

JANINA GRABS

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Sciences, ETH Zürich
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EDUCATION

- 2018 Ph.D. in Political Science (summa cum laude)
Graduate School of Political Science, University of Münster, Germany
Dissertation: The effectiveness of market-driven regulatory sustainability
governance.
Supervisors: Thomas Dietz (University of Münster), Graeme Auld (Carleton
University)
- 2014 Erasmus Mundus Master's Program in Agricultural, Food and Environmental
Policy Analysis
M.Sc. in Agricultural and Food Economics, University of Bonn, Germany
M.Sc. in Business and Economics, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences
- 2012 B.A. (First Class Honors) in Political Science, McGill University, Canada
Exchange year at Sciences Po (Paris) 2010/11, summa cum laude

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2021 Incoming Assistant Professor (tenure-track) for Business and Society
Department of Society, Politics and Sustainability, ESADE Business School
- 2019 – 2021 Postdoctoral Researcher
Department of Humanities, Social and Political Sciences, ETH Zürich

As a senior member of ETH Zurich's Environmental Policy Lab, I lead its
research project on the effectiveness and social equity of zero-deforestation
commitments in Indonesia's palm oil sector.
- 2018 – 2019 Visiting Assistant in Research (visiting doctoral researcher)
School of Forestry and Environmental Studies (FES), Yale University

Hosted by Benjamin Cashore's Governance, Environment and Markets (GEM)
Initiative, I conducted doctoral and postdoctoral research, specializing in
global and comparative environmental policy analysis. I also co-coordinated
the GEM Initiative's research projects, mentored and taught Yale FES Masters
students, and received the Yale Certificate of College Teaching Preparation.
- 2017 – 2018 Visiting Academic Researcher
School of Public Policy and Administration, Carleton University

In addition to writing my dissertation, I worked on collaborative research with
Graeme Auld and Benjamin Cashore during this appointment.

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed books

- 2020 **Grabs, J.** (2020). *Selling sustainability short? The private governance of labor and the
environment in the coffee sector.* Cambridge University Press.

Refereed journal articles (by theme)

Dissemination and evolution of private governance initiatives and public-private interactions

- 2020 **Grabs, J.**, Auld, G., & Cashore, B. (2020). Private regulation, public policy, and the perils of ontological pluralism. *Regulation & Governance*, early view, doi: 10.1111/rego.12354
- 2020 **Grabs, J.** (2020). Assessing the institutionalization of private sustainability governance in a changing coffee sector. *Regulation & Governance*, 14(2), 362-387.
- 2016 **Grabs, J.**, Kilian, B., Hernández, D. C., & Dietz, T. (2016). Understanding coffee certification dynamics: A spatial analysis of voluntary sustainability standard proliferation. *International Food & Agribusiness Management Review*, 19, 31-55.

Effectiveness of private governance initiatives

- 2020 Dietz, T., Estrella Chong, A., **Grabs, J.**, Kilian, B. (2019). How effective is multiple certification in improving the economic conditions of smallholder farmers? Evidence from an impact evaluation in Colombia's coffee belt. *Journal of Development Studies*, 56(6), 1141-1160.
- 2019 Dietz, T., **Grabs, J.**, & Estrella Chong, A. (2019). Mainstreamed voluntary sustainability standards and their effectiveness: Evidence from the Honduran coffee sector. *Regulation & Governance*, early view, doi: 10.1111/rego.12239
- 2018 Dietz, T., Auffenberg, J., **Grabs, J.**, Estrella Chong, A., & Kilian, B. (2018). The Voluntary Coffee Standard Index (VOCSI). Developing a composite index to assess and compare the strength of Mainstream Voluntary Sustainability Standards in the global coffee industry. *Ecological Economics*, 150, 72-87.

Power distribution, development, and value sharing in global value chains

- 2019 **Grabs, J.**, & Ponte, S. (2019). The evolution of power in the global coffee value chain and production network. *Journal of Economic Geography*, 19(4), 803-828.
- 2018 Dietz, T., Estrella Chong, A., Font Gilabert, P., & **Grabs, J.** (2018). Women's empowerment in rural Honduras and its determinants: insights from coffee communities in Ocotepeque and Copan. *Development in Practice*, 28(1), 33-50.

