The Zürcher Humangeographische Kolloquium is jointly organised by the four units of Human Geography, Political Geography, Economic Geography and Space & Organization at the Department of Geography, Zurich University. All interested are cordially invited.

Tuesday 14 April 2015, 16:15 – 18:00
University of Zurich Irchel, Winterthurerstrasse 190, Y 03 G 91

Daniel Brockington
Professor of Conservation and Development, Institute for Development Policy and Management, University of Manchester

Inclusive growth? Understanding long term livelihoods dynamics in rural Tanzania

Recent economic growth in many African countries is widely welcomed, but it is not clear how inclusive that growth is, particularly of rural populations. Household consumption data suggest that poverty rates have not declined with growth, suggesting that growth is not inclusive. But this finding may depend on the measure of poverty used. We argue that existing measures of poverty in debates about the inclusivity of economic growth use indices of consumption, not assets, and are therefore incomplete. We present new data based on recent re-surveys of households first visited in the early 1990s. These demonstrate a marked increase in prosperity from high levels of poverty. We consider the implications of this research for further explorations of the relationship of economic growth and agricultural policy in rural areas.

Trained as an anthropologist in London, Dan Brockington has worked previously in the Geography Departments of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. His research has covered the social impacts of conservation policy, the relationships between capitalism and conservation, the work of media and celebrity in development and long term livelihood change in East Africa. He has conducted most of his research in Tanzania but has also worked in South Africa, Australia, New Zealand and India as well as conducting global overviews of the social impacts of protected areas, media and conservation and continental wide examinations of the work of conservation NGOs in sub-Saharan Africa. He has recently published Celebrity Advocacy and International Development and has also written Celebrity and the Environment, Nature Unbound (with Rosaleen Duffy and Jim Igoe) and co-edited (with Rosaleen Duffy) of Capitalism and Conservation.