently changing nature of work and employment status of workers, as discussed within trade unions in the context of globalization and digitalization. ‘Work and Employment in Contemporary Labour Markets’ is aimed at MPhil and PhD students and includes field work. Furthermore, a couple of modules from the MA programme ‘Labour Studies and Social Protection’ have been revised in order to better incorporate SDG, decent work, and development issues, for instance the module titled ‘Tea Plantation Industry in India’.

The **State University of Campinas** produced a MOOC, available on the Coursera platform: ‘Introdução à Economia do Trabalho: Teorias e Políticas’ – ‘Introduction to Labour Economics: Theories and Practices’ ([www.coursera.org/learn/economia-do-trabalho](http://www.coursera.org/learn/economia-do-trabalho)). The university is also preparing a Latin American equivalent of the successful ENGAGE<sup>2</sup> programme (see

above), has initiated a cycle of lectures on ‘Economy and Work in the Contemporary World’, and it revised its refresher course titled ‘Labour Economics for Magistrates and Public Servants’ aimed at students below the master level.

The **University of Cape Coast** introduced the innovative concept of ‘Social Laboratories’. These support both staff and students from the School for Development Studies in conducting research in communities with the assistance of the local government. Findings from the research are disseminated back to authorities, such as municipal or district assemblies, for their support in identifying areas of priority in terms of development policy. The new MA ‘Labour Studies’ and the revised MA ‘Development and Management’ are currently awaiting accreditation from the Ghana National Accreditation Board. A large variety of other new teaching offers are currently under preparation.

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2 Empowerment and Capacity Building Network for Global Labour Activists and Trade Union Officials on Global Economic Policies

## 7 Alumni Applied Research School (AARS)

The Alumni Applied Research School (AARS) is a transfer instrument that allows alumni to share their experience and to work on ICDD topics after receiving their MA/MSc. It takes place every year over several days with the aim of bringing together current students, researchers, and graduates, many of whom have joined trade unions or NGOs in their professional lives. The aim of the summer school is to strengthen Global Labour University (GLU) and ICDD network links and to explore options for future research collaboration. What is more, the summer school also provides a vital means of professional networking for alumni as well as a means of supporting them in their careers. It furnishes them with a platform for exchanging practical solutions from their practical day-to-day experience. This is achieved, for instance, within research groups on issues of the world of work. AARS usually takes place together with and complements the annual GLU Conference.



With Antônio Lisboa Deborah Greenfield, Christoph Scherrer, Hubertus Heil, and Reiner Hoffmann.



Alumni participants of the AARS visit the Kommune Niederkaufungen, Germany, 2019.

AARS	Theme	Location
2009	Research Methods, Collaboration and Dissemination in three Research Projects: Minimum Wage, Domestic Work, and Gender and Trade Unions	Berlin, Germany
2010	Labour and the Global Crisis: Sharing the Burden, Shaping the Future?	Berlin, Germany
2011	The Politics of Labour and Development	Johannesburg, South Africa
2012	Sustainable Growth, Development and Labour: Progressive Responses at Local, National and Global Level	Instituto Cajamar, Brazil
2013	In Support of the Working Class	TISS Mumbai, India
2014	Inequality Within and Among Nations: Causes, Effects, and Responses	Berlin, Germany
2015	Sharing the Gains – Containing Corporate Power	Washington D.C. & Pennsylvania State University, USA
2016	The Just Transition and the Role of Labour: Our Ecological, Social, and Economic Future	Johannesburg, South Africa
2017	Reincarnation or Death of Neoliberalism? The Rise of Market Authoritarianism and its Challenges for Labour	New Delhi, India
2018	The Future of Work: Democracy, Development and the Role of Labour	São Paulo, Brazil
2019	Reflecting 100 years of ILO – Shaping the Rules for a New Century of Labour	Berlin, Germany



## 8

## ICDD Breakfast Talks

“Food for thought (... and the stomach!)” This is the motto of ICDD's breakfast talk series. Originally developed by the ICDD partners at the University of the Witwatersrand as a forum for bringing together practitioners and policy makers with academics and students, the ICDD launched another series of this successful format at Kassel University. Since 2017, guest scientists,

external guests and members of the ICDD have presented and discussed their current research or themes of special interest, while all participants are invited to a breakfast buffet.

■ **Prof. Dr. Nicolas Pons-Vignon**

(University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa), *The Political Economy of Industrial Policy: towards a political economy of developmental failure*

■ **Prof. Dr. Nandita Mondal**

(Tata Institute of Social Sciences, India), *Changing Gender Relations in India.*

■ **Dr. Cadaba Srinivas Prasad**

(National Academy of Social Sciences, India), *Use of Feed Additives Generated Through Fermentation Technologies for Livestock Feed.*



■ **Prof. Dr. Devan Pillay**

(University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa),  
*Marx meets Buddha: Eco-socialism, Gross National Happiness, and the Pursuit of Holistic Development.*

■ **Prof. Dr. Soninkhishig Nergui**

(National University of Mongolia), *Mongolian Traditional Dairy Products: Regional Difference in Milk Processing and Product Diversity.*

■ **Prof. Dr. Victor Ojakorotu**

(North-West University, South Africa),  
*From the 'Oil Curse' to Sustainable Development in Africa's Petro-States.*

■ **Dr. Gaye Yilmaz**

(Bosporus University, Turkey) and Sue Ledwith  
(Oxford Brookes University, UK), *Migration and Domestic Work: the Collective Organisation of Women and their Voices from the City* (Book Launch).



■ **Prof. Dr. Andreas Thiel**

(University of Kassel, Germany), *Polycentricity and Agri-environmental Governance.*

■ **Prof. Dr. Rebeca Ramos Padrón**

(University of Havana, Cuba), *Inequalities and Social Policies in Cuba: Old Havana as a Scenario for Intervention.*

■ **Prof. Dr. Eleonor Faur**

(National University of San Martín, Argentina),  
*A Widening Gap: Gender, Social Inequalities and Carework in Argentina.*

■ **Dr. Franziska Müller, Dr. Simone Claar, Carsten Elsner, Manuel Neumann**  
(ICDD, University of Kassel, Germany),  
*Green is a Pan-African Color: Renewable Energy Transitions in Sub-Saharan Africa.*

■ **Dr. Sangaré**  
(Burkina Faso), *Trypanosomosis (AAT-AHT) Pathology and Nutrition Interaction in a West Africa Context.*

■ **Dr. Jose Kallarackal**  
(India), *Understanding the Mechanism of Water Use by Trees in the Tropics.*



■ **Prof. Dr. Archana Prasad**  
(Jawaharlal Nehru University, India),  
*The Long March: Mapping Agrarian Struggles in Neo-liberal India.*

■ **Delmy Tania Cruz Hernández, Mar Daza, Eva Vázquez**  
(Collective 'Miradas críticas del Territorio desde el Feminismo'), *Mapping Body-Territory: a Feminist Perspective on the Link between Extractivism and Violence.*

■ **Dr. Miguel A. Rivera-Quñones**  
(University of Puerto Rico), *Is China better than the 'West' for Africa's development?*

■ **Prof. Dr. Anjum Munir**  
(ICDD, University of Agriculture Faisalabad, Pakistan), *Providing Rural Areas with Decentralized Solar and Bio-energy Solutions for Value Addition and Income Generation.*

■ **Prof. Dr. Matt Turner**

(University of Wisconsin – Madison, USA), *Land Quality Variation across Agropastoral Landscapes in West Africa: both Cause and Symptom of Inter-household Inequities.*

