



maastricht utrecht nijmegen
program on partnerships

Newsletter 8 - March 2013

Partnership research, advocacy, and consultancy

Dear colleagues,

Welcome to this new MUNPOP newsletter of our partnership research, advocacy and consultancy program. The year 2012 was again very successful with several invited presentations, papers in international journals and guest lectures. As usual we made all our publications available on our new website.

Two affiliated PhD students – Claribel Lancaster and Peter Ras – successfully defended their PhD thesis. Greetje Schouten and Luli Pesqueira made good progress with their PhD research. Ceren Pekdemir came in as a new PhD student and Dr. Astrid Offermans as a postdoc. Moreover, we welcomed five more PhD students in our Indonesian-Netherlands research project on the Southern effects of global certifying partnerships.



With the growth of the program we also needed to restructure our organization. As I joined the International Centre for Integrated assessment and Sustainable development (ICIS) at Maastricht University as honorary professor, our headquarter is now based at ICIS. We also changed our website and UNPOP became MUNPOP (Maastricht-Utrecht-Nijmegen Program on Partnerships, referring to the three universities involved). We are very glad that Dr. Ron Cörvers joined the program as the new managing director.

We would also like to congratulate co-chair Prof. Pieter Leroy who won the best teacher award 2012 of Radboud University Nijmegen.

To contact us please use my Maastricht mail address: pieter.glasbergen@maastrichtuniversity.nl

Our new MUNPOP website: <http://munpop.nl>

Pieter Glasbergen
(Chair)

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Dr. Ron Cörvers new managing director

Dr. Ron Cörvers is associate professor in governance and sustainable development, and education director of the new MSc. program Sustainability Science and Policy at Maastricht University. He is also chair of the education committee of the Maastricht University Graduate School of Sustainability Science (MUST).

His research is on governance and sustainable development, global certifying partnerships, and policy oriented / technology enhanced learning for sustainable development. More about ICIS: <http://www.icis.unimaas.info/>



Dr. Astrid Offermans joint as a postdoc

Dr. Astrid Offermans is a social scientist and holds a PhD in sustainable development. At ICIS-Maastricht University she worked on several national and European projects (including PIWRM, MATISSE and others) to analyze social dynamics in river management. She is also involved in the INSPIRATOR project on successful joint knowledge production and several educational activities at Maastricht University.

As from January 1st 2013 she is working as a postdoc researcher on joint knowledge production in global certifying partnerships.



Ceren Pekdemir (MSc) a new PhD student

Within the domain of global governance for sustainable development, Ceren's research focuses on the role of multi-stakeholder partnerships in the formation and implementation of transnational regulatory schemes.

Ceren holds a master's degree in Conflict Resolution and Governance (University of Amsterdam) and a bachelor degree of University College Maastricht (Maastricht University).



New joint research program: 5 PhD students

This Indonesian-Netherlands joint research program will analyze the social and economic effects of global certifying sustainability partnerships that aim to connect Southern agricultural production to Northern consumption. The global coffee and palm oil chains serve as main fields of research in the assessment part of the program. The prospective part of the research includes cocoa, spices, and aquaculture; commodities on which new certifying partnerships are in an early stage of development and implementation.



Project leaders Prof. Pieter Glasbergen (Maastricht University) and Prof. Bustanul Arafin

(University of Lampung) in front of KNAW office in Amsterdam, July 2012.

5 PhD students were selected within this new research program:

- PhD 1 Studies the social and economic effects of coffee certification, with a specific focus on the livelihood effects for farmers
- PhD2 Studies the social and economic effects of palm oil certification, with a specific focus on the livelihood effects for farmers
- PhD 3 Studies partnership contracts from an institutional economic perspective
- PhD 4 Studies the inclusion of local sustainability values and interests through Indonesian NGOs in global certifying partnerships
- PhD 5 Studies the relationships between public responsibilities of Indonesian governments and private responsibilities of global certifying partnerships

This MUNPOP research project is a collaboration between Maastricht University (the Netherlands) and the University of Lampung and Gadjah Mada University Yogyakarta (Indonesia). The program is funded by the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) and DIKTI Indonesia.

C. Lancaster and P. Ras successfully defended their PhD thesis



Claribel Lancaster and Peter Ras studied the practices of sustainable development governance strategies in the South African-European table grape supply chain. In their dissertation they answered the question: What specific capacities of the South African table grape supply chain would be essential for the improvement of global trade and would assure the sustainability of production in South Africa. They applied a rich set of research methods, such as a survey, field visits, personal interviews,

case studies, and expert workshops.

C. Lancaster and P.J. Ras, Making both ends meet. On the practices of sustainable development governance strategies in the South African-European table grape supply chain, Utrecht, 2012.
ISBN: 978-94-6108-345-6

Supervisors: Prof. Pieter Glasbergen and Dr. Walter Vermeulen

Best paper award

The Best Paper Award in Social Partnership was awarded to the UNPOP paper 'On the deliberative capacity of private multi-stakeholder governance: the roundtables on responsible soy and sustainable palm oil' written by Greetje Schouten, Pieter Leroy and Pieter Glasbergen for the 3rd International Symposium on Cross Sector Social Interactions in Rotterdam organized by The Partnership Resource Center, RSM, Erasmus University and Hull Business School, University of Hull.

