TROPILUNCH

HYDROPOWER PLANTS, HUMAN DEVELOPMENT & DEVELOPMENT-FORCED DISPLACEMENT AND RESETTLEMENT IN BRAZIL

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GRINTER 376

SUMMARY

Although official reports worldwide claim that hydropower plants induce local socio-economic development, evidence for such claims is lacking. The presentation will discuss two recent works developed by the Research Group in Environmental Planning and Management of the University of São Paulo (Plangea-USP). First, at the national scale, it will be presented results that evince how human development indexes of Brazilian municipalities follow a "boom-and-bust" pattern across hydropower plants’ lifecycle. Second, at the local level, it will be discussed how the process of displacement and resettlement forced by the hydropower plants of the Madeira river in Brazil are associated with unforeseen social-ecological consequences and changes in riverine communities’ livelihoods.

BIO

Daniel Rondinelli Roquetti has a BS in Environmental Management and a Masters in Sciences of Environmental Engineering, both by the University of São Paulo, Brazil. He is a PhD student at the Graduate Program in Environmental Science (Procam), Institute of Energy and Environment of the University of São Paulo (IEE-USP). He is member of the Research Group in Environmental Planning and Management (Plangea-USP) and of the Amazon Dams Network (ADN), where he develops research on the local impacts caused by large hydropower plants. His most recent research efforts focus on the social-ecological consequences of development forced displacement and resettlement in the Madeira River hydroelectric complex. Main topics of interest are Environmental Impact Assessment, local impact of large infrastructure projects and resilience in social-ecological systems.