■ **Prof. Dr. Nicolas Pons-Vignon**

(University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa), *The Macron Fallacy: Neoliberalism and Authoritarianism in an Advanced Capitalist Country.*

■ **Dr. Olusegun Oladeinde**

(Bells University of Technology, Nigeria), *Decent Work in the Port Industry: Resilience of Social Dialogue.*

■ **Dr. Rodrigo Baptista**

(University of Kassel, ICDD, Germany), *The Invisibility of The Black Population in Modern Slavery: Evidence based on Conditions of Social Vulnerability.*

■ **Prof. Dr. Christoph Scherrer, Dr. Ismail D. Karatepe**

(University of Kassel, ICDD), *Agricultural Workers and Smallholders in Global Value Chains: No Social Upgrading without Collective Action.*

■ **Prof. Dr. Pravin Sinha**

(Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai), *Securing Decent Work Conditions Entails Adherence to Labor Laws – The Case of India.*

■ **Jenny Simon and Alvin Yang**

(University of Kassel, Germany), *China's Changing Role in the Global Political Economy: Competing IR/IPE Perspectives.*



■ **Prof. Dr. K. N. Ganeshaiah**

(University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore, India), *Prospecting Plants from Mythology: an Experiment from Indian Mythological Stories.*

■ **Prof. Dr. Christine M. Klapeer**

(University of Kassel/University of Göttingen, Germany), *Queer/ing Development? LGBTIQ Rights, Development Politics and the Revival of (Sexual) Modernization Paradigms.*

■ **Prof. Dr. Vishwas Sagtar**

(University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa), *The Rise of Eco-fascism.*

■ **Dr. Barbara Sturm**

(University of Kassel, Germany), *Decentralised Postharvest Processing of Underutilised Species into Innovative Value Added Products in West Africa.*



Further Breakfast Talks and other ICDD events can be viewed on the ICDD website: [www.uni-kassel.de/einrichtungen/international-center-for-development-and-decent-work-icdd/events.html](http://www.uni-kassel.de/einrichtungen/international-center-for-development-and-decent-work-icdd/events.html)

■ **Dr. Mondli Hlatshwayo**

(University of Johannesburg), *Precarious Work and Precarious Resistance: a Case Study of Zimbabwean Migrant Women Workers in Johannesburg, South Africa.*

■ **Prof. Dr. Martin Kronauer**

(Berlin School of Economics and Law, Germany), *Institutional Perspectives on the Current 'Crisis of Democratic Capitalism'.*

■ **Dr. Alexander Gallas, Prof. Dr. Christoph Scherrer**

(ICDD, University of Kassel), *The Rise of the Far Right and the Exhaustion of Merkelism.*

## 9 Further Events



Apart from the formats of the Annual Thematic/ 'exceed' conference, the PhD Workshop, the AARS, and the Breakfast Talk, the ICDD is also involved in a large variety of other formats and participatory events.

Every year, approximately thirty activists working in NGOs, trade unions, political foundations, and governmental institutions from the Global South and Germany meet for one week near Kassel for the **'International**



**Kassel Summer School’ (IKSA)**, jointly organized with the Friedrich Ebert Foundation. Its central theme is “How can the rules of the world economy be shaped to make the globalization process more socially acceptable and sustainable?”

The DITSL – German Institute for Tropical and Subtropical Agriculture, one of the ICDD’s core partners, is strongly involved in the organization of the **international conference on agriculture in the tropics and subtropics, ‘Tropentag’**. This annual conference rotates across European universities (BOKU Vienna, Bonn, Ghent, Göttingen, Hohenheim, HU Berlin, Kassel-Witzenhausen, Life Sciences Prague), in cooperation with the Leibnitz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research (ZALF e.V.), the Council for Tropical and Subtropical Research (ATSAF e.V.), and the GIZ Advisory Service on Agricultural Research for Development (BEAF). Tropentag is a development-oriented and interdisciplinary conference. It addresses issues of resource management, environment, agricul-

ture, forestry, fisheries, food, nutrition and related sciences in the context of rural development, sustainable resource use, and poverty alleviation worldwide.<sup>3</sup>



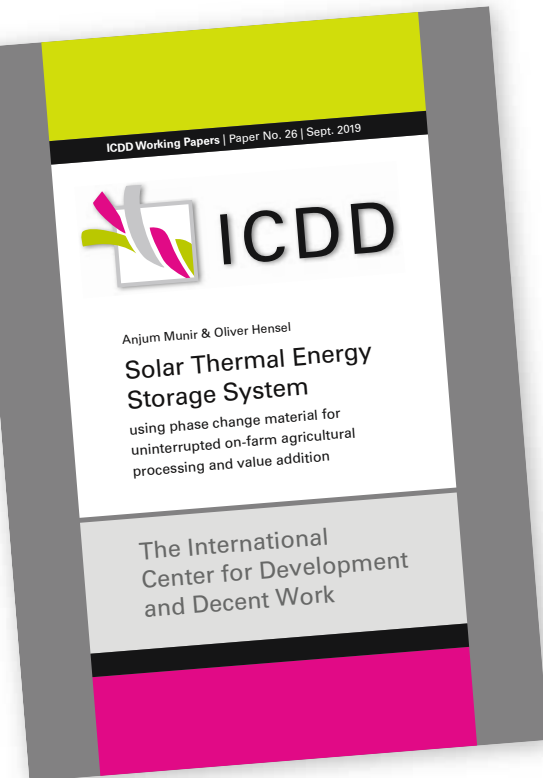
Booth of ICDD at Tropentag in Kassel, Germany, 2019.

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3 This information was taken from the Tropentag website: [www.tropentag.de/conference/general.php](http://www.tropentag.de/conference/general.php)

# 10

## Publications and Marketing



In addition to generating knowledge on decent work topics, an important function of the ICDD and the ICDD network is to share knowledge as a means of raising public awareness and influencing policy decisions. This has resulted in a considerable number of publications over the years since 2009, including the in-house ICDD working papers as well as the 'Labor and Globalization' book series edited by ICDD Executive Director Prof. Dr. Christoph Scherrer.

For the list of ICDD publications, please consult our website:

**[www.uni-kassel.de/go/icdd/publications](http://www.uni-kassel.de/go/icdd/publications)**

In the **ICDD Working Paper**, hitherto 29 volumes have been released:

- **Volume 1:** Webster, Edward:  
*Work and Economic Security in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. What Can We Learn from Ela Bhatt?*
- **Volume 2:** Hagmann, Jonas:  
*Opportunities and Constraints of Peri-urban Buffalo and Dairy Cattle Systems in Faisalabad, Punjab, Pakistan*

- **Volume 3:** Marchetti, Sabrina: *Together? On the Not-so-easy Relationship between Italian Labour Organisations and Migrant Domestic Workers' Groups*
- **Volume 4:** Sinaga, Hariati / Scherrer, Christoph: *Core Labor Rights: Competitive Pressures and Non-Compliance*
- **Volume 5:** Burchardt, Hans-Jürgen / Weinmann, Nico: *Social Inequality and Social Policy outside the OECD: A New Research Perspective on Latin America*
- **Volume 6:** Beck, Stefan: *Sozial verantwortliche Beschaffung von Informationstechnik. Socially Responsible Public Procurement of Information Technology*
- **Volume 7:** Aufderheide, Mareike / Voigts, Clemens / Hülsebusch, Christian / Kaufmann, Brigitte: *Decent Work? How Self-employed Pastoralists and Employed Herders on Ranches Perceive their Working Conditions*
- **Volume 8:** Bhattacharjee, Manojit / Rajeev, Meenakshi: *Credit Exclusion of the Poor: A Study of Cultivator Households in India*
- **Volume 9:** Younas, Muhammad: *The Dairy Value Chain: A Promoter of Development and Employment in Pakistan*
- **Volume 10:** Erbach, Juliane: *The Decency of Women's Working Conditions in Peri-urban Buffalo Production Systems in the District Faisalabad, Punjab, Pakistan*

