

International Workshop

**Big Dams: Investigating their Temporal  
and Spatial Politics in Africa, the Middle  
East, and Asia**

with the kind participation of:



Berlin, 1-2 June 2012

Zentrum Moderner Orient

organized by Katrin Bromber, Katharina Lange and  
Jeanne Féaux de la Croix, ZMO

## Programme

Friday, June 1st

9:00 - 9:15

**Welcome, Outline and Organisational Matters of the Workshop**

9:15 - 11:00

Panel 1  
**Scalarity I: Global/Local Interplay in 'Politics of Development'**

Discussant: Katrin Bromber, ZMO

**Cyrus Schayegh:** The Karaj Dam Affair: Post-War Consumerist Expectations, the Politics of Promise, and the Cold War in the Third World (Iran)

**Jason Verber:** Stopping the River without Stemming the Tide: West Germany, the Cahora Bassa Dam, and Decolonization (Mozambique)

**Stephan Miescher:** "Nkrumah's Baby": The Akosombo Dam and Programs of Modernization in Ghana, 1952-1966

11:00 - 11:30

Coffee Break

11:30 - 12:45

Panel 2  
**Scalarity II: Sovereignty and the Impact of Transnational Actors**

Discussant: Florian Riedler, ZMO

**Vanessa Lamb:** Remaking the National Border in Cross-Border Resource Development: The Case of the Nu-Salween River Development at the Thai-Burma Border

**Erdem Evren:** Along and Against the Stream: Techno-Capitalist Development and the Politics of Water on the Çoruh River, Turkey

12:45 - 13:45

Lunch

13:45 - 15:30

Panel 3  
**The Politics of Temporality**

Discussant: Katharina Lange, ZMO

**Eric Dinmore:** The Kuroyon Dam: Channeling River Water to What End? (Japan)

**Katiana Le Mentec:** Yunyang County and the Three Gorges Dam: The Official Creation of a Modern County Linked to its Past and Tradition

**Simon Jackson:** 'Phoenician Power and Light': The Nahr-Ibrahim Dam and the Development Politics of Mandate Lebanon

16:00

**Debated Projects of Progress in Berlin:** Discussion with Dorothea Härlin of the 'Berlin Water Table' and 'Commons in Citizens Hands' (GiB) on Water and Privatization

Saturday, June 2nd

9:15 - 10:30

Panel 4  
**Discourses and Practices of Governmentality**  
Discussant: Erdem Evren, ZMO

**Jennifer Derr:** The Source of the Modern Nile. Environmental Infrastructure, Agricultural Space and the Production of Egyptian Citizens (1952)

**Mohira Suyarkulova:** The Rogun Controversy: Between National Idea and International Conflict (Tajikistan/Uzbekistan)

10:30 - 11:00

Coffee Break

11:00 - 12:15

Panel 5  
**Agency "From Below", Subaltern Actors**  
Discussant: Jeanne Féaux de la Croix, ZMO

**Alia Mossalam:** "We are the ones who made this dam 'high.'" A Builders' History of the Aswan High-Dam

**Valerie Hänsch:** Practices of Occupying Space in the View of a Self-Determined Future. The Merowe Dam in Northern Sudan and the Struggle of the Manasir People.

12:15 - 13:30

Lunch Break

13:30 - 15:00

**Final Discussion**  
Concluding Thoughts: Katrin Bromber, Jeanne Féaux de la Croix, Katharina Lange, ZMO