

IV

CONTEXTS OF FARMING – GLOBAL INTER/CONNECTIONS AND EXAMPLE CASES:

MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS, THE GREEN REVOLUTION, POST/COLONIALISM, INTERNATIONAL AID, CLIMATE CHANGE, BIODIVERSITY, LAND, WATER, SOIL, CONFLICT & WAR

A Farmer in Africa: Limiting Property Rights 2013, EN, Danielle King, 2 Min.

Keywords: *Developing countries, land loss, natural resources, property rights, Sub-Saharan Africa, governance, individual rights*

“In developing countries around the world, rural people are losing their land and natural resources with often profound adverse effects on local livelihoods and wellbeing, and on local environments and ecosystem services. This occurs because of weak property rights and insecure tenure arrangements. This video tells the story of a farmer in Sub-Saharan Africa who loses the right to farm on his land, and emphasizes the importance of government decisions that balance the individual rights of citizens with national public interest.” (wri.org)

Film online:

<http://www.wri.org/resources/videos/farmer-africa-limiting-property-rights>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j6nra7SYPNM>

Comment: Subtitles available in EN, F, ES, PT, ID. Filmed for World Resources Institute. „WRI’s World Resources Report project develops solutions to the world’s food production and consumption problems. (...) We analyze strategies to sustainably increase food production, such as restoring degraded lands back into productivity, increasing pastureland yields, and improving land and water management. And we advance methods to reduce food production’s impact on the environment, such as climate-smart agriculture.” WRI donors: <http://www.wri.org/about/donors>

A World of Biodiversity 2004, EN, FAO – The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 23:40 Min.

Keywords: *Biodiversity, Sustain livelihoods, climate change, pollination, soil health, food, agriculture, Peru, Ethiopia, Cambodia, Chad, communities*

“A video presenting Biodiversity through different experiences filmed in 4 countries in three different continents. Biodiversity is vital for the production of food and to conserve the ecological foundation needed to sustain peoples' livelihoods. It is vital for adapting crops and animals to a range of environmental conditions and contributes to important functions, like nutrient cycling, pest and disease regulation, pollination, maintenance of water quality, soil health and erosion control. Biodiversity provides many services to agriculture, but agriculture too can serve biological diversity.(Ref:2558)” (FAO Youtube Channel, FAOVideo)

Film online: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VYaaZjY20yA>

Comment: Produced for FAO´s Inter-Departmental Working Group on Biological Diversity For Food and Agriculture and FAO/Netherlands Partnership Programme Agro-Biodiversity

Biodiversity Khan Academy Course 2014/2015, EN, California Academy of Sciences

Keywords: *Biodiversity, animations, climate change*

“Take an expedition with us to investigate the amazing diversity of life on this planet. Learn what biodiversity is, why it is important, where it is found, how it comes into existence, how you study it, why it is threatened, and how it can be protected.” (California Academy of Sciences Youtube Playlist)

All tutorials:

<https://www.khanacademy.org/partner-content/CAS-biodiversity>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s91Dptx52GU&list=PLS14biAqBAatEEChVtzip9M9vwrXFF32_ob

Comment: Short animations („tutorials“) on biodiversity questions.

Bitter Seeds – Suicide and GMO Effects on India's Farmers 2011, EN, Micha X. Peled, 88 Min.

Keywords: *GMO, India, health effects, indebtedness, cotton, India, farmers vs. Multinational corporations, Monsanto, crop failure*

Indian Farmers and the effects of GMO in cotton cultivation. A film about the hidden costs and the serious health effects of GMO.

Trailer: http://www.dailymotion.com/video/xlyhjp_bitter-seeds-trailer_shortfilms#from=embediframe

Reviews:

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/leslie-hassler/bitter-seeds-documentary_b_2155970.html

<http://www.globalpolicyjournal.com/blog/15/01/2014/documentary-review-bitter-seeds>

<http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2014/08/25/seeds-of-doubt>

Comment: Last of Peled`s Globalization Trilogy. Criticism: „Nature“-Journal showed that suicide rates had risen before the introduction of Bt cotton. Other Critiques concerning Suicide Rate and Figures. Celebrated Documentary (Green Screen Award (2011), the Oxfam Global Justice Award (2011), the Humanitas Award (2012) and the International Green Film Award (2013))

Bushman`s Secret 2006, EN/Khoisan languages, Rehad Desai, 65 Min.