- **Volume 11:** Schützhofer, Timm B.: *Can Decent Work and Export Oriented Growth Strategies Go Together? Lessons from Nicaragua's Export Processing Zones*
- **Volume 12:** Bhattacharya, Tulika/ Rajeev, Meenakshi: *Identifying Employment Creating Sectors in India: An Analysis of Input-Output Linkages*
- **Volume 13:** Withanachchi, Sisira Saddhamangala/Houdret, Annabelle/Nergui, Soninkhishig /Ejarque i Gonzalez, Elisabet/ Tsogtbayar, Ankhbold/Ploeger, Angelika: *(Re) configuration of Water Resources Management in Mongolia: A Critical Geopolitical Analysis*
- **Volume 14:** Gordana Kranjac-Berisavljevic: *Transformations of traditional landuse systems and their effects on development opportunities and people's livelihoods*
- **Volume 15:** Meenakshi Rajeev, Manojit Bhattacharjee, B.P. Vani: *Crop Insurance and Risk Mitigation: Experiences from India*
- **Volume 16:** William Baah-Boateng (PhD): *Economic growth and employment generation nexus: Insight from Ghana*
- **Volume 17:** Madhushree Sekher/ Suchandrima Chakraborty: *Politics of public policies in India: Explaining the institutional internalization of inequality in policy legislation*
- **Volume 18:** Tripti Kumari: *Microfinance through Women Self-Help Groups (SHGs) for Grass-root level Empowerment: An Empirical study of Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, India*
- **Volume 19:** Meenakshi Rajeev, B.P. Vani and Veerashekarappa: *Self-help groups for India's financial inclusion: Do effective costs of borrowing limit their operation?*
- **Volume 20:** Praveen Jha: *India's Macroeconomic Policy Regime and Challenges of Employment: Some Reflections on the Manufacturing Sector*

- **Volume 21:** Meenakshi Rajeev, Pranav Nagendran: *Decency of primary occupations in the Indian fishing industry*
- **Volume 22:** Dr. Tolga Tören: *Documentation Report: Syrian Refugees in the Turkish Labour Market*
- **Volume 23:** Dr. Tulika Bhattacharya: *Farmers in Peri-Urban Regions: Socio-Economic Changes and Access to Finance Study for Indian Economy*
- **Volume 24:** Akua Opokua Britwum, Angela Dziedzom Akorsu, Loretta Baidoo: *Women's empowerment for sustainable rural livelihoods: Voices from selected communities in Ghana.*
- **Volume 25:** Christa Wichterich: *Care Extractivism and the Reconfiguration of Social Reproduction in Post-Fordist Economies*
- **Volume 26:** Anjum Munir & Oliver Hensel: *Solar Thermal Energy Storage System using phase change material for uninterrupted on-farm agricultural processing and value addition*
- **Volume 27:** Ismail Doga Karatepe, Christoph Scherrer, and Henrique Tizzot: *Mercosur-EU Agreement: Impact on Agriculture, Environment, and Consumers*
- **Volume 28:** Aleksandra Draganic and Nazmul Arefin: *Training needs assessment: Building Sustainability-Related Capacity among Mid-Level Managers in the Bangladeshi Garment Industry*
- **Volume 29:** Gaurang Rami: *Determinants and Forecasting of Female Labour Force Participation Rate in India: Testing of Feminization U hypothesis*
- **Volume 30:** Patricia Chong, Michelle LeBlanc, and Anna Liu: *Legal Aid Ontario lawyers organizing against the odds: A case study of professional workers unionizing*

In the Book Series **Labor and Globalization**, hitherto 18 volumes have been released:



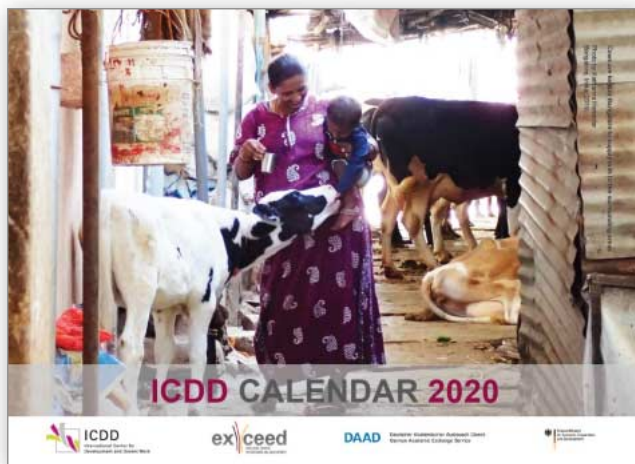
- **Volume 1:** Donna McGuire (2013). *Re-Framing Trade – Union Mobilisation against the General Agreement on Trade in Service (GATS). For a brief review, see: New Unionism Blog, Portal für Politikwissenschaft*
- **Volume 2:** Christoph Scherrer, Debdulal Saha (Eds.) (2013). *The Food Crisis – Implications for Labor*
- **Volume 3:** Schmelzer-Roldán, Sarah Elisabeth (2014). *The Impact of Electricity Sector Privatisation on Employees in Argentina and Brazil. A Comparative Institutional Analysis*
- **Volume 4:** Britwum, A., Ledwith, S. (2014). *Visibility and Voice for Union Women: Country case studies from Global Labour University researchers*
- **Volume 5:** Scherrer, C. (2014). *The Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP): Implications for Labor*
- **Volume 6:** Rajeev, M., Pramanik, S. (2014). *Reforming Cooperative Credit Structure in India for Financial Inclusion*
- **Volume 7:** Hachmann, Luciana (2014). *Pursuing a Developmental State Trade Agenda in a Neo-Liberal Context*



- **Volume 8:** Oksana Balashova, Ismail Doga Karatepe, Aishah Namukasa (Eds.) (2017). *Where have all the classes gone? A critical perspective on struggles and collective action*
- **Volume 9:** Scherrer, C. (2017). *Enforcement Instruments for Social Human Rights along Supply Chains*
- **Volume 10:** Kip, M. E. (2017). *The Ends of Union Solidarity: Undocumented Labour and German Trade Unions*
- **Volume 11:** Scherrer, Christoph; Verma, Santosh (Ed.). (2018). *Decent Work Deficits in Southern Agriculture: Measurements, Drivers and Strategies*
- **Volume 12:** Jungehülsing, Jenny (2018). *Transnational Migration and International Labor Solidarity. On Migrant Union Members' Impact on Unions' Cross-border Work*
- **Volume 13:** Yarmolyuk-Kröck, K. (2018). *The Implementation of International and European Occupational Safety and Health Standards into the National Legislation of Ukraine*
- **Volume 14:** Zenglein, M. J. (2018). *Institutional Framework and Dysfunctionality of the Transitional Chinese Wage Bargaining Regime*
- **Volume 15:** Scherrer, Christoph; Radon, Katja (Ed.) (2019). *Occupational Safety and Health Challenges in Southern Agriculture*
- **Volume 16:** Otoo, Kwabena Nyarko (Ed.) (2019). *Informality and Labour Regulations in Ghana*
- **Volume 17:** Yilmaz, Gaye; Karatepe, Ismail Doga; Tören, Tolga (Ed.) (2019). *Integration through Exploitation: Syrians in Turkey.*
- **Volume 18:** Ehmke, Ellen (Ed.) (2019). *Social Security Expansion in the South: From Welfare Regimes to Implementation.*

**All volumes were published by Rainer Hampp Verlag.**

**Downloadable at: <https://kobra.uni-kassel.de/handle/123456789/2017082153270>**



In addition to the various academic activities, public relations and marketing of the ICDD brand plays an important role in positioning the centre and its topics internationally. The ICDD calendar and the ICDD cook-book containing recipes from all over the world are



examples of the centre's production of a wide range of marketing products. Other marketing material includes university videos as well as an ICDD profile video, ICDD rucksacks, an ICDD fan, pens, the ICDD Website and Facebook page, newspaper articles, and flyers.

