

## Managing land, soil, and people: Environmental and agricultural knowledge in Tsarist and Soviet Russia

Workshop at the GHI Moscow in cooperation with the Collaborative Research Centre 923 “Threatened orders” of the University of Tuebingen (14-15 March 2014)

### FRIDAY, 14 MARCH 2014

**10:00**            **Opening address**

*Katja Bruisch, Klaus Gestwa*

**10:30**            **Keynote lecture**

*Frank Uekötter: Green Revolution Dreams*

**11:30 – 12:00**   **Coffee break**

**11:30 – 13:00**   **Panel I: Resource management as a matter of public interest: Institutions and hierarchies of expertise**

*Marina Loskutova: Forest management in the Russian empire in the 1800s-1860s: the making of a professional community*

*Olga Elina: „Modernization from below“: Agricultural societies, zemstvos and the institutionalization of scientific agronomy (mid 19th – early 20th century)*

*Julia Lajus: Experts on unknown waters: construction of marine fish resources and the destiny of local fishing communities in the Russian North, 1895 – 1935*

**13:00 – 14:00**   **Lunch**

**14:00 – 15:30**   **Panel II: Scenarios of environmental decline: Knowledge production and preventive measures**

*Anastasia Fedotova: Insect pests, crop failures and the first steps of the agricultural entomology in South Russia*

*Lutz Häfner: „Robber economy“? Agricultural and environmental knowledge and its transfer to the peasantry in late Imperial Russia*

*Laurent Coumel: A renewal of environmental expertise on land and water management in Soviet Russia. Attempts for a ‘complex use’ of rivers and lakes at the beginning of the 1960s*

**15:30 – 16:00 Coffee break**

**16:00 – 17:30 Panel III: Economic reasoning: Abstract models and the quest for rural transformation**

*David Darrow*: The Moral Economy of Revolution and Civil War: Land Norms after 1917

*Ian Campbell*: Between resistance and expropriation: land norms, statistical expertise and the ambiguities of late-tsarist resettlement

*Maya Haber*: Soviet Rural Governmentality and the Re-emergence of the Rational Kolkhoznik , 1945-1958

**18:00 Reception (German Historical Institute)**

## **SATURDAY, MARCH 15**

**10:30 – 13:00 Panel IV: Challenges from the periphery: Universal claims and local constraints**

*Christian Teichmann*: Bitter Lives, Bitter Choices. Irrigation Engineers in Central Asia, 1900-1950

*Sarah Cameron*: Transforming the 'Hungry Steppe': Agriculture and Pastoral Nomadism in Soviet Kazakhstan, 1925-1928

**11:30 – 12:00 Coffee break**

*Marc Elie*: Agricultural experts in the Virgin Land Campaign (1954-1963)

*Valentina Roxo*: Industrializing the Taiga: West Siberian Petroleum Science, Nature and People (1963-1990)

**13:00 – 14:00 Lunch**

**14:00 – 15:30 Panel V: Expertise on display: Strategies of communication and legitimization**

*Stephen Brain*: Environmental Education Onboard Steamboats and Trains: The Don Agricultural Society and the Effort to Change Public Opinion, 1900-1917

*Alexander Ananyev*: Spatial representations of modernist projects to conquer, explore, and transform the Far North and the Arctic in exhibitions from 1935 to 1941

*Julia Obertreis*: Between propaganda and scientific-technical expertise: "infrastructural poetry" and irrigation management in Central Asia, 1950s to 1980s

**15:30 – 16:00 Coffee break**

**16:00 – 17:00 Round table discussion**

*Katja Bruisch, Klaus Gestwa, Stefan Merl, Frank Uekötter*