Pathways toward and effects of sustainable consumption behavior

- 2016 **Grabs, J.**, Langen, N., Maschkowski, G., & Schöpke, N. (2016). Understanding role models for change: a multilevel analysis of success factors of grassroots initiatives for sustainable consumption. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 134, 98-111.
- 2016 Maschkowski, G., Schöpke, N., **Grabs, J.**, & Langen, N. (2016). Learning from co-founders of grassroots initiatives: personal resilience, transition, and behavioral change – a salutogenic approach. In: Henfrey T., & Maschkowski G. (eds.) *Resilience, Community Action and Societal Transformation*. East Meon: Permanent Publications and Bristol: Good Works.

- 2015 **Grabs, J.** (2015). The rebound effects of switching to vegetarianism. A microeconomic analysis of Swedish consumption behavior. *Ecological Economics*, 116, 270-279.

Works under review and in progress (by theme)

Manuscripts available upon request.

Dissemination and evolution of private governance initiatives and public-private interactions

- R&R* **Grabs, J.** & Carodenuto, S. Traders as agents of sustainability governance in global food supply chains. A research agenda.
- R&R* **Grabs, J.** Signaling sustainability: The interplay of public and private regulation of tropical commodity production.
- in preparation* **Grabs, J.** & Auld, G. Creative destruction, industrial reorganization, and the fortunes of private regulatory governance.
- in preparation* **Grabs, J.,** & Sun, Y. Regulation for whom? North-South tensions and their implications for the institutionalization of transnational private regulation in the global coffee and tea value chains

Effectiveness of private governance initiatives

- R&R* Sun, Y., **Grabs, J.,** Cashore, B., & van der Ven, H. Missing the forest for the trees: The hidden costs of eco-certification for land use change
- R&R* Dietz, T., & **Grabs, J.** Additionality and implementation gaps in Voluntary Sustainability Standards
- in preparation* Sun, Y., **Grabs, J.,** Cashore, B., Bernstein, S., & Auld, G. Rethinking problems and solutions for planetary impact: Global sustainability governance and planetary politics in a new world system

Power distribution, development, equity, and value sharing in global value chains

- in preparation* Bennett, E., & **Grabs, J.** HIP (Hybrid Integrated Profit-Sharing) social enterprise models: A unique approach to value sharing in the coffee sector and beyond (equal authors)
- in preparation* **Grabs, J.,** Levy, S., Cammelli, F., & Garrett, R. Pathways to effective and equitable zero-deforestation supply chain policies

Other publications

- 2018 IPES-Food (2018). *Breaking away from industrial food and farming systems - seven case studies of agroecological transition*. Louvain-la-Neuve: International Panel of Experts on Sustainable Food Systems (research lead).
- 2017 IPES-Food (2017). *Unravelling the Food–Health Nexus: Addressing practices, political economy, and power relations to build healthier food systems*. Louvain-la-Neuve: International Panel of Experts on Sustainable Food Systems (contributing researcher).
- 2017 **Grabs, J.** (2017). The rise of buyer-driven sustainability governance: Emerging trends in the global coffee sector. *ZenTra Working Paper in Transnational Studies* No. 73/2017.
- 2015 **Grabs, J.** (2015) *Value-adding strategies for low-emission coffee: An overview*. San Jose, Costa Rica: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of record, University of Münster

In my capacity as instructor of record, I conceptualized, designed and sole-taught multiple courses in the field of global governance and public policy (examples below). Syllabi available upon request.