## **11** ICDD Organization and Management

### **International Steering Committee (ISC)**

The activities of the international ICDD network are coordinated with the key partners through an international steering committee (ISC) in which the International Labour Organization (ILO) is also represented. All strategic decisions are taken here.

### **ICDD Directorate**

The ICDD in Kassel is headed by a Board of Directors composed of member-elected PhD students, scientists and administrative staff, who elect the executive director and three directors for three years. The board determines the yearly research and business plan with regard to the common research and teaching projects of the centre, decides upon the incorporation of additional professorships and partners, determines the dis-

tribution of short-term lectureships, awards subcontracts, and it decides on all questions which impact the centre as a whole and are not specifically assigned to another organ.

### **ICDD Staff**

The ICDD network is administered at the University of Kassel. As well as the coordination with the partner universities, staff members are also in charge of the general and financial coordination and administration. The areas of responsibility also include the cooperation with other projects, the administration and coordination of international master's programmes, research, and the ICDD graduate school.



ICDD staff at Kassel, Germany. Photo by Harry Soremski, 2019.

## **12** ICDD Research Projects

### **12.1 Research Projects 2009–2014**

Research collaboration among the ICDD network partners encompasses various disciplines, among them agricultural sciences, political sciences, sociology, and economics. The ICDD is strongly committed to promoting multidisciplinary research approaches to specific decent work issues. In the first phase of the ICDD (2009–14), the centre focused on the following three research clusters and related research projects:

#### **Sustainable Value Creation for Decent Work**

- Biodiversity and Variation in Nutritional Properties of Pakistani Dates:  
Implications for Sustainable Value Chain and Decent Living
- Agrodiversity, Labour Migration, Decent Work, and Agricultural Development in Yucatán, Mexico
- Supply Chain Management at the Base of the Pyramid
- Remittances for Decent Work
- Coupling Plant and Animal Production Systems for Poverty Alleviation  
in Cholistan (Pakistan) and Rajasthan (India)
- Adding Value to Agricultural Products Using Solar Energy

More information on the 2009–2014 research projects can be found on the ICDD website:  
[www.uni-kassel.de/go/icdd/research\\_2009-2014](http://www.uni-kassel.de/go/icdd/research_2009-2014)

### **Instruments for Promoting Decent Work**

- On the Political Economy of Labor Market and Social Reforms in Latin America
- The Governance of the Financial Sector and its Impact on the Decent Work Agenda
- Creation of Decent Work Employment in Rural Areas of Laikipia (Kenya) through Eco-tourism, with a Special Focus on Village Communities
- The Employment Challenge: Towards a Trade and Currency Regime for Decent Work
- Strategies for Overcoming Economic Inequality
- Transnational Trade Union Cooperation in Labour Migrant Sending and Receiving Countries as a Strategy to Promote Decent Work

### **Strategies of Empowerment for Decent Work**

- Strategies of Empowerment for (Migrant) Domestic Workers
- Work, Livelihood Strategies and Economic Security in the Twenty-first Century
- Working Conditions along Agricultural Value Chains
- Decent Work or Decent Life?: The Quest for an Economics of "Happiness"
- Organising Vulnerable Workers – Comparisons between India, South Africa, and Ghana

## 12.2 Research Projects 2015–2019

In response to the United Nation's post-MDG agenda and particularly the **Sustainable Development Goal 8 'Decent Work and Economic Growth'**, the ICDD modified and widened its research focus to five thematic areas in the period 2015–2019:

### I Decent Work along Agricultural Value Chains

(coordinator: Prof. Dr. Christoph Scherrer, University of Kassel, Germany)

This research agenda deals with the concept of production chains, considering its relevance for decent work. While the opportunities and constraints of economic upgrading are frequently examined, social aspects or the prospects of social upgrading, i.e. improving the working conditions of employees and/or the positive effects on conditions for their families, have received less attention. The research project tackles the questions of whether and how social upgrading is a precondition for

economic upgrading. The research cluster contains the following research projects:

#### A. Global Agricultural Production Systems (GAPS)

- Supply Chain Governance: A Decent Work Approach to Optimize the Mango Value Chain System – coordinated by UAF, Pakistan
- Income Generation Using Solar Based Food Processing Technologies for Rural Community – coordinated by UAF, Pakistan



### ... GAPS

- Mapping the Global Value Chain of Cashew Nut Processing Units – coordinated by TISS, India
- Structural Aspects of the Melon Production Chain Produced in the Brazilian North-eastern Semi-arid Region – coordinated by Unicamp, Brazil
- Pilot Study of Small Tea Growers in India: Issues of the Value Chain and Decent Work – coordinated by TISS, India
- A Decent Work Approach to Optimize Mango Value Chain Governance in Kenya – coordinated by EGU, Kenya
- Agrodiversity, Agricultural Value Chains and Decent Work in Rural Areas of Yucatan – coordinated by UADY, Mexico
- Access to Finance in the Greater Bengaluru Area – coordinated by ISEC (Institute for Social and Economic Change), India

### B. Power Asymmetry in the Upstream of Agricultural Value Chains

- Influence of Governance on Sustainability of Agronomic and Post-harvest Practices for Improved Quality of Mango Fruits and Products in Makueni and Kwale Counties in Kenya – coordinated by EGU, Kenya
- Living with Imbalance of Power in Supply Chains and its impact on Decent Work: The Case of the Mango Value Chain in Pakistan – coordinated by UAF, Pakistan
- Constraints and Opportunities for Upgrading in Agricultural Value Chains in Developing Countries: the Case of the Mangoes Produced in the Brazilian Northeast Region – coordinated by Unicamp, Brazil
- Power Asymmetry in the Indian Rice Value Chains – coordinated by JNU, India

## II Organizing the Informal Economy

(coordinator: Prof. Dr. Edward Webster, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa)

The majority of informal employment in the agrarian sector of the global South does not only go hand in hand with low productivity and low income, but is usually also characterized by a lack of social protection for the informal workers by the state or other social organizations. Against this background, this research agenda is concerned with the opportunities and problems presented by a promising strategy for enhancing the living and working conditions in the informal sector: the sector-specific, trade union-like organization of workers to establish member-based social security systems – a development that has been supported by governments, trade unions, and informal workers for the past couple of years.

### Related Project:

- Organization of Informal Workers: Experiences and Challenges (finalized in 2015) – coordinated by Unicamp, Brazil

### III Extractivism and Rural Welfare

(coordinator: Prof. Dr. Hans-Jürgen Burchardt, University of Kassel, Germany)

Due to the rise of commodity prices, extractivist development models have returned to the political agenda in the 2000s. On the one hand, the growth they have brought has been used e.g. for progressive social policies in Latin America. On the other hand, these development models remain highly problematic both ecologically and economically. Little is known in this context regarding the significance of extractivist growth models for improving working conditions or productivity progress. The projects in this research area therefore mainly focus on the issues: How do (neo-)extractivist growth models promote or impede such improvements and progress? How are these growth models determined, implemented, and steered? What kinds of policies and regulations are required in order to achieve economic and, most importantly, social upgrading in extractivist sectors?

