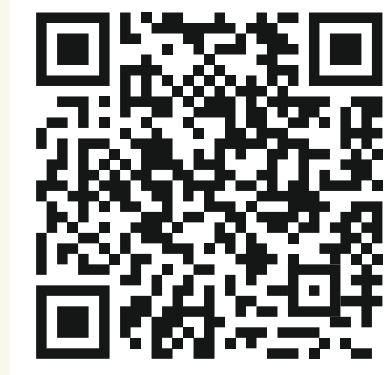


**12–13:30****The socio-ecological and politico-economic dynamics of ecological restoration through tree planting schemes in the global South***Tiina Raasakka*

Master's student at the Global Development Studies at University of Helsinki, and at Creative Sustainability at Aalto University  
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*Maira Rey Lotero*

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This project examines the expansion of tree-planting schemes that aim to support ecological restoration in the global South. From a local and global perspective, the project studies the role of different actors, including local communities, companies, states, and international development cooperation and financing agencies, in advancing the expansion of tree-planting schemes. In-depth case studies are provided based on field research in Ethiopia, Madagascar, Mozambique, and Brazil. The results from the case studies contribute to a broader analysis of the global trends of ecological restoration. Particular attention is paid to North-South financing flows, and the role of Finland and the EU. By analysing economic and political governance mechanisms and concrete projects on the ground, the project produces knowledge that enhances our abilities to address the multiple global crises of climate change, ecological collapses, food production, social inequalities and poverty.

The project is led by **Maria Ehrnström-Fuentes** (Hanken) and **Markus Kröger** (University of Helsinki).

**16–17:30****Integrating water balance and energy systems models for improved benefit sharing in transboundary river basins***Rinat Abdurafikov*

Senior Research Scientist, VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland, [rinat.abdurafikov@vtt.fi](mailto:rinat.abdurafikov@vtt.fi)

Many developing countries are located in transboundary river basins where water and energy challenges are closely interlinked. Typically, the upper basin is sparsely populated high mountainous terrain rich in water resources and large hydropower potential, while the lower basin has high water demand due to large population density and irrigated agriculture. This proposal aims to develop new tools and knowledge in a joint effort between Finland, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan to sustainably manage land, energy and water resources between upstream and downstream needs. The project will couple and develop water resource and energy system models, and use the tools to analyse future scenarios. The analysis can provide guidance for the deployment of renewable energy and sustainable agriculture, taking into account changes brought about by climate change. If successful, the approach can be replicated in other areas where energy and water issues are closely interconnected.

The project is led by **Björn Klöve** (University of Oulu) & **Juha Kiviluoma** (VTT)

## 12–13:30

### Sustainable use of plant resources to combat infectious diseases (SUPRIDE)

*Leena Hanski*

Senior University Lecturer, University of Helsinki

The high disease burden in most sub-Saharan countries is considered a central economical burden which hinders their socioeconomical development. Similar to several other African countries, the republic of Benin is struggling with high prevalence of infectious diseases caused by multiresistent microbes, particularly bacteria. This project aims to support the evidence-based use of African plant resources by gathering scientific data on the potential of selected plant extracts as effective and standardized antimicrobial phytomedicines. Investing in primary healthcare has a central role in promoting the progress towards United Nation's sustainable development goals. The main societal impact of this project lies in promoting effective, accessible and affordable medication respecting local cultural heritage.

The project is led by **Leena Hanski** (University of Helsinki)

## 15–16:30

### Transition pathways towards gender inclusion in the changing musical landscapes of Nepal (amplifyHer)

*Prem Gurung*

Research Assistant, Doctoral Researcher, [prem.gurung@uniarts.fi](mailto:prem.gurung@uniarts.fi)

Global policies address both the preservation of cultural heritage and the inclusion of women in public life despite gender exclusion being common and conspicuous in various traditions. Little research exists about how these policy goals can be navigated in the field of music. This transdisciplinary collaborative research project seeks systems understanding of the drivers for change towards gender equality through the case of Nepal where rituals and festivals feature patriarchal music making, and girls and women are largely absent from music education, music professions, and public life. With public pedagogy as a guiding approach, the research focuses on the politics of women and girls' music making in Nepal to co-develop transition designs and leadership pathways towards more inclusive and sustainable societies. The research is based at the Sibelius Academy of the University of the Arts Helsinki and is in cooperation with Kathmandu University and Echoes in the Valley.

The project is led by **Heidi Westerlund** (Uniarts Helsinki)

