

# Contributors

## *Editors Group*

**Thomas Niederberger** (\*1980) obtained his MA in Social Anthropology from the University of Zurich. His MA thesis dealt with community forest management in Jharkhand, India. His interest in mining conflicts started while travelling in the Argentinean Andes in 2010. He is the project coordinator for this book and a board member of *infoe CH*.

**Prof. Dr. Tobias Haller** (\*1965) is Extraordinary Professor for Economic and Ecological Anthropology at the Institute of Social Anthropology, University of Bern. He is specialized in institutional theory, political ecology and common pool resource management, with fieldwork experience in Cameroon and Zambia, and currently engaged in an ongoing research on land grabbing. He is founder of *infoe CH*, editor/author of the *infoe* book on oil companies and indigenous peoples.

**Helen Gambon** (\*1984) is a PhD student at the Centre for Development and Environment (CDE), University of Bern. In her dissertation, she analyses enabling and hindering factors for cooperation in bottom-up initiatives of institution building for the governance of natural resources based on fieldwork in the Indigenous Territory and Biosphere Reserve Pilón Lajas in the Bolivian Amazon. She is a board member of *infoe CH*.

**Dr. des. Madlen Kobi** (\*1982) is a Postdoc at the Ethnographic Museum at the University of Zürich. She obtained her PhD in 2014 from the Institute of Social Anthropology, University of Bern. Her doctoral research focused on the construction, creation and contestation of cityscapes in Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, P. R. China. Her interest for the interaction of transnational companies and indigenous peoples stems from earlier engagement in lowland Ecuador, affected by oil exploitation. She is a board member of *Incomindios* and *infoe CH*.

**Dr. des. Irina Wenk** (\*1976) is a lecturer at the Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Zurich. Her fields of specialization include Indigenous peoples' rights; mapping, titling and management of indigenous territories; natural resource conflicts; political ecology; colonial and post-colonial pacification processes, with a regional focus on the Philippines, Southeast Asia and Canada.

## *Authors*

**Amadea Tschannen** (\*1986) is an MA student at the Institute of Social Anthropology, University of Bern. In her MA thesis, she focuses on discourses of accountability of trans-nationally operating resource companies based in Switzerland. Her research analyses the role of the company in the transnational field of regulation and international law.

**Angela Lindt** (\*1987) is an MA student at the Institute of Social Anthropology, University of Bern. Through investigations during an internship for the NGO 'Society for Threatened People' in 2012, she became interested in gold mining in Peru. For her MA thesis, she conducted fieldwork in Cajamarca, in the northern highland of Peru, focusing on social conflicts relating to Yanacocha's gold mine project Conga.

**Annatina Foppa** (\*1984) obtained an MSc in philosophy of natural sciences at universities in Bern and Bremen and a CAS in science journalism. She worked as a freelancer for different Swiss Newspapers and is currently employed as specialist for radioactive waste disposal at the Swiss Federal Office of Energy.

**Annette Wallimann** (\*1984) obtained her MA from the Institute of Social Anthropology, University of Bern in 2011. Her MA thesis, based on fieldwork in the Apurímac region in Peru, examined the large mining project Las Bambas in terms of social and economic impacts, the perceptions and strategies of different actors, and the ongoing development discourse dominated by the Swiss mining company Xstrata. She is currently working for WWF in Zürich.

**Annick Vollmar** (\*1984) obtained her MA from the Institute of Social Anthropology, University of Bern. Her MA thesis focused on the impacts of micro-finance systems on livelihoods in Guatemala. After working as a junior research assistant for economic and political anthropology at the Institute, she did a Master of Advanced Studies in Development and Cooperation (NADEL) and is currently working as Regional Advisor on Market Systems Development for Helvetas.