#### Related Projects:

- Neo-Extractivism; Labour Relations and Productivity – UCC and Unicamp, Brazil
- Development of Energy Efficient e-Pedelec Rickshaw for Income Generation in Rural Communities Through Quality and Easier Milk Handling – joint project of UAF, Pakistan and Kassel, Germany

## IV Rural-Urban Linkages: Transformation Processes, Livelihoods and Social Protection

(coordinator: Prof. Dr. Andreas Bürkert, University of Kassel, Germany)

The strong ecological, social, and economic dependency of cities on their surrounding regions had not been sufficiently investigated for a long time. This is also true of analysis relating to the change of land use and livelihoods through urbanization as well as the implications of urbanization for rural agrarian ecosystems. Research projects in this thematic area explore what impact spatial, ecological, agrarian, economic, and social changes to rural-urban linkages have on the poverty of affected people, using case studies from Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

### Related Projects:

- Women's Empowerment for Sustainable Rural Livelihoods: Voices from Ghana, Pakistan & Kenya – joint project between UCC, Ghana, UAF, Pakistan, and EGU, Kenya
- Urbanization of Agricultural Land, Fodder & Dairy production & Resource Use Efficiency at the Rural-urban Interface in Pakistan & India – coordinated by UAF, Pakistan and TISS, India
- Rural-Urban Linkages in Comparative Perspective: Labour & Land in Ghana & South Africa – coordinated by UCC, Ghana and WITS, South Africa
- Peri-Urban Regions of Accra and Bangalore: Changing Structure of Economic, Social and Financial Paradigms – joint project between UCC, ISEC (Institute for Social and Economic Change), India and Kassel, Germany

## V Rethinking Development Cooperation

(coordinator: Prof. Dr. Aram Ziai, University of Kassel, Germany)

Development cooperation can be a vital instrument in implementing the UN Sustainable Development Goal 8, but it also carries the risk of overlooking any conflicts of interest related to it. Seemingly simple solutions, such as facilitated market access, an increase of investments or an advancement of technology frequently lose sight of complex social realities. While progress in production may result in improvements of the working and living conditions for some, it may lead to the deterioration of these conditions for others. This circumstance calls for research perspectives which will identify the different positions, needs, and interests in development cooperation. Researchers working in this area develop such research perspectives, drawing on case studies from development cooperation, not least aiming at devising strategies for ‘empowerment’ in this field.

The project is a collaboration between UCC, Ghana, TISS, India, UADY, Mexico, and the University of Kassel, Germany.

### Related Projects:

- Development-induced Displacement and Accountability in Development Aid
- Analysis of the Effect of Socio-Productive Development Programmes on the Local Biocultural Heritage & its Implications on Decent Work through a Political Ecological Perspective
- Post-Development: Decolonial Alternatives to Development

More information on the 2015–2019 research projects as well as further current research can be found on the ICDD website: [www.uni-kassel.de/go/icdd/research\\_2015-2019](http://www.uni-kassel.de/go/icdd/research_2015-2019)

## 13 Third-Party Funding & Follow-up Projects

The research projects have not only led to numerous publications to present their findings, they have also generated further third-party funding. Funding institutions continue to be convinced by the solid, collaborative and innovative (pilot) studies performed within the framework of the ICDD. Further third-party funding resulted not only from the efforts of research project participants, but also other members of the ICDD network and its partner universities. Prominent third-party funded spin-off projects developed within the ICDD network include the following:

### **Analysis of the Constraints and Opportunities for Economic and Social Upgrading in Agricultural Value Chains in Developing Countries (FAO and HBS funded)**

investigates the effects of the restructuring of global value chains on income distribution, working conditions and trajectories of economic and social upgrading in the global North and South. It connects interdisciplinary theory building with sectoral and national case studies. Its aim is to bring together macro-economic perspectives with sociological and political economy approaches, especially macroeconomic theories, comparative capitalism, and global value chain analysis.

Involved partners: Prof. Dr. Christoph Scherrer (University of Kassel, Germany); Berlin School of Economics and Law, Germany (HWR); Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi, India; Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, India; University of Cape Coast, Ghana; Economia da Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Norte (UFRN) – CCSA – Centro de Ciencias Sociais Aplicadas, State University of Campinas, Brazil; Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán, Merida, Mexico; University of Agriculture Faisalabad, Pakistan; University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa.

**Decentralized Postharvest Processing of Underutilized Species into Innovative Value Added Products for Improved Food and Nutrition Security in West Africa (funded by the BLE).** This project aims to contribute to food security in Sierra Leone, Ghana, and Nigeria by extending the shelf-life of underutilized species, thereby increasing the availability of nutritious foods through new and diversified value chains. Due to their primary role in childcare and household food production, the empowerment of women to process underutilized species into nutritious food products is of vital importance. Improving women's income opportunities leads to increased food availability for households, particularly for children. Thus, capacity building of women is one of the major goals of this project. In the framework of this project, self-help women's groups are guided through a collaborative learning process to develop their own processing businesses, using locally available materials and renewable energies, striving to arrive at sustainable business models. Project coordination: Prof. Dr. Oliver Hensel and Dr. habil. Barbara Sturm (University of Kassel, Germany). Partner institutions: German Institute for

Tropical and Subtropical Agriculture, DITSL (Germany), Innotech Ingenieursgesellschaft mbH (Germany), University for Development Studies (Ghana), Njala University (Sierra Leone), National Horticultural Research Institute (Nigeria).

**CoAct: Integrated Urban-Rural Concept for the Production of Activated Carbon and Energy Carriers from Residual Biomass (funded by the BMBF).**

In order to achieve climate protection goals, municipalities and rural districts face the challenge of using renewable energy sources and replacing fossil-based energy carriers. While renewable raw materials from forestry and agriculture are used on a large scale for energy or material purposes, residual biomass, e.g. leaves, landscape conservation material or fruit tree pruning, is hardly used. This is where the CoAct project comes in with the aim of converting residual biomass from the city of Friedrichshafen and the Lake Constance district into a storable energy source and activated carbon. The utilization of residual biomass products as renewable fuel or for waste water, landfill



leachate purification and drinking water treatment can be expected to have positive effects on regional added value, the environment and, last but not least, climate protection. In order to achieve this goal, the nine project partners will jointly develop a concept for the valorization of residual biomass. Project coordination: Prof. Dr. Michael Wachendorf and Dr.-Ing. Korbinian Kaetzl. Project partners: City of Friedrichshafen; ifeu – Institut für Energie- und Umweltforschung Heidelberg GmbH; Institute for Rural Development Research; Krieg & Fischer GmbH; Lake Constance District; Lake Constance Foundation; Pyreg GmbH; TZW: DVGW-Technologiezentrum Wasser – the German Water Centre.

**Decent Work for Tea Plantation Workers in Assam: Constraints, Challenges and Prospect (OXFAM Germany & TISS, Guwahati)** is a spin-off project of the ICDD GAPS subproject on small tea growers. It focuses on large tea estates workers. The main objective of the project is to look into the 'living wage' debate and to understand the working and living conditions with-

in the framework of decent work with the aim of producing research papers and finally arriving at a policy document.

**Decent Work Deficits in the Mango Value Chain in Kenya: Case Study of Makueni & Kwale** is a project of Egerton University in Kenya, carried out with funding from the Kenyan County governments of Makueni and Kwale.