News of ongoing projects - Luli Pesqueira

On the third year of her PhD, Luli continued her participatory research at Oxfam Novib where she is investigating Oxfam's participation in global governance arrangements and the articulation of human rights principles in private certification schemes. A paper that investigates the strategies deployed by Oxfam to articulate rights-based principles in the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil has been accepted for publication in Geoforum and is online.

Her thesis continues to shed light on



Oxfam's interaction with the private sector in the NGO's pursuit for a world without poverty and injustice. In particular, her thesis focuses on the tensions that emerge from Oxfam's multi-faceted interaction with businesses and the possible roles that Oxfam can take in private governance arrangements.

Together with the coordinator of Oxfam's Private Sector Programme, Luli has written an editorial piece for a special issue of the International Food and Agribusiness Management Review (volume 15B), where they discuss Oxfam's interactions with the private sector and its vision for societal change.

News of ongoing projects - Greetje Schouten

Greetje is currently finalizing her PhD dissertation on processes of legitimization in global private governance arrangements. In 2012 she published two articles on this topic. The first is an article on the deliberative capacity of Roundtables, which analyzes the democratic potential of two arrangements: the Roundtables on Responsible Soy (RTRS) and the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO). The second article is an in-depth analysis of legitimization processes of those two same Roundtables. From this analysis explanations for the specific development of such a process are derived and several characteristics of possible legitimization problems and their implications for the application of this governance model are revealed.



The last paper of her dissertation analyses the interaction between the Renewable Energy Directive of the European Union. She presented this paper in December during an invited workshop on 'Governing Sustainable Agriculture through Multi-Stakeholder Initiatives: Participation, knowledge and networks in action' in Montpellier.

Publications 2012

As always our articles been made available on our website.

Bitzer V., P. Glasbergen, and P. Leroy (2012), Partnerships of a feather flock together? An analysis of the emergence of networks of partnerships in global commodity chains, *Global Networks*, 12 (3): 355–374.

Schouten, G., P. Leroy and P. Glasbergen (2012), On the deliberative capacity of private multi-stakeholder governance: The Roundtables on Responsible Soy and Sustainable Palm Oil, *Ecological Economics*, 83: 42-40.

Schouten, G., P. Glasbergen (2012), Private Multi-stakeholder Governance in the Agricultural Market Place: An Analysis of Legitimization Processes of the Roundtables on Sustainable Palm Oil and Responsible Soy, *International Food and Agribusiness Management Review*, 15: Special Issue B, pp. 63-88.

Müller, C, W.J.V. Vermeulen, and P. Glasbergen (2012), Pushing or Sharing as Value-driven Strategies for Societal Change in Global Supply Chains: Two Case Studies in the British–South African Fresh Fruit Supply Chain, *Business Strategy and the Environment*, 21: 127-140.

Visseren-Hamakers, I.J., P. Leroy, and P. Glasbergen (2012), Conservation partnerships and biodiversity governance: fulfilling governance functions through interaction, *Sustainable Development*, 20: 264-275.

Book:

Bitzer, V., R. Cörvers, P. Glasbergen, I. Niestroy (eds.) (2012), *European Union, Governance and Sustainability*, Open Universiteit (pp. 427).

Our first 2013 publications

Bitzer, V., P. Glasbergen, and B. Arts (2013), Exploring the potential of intersectoral partnerships to improve the position of farmers in global agrifood chains: findings from the coffee sector in

Peru. Agriculture and Human Values, 30: 5-20.

Pesqueira, L., P. Glasbergen (2013), Playing the politics of scale: Oxfam's intervention in the Round table on Sustainable palm Oil, Geoforum, 45: 296-304.

Invitations of the chair

Glasbergen, P., keynote address Certifying partnerships: Challenges for the South International workshop on Certifying Partnerships for Sustainable Agricultural Systems, University of Lampung, Indonesia, 28-2-2012.

Glasbergen, P., invited paper Private partnerships for sustainable development: An exploration of the logics of legitimating practices, TRANSDEMOS workshop The Legitimacy and Legitimation of Transnational Governance, Lund University, Sweden, 7/8-5-2012.

Glasbergen, P., United Nations Forum on Sustainability Standards, Advisory Panel meeting, 21-22 June 2012.

Glasbergen, P., (Co)chair with Steve Waddell track Global Action Network and roundtable discussant, Conference on Multi-Organizational Partnerships, Alliances and Networks (MOPAN), Wageningen, 2-4 July, 2012.

Glasbergen, P., Invited reviewer UNESCO report on Sustainability Science, workshop Tokyo, 7/8 September 2012.

ICIS - Maastricht University

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Unsubscribe

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