

Biodata speakers

SKOV dinner-seminar “Landgrabbing” December 13, 2016

Hof van Wageningen, Wageningen

Michiel Köhne



Michiel Köhne is assistant professor at Sociology of Development and Change at Wageningen University & Research. He works primarily on how marginalized groups organize themselves when confronted with powerful social actors, such as companies and governments seeking access to their natural resources. He uses ethnographic research with a focus on how law is used and produced in these negotiations.

At present, he works on social mobilizations around shale gas in the Netherlands and around palm oil plantations in Indonesia. Michiel graduated in law at the Free University of Amsterdam in 1993 and received a PhD at Tilburg University in 2000. Since 1999 he has briefly been working at Erasmus University of Rotterdam as Assistant Professor of Constitutional and Administrative Law and since 2000 as Assistant Professor of Anthropology of law at Wageningen University & Research.

Ir. Gert van Santen (1944)



- **Graduated** (development economics) at Wageningen University (then LH), with focus on fisheries, finance and international relations.
- **Employment:** 5 years with FAO (Indonesia, Rome) and 30 years World Bank in Washington DC.
- **Drafted** fisheries and agriculture sector strategies and development programs for over 20 countries and regions; designed investment projects for over 30 countries.
- **Smallest** – and most successful - project: Fisheries mechanization in Maldives. \$5 m.
- **Biggest** – but less effective – project: Agricultural credit in India (\$ 5.900 m).
- **Most difficult** project: Palestine, Occupied Territories, agriculture development.
- **Developed** the concept of the *Forum for Sustainable Fisheries (later called PROFISH)*, an ongoing cooperation agreement between FAO, the World Bank and a number of bilateral donor agencies to jointly develop and finance fisheries development and management programs.
- **Highlighted** in various fora the critical role of complexity, political processes, poorly conceived theories and badly functioning institutions which largely determine the ineffectiveness of fisheries sector governance and aquatic resources management.
- **Enjoys** sailing, writing, coaching handball

Guus van Westen



Guus (A.C.M.) van Westen graduated in human geography in Utrecht, with specialization in development studies. Later he also did his PhD in Utrecht, writing on urban development issues in Bamako (Mali). He has served in advisory functions with the United Nations on development policy and capacity building in various localities, including Micronesia, Malaysia, Dubai en New York. He subsequently returned to the Faculty of Geosciences of Utrecht University as a lecturer and researcher, where, inter alia, he teaches in the masters programs *International Development Studies (IDS)* and *Sustainable Development*. Currently his research focuses on land rights and the effects of international investment flows on local development. He is deputy chair of LANDac (Netherlands Academy on Land Governance, a platform organization of Netherlands-based organizations engaged in land rights in developing countries) and leads a NWO-WOTRO funded project (*Follow the Food*) investigating the effects of foreign land-related investments on local food security in Ethiopia, Ghana and Kenya.

D.L.V. Nji-Sri



D.L.V. Nji-Sri in full “De Landbouwers Vereniging Nji Sri”, translated “The Agricultural Association Nji-Sri” is a student association. In 1904 the society was established in Wageningen for students at the Middelbare Koloniale Landbouwschool (Secondary Colonial Agricultural School). Nowadays Nji-Sri has about 130 members studying at Wageningen University, Stoas Vilentum and Van Hall Larenstein. Graduates and old- members reunite in the R.D.L.V., the alumni association of D.L.V. Nji-Sri. This network contains about 650 people all over the world. For more information check our website www.nji-sri.nl or send an email to bestuur@nji-sri.nl.

Ipsa Facto



Ipsa Facto is the study association for and run by students who study International Development Studies, Communication Science, the master International Development Studies, the Master Applied Communication Science or the master Development and Rural Innovation at Wageningen University & Research. Ipsa Facto was founded in 2000, which means that it is celebrating its 3rd lustrum this year. In 2000 the association started out with just over 60 members. Today we’ve grown to have nearly 500! Ipsa Facto is a study association which organizes a lot of different activities during the year. Think about educational movie nights, symposiums, an annual week of peace and a charity week, drinks, a hitchhike weekend, study trips, sportive activities and a first years weekend. Besides organizing activities, we have meetings with different kind of organs within the university and we inform our members about possible changes within one of our studies or within the university itself. Thereby we have different kind of partnerships. SKOV and Nji-Sri are two of them.

SKOV



The **Study Circle for Development Issues SKOV** (Studiekring voor ontwikkelingsvraagstukken) aims to contribute to shaping and spreading comprehensive visions on development issues worldwide and, to promote exchange of information in this field between its members and with others. For this purpose, SKOV organizes seminars (in principle four per year) around special topics. Here, lecturers from different perspectives expose their views on the subject of the seminar followed by discussions with participants. World food prices, smallholder agriculture, livestock, a country-series, development policy and, currently, an Africa-series are some of the subjects addressed in our seminars. Also see our website: <http://www.klv.nl/bijeenkomsten-skov/> SKOV was established in 1977 and has now around 160 members who have been or are working in developing countries. Members as well as non-members participate in its seminars. In attending the seminars, students may earn brownie/study points for their studies. Since 2013 SKOV works in cooperation with student association Nji-Sri and with study association Ipso Facto.