Completion of the first pilot training for mid-level managers in Dhaka, Bangladesh, 2019. Picture taken on the 28<sup>th</sup> of June 2019.

**Bangla-Tex Project – Developing a Training Concept for Building Sustainability-related Capacity among Managers in the Bangladeshi Garment Industry (funded by the GIZ, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit).** One of the most recent ICDD projects it focuses on conducting a systematic needs analysis in companies within the Bangladeshi garment sector with the aim of identifying the qualification gap among managers regarding the criteria of responsible management, including social and ecological aspects. Pilot training material has been developed together with faculty from the University of Dhaka (DU) with the purpose of helping garment sector managers to adopt responsible management practices towards the environment, workers, and in particular women. Results of the needs assessment and evaluation of the pilot trainings will be published as an ICDD Working Paper, co-authored by Aleksandra Draganic and Nazmul Arefin. Project coordinators: Prof. Dr. Christoph Scherrer and Prof. Dr. Stefan Gold.

**East African Network of Learning for Administrators and Researchers (EANLAR).** This has been funded within the DAAD-DIES programme since 2013 and was developed by the University of Kassel in Germany and Egerton University in Kenya. The project qualifies East African finance administrators and researchers in the management of third-party funding and has enhanced intercultural understanding between German and African researchers and administrators. EANLAR



EANLAR Conference at the University of Kassel, Germany, 2019.

focuses on enhancing and streamlining the existing management structures at universities in East Africa. Among the outcomes of the project are a handbook for and by finance administrators, a joint internet platform (EANLAR WIKI), as well as country-specific guides and targeted trainings. The success of EANLAR can be seen by its rapid expansion to more than 50 universities to date, situated in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, and Germany. Project coordinator: Birgit Felmeden.

**Exploring Focal Firm's Performance Features in BoP Supply Chain Management – Taking the Case of Pakistan.** This forms part of the DAAD programme 'Deutsch-Pakistanische Forschungskooperationen/ German-Pakistani Research Collaborations'. Partners: Prof. Dr. Seuring (University of Kassel), ICDD PhD alumnus Raja Usman Khalid (Information Technology University, Lahore, Pakistan).

**The promotion of Solutions to Social-Ecological Problems and their didactic mediation in a South-South-North context** is embedded in the DAAD programme 'Subject-related partnerships with universities in developing countries'. Cooperating partners: University of Kassel; Universidad Nacional de San Martín, Buenos Aires, Argentina; and Universidad de La Habana, Cuba. Coordinator: Prof. Dr. Hans-Jürgen Burchardt, University of Kassel.

**Food Economy and Technology (Hessisches Ministerium für Wissenschaft und Kunst Doctoral Programme).** This collaborative doctoral programme focuses on issues of sustainability along the food chain. Six doctoral candidates are supervised in tandems, half of which are professors at the University of Kassel and the Fulda University of Applied Sciences. The programme is financially supported by the Innovation and Structural Development budget from the state of Hesse. Project coordination: Ute Gilles ([www.uni-kassel.de/go/ewt](http://www.uni-kassel.de/go/ewt)).

**Labour Influx under Public Work in Assam (World Bank-financed APART Project of the Government of Assam and TISS, Guwahati, India).** The study intends to understand labour influx and its various modalities in state-led development projects. The Assam Rural Infrastructure and Agricultural Services (ARIAS) society, an autonomous body under the Government of Assam (GoA), is implementing a World Bank financed Assam Agribusiness and Rural Transformation (APART) project which is trying to 'add value and improve the resilience of selected agriculture value chains, focusing on smallholder farmers and agro-entrepreneurs in targeted districts of Assam'. Under supply chain support, the project will be supporting civil works to rehabilitate rural markets, rural roads and warehouses. In most of the civil works, the required labour force and associated goods and services under the contractors are migrated from outside the civil work location, leading to the temporary settlement of labourers at the construction site. This movement of contracted labour is termed as labour influx and carries both positive and negative impacts on the host community.

Against this background, this present study strives to understand the 'livelihood security' of labour influx, the impact of the influx on the host community, and mitigation strategies for the influx as well at the host community. Coordinator: Prof. Dr. Debdulal Saha.

**Livelihood Management, Reforms and Processes of Structural Change** forms part of the Volkswagen Foundation initiative 'Knowledge for Tomorrow – Cooperative Research Projects in Sub-Saharan Africa'. This initiative supports research fellows based in sub-Saharan Africa, providing them with the opportunity to enhance their academic skills, thereby consolidating and extending partnerships between African and German scholars and supporting the fellows in developing and extending their academic networks within Africa and beyond. Currently, scientists from South Africa, Uganda, Kenya, Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, and Benin are developing and conducting research projects of their own over a period of three years. Focusing on current issues from their respective regions within Africa, the different projects investigate how individual or collective social actors can

manage and protect socio-ecological resources efficiently and develop sustainable livelihood strategies under present economic, socio-political and environmental conditions in view of locally and globally changing circumstances. Principal investigators: Prof. Dr. Eva Schlecht (University of Göttingen and Kassel, Germany) and Prof. Dr. Andreas Bürkert (University of Kassel, Germany). Partner: Prof. Dr. Nikolaus Schareika (University of Göttingen, Germany).

The **MOOC ‘Sustainable and Inclusive Development in Bangladesh through Workers’ Rights’** in the local language Bangla was produced within the framework of the GLU and with funding from the DGB Bildungswerk and BILS (Bangladesh Institute of Labour Studies). Partners: State University of Campinas, Brazil; Berlin School of Economics and Law, Germany (HWR); the University of Kassel; Pennsylvania State University, USA; the University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa; the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, India; Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi, India and the International Labour Organization (ILO). Coordinator: Dr. Edlira Xhafa.

The Hans Böckler Foundation-funded junior researchers’ group **Protest und Reform in der globalen politischen Ökonomie aus Perspektive einer postkolonialen Politikforschung** (Protest and Reforms in the Global Political Economy from the Perspective of Postcolonial Policy Research) is, among others, headed by Prof. Aram Ziai (University of Kassel, Germany).

**The Rural-Urban Interface of Bangalore: A Space of Transitions in Agriculture, Economics, and Society (DFG Research Unit FOR2432, Phase I and II).**

Agriculture is one of the oldest examples of a coupled Social-Ecological System (SES) of mutually interdependent environmental and societal components. Against the background of the global challenge of accelerating urbanization, FOR2432 addresses agricultural transition processes in the rural-urban interface, exemplified by the emerging megacity Bangalore. This research is carried out in close collaboration with a partner consortium in Bangalore, co-funded by the DBT in India. Project coordination: Prof. Dr. Andreas Bürkert and Dr. Ellen Hoffmann (University of Kassel),

Prof. Dr. S. von Cramon-Taubadel (Georg-August University, Göttingen). Partners in India: UASB – University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore; NIANP – National Institute of Animal Nutrition and Physiology, Bangalore; ATREE - Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment, Bangalore; ISEC – Institute of Socio-Economic Change, Bangalore; IIST – Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology, Trivandrum; IWST – Institute of Wood Science and Technology, Bangalore; APU – Azim Premji University, Bangalore, India.

