
Bibliography

“Everyday politics in agricultural water management”

Introduction

Following is a selection of major peer-reviewed contributions that deal with water governance issues. It gives a specific insight into everyday politics within the agricultural water management realm. A brief comment introduces each reference to facilitate users' reading.

The concept of **everyday water politics** relate to the contested nature of the daily use of water resources and gives a lens through which we can examine **how the (local) social relations of power shape and are shaped by water resource use practices**.

The concept actively engages with the close link between social relations and the physical environment in which actors operate, including the biophysical landscape, technologies and hydraulic

infrastructure. It offers the possibility to reflect on how social constructs such as **gender, class, and ethnicity** shape access to and control over water resources at local level and how this relates to structuring forces at larger spatial scales such as economic doctrines, socio-political structures, and culture and religion. The concepts builds on the understanding that institutions, in terms of the rules in use, that govern water use are constantly renegotiated, interpreted and rearranged at local level by socially positioned actors. This bibliography specifically focuses on **agricultural water use**.

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Boelens, R., Zwarteveen, M., Roth, D. 2005. Legal complexity in the analysis of water rights and water resources management. In Roth D., Boelens R., Zwarteveen M. (eds.) Liquid relations: contested water rights and legal complexity. Rutgers University Press: 1-19.

Introductory chapter to a book on legal pluralism which gives theoretical as well as empirical insight in how the dynamics of legal repertoires affect everyday negotiations over water use and management realities. Useful chapter to read for understanding the linkages between rights, agency and common property resources, and to appreciate the main critique on new institutionalist thinking on smallholder irrigation.

Bolding, A. 2004. In Hot Water: A Study on Socio-Technical Intervention Models and Practices of Water Use In Smallholder Agriculture, Nyanyadzi, Catchment, Zimbabwe. PhD dissertation, Wageningen University.

Empirically rich PhD dissertation that narrates the history of smallholder irrigation scheme and unravels the actions and strategies of smallholder farmers in securing access to and control over water and land resources from the pre-

colonial to post-colonial era. The introductory chapter gives a useful literature overview on socio-technical relations and associated research approaches.

Cleaver, F. 2002. Reinventing institutions: bricolage and the social embeddedness of natural resources management. *The European Journal of Development Research* 14(2): 11-30.

An influential article that questions the design principles for institutional development to manage common pool resources as put forward by Elinor Ostrom. It gives a genealogy of the concept of institutional bricolage and shows based on empirical data how institutions for collective action in water management are embedded in everyday practices, networks of interdependent relations and the constant negotiations of cultural norms. In addition, the author gives a useful definition of different forms of institutions that moves away from the problematic dichotomist labels of *formal* and *informal*.

Kemerink, J.S., Méndez Barrientos, L.E., Ahlers, R., Wester, P., van der Zaag, P. 2013. Challenging the concept of Water User Associations as the vehicle for transformation: the question of inclusion and representation in rural South Africa. *Water Policy* 15(2): 243-257.

A detailed account of the politics involved in the establishment of racially-inclusive water user association in the highly segregated South African society. It shows how water reform policies are renegotiated, interpreted and rearranged by various actors and how this affects the access to and control over water resources.

Kemerink, J.S., Munyao, S.N., Schwartz, K., Ahlers, R., van der Zaag, P. 2016. Why infrastructure still matters: unravelling water reform processes in an uneven waterscape in rural Kenya. *International Journal of the Commons*. 10(2): 1055-1081 (open-access journal).

This article scrutinizes the rationales used to justify the water reform process in Kenya and discusses how these rationales apply to different groups of agricultural water users. It shows how some small-scale irrigators manage to actively, and to some extent successfully, participate in the market economy by, paradoxically, rejection to be incorporated in the neoliberal inclined water reform interventions and links this to the infrastructural options available to these farmers.

Liebrand, J.W., Zwarteveen, M.Z., Wester, P. and Van Koppen, B. 2012. The deep waters of land reform: land, water and conservation area claims in Limpopo Province, Olifants Basin, South Africa. *Water International* 37(7): 773-787.

