

## **Water Security for Whom? - Social and Material Perspectives on Inequality around Multipurpose Reservoirs in Colombia**

Initiative: Globale Herausforderungen

Ausschreibung: Global Issues – Integrating Different Perspectives on Social Inequality

Bewilligung: 10.12.2019

Laufzeit: 4 Jahre

Projekt-Website: <https://www.iri-thesys.org/research/research-projects/water-security-for-whom-social-and-material-perspectives-on-inequality-around-multipurpose-reser>

Exemplary for the global resurgence of large hydropower infrastructure, this project investigates in/equalities in water security across the water-energy-food nexus of multipurpose reservoirs in Colombia, both historically and in a post-conflict society by way of scenarios. The notion of equality is broadened from a social to a social-ecological concept, operationalised through the concept of 'hydrosocial territory' in three cases. Recognising the large body of literature on conflicts surrounding the construction of hydropower dams, the project advances under-represented research on the post-construction phase of multipurpose reservoirs, in post-conflict societies, and emphasising the socio-material nature of in/equality. Embarking from previous infrastructural research in science and technology studies and political ecology, and the ethnographic notion of infrastructural violence, the consortium pioneers a novel methodology of interdisciplinary integration and contrast. This new approach of 'situated modelling' is deepened and empirically tested to enhance conversations between social and natural sciences and affected communities around predictive knowledge. The project thus advances the emerging socio-material study of how dams may disrupt or reconfigure local livelihoods and water, energy and food sectors.

### **Projektbeteiligte**

#### **Prof. Dr. Tobias Krüger**

Humboldt-Universität Berlin  
Mathematisch-Naturwissenschaftliche Fakultät  
Integrative Research Institute on Transformations  
of Human-Environment-Systems (IRI THESys)  
Berlin

#### **Prof. Dr. Cesar Ortiz-Guerrero**

Pontificia Universidad Javeriana  
Faculty of Environmental and Rural Studies  
Rural and Regional Development Department  
Bogotá  
Kolumbien (Colombia)

**Prof. Dr. Leticia Santos de Lima**

Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais  
Hydraulics Engineering and Water Resources Dep.  
Campus Pampulha  
Escola de Engenharia  
Belo Horizonte  
Brasilien

**Open Access-Publikationen**

**Ontological and epistemological commitments in interdisciplinary water research: Uncertainty as an entry point for reflexion**

**Mapping hydropower expansion and cash crop dynamics in Colombia using Landsat time series**