Methods: Policy analysis and impact evaluation (advanced undergraduate seminar, Summers 2018 & 2019)

Ethics and sustainability governance of international value chains (advanced undergraduate seminar, Summers 2017, 2018 & 2019)

Teaching fellow, Yale University

Problem solving in the global era: Social science contributions to forward looking environmental management (for Benjamin Cashore; head TF, graduate course, Fall 2018)

Global environmental governance (for Benjamin Cashore; head TF, graduate course, Spring 2019)

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2019 Oran R. Young Prize awarded for the best early-career paper of the 2019 Mexico Conference, Earth System Governance Network
- 2019 WWU Dissertationspreis 2019, awarded for the best dissertation of the Department of Social and Educational Sciences of the Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster (€3,500)

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- 2019 Admission to Robert Bosch Postdoc Academy for Transformational Leadership (2019-2021)
- 2019 Virginia Walsh Award for the best dissertation in environmental politics, American Political Science Association
- 2018 Giandomenico Majone Prize for the best paper presented at the 2018 Biennial Conference of the ECPR Standing Group on Regulatory Governance by an early career researcher (up to 7 years after PhD), European Consortium on Political Research
- 2018 Admission to the Earth System Governance Research Fellow Network
- 2016 Best Paper Award in category “Relevance to managers”, IFAMA World Conference
- 2012 Allen Oliver Gold Medal (awarded to McGill graduate with highest standing in Political Science), McGill University
- Dean of Arts Convocation Prize (distinguishing outstanding academic achievement), McGill University

SELECTED GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2020 Faculty Exchange Grant to support ETH visit of Indonesian collaborator Dr. Nia Kurniawati Hidayat (CHF 8,500), ETH for Development (ETH4D)
- 2020 Project grant “Assessing the effectiveness and equity of zero-deforestation commitment implementation in the palm oil sector” (2020-2024; CHF 785,128), Swiss National Science Foundation (co-investigator, Principal Investigator: Rachael Garrett)
- 2019 Project grant from *Fonds Welternährungssystem* (CHF 8,900), ETH World Food System Center (with Federico Cammelli)
- 2019 2019 University of Toronto Scarborough Postdoctoral Fellowship (Can\$ 90,000), declined
- 2019 Gender Equity Grant for International Conference Visits (€400), University of Münster
- 2018 IPID4All Travel Grant for International Research Exchanges (€5,000), German Academic Exchange Service
- 2018 DAAD International Conference Travel Grant (€600), German Academic Exchange Service
- 2017 IPID4All Travel Grant for International Research Exchanges (€5,000), German Academic Exchange Service
- 2017 Gender Equity Grant for International Conference Visits (€500), University of Münster

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- 2014 – 2015 Mercator Fellowship on International Affairs (€20,000), Mercator Foundation/German National Academic Foundation
- 2012 – 2014 Erasmus Mundus Scholarship (€12,000), European Union

INVITED TALKS

- 2020 “Die Effektivität von Nachhaltigkeitsstandards im Kaffeesektor“. Invited presenter, Deutscher Kaffeeverband (German Coffee Association) online seminar “Nachhaltigkeits-News im Kaffee in 7 Speed Speeches“, online, August 26.
- 2020 Invited presenter and panel speaker, Tropical Forest Alliance Soy Dialogue on “Payments for Environmental Services: a Game-Changer for Brazil and Beyond?“, online, July 30.
- 2020 Invited panel speaker, ISEAL Alliance webinar “Why system credibility matters for impacts: how the Credibility Principles can support effectiveness and impacts“, online, July 21.
- 2020 “How machine learning can help prevent commodity-driven deforestation“. Invited presenter and panel speaker (with Samuel Levy), ICLR 2020 Workshop Tackling Climate Change with Machine Learning, online, April 28.
- 2020 “Coffee production and the natural environment: Challenges and opportunities“. Invited presenter and panel speaker, UNCTAD-ICO workshop “Fostering sustainable development in coffee-exporting countries“, Geneva, February 18.
- 2019 Guest lecturer in seminar “Governing through Markets: Sustainability and Fairness in the Global Economy“ by Professor Tim Bartley, University of St. Gallen, September 16.
- 2019 Invited panel speaker at the event “Sustainability – A transatlantic conversation“, organized by the California Wine Institute and Harpers Magazine, London, July 11.
- 2019 “The effectiveness of private sustainability governance: A micro-institutional approach“, University of Massachusetts Boston Organizations and Social Change (OSC) Research Seminar, Boston, May 1.
- 2019 “Overcoming the single exit fallacy“, invited Re:Co (Regarding: Coffee) Symposium Speaker, Specialty Coffee Association, Boston, April 10. – 11.
- 2019 “Selling sustainability short? The effectiveness and limits of eco-labels in the coffee sector“, Yale University School of Forestry and Environmental Studies Research Luncheon, New Haven, March 4.
- 2018 Invited panel speaker, Specialty Coffee Association Sustainability Webinar “Coffee Prices and Farm Profitability“, online, September 25.