**BangaDyn – Rural-Urban Dynamics in Bangalore (DFG Graduate Programme).** Human history has been marked by several great transformations, such as the beginning of agriculture in the Neolithic age or the Industrial Revolution in the 18th century. In contemporary times, digitalization, climate change/decarbonization, and urbanization are often discussed as challenges of similar dimensions. But in amongst these great transformations, changes are gradually taking place at a deep level, driving the development of economies and societies, and shaping the environ-

ment in which they exist. Against the global challenge of accelerating urbanization and increasing competition for ecosystem services, the DFG-funded Research Unit FOR2432 addresses social-ecological systems and agricultural transition processes in the rural-urban interface of the emerging megacity Bangalore in India. The graduate programme BangaDyn aims to broaden the disciplinary scope of the ongoing work using additional expertise in the fields of hydrology and the social sciences, thereby paving the way for acquiring additional funding and strengthening the network of long-term process-oriented research in India. Project coordinator: Prof. Dr. Eva Schlecht (University of Göttingen and Kassel, Germany).

**Sustainable Agricultural and Food Systems (SAFS) Structured Doctoral Programme (funded by the Volkswagen Foundation).** Partners: Prof. Dr. Ploeger and Dr. Sisira Withanacchi (University of Kassel), University of Georgia. [www.safs-edu.org/teaching](http://www.safs-edu.org/teaching).

**Diversity Turn in Land Use Science (funded by the Volkswagen Foundation):** Land use substantially impacts human living conditions and livelihoods worldwide. Because of the complex interaction of ecological, economic and social factors, the design of land use innovations is a paradigmatic element of sustainability research. Land use research requires a balance of attention to be given to both the biophysical aspects of ecological systems as well as the social arrangements that shape rural land use. The elements and relations within the social system as well as within ecological systems are both diverse. However leading thinking in the social science field of diversity has yet to be

integrated systematically into environmental sustainability research and in particular into land use research. Thus, it is the overall aim of this project to advance a diversity-sensitive perspective for land use research, and to establish this perspective as a core component in academic teaching and research, including the education of junior scientists. Principal investigator: Prof. Dr. Eva Schlecht, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Göttingen and Kassel, Germany. Project Partners: Centre Universitaire Régionale de la SAVA (CURSA), Université d'Antananarivo, and Madagascar National Parks, Madagascar.



**Project GLOCALPOWER: funds, tools & networks for an African energy transition (funded by BMBF).** The Paris Agreement was historic. The initiation of a world-wide, internationally binding climate agreement has served as an urgent call for the rapid transformation of the energy system, especially in African countries (UNFCCC 2015). Reframing the goal of keeping the global temperature increase below 2°C as a flexible and dynamic investment signal for renewable energy (RE) now paves the way towards a joint undertaking that bridges the North-South divide in global climate policy-making. Within the broader framework of a 'great global transformation', the prospect of wide-ranging decarbonization will hopefully serve as a very concrete agenda for an energy transition that is not only efficient and comprehensive, but also inclusive and fair, in that it creates a dynamic that ensures a fair participation and distribution of RE around the globe. Against the backdrop of this global transformation GLOCALPOWER analyses glocal energy transitions from the perspectives of global/local environmental governance and international political economy, both

on a global level (with regard to global green finance and the international donor community) and on a local level through case studies in Ghana, South Africa, and Zambia. We focus on two central aspects that orchestrate the shape and structures of these green transformations: (1) the systemic and until now largely overlooked role of global green funds for a renewable energy transformation; and (2) the design, appropriateness and impact of political toolsets for managing an energy transition on a glocal level, such as feed-in tariffs, risk mitigation tools or forms of capacity building and stakeholder trainings. GLOCALPOWER investigates glocal energy transitions through two intersecting projects on RE funds and RE tools, complemented by two comparative case studies. The final transfer project aims to disseminate systematic and transformative knowledge on glocal energy transitions. We give policy recommendations for the design and governance of RE funds and tools, communicated via a decision-matrix and a dialogue process with German institutions concerned with energy and development politics as well as local partners in Ghana, South

Africa and Zambia. Coordinator: Dr. Fransika Müller, University of Kassel, Germany.  
[www.uni-kassel.de/fb05/fachgruppen/politikwissenschaft/globalisierung-und-politik/bmbf-nachwuchsgruppe-glocalpower.html](http://www.uni-kassel.de/fb05/fachgruppen/politikwissenschaft/globalisierung-und-politik/bmbf-nachwuchsgruppe-glocalpower.html)

**Mercosur-EU-Agreement: Impact on Agriculture, Nature, and Consumers (funded by The Greens/European Free Alliance).** Coordinator: Dr. Ismail Karatepe, University of Kassel, Germany.

**The Labor Value Content (LVC) clause in the US-Mexico-Canada Trade Agreement (USMCA) (funded by AkWien).** Prof. Dr. Christoph Scherrer and GLU student Emilie Segura, University of Kassel, Germany.

**Strengthening Labor's Global Policy and Organizing Capacities** will be funded by the Open Society Foundation (OSF) for 18 months starting in 2020. The cooperating partners include the University of Kassel in Germany (Prof. Dr. Christoph Scherrer), Jawaharlal Nehru University in India, the University of the Witwatersrand in South Africa, and the Universidade Estadual de Campinas in Brazil. The project will support scholarships with the Southern partners, organize a workshop on the challenges of labour migration for trade unions and will strengthen coordination among the partners.

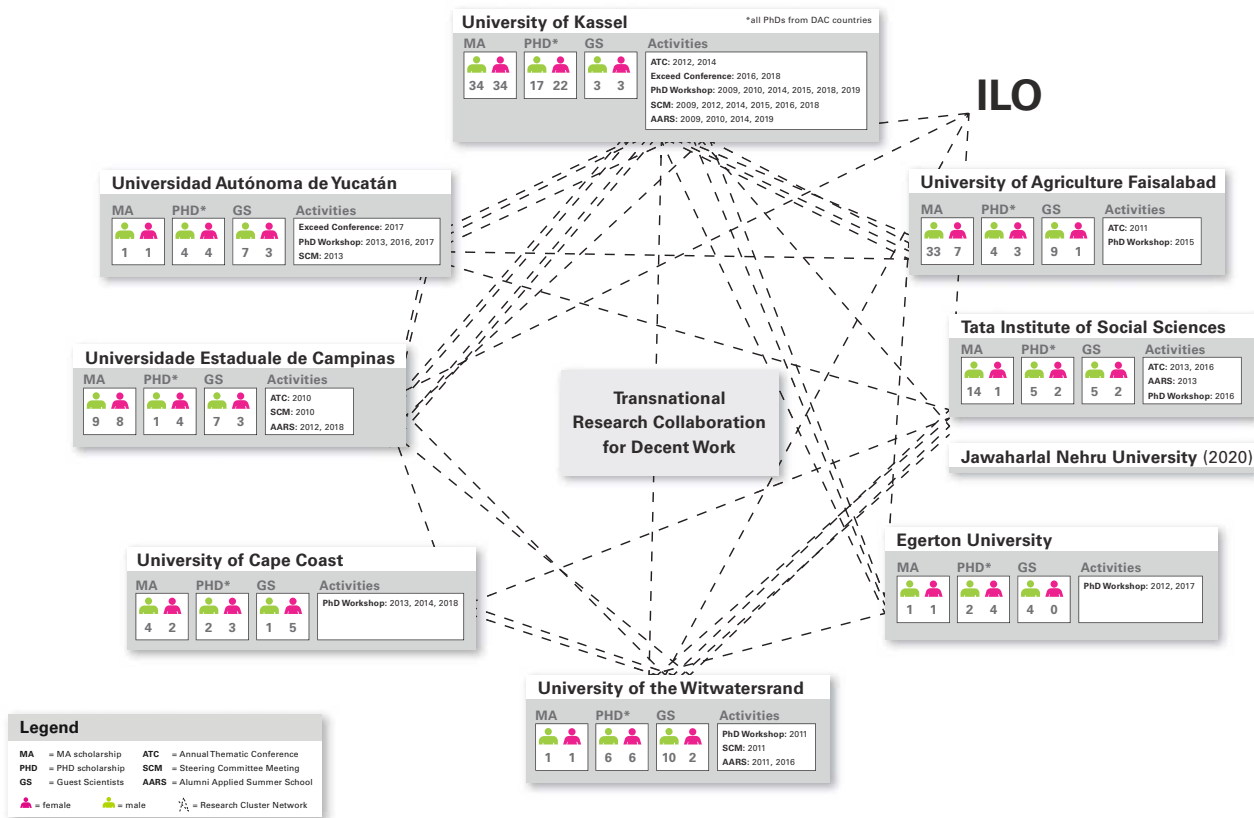
## 14 Policy Advice

Members of the ICDD network are also often engaged with policy communities and development-oriented civil society organizations. Over the years, ICDD members have increasingly been asked to provide expert advice. For instance, to develop decent work indicators by their governments, to share their expertise on the living conditions of farmworkers, to advise development banks or ministries on issues of development and decent work. A selection:

