

# Interdisciplinary exchanges: natural resource management research in the 21st century

HOSTED BY THE UNIVERSITIES OF SHEFFIELD, NEWCASTLE AND LEEDS

**Welcome to the Interdisciplinary Exchanges Newsletter.** This newsletter series aims to introduce each workshop within this ESRC funded seminar series on 'Interdisciplinary exchanges: natural resource management in the 21st century'. *Our aim is to stimulate prior discussion and feedback so that the agenda for each seminar session is set by the participants.* We will also produce a summary after each meeting to provide a brief record of discussions. At the end of the series we aim to jointly, with you, produce a set of papers for publication in a leading interdisciplinary journal.

## Community-based natural resource management

In this newsletter we challenge you to think critically about CBNRM in the 21st century.

The application of common property theory to community-based NRM has provided one of the clearest examples of successful interdisciplinary research linking political theory to policy analysis, local livelihoods and ecological outcomes. Critically, it has provided examples of how to successfully

combine qualitative social data with quantitative ecological data and frameworks to study social and ecological dynamics at various scales and different contexts (e.g. local to global, forestry to mining).

This seminar will use community-based NRM research to 1) draw conclusions from a review of both academic work and implemented policies, 2) identify spe-

cific lacunae linking policies to local livelihood decisions and natural resource use and, 3) expand current theoretical and methodological frameworks.

Overleaf you will find three suggested themes and linked questions. Please feedback to us on whether you feel these themes are relevant to your areas of work, and what themes and questions we may have missed.

### Location

University of Sheffield

- Jan 9th, 2014 (10:00 - 18:00)
- Jan 10th, 2014 (08:00 - 17:00)

### Confirmed Speakers

Bob Smith (DICE)

Phil McGowan (WPA, Newcastle)

Rosaleen Duffy (SOAS)

George Holmes (Leeds)

Kerry Waylen (James Hutton Inst.)

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## Workshops in the series

Community-based natural resource management (Jan 2014, Sheffield)

Food security, poverty and biodiversity (April 2014, Newcastle)

Local adaptations to climate change (Leeds, July 2014)

Payment for Ecosystem Services (Leeds, November 2014)

Natural resources and environmental conflicts (Sheffield, March 2015)

Final review and strategic planning (Location tbc, July 2015)



How do changing demands for land influence land tenure debates at community level?

“successfully weaving scientific knowledge and recommendation into NRM policies and action continues to be one of the largest challenges faced today”



How do individuals manage the demands of collective action?

“establishing avenues for dialogue between academic disciplines and practitioners is vital to developing novel frameworks to study socio-ecological dynamics and successfully link knowledge to both policy and action”

## CBNRM: what are the key themes in the 21st century?

### Theme 1: Land and rights

- 1) How do different levels of governance support or destabilise CBNRM initiatives? *(e.g., the role of supporting regional or national institutions in securing land tenure)*
- 2) How do/will land transactions influence land tenure and community autonomy? *(e.g., are current land grabs/transactions changing the relationship among communities, the state and the private sector?)*
- 3) How effective are indigenous and community conserved areas (ICCA) in terms at sustaining livelihoods and conservation outcomes? *(e.g., at what scales and with what trade offs?)*

### Theme 2: Markets and commodification

- 1) How is the commodification of NRs influencing livelihood choices/strategies at community and individual levels? *(e.g., what pressures are put on forest products or wildlife trade?)*
- 2) What is the influence of markets on supporting or destabilising livelihood choices/strategies at community and individual levels?
- 3) Where do individual and community interests converge and diverge in present day CBNRM initiatives?

### Theme 3: Livelihoods, collective action and complex communities

- 1) What is the effect of development initiatives (NGO, state or private sector led) on community dynamics and collective action?
- 2) How are migration patterns and rapid urbanisation influencing community dynamics and collective action?
- 3) Are communities becoming more complex institutions in the 21st century and what does this mean for successful CBNRM?

**Please tell us about other themes and questions that you think are relevant to your work on CBNRM. We will use them to structure the two-day workshop in January. Please email feedback to either Chasca Twyman ([C.Twyman@shef.ac.uk](mailto:C.Twyman@shef.ac.uk)) or Johan Oldekop ([J.A.Oldekop@shef.ac.uk](mailto:J.A.Oldekop@shef.ac.uk))**