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

Panel organizer

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- 2019 “Making conservation work in a globalized world: opportunities and challenges for public and private land use governance”, 2019 Mexico Conference of the Earth System Governance Network, Oaxaca, November 6. – 8.
- 2019 “New instruments, same old tunes? Exploring the use of transnational private governance initiatives in international politics and public-private interactions”, 2019 International Studies Association, Toronto, March 27. – 30.
- 2019 “The role and agency of transnational private governance in a politicized marketplace: Strategies, opportunities and impacts”, 2019 International Studies Association, Toronto, March 27. – 30.

Presentations

- 2020 “Advances and limitations in the use of satellite imagery for deforestation and forest degradation monitoring and reduction in tropical forests”, 2020 ETH Virtual Workshop “Data Science in Climate and Climate Impact Research: Conceptual Issues, Challenges, and Opportunities”, online, August 20.
- 2019 “Is private environmental governance an oxymoron? The effectiveness of market-based sustainability standards in improving ecosystem conservation”, 2019 Mexico Conference of the Earth System Governance Network, Oaxaca, November 6. – 8.
- 2019 “Signaling sustainability: The interplay of public and private regulation of tropical commodity production”, 2019 Mexico Conference of the Earth System Governance Network, Oaxaca, November 6. – 8.
- 2019 “Regulation for whom? North-South tensions and their implications for the institutionalization of transnational private regulation in the global coffee and tea value chains”, 2019 Mexico Conference of the Earth System Governance Network, Oaxaca, November 6. – 8.
- 2019 “Regulation for whom? North-South tensions and their implications for the institutionalization of transnational private regulation in the global coffee and tea value chains” (with Yixian Sun), 2019 Conference of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE), New York, June 27. – 29.
- 2019 “Is private environmental governance an oxymoron? The effectiveness of market-based sustainability standards in improving ecosystem conservation”, 2019 International Studies Association, Toronto, March 27. – 30.
- 2019 “Signaling sustainability: The interplay of public and private regulation of tropical commodity production”, 2019 International Studies Association, Toronto, March 27. – 30.
- 2019 “Signaling sustainability: The interplay of public and private

- regulation of tropical commodity production”, Authors’ Workshop ‘Beyond the government-market-communities trichotomy: Conditions and instruments for cooperative, coercive and competitive interactions in natural resource and agri-environmental governance’, Duisburg, March 11. – 12.
- 2018 “Switching between lenses for a better view: A critical review of theoretical approaches to private regulatory governance” (with Graeme Auld and Ben Cashore), 2018 Utrecht Conference on Earth System Governance, Utrecht, November 5. – 8.
- 2018 “The effectiveness of market-driven sustainability governance through international value chains – Insights from the coffee sector”, 2018 Annual Meeting of the International Political Economy Society, Boston, November 2. – 3.
- 2018 “The rise of buyer-driven sustainability governance: Emerging trends in the global coffee sector”, ECPR General Conference 2018, Hamburg, August 22. – 25.
- 2018 “The effectiveness of private sustainability governance: A micro- institutional approach”, ECPR Standing Group on Regulatory Governance 7th Biennial Conference, Lausanne, July 4. – 6.
- 2018 “Is private environmental governance an oxymoron? The effectiveness of market-based sustainability standards in improving ecosystem conservation”, 4th Annual Conference on Environmental Politics and Governance, Stockholm, June 28. – 30.
- 2018 “Switching between lenses for a better view: A meta-assessment of private regulatory governance and the role of public policy” (with Graeme Auld and Ben Cashore), Yale Workshop on Private Authority and Public Policy in Global Context, New Haven, Jan. 10. – 11.
- 2017 “Evaluating the output legitimacy of non-state market-driven governance systems” (with Thomas Dietz), American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, Aug. 31. – Sept. 3.
- 2017 “The efficacy of non-state buyer-driven sustainability governance. Mainstreaming and the effectiveness of Voluntary Sustainability Standards (VSS) in the global coffee value chain”, 12th Conference of the European Society for Ecological Economics, Budapest, June 20. – 23.
- 2017 “Is private governance effective? Evidence from the Honduran coffee sector” (with Thomas Dietz), Policy Implementation Reloaded: New Insights from Domestic, European and International Scholarship, International Conference, Münster, July 06. – 07.
- 2016 “Understanding coffee certification dynamics: A spatial analysis of voluntary sustainability standard proliferation” (with Bernard Kilian, Daniel Calderón Hernández, and Thomas Dietz; presented by Thomas Dietz), International Food and Agribusiness Management Association World Conference, Aarhus, June 19. – 23.

