Special Issue

Does Commons Grabbing Lead to Resilience Grabbing? The Anti-Politics Machine of Neo-Liberal Development and Local Responses

Message from the Guest Editors

This Special Issue focuses on land grabbing as commons grabbing and how state institutions (agrarian development reforms/compensations) and voluntary corporate social responsibility (CRS) initiatives enabled this process. It also looks at how institutions and CSR are labeled as development strategies to legitimate investments, but act as Anti-Politics Machines (Ferguson 1990, 2006), hiding privatization and loss of land and related commons (Haller 2012, 2016). Often it is not investment in "wastelands", but in commonly owned and used land-related resources. We are also interested in the way this institutional change leads to institutional pluralism, and how companies and local elites pursue "institution shopping" to legitimate exclusion (Toulmin 2009, Haller 2016). This process, we argue, also leads to the undermining of local marginal actors resilience (resilience grabbing) because cash compensations or employment do not cover the losses. However, these changes also trigger local reactions, which might led to more participatory developed of institutions for reclaiming the commons (Haller, Acciaioli and Rist 2016).

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 August 2019)



an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 3.2 CiteScore 5.9



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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Land is the only open access journal covering all aspects of land science, and it is a pioneering platform for publishing on land system science. Our editorial board is comprised of eminent scholars. We publish high quality research on societally relevant, emerging and innovative topics and results in land system research. It is now one of the top land journals with a significant impact factor, and has a goal to become the best journal in land in the coming years. I strongly recommend Land for your best research publications for a fast dissemination of your research.

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