- The Indian government has designated the ICDD partner in Mumbai, TISS, as host to the National Corporate Social Responsibility Hub. TISS' research on street vendors led to legislation in support of workers in the informal economy. TISS' Guwahati campus also signed a MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) with the Government of Assam and the World Bank in August 2019.
- Universidade Estadual de Campinas (Unicamp) has joined forces with the Brazilian Public Ministry of Labour in a project on 'Monitoring the social and economic impacts of the 2017 Labour Law Reform', providing vital input.
- UAF has been active in policy advice in the field of implementing renewable energy policies in Pakistan. At UAF, the Punjab Minister for Management and Professional Development attended the ICDD UAF symposium on global value chain power in June 2019, stressing the importance of agro-based skills for steering Pakistan towards sustainable development, poverty alleviation and economic growth.

- The UADY ICDD coordinator participated in a workshop on decent work with the Yucatán local government.
- Members of the ICDD in Kassel were invited to International Consultative or Policy Workshops, e.g. in preparation for the 'World Development Report 2019', had discussions with members of the government, or even chaired conference panels together with ministers of labour and high-ranking trade union officials. ICDD events are increasingly attended by government officials both in the North and in the South.
- Both the Punjabi Provincial Assembly and Ghana's Women in Agricultural Development belonging to the Ministry of Agriculture have been engaged at a policy level within the framework of the project 'Women's Empowerment for Sustainable Rural Livelihoods: Voices from Ghana, Pakistan and Kenya', a South-South cooperation among UCC, UAF, and EGU. Another outcome of this project is a radio programme on 'Women Economic Empowerment' in Punjabi which airs in Faisalabad, Pakistan.
- Many members of the ICDD network have given newspaper, radio, and TV interviews on decent-work related issues, e.g. on Global Value Chains, Trump's Trade Policy, and Post-Development. ICDD Ela Bhatt Professors and other visiting scientists have also joined in those efforts. Most recently, ICDD Ela Bhatt Professor Vishwas Satgar from WITS featured in various TV broadcasts about the climate crisis.

## A Network of Success: ICDD Collaboration 2009–2019



For more information, please visit the ICDD website at: [www.uni-kassel.de/go/icdd](http://www.uni-kassel.de/go/icdd)

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International Center for  
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## Acknowledgements / Disclaimer

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### Photos:

Front page: Women in front of their maize storage in a village in Malawi, 2017. Photo by Florian Doerr | Day-laborers transporting goods sold at the crowded Chowk Bazaar market place in Old Dhaka, 2019. Photo by Aleksandra Draganić. | Fishermen's boats, Cape Castle, Ghana, April 2018. Photo by Aleksandra Draganić

Page 2 The University of Kassel Campus at Holländischer Platz, Germany.

Page 5 Prof. Christoph Scherrer at the GLU conference hosted by the FES, 2019.  
Photo by Frank Nürnberger. Copyright "Friedrich Ebert Stiftung" (FES).

Page 6 The ICDD at Kassel University. Photos by Harry Soremski except the top left by staff of UAF\*.

Page 14 Road worker in Mumbai. Photo by Christoph Scherrer.

Page 15 Child labourers along with adult labourers at a lock making factory in Aligarh, India.  
Photo by Shahana Purveen.

Page 18 ICDD PhD workshop group, Guwahati, India, February 2016.

Page 20 'exceed' Conference 2018.

Page 22 First Ela Bhatt Visiting Professor, Prof. Dr. Edward Webster from South Africa.

Page 28 Students from the MA programme "Labour Policies and Globalization" working with Prof. Dr. Devan Pillay from the University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa, at the ICDD in Kassel in October 2015.



- Page 30 ENGAGE training workshop at Sanctuary of Food Sovereignty Centre (WITS), South Africa, 2018.  
Photo by Warren McGregor
- Page 35 GLU conference at the FES, 2019, with Antônio Lisboa, Deborah Greenfield, Christoph Scherrer, Hubertus Heil, and Reiner Hoffmann. Photo by Frank Nürnberger. Copyright "Friedrich Ebert Stiftung" (FES).
- Page 35 Alumni participants of the AARS visit the Kommune Niederkaufungen, 2019.
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- \*All other photos taken by ICDD affiliates for ICDD internal collection and distribution.

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## Abbreviations

**AARS** – Alumni Applied Research School

**ATC** – Annual Thematic Conference

**ATSAF e.V.** – Arbeitsgemeinschaft Tropische und Subtropische Agrarforschung

**BEAF** – GIZ Advisory Service on Agricultural Research for Development

**BMBF** – German Federal Ministry of Education and Research

**BMZ** – German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

**BOKU** – University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna

**BoP** – Base of the Pyramid

**CUT** – Central Única dos Trabalhadores  
– Unified Workers' Central

**DAAD** – Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst – German Academic Exchange Service

**DFG** – Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft / German Research Foundation

**DITSL** – Deutsches Institut für tropische und subtropische Landwirtschaft – German Institute for Tropical and Subtropical Agriculture

**EADI** – European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes

**EGU** – Egerton University, Njoro, Kenya

**ENGAGE** – Empowerment and Capacity Building Network for Global Labor Activists and Trade Union Officials on Global Economic Policies

**EXCEED** – Higher Education Excellence in Development Cooperation

**FAO** – Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations

**FES** – Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung/Friedrich Ebert Foundation

**FOR2432** – DFG-funded Research Unit “Social-Ecological Systems in the Indian Rural-Urban Interface: Functions, Scales, and Dynamics of Transition”

**GAPS** – Global Agricultural Production Systems

**GIZ** – Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit

**GLU** – Global Labour University

**HBS** – Hans Böckler Foundation

**IKSA** – Internationale Kasseler Sommer Akademie

**ILO** – International Labour Organization

**ISEC** – Institute for Social and Economic Change, India

**ISC** – international steering committee

**JNU** – Jawaharlal Nehru University

**MDGs** – Millennium Development Goals

**MOOCs** – Massive Open Online Courses

**SDGS** – Sustainable Development Goals

**SEWA** – Self-Employed Women's Association

**TISS** – Tata Institute of Social Sciences

**UADY** – Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán, Mexico

**UAF** – University of Agriculture Faisalabad, Pakistan

**UCC** – University of Cape Coast, Ghana

**UFRN** – Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil

**Unicamp** – Universidade Estadual de Campinas, Brazil

**WITS** – University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa

**ZALF e.V.** – Leibniz-Zentrum für Agrarlandschaftsforschung