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- 2014 “Success factors of grassroots movements for sustainability” (with Nina Langen, Gesa Maschkowski, and Niko Schöpke, presented by Nina Langen), International Conference on Consumer Research, Bonn, Sept. 29. - 30.
- 2014 “It’s complicated: Vegetarianism and indirect environmental rebound effects”, International Conference on Consumer Research, Bonn, Sept. 29.-30.
- 2014 “Success factors of grassroots movements for sustainability” (with Nina Langen, Gesa Maschkowski, and Niko Schöpke), International Society for Ecological Economics Conference, Reykjavik, Aug. 13. - 15.

OTHER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2015 – 2019 Research associate, TransSustain project, University of Münster/ INCAE Business School, Costa Rica
- I designed and implemented an impact evaluation study (n=1900) of certified coffee farmers in Honduras, Colombia, and Costa Rica. My responsibilities included research strategy and questionnaire design and operationalization, the liaison with collaboration partners, the coordination of data collection, and data evaluation and analysis using STATA, Tableau, ODK and QGIS.
- 2016 – 2018 Research consultant, International Panel of Experts on Sustainable Food Systems
- I assembled evidence and drafted sections of IPES-Food reports, e.g. on the public health impacts of industrial food systems and transition pathways toward agroecological food systems.

PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Policy advice and expert opinions

- 2017 – now Co-chair of EKLIPSE Expert Working Group on business activities’ impacts on biodiversity
- The group provides policy advice to the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency on regulatory options to improve food and drink SME’s biodiversity impacts.

Chairing and discussant services

- 2018 Discussant, Panel: The changing roles of actors and agency in agri-food governance systems, ECPR General Conference 2018, Hamburg, August 22. - 25.
- 2018 Discussant, Copenhagen Business School Workshop on Private Authority and Public Policy in Global Context, March 22. - 23.
- 2017 Chair and discussant, Panel on Refugees and IDPs, American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, Aug. 31. – Sept. 3.

Book referee services

Cambridge University Press
Elsevier Academic Press (book prospectus review)

Journal referee services (selected)

World Development
Regulation & Governance
Review of Policy Research
Global Environmental Politics
Journal of Environmental Policy & Planning
Business Strategy and the Environment
Journal of Environment and Development

FURTHER PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

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|------|---|
| 2019 | Yale Certificate of College Teaching Preparation (CCTP), Yale University
Poorvu Center for Teaching and Learning, academic year 2018-19 |
| 2017 | APSA Course Design and Pedagogy Workshop. American Political Science
Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, Aug. 31. – Sept. 3. |
| 2017 | Certificate in project management, Graduate Center of the University of
Münster, April 18. – July 27. |
| 2017 | IMPACT: approaches and tools for enhancing the social and policy impact of
your research. European Society for Ecological Economics Summer School,
Budapest, June 18. – 20. |
| 2017 | Knowing and creatively using participatory teaching methods, Center for
Academic Teaching of the University of Münster, June 12. |

LANGUAGES

English (native)
German (native)
French (proficient)
Spanish (proficient)
Swedish (basic - B1)
Russian (basic - B1)
Indonesian (beginner - A1)
Portuguese (passive - can read with dictionary)
Italian (passive - can read with dictionary)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS/AFFILIATIONS

American Political Science Association
European Consortium on Political Research

Janina Grabs

International Studies Association
Earth System Governance Project (Research Fellow)

Last updated: 26 August 2020