

# Assessing social-environmental justice in forest-agriculture frontiers

Friday 27 January 2023  
10:00 – 12:00 pm  
RIHN Lecture Hall /  
Zoom (register [here](#))

*Three short talks providing a framework, dissecting investment flows, and analysing coalition politics, followed by discussion*

Moderator:

**Noboru Ishikawa** Center for Southeast Asian Studies, Kyoto University



## Assessing social-environmental justice in forest frontiers: Empirical methods and insights

**Grace Wong**

Associate Professor, Project Leader of FairFrontiers, RIHN

Forest-agriculture frontiers of mixed land uses and diverse governance structures are rapidly being converted into homogenized production systems of commodity agriculture or other industrial uses, often with far-reaching transformations in landscapes, wellbeing and ecosystems. In this talk, we present a framework that allows us to empirically examine these transformations through the lens of social-environmental justice, and provide some insights from earlier research in Southeast Asia.

## Environmental justice and investments affecting forest lands in Cameroon

**Samuel Assembe-Mvondo**

Senior Researcher at FairFrontiers, RIHN

The objective of this presentation is to critically scrutinize how agro-industrial investments in Cameroon are affecting forest lands and local people and contributing to environmental injustices. Indeed, in the postcolonial period characterized by the reign of the capitalist new state, the agro-industrial complexes established by former colonial masters (German, French and English) and more recent arrival of new investors are reinforcing, and in some ways creating new forms of environmental injustices on local communities and indigenous people bordering the agro-industrial plantations.

## Unpacking infrastructures of inequality in deforestation politics in DRC through Twitter data

**Maria Brockhaus**

Professor of International Forest Policy, University of Helsinki

Tropical forests and forestlands are being claimed – and deforested - for a myriad of global, national and local interests since colonial times. Whose interests are served through policy and practice is reflected in network structures of actors, institutions, and flows of discourses, and the underlying power relations. This talk uses Twitter data to investigate advocacy coalitions and the power to influence deforestation politics for the case of DRC.

Discussants:



**Aristide Chacgom**  
**Green Development Advocates, Cameroon**

Aristide Chacgom is a lawyer based in Cameroon. For more than 5 years he has been coordinating Green Development Advocates (GDA), a Cameroonian civil society organization.

**Maira Moeliono**  
**Senior Associate, CIFOR, Indonesia**

For more than 20 years in CIFOR, she has focused on issues of governance as developing in social forestry and decentralization, adaptive collaborative management, social and community-based forestry and rights-based issues, climate change and more recently issues of social forestry in the context of climate change.