Keywords: *South Africa, hoodia, traditional medicine, medicinal plants, pharmaceuticals, big companies, Bushmen, Kalahari, colonialism, postcolonialism, San, Namibia, Botswana, using rights, property rights, indigenous rights, indigenous knowledge*

“When South African filmmaker Rehad Desai travels to the Kalahari to investigate global interest in ancient Bushmen knowledge, he meets Jan van der Westhuizen, a (...) Khomani San traditional healer. Jan's struggle to live close to nature is hampered by centuries of colonial exploitation of the San Bushmen and of their land. Unable to survive as they once did hunting and gathering, the Khomani now live in a state of poverty that threatens to see the last of this community forever. One plant could make all the difference. Hoodia, a cactus used by Bushmen for centuries, has caught the attention of a giant pharmaceutical company. It now stands to decide the fate of the Khomani San.” (der.org)

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LSwApUJC1X8>

Film online: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uqku6Aq-ZDc>

Review: <http://www.eyeforfilm.co.uk/review/bushmans-secret-film-review-by-amber-wilkinson>

Co-Operation That Counts - Helping the World by Preserving Biodiversity 2007, EN/F, Mostra Communications (for European Commission), 11:44 Min.

Keywords: *Rwanda, Democratic Republic, Congo, national parks, food, water, humanitarian aid, effects on plant life, ICCN, biodiversity, EU, training, investment in the protection of biodiversity, conservation, Gabon, Eco-Fact Programme, poverty, war, Virunga National Park, Lopé National Park, Europe Aid*

„To get to know and protect the ecosystems which are in danger is an absolute priority today. Developed countries must become aware of the extent of the danger, and invest in conservation or risk seeing incalculable riches disappear forever. Ecosystems are necessary to safeguard life on earth. The time has come for action: in the long term, the survival of humanity itself depends upon it. This report is filmed in Central Africa, where the issues of poverty and war seriously hamper progress in saving our ecosystems.“ http://www.mostra.com/docs/services/Catalogue_VNR_EN.pdf

Film online: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L3QgCLyxvn4>

Comment: Produced by European Commission, posted on Youtube by the User European Commission.
<http://acpobservatory.irc.ec.europa.eu/content/publications>

Die Jagd nach Land – Das globale Geschäft mit fruchtbarem Boden 2012, DE, Chiara Sambuchi, 45 Min.

Keywords: *Land grabbing, Land speculation, Ecoruralis*

A film about the financialisation of farmland worldwide: Investors in Romania, New Zealand and Germany on the one side, the farmer`s organisation Ecoruralis (RO) on the other one: Facts and Activism.

Film online: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MQ-nOTDRhRc> (DE)

Reviews: <http://www.topkino.at/jart/projects/top-kino/main.jart?rel=de&reserve-mode=&content-id=1107195251358&verid=1421764229942>

<http://www.topagrar.com/news/Home-top-News-Die-Jagd-nach-Land-Das-globale-Geschaeft-mit-fruchtbarem-Boden-1520329.html>

Comment: SWR-Report, available only in German.

Freedom from Famine: The Norman Borlaug Story 2009, EN, Phil Courter, 67 Min.

Keywords: *Father of the Green Revolution, Norman Borlaug, world hunger, prelude to Biotech Revolution, science and technology, USA, Mexico, India*

“A documentary film about Norman Borlaug, the Iowa farm boy who saved over a billion people from starvation.” (borlaugdoc.com)

Film online: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IjeqOnsZp6w>

Comment: „Major funding provided by the Mathile Institute for the Advancement of Human Nutrition” (borlaugdoc.com)

Global Biodiversity Outlook 3 – Official Video 2010, EN, UN Convention on Biological Diversity, 10:24 Min.

Keywords: *Biodiversity, environment, UN Global Biodiversity Outlook, report, Biodiversity Futures Study, climate change, traditional knowledge, farming*

“Global Biodiversity Outlook 3 Official video. Global Biodiversity Outlook is the flagship publication of the Convention on Biological Diversity.” (Convention on Biological Diversity Youtube Channel chmcbd)

Film online: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EGMkW_vo5GU

Comment: More informations about the UN Convention on Biological Diversity: online: <http://www.cbd.int/> - Video-Channel of the Convention on Biological Diversity: <https://www.youtube.com/user/chmcbd/videos>

HaEmek HaNe'elam (The Fading Valley) 2013, AR/HE/EN Subtitles, Irit Gal, 54 Min.

Keywords: *Water, Land conflict, military areas, Israel/Palestine, power inequalities*

Northeastern Westbank. Palestinian farmers living in the Northern Valley – where their farmlands have been announced military area in a fertile region. Their agricultural efforts to sustain their lives dash against unequal water allocations. The film portraits farmers under military occupation, Israeli activists and a Palestinian truck driver who delivers water to families.

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UMs7R6PDhaA>

Reviews: <http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2013/11/20/the-fading-valley-brings-jordan-valley-inequalities-into-stark-relief.html>

<http://films2013.dok-leipzig.de/de/film.aspx?ID=4597>

<http://www.israelfilmcenter.org/israeli-film-database/films/the-fading-valley>

Killing Seeds 2012, EN/MR/DE Subtitles, Uwe H. Martin, 9 Min.

Keywords: *India, indebtedness, cotton, farmers, agrarian crisis, suicide, Vandana Shiva, economic genocide, international corporations, Monsanto, food sovereignty, seed sovereignty*

Farmers and NGO activist Vandana Shiva talk about their experiences and their theories about the situation: Small cotton farmers and workers become involved with big international corporations and find themselves in a helix of indebtedness. Many commit suicide.

Film online: <https://vimeo.com/50118483>

Review: http://s503014746.online.de/index.php?page=nl_ffsh_2014_killing_seeds

Comment: Killing Seeds is one part of the longer Documentary „White Gold“ by Martin, about the social and ecological consequences of the worldwide cotton industry. Martin received the „German Media Development Award 2013“ by the ministry for economic cooperation and development of Germany („White Gold“) http://www.salus-medienpreis.de/htmls/gewinner2013.php?article_id=204

Planète à Vendre (Planet for Sale: The New World Agricultural Order / Dritte Welt im Ausverkauf) 2010, F/DE, Alexis Marant, 90 Min.

Keywords: *Landgrabbing, Global South, developing countries, agriculture, farming business, banks, riots, food crisis, aid, dependency*

“Shot on three continents, our film makes it clear that farmlands are being bought up the world over. Three continents and three examples that tell one and the same story: the story of a gigantic game of Monopoly, and the consequences it could have if nothing is done to protect the interests of small farmers and developing countries.” (farmwars.info)

Trailer (F): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BPsdI-vWAMg>

Film (F): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pagMjnspBIw>

Film (DE): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ff8vWF2UPso>

Comment: Produced by ARTE France. Information sheet on the film from Alimenterre: <http://www.alimenterre.org/en/ressource/information-sheet-on-the-film-planet-for-sale>

Seeds of Debt 2014, EN, Jens Pedersen, 30 Min.

Keywords: *India, Syngenta, seeds, international corporations, indebtedness, small-scale farmers, suicide, human rights, civil society movements*

“Seeds of Debt’ is a documentary (28 min) about the world’s second largest agro-company, Syngenta, that lends money to small-scale corn farmers in India. Farmers and Syngenta agents confirm loan interest rates as high as 50%-100%, which drives thousands of farmers into poverty and bonded labour. The last two decades, more than 280.000 Indian farmers have committed suicide because of debt slavery. ” (corporatejustice.org)

Film online: <https://vimeo.com/115130942>

Reviews:

<http://www.corporatejustice.org/Seeds-of-Debt.html?lang=en>

<https://www.danwatch.dk/en/articles/syngenta-tries-stop-critical-documentary/547>

<http://www.swissaid.ch/de/film-seeds-of-debt>

<http://business-humanrights.org/en/india-documentary-raises-concerns-about-loans-provided-to-farmers-to-produce-crops-for-syngenta-company-challenges-the-allegations>

Comment: Jens Pedersen belongs to DanWatch. Support from DANIDA and The Pools and Lottery Funds.

Seeds of Discontent 2013, EN/PT/languages spoken in Niassa, Geoff Arbourne, 23 Min.

Keywords: *Land grabbing, Mozambique, Chikweti Forests of Niassa, Niassa, forestry plantations, neocolonialism, agrocolonialism, agricultural union, peasant farmers, activism*

In Northern Niassa, Mozambique, farming lands are being destroyed by companies (from Norway, Sweden, Netherlands) – like Chikweti Forests of Niassa – undermining the local people`s food security and human rights. “(...)This documentary follows the story of one of the plantation workers, Amado. He wants to improve the conditions (...) in the Chikweti plantation of Licole (...). He’s (...) facing an apathetic union, a hardnosed manager, and a group of elders determined to halt his actions. But will Amado achieve the support (...) from his fellow workers and local peasant farmers while facing up to the company management? We discover the answer when he and a new local union confront Chikweti by rallying the local peasant farmers and plantation workers to stand together.” (seedsofdiscontent.net)

Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/73310470>

Film online: <https://vimeo.com/62955056>

Reviews: <http://www.tni.org/pressrelease/seeds-discontent-documentary-unveils-how-foreign-investors-fuel-land-grabs>

http://www.globe-spotting.de/agrarkolonialismus_filme.html

<http://www.africafiles.org/article.asp%3FID%3D26818>

<http://www.fian.org/library/multimedia/seeds-of-discontent/>

Comment: Financial support of the European Commission, the Hands off the Land Project and the Netherland's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Seeds of Freedom 2012, EN, Jess Phillimore, 30 Min.

Keywords: *Food economy, chemical agronomy, hybrids, international corporations, mono-crops, Vandana Shiva, Monsanto, Du Pont, Syngenta, Bayer, BASF, GMO, India, Ethiopia, African countries*

This short documentary shows the problematic situation of the current food economy, the rising involvement of international