



List of publications (+abstracts)

2008

- ▶ Giller, K. E., C. Leeuwis, J. A. Andersson, W. Andriessse, A. Brouwer, P. Frost, P. Hebinck, I. Heitkönig, M. K. van Ittersum, N. Koning, R. Ruben, M. Slingerland, H. Udo, T. Veldkamp, C. van de Vijver, M. T. van Wijk, and P. Windmeijer. 2008. *Competing claims on natural resources: what role for science?* *Ecology and Society* 13(2): 34. [online] URL: <http://www.ecologyandsociety.org/vol13/iss2/art34/>

ABSTRACT – Competing claims on natural resources become increasingly acute, with the poor being most vulnerable to adverse outcomes of such competition. A major challenge for science and policy is to progress from facilitating univocal use to guiding stakeholders in dealing with potentially conflicting uses of natural resources. The development of novel, more equitable, management options that reduce rural poverty is key to achieving sustainable use of natural resources and the resolution of conflicts over them. Here, we describe an interdisciplinary and interactive approach for: (i) the understanding of competing claims and stakeholder objectives; (ii) the identification of alternative resource use options, and (iii) the scientific support to negotiation processes between stakeholders. Central to the outlined approach is a shifted perspective on the role of scientific knowledge in society. Understanding scientific knowledge as entering societal arenas and as fundamentally negotiated, the role of the scientist becomes a more modest one, a contributor to ongoing negotiation processes among stakeholders. Scientists can, therefore, not merely describe and explain resource-use dynamics and competing claims, but in doing so, they should actively contribute to negotiation processes between stakeholders operating at different scales (local, national, regional, and global). Together with stakeholders, they explore alternatives that can contribute to more sustainable and equitable use of natural resources and, where possible, design new technical options and institutional arrangements.

Keywords: agricultural science; conflict; ecology; level; methodology; natural resource management; scale; social science; sustainable agriculture

- ▶ Milgroom, Jessica & Marja J. Spienburg. 2008. 'Induced Volition: Resettlement from the Limpopo National Park, Mozambique', *Journal of Contemporary African Studies* 26 (4), 435-448.

ABSTRACT – This paper focuses on the resettlement process taking place in the context of the creation of the Limpopo National Park in Mozambique, which is part of the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park. About 27,000 people are currently living in the park; 7000 of whom are meant to be resettled to areas along the margins of the park. The Mozambican government and donors funding the creation of the park have maintained that no forced relocation will take place. However, the pressure created by restrictions on livelihood strategies resulting from park regulations, and the increased presence of wildlife has forced some communities to 'accept' the resettlement option. Nevertheless, donors and park authorities present the resettlement exercise as a development project. In the article we describe how the dynamics of the regional political economy of conservation led to the adoption of a park model and instigated a resettlement process that obtained the label 'voluntary'. We analyse the nuances of volition and the emergent contradictions in the resettlement policy process.

Keywords: resettlement; (transfrontier) conservation; development; Mozambique

- ▶ Schut, Marc. 2008. *Mobilization of knowledge in competing claims context. A research proposal for studying: Space for change in complex societal negotiation processes over natural resources.* 8th European IFSA Symposium, Clermont-Ferrand, France (6-10 July 2008).
-



List of publications (+abstracts)

2007

- ▶ Andersson, Jens A. 2007. 'How much did property rights matter? Understanding food insecurity in Zimbabwe: A critique of Richardson', *African Affairs* 106 (425), pp. 681-690.

- ▶ Milgroom, Jessica & Marja J. Spierenburg. 2007. *The elephants of democracy: Resettlement in the Limpopo National Park, Mozambique*, Paper presented at the bi-annual AEGIS conference: 'African Alternatives', Leiden (11-14 July 2007).

- ▶ Hebinck, Paul G.M. & Yves P.B. van Leynseele. 2007. *Pro-poor or what? Ethnographic explorations of two land restitution cases in rural South Africa*, SANPAD conference: 'The poverty challenge: poverty and poverty reduction in (South) Africa, India and Brazil', Durban (26-29 June 2007).

- ▶ Andersson, Jens A., Wayne Twine, Amon Murwira, Ken E. Giller, Arnold B. Mashingaidze & Maja Slingerland. 2007. *Land, productivity, and agricultural research: Towards an understanding of the multiple meanings of land*, FARA-SADC regional dialogue (11 June 2007), Sandton, Johannesburg: Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA), pp. 118-128.

ABSTRACT - In academic and policy thinking, competing claims on land are often viewed in terms of conflicting interests over productive resource use. Within this line of theoretical argumentation tenure security is a prerequisite for increases in productivity, while a lack of it is assumed to be a major impediment to the development of African smallholder agriculture as such farming usually takes place under communal land tenure regimes. This paper challenges this generalized perspective, arguing that the role of agriculture - including its productivity - in the livelihoods of rural people should be understood in relation to other sources of income. Land has different meanings; it is not always the basis of rural livelihoods or a productive resource in which to invest. Land has multiple uses and is valued for both productive and non-productive considerations. Building on empirical material from South Africa and Zimbabwe, it is hypothesized that despite rural peoples' dependency on natural resources and the omnipresence of farming activity in communal areas, few depend centrally on farming for their livelihood. Productivity increases in communal area agriculture are therefore not likely to result from tenure reform alone. Rather than focusing narrowly on tenure reform and agricultural productivity, agricultural research should adopt a wider perspective on land use, and focus on peoples' land use practices and the different meanings of land in rural livelihoods. Thus, better insight is gained in different stakeholders' - including smallholder farmers' - claims on land, which enable more meaningful scientific contributions to agricultural policy and more productive and/or equitable land-use options.

Keywords: land tenure, rural livelihoods, remittances, Zimbabwe, South Africa, agricultural research