One of the few articles that focuses on the everyday practices of large-scale commercial farmers in Africa and shows how they use narratives on nature conservation to secure their access to land and water resources. A nice example of an article that uses a detailed empirical case study to provide concrete directions for policy development.

Manzungu, E. and Machiridza, R. 2009. Economic-legal ideology and water management in Zimbabwe: implications for smallholder agriculture. *Economics, Management, and Financial Markets* 4(1): 66-102.

Interesting article that shows the intimate relationship between everyday land and soil-conservation practices, social relations of power, ideology and legislation. Specifically, it narrates how the paradigm in water management has changed at international level and how this has undermined the empowerment of smallholder farmers in the post-colonial era.

Mollinga, P. 2001. Water and politics: levels, rational choice and South Indian canal irrigation. *Futures* 33 (8-9): 733-752.

One of the few articles that actively uses the term everyday politics and relates it to other forms of politics, including the politics of policy, hydro-politics. It uses a detailed empirical case study from India to illuminate how the different forms of politics unfold as well as the constitutive relations between the politics that emerge at the different spatial levels. The article is useful to understand the main critique on new institutionalism.

Mul, M.L., Kemerink, J.S. Vyagusa, N.F., Mshana, M.G., van der Zaag P., Makurira H. (2010). Water allocation practices among smallholder farmers in the South Pare Mountains, Tanzania; can they be up-scaled? *Agricultural Water Management* 98(11): 1752-1760.

This article discusses the agricultural practices of smallholder farmers and how they negotiate and adjust their water use to accommodate changes in the river flow. Based on hydrological as well as qualitative data, this article shows that water sharing arrangements between upstream and downstream water users have emerged at an increasingly larger spatial scale in response to the increase in demand for the diminishing water resources in the catchment.

Nightingale A. 2011. Bounding difference: Intersectionality and the material production of gender, caste, class and environment in Nepal. *Geoforum* 42: 153-162.

Inspiring article on how the symbolic meanings of particular spaces, practices and bodies are (re)produced through everyday activities including water use. Building on feminist political ecology, the article gives a detailed account of how gender intersects with other forms of social differentiation, such as caste and class, and how this affects the organization of space and water use practices.

O'Reilly, K. 2006. 'Traditional' women, 'modern' water: Linking gender and commodification in Rajasthan, India. *Geoforum* 37: 958-972.

Even though this article focuses on domestic water use, it gives a detailed account of how agency is exercised and social identities are shaped by everyday interactions with water. Building on feminist political ecology, this article tells the story of how new meanings of water and women are mutually constructed through struggles over water use and its commodification.

Udas, P.B. and Zwarteveen, M. 2005. Prescribing gender equity? The case of the Tukucha Nala Irrigation System, central Nepal. In: Roth, D., Boelens, B. and Zwarteveen, M. (eds.) *Liquid relations: contested water rights and legal complexity*. Rutgers University Press: 21-43.

Based on detailed empirical study, this book chapter describes the external interventions that attempt to address gender inequity in local agricultural water management practices. The chapter nicely shows the mismatch between what policy makers aspire and how it unfolds in practice due to a lack of understanding of the realities on the ground and the issues at stake.

Van der Kooij, S., Zwarteveen, M. and Kuper, M. 2015. The material of the social: the mutual shaping of institutions by irrigation technology and society in Seguia Khrichfa, Morocco. *International Journal of the Commons* 9(1):129-150.

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This article focuses on the mediating role of agricultural innovations and technologies in transforming practices and institutions governing water and land resources. In particular, this article zooms in on how the introduction of drip irrigation has triggered a process in which authority and responsibility are re-negotiated and through which new institutions emerged.

Vera-Delgado, J. and M. Zwartveen. 2007. The public and private domain of the everyday of politics of water: the construction of gender and water power in the Andes of Peru. *International Feminist Journal of Politics* 9(4): 503-511.

Detailed ethnographic account of the struggles of divorced women to keep access to and control over water and land resources. The article discusses the gender inequity that exists in legislation and within public water management domain, but also shows how everyday water use practices can form an important source of agency outside the recognized platforms and beyond the formalized rules.