



UNPOP in Progress

Welcome to the second newsletter of UNPOP, the Utrecht Nijmegen Programme on Partnerships. In this newsletter, we will inform you about our achievements since our last update in December. You can read about the publications that have been released and that are expected later this year, find updates of our three research projects, and read about the public attention our research has received.

> [read more...](#)

Prof. dr. Pieter Leroy, Chair of the programme

Number 2 September 2007



Verena Bitzer

News: Introducing a new UNPOP team member: Verena Bitzer

Verena Bitzer joined the UNPOP team on September 1st. She is replacing Mara Francken, who has found a position elsewhere. Verena is taking over research project II on partnerships in global commodity chains. Because she was already assisting in this research since the beginning of the year, and finalized her Master thesis "Intersectoral partnerships for a sustainable coffee chain: really addressing sustainability or just picking (coffee) cherries?" on this very subject, Verena quickly managed to build on the work done previously.

News: Publications

The research activities within UNPOP have fortunately proven to be fruitful and have resulted in several publications this year. First of all, an edited book titled "Partnerships, Governance and Sustainable development" will be published with Edward Elgar later this year. This book has arisen out of the innovative debates and papers presented at the international colloquium and PhD master class "Partnerships for Sustainable development" held in June 2006 (see [previous newsletter](#)). Furthermore, two research articles have been published in distinguished social scientific journals.

> [read more...](#)

Research project I "Partnerships for biodiversity"

This project researches the role of partnerships in biodiversity governance. Two research projects have been completed. The first, "Partnerships in forest governance" has been published in the journal Global Environmental Change; the second will become a chapter in the book "Partnerships, Governance and Sustainable Development", expected later this year. Current work is dedicated to partnerships focused on a specific type of biodiversity, like great apes, coral reefs, and hotspots.

> [read more...](#)

Research project II "Intersectoral partnerships in global commodity chains"

This project researches the role of partnerships in making global agricultural commodity chains more sustainable. Taking the coffee chain as an example, we have recently explored the contribution of partnerships to sustainable development with the help of Global Commodity Chain analysis and Convention Theory. This work has been submitted for review and we are now planning our next project.

> [read more...](#)

Research project III "Business-NGO Interactions"

This project researches business-NGO interactions, including partnerships as well as dialogue processes. The first research phase, focusing on the general characteristics of the dialogue practice of multinationals with NGOs was completed last year (see [previous newsletter](#)), and we are now in the midst of the second research phase in which we focus on specific cases of business-NGO interactions, aiming to get insight into the processes itself and be able to explain their course.

> [read more...](#)

Utrecht-Nijmegen Programme On Partnerships

To (un)subscribe to this newsletter please send an email to i.visseren@geo.uu.nl.