**Dr. Clare Oxy**, Social Anthropologist (MA Cambridge, PhD SOAS London), spent a formative year living with Tuareg nomadic camel herders in Central Niger. She has taught Social Anthropology at the universities of Sussex, Oxford, Perugia and Bern, and has advised development agencies, notably the FAO, on livelihoods reconstruction following drought and other disasters. Current research on land use, as viewed from a pastoralist perspective, and notions of relatedness in migratory networks radiating from the Sahel.

**Claudia Howald** (\*1986) lives in Quibdó/Colombia after having obtained her MA in Social Anthropology from the University of Neuchâtel. Currently she is coordinating the Instituto de Estudios del Pacífico and is part of the project “Observatorio Pacífico y Territorio” in Colombia. Her activities focus on mining, land and the local population in the Pacific Region.

**Daniela Bucher** (\*1986) obtained an MSc in Geography from the University of Bern. For her thesis, she conducted fieldwork in Jabiru/Australia and focused on the impacts of uranium mining in the Kakadu Region, where she also volunteered at the office of the Gundjeihmi Aboriginal Corporation.

**Eva Schober**, (\*1987) obtained her BA in Geography and Social Anthropology from the University of Bern in 2013. Her Bachelor’s thesis focused on the enabling political, legal and biophysical conditions and impacts of land-grabbing in Ethiopia. Besides pursuing her MA studies, she currently engages for the association KonsumGlobal.

**Germaine Françoise Spoerri** (\*1986) obtained an MA in Activism and Social Change from the School of Geography, University of Leeds (UK) and is currently a PhD student at the Department of Geography, University of Bern. The title of her ongoing research is: “Challenge Reappropriation: On negating neoliberal reterritorialisations of agricultural capital in post-2008 Greece”.

**Gregor Kaufeisen** (\*1988) finished his BA in Social Anthropology at the University of Bern with a thesis about the proposed gold mining project in Val Medel, Switzerland.

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**Karmen Ramírez Boscán** (\*1971) is a Wayuu indigenous woman from Colombia. Originally a graphic designer, she has in the last years worked as a defender of Human Rights in her home region affected by different mining activities. Currently living in Switzerland, she has funded the indigenous women’s organization *Fuerza de Mujeres Wayuu* and has worked as a consultant for the ILO and for the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in Geneva.

**Kathrin von Allmen** (\*1985) received her BA in Philosophy, Ecology and Biology in 2013 from the University of Bern. After an internship at the foundation for environmental information in Lucerne, she is currently completing her MA studies in Political, Legal and Economic Philosophy. In her master thesis she investigates the concept of collective responsibility in the field of global climate change.

**Loretta Scherler** (\*1986) obtained her MA in Anthropology of Transnationalism and the State from the University of Bern. She has based her findings on field research in the mining region of the Northern Territory, Australia.

**Matthieu Bolay** (\*1982) is a PhD student in Social Anthropology, University of Neuchâtel (*Laboratoire d'études transnationales et des processus sociaux*). His ongoing research is about the circulation of migrant workers and technology in the mining regions of West Africa (Guinea, Mali, Ivory Coast).

**Maximilian Rau** (\*1991) obtained his BA degree in History and Social Anthropology from the University of Bern.

**Dr. Roy Maconachie** is Senior Lecturer in International Development at the University of Bath, UK. A human geographer by training, his research is concerned with the political economy of natural resource management with a specific interest in the socio-economic dimensions of small-scale mining in West Africa. His recent work in Sierra Leone explores how local livelihoods are being shaped by the increasing tension between artisanal mining and large-scale extraction, with a focus on how youth-led civil society groups are impacting the mining sector.

**Dr. Saskia Walentowitz** is a social anthropologist (Phd *École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales*, Paris), Senior Lecturer and Ambizione-Research Fellow at the Institute for Social Anthropology, University of Berne, from 2004 to 2015. She advised GTZ on their development projects and completed three years of ethnographic fieldwork in northern Niger. She works on the gendered dynamics of reproduction and kinship in Tuareg Berber and other Muslim contexts and participated in reproductive health and HIV-related research in Kenya. Her current studies and teachings promote a political anthropology of nature.