



Extraction and Its Ecologies: Inhabiting Fragmented Landscapes of Health

A Workshop Sponsored by European Research Council Advanced Grant, “Fragments of the Forest”
and the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society (RCC)

Co-Organized by Gregg Mitman and Emmanuelle Roth

3–6 April 2024

Location: Evangelische Akademie Tutzing, Schloss-Str. 2+4, 82327 Tutzing, Germany

How do we account for the massive disruption and reordering of lived landscapes wrought by extractive industries around the world? International mining consortiums seize land and pollute water and soils to find raw materials, while replanting forests for their environmental mitigation programs. Monoculture plantations drive the extinction of plants and animals while promising free care to the people that work in their enclave. Surveillance programs take blood samples from humans and animals in disease hotspots while running education sessions about the dangers of bushmeat hunting. Habitats are fragmented, profits are stolen, the health of all things is imperiled—is it so?

Ecological understandings of health have come (back) to the forefront since the COVID-19 pandemic. After decades of work on global health, health must now be addressed as “One,” as “Planetary,” as “Eco.” But what does it mean to think about health across issues as diverse as environmental pollution, species extinction, zoonotic disease outbreaks, and land desecration? In attending not to universalities, but to specific ecologies of extraction—from forests to plantations, from mines to biomedical laboratories—what different alliances among living and non-living things, epistemologies, materialities, toxicities, temporal and spatial scales, and affects and aesthetics come into view?

Workshop Schedule

Wednesday, 3 April 2024

Arrival in the Late Afternoon

18:00 **Dinner**

19:30 **Reception/Welcome**

Thursday, 4 April 2024

8:00–8:45 **Breakfast**

8:45–9:30 **Welcome & Project Overview: “Fragments of the Forest”-Team**

9:30–10:30 Toxic Epistemologies

Sadjeep Soomal (University of Toronto)
“Metabolic Theory and Regulative Infrastructures in Extractive Zones”

Elijah Doro (RCC)
“‘The Natives Did Not Breathe through Their Mouths, and Therefore Were Protected by a Better Filter than Europeans’: Silicosis, Colonial Medicine, and Race in Southern Rhodesia’s Gold Mining Industry, 1949–1960”

10:30–11:00 Coffee Break

11:00–12:30 Chemical Entanglements

Anu Krishna (Ruhr University Bochum),
“Everyone Knows, No One Talks”: Chemical Entanglements of the Plantationocene”

Jayson Maurice Porter (University of Maryland)
“Rings of Fire II: Arsenic Cycles Through Racism and Empire in the Americas”

Indrawan Prabaharyaka (Humboldt University of Berlin)
“Political Chemistry of Salt: Multispecies Health and Urban Extractivism in Muaragembong and Jakarta”

12:30–14:00 Lunch

14:00–15:30 Disease Interventions and Their Ecologies

Wenzel Geissler, Ruth Prince, Peter Mangesha, Caroline Meier Zu Biesen, Lulu Tessua, and Anitha Tingira (University of Oslo)
“Tracing the Metabolites of History: Studying the Toxic Aftermath of the 1950s Pare-Taveta Malaria Eradication Experiment”

David Bannister (University of Oslo)
“Extracting Health: Altered Landscapes and Their Afterlives, DRC and Ghana 1930–2019”

Lauren Killingsworth (Yale University School of Medicine)
“The Utility of the Finny Tribe for the Eradication of Malaria”: Fish, Mosquitoes, and Biological Control in India”

15:30–16:00 Coffee Break

16:00–17:30 Bodies, Territories, Extraction

A. Chukwudumebi Obute, Iva Peša, Tholithemba Lorenzo Ndaba, and Jabulani Shaba (University of Groningen)
“Afro-Enclaves of Extraction: The Unmaking of Nature and the Constellation of the Abhuman”

Maria Paula Prates (University of Oxford)
“Indigenous Women, Extractivism, and Health”

Sophia Doyle (University of Potsdam)
"Towards Metabolic Justice? Interrogating a Metabolic Approach to Extractive Violence"

18:00–19:30 Dinner

Friday, 5 April 2024

8:00–9:00 Breakfast

9:00–10:30 Landscapes of Mining and Health

Lorenzo d'Angelo (Sapienza University of Rome)
"The Origin of the Problems: Weaving Health and Mining Landscapes in Sierra Leone"

Megan Eardley (University of Kassel)
"Finance and/as Health & Safety in South Africa's Mining Industry, c. 1977"

Aanuoluwapo Fifebo Sunday (Adekunle Ajasin University)
"Extraction and Health: A Case Study of Gold Mining and Water Pollution in Osun State, Nigeria"

10:30–11:00 Coffee Break

11:00–12:30 The Many Lives of Plantation Worlds

Camille Besombes (Sciences Po Paris)
"Entangled Relationships Between Fulminant Forms of Hepatitis Delta and Heveas Extractivism in Amazonia in the Twentieth Century: Landscapes and Memories of Past Epidemics in Forested Equatorial Ecosystems in Colonial and Postcolonial Context"

Aida Arosoaie (University of Wisconsin-Madison)
"Indefinite Excisions: Tracing Extraction Across Post-/Colonial Plantation Worlds"

Case Watkins (James Madison University)

"The Plantation as Recurring Nightmare: Extraction, Public Health, and More Just Forms of Development in Bahia, Brazil"

12:30–14:00 Lunch

14:00–15:30 Zoonoses and Their Economies

Mollie Holmberg (University of British Columbia)
"On Viral Terrain: The Shifting Imaginaries of Geography and Infectious Disease Risk in USAID's PREDICT"

Hannah Brown (Durham University)
"Multispecies Hustles: Veterinary Labor in an Extractive Economy"

Caroline Mwhaki Mburu (University of St. Andrews)
"Fragmented Lives, Biotic Interconnections and Zoonoses Risk in the
Kilombero Ecosystem, Tanzania"

15:30–16:00 Coffee Break

16:00–17:30 Conservation, Health, and Extraction

Cal Biruk (McMaster University)
"Health, Conservation, and Extraction on a Malawian Sugar Plantation"

Aby L. Sène (Clemson University)
"From Biodiversity to Agriculture: Shifting Grounds in the Senegal River Delta
Biosphere Reserve"

Robyn D'Avignon (New York University)
"A Mine in the Park: Postcolonial Citizenship and Conservation in Senegal"

18:00–19:30 Dinner

Saturday, 6 April 2024

8:00–9:00 Breakfast

9:00–10:30 Breakout Groups: Themes, Keywords

10:30–11:00 Coffee Break

11:00–12:30 Wrap-Up with Melissa Graboyes (University of Oregon)

12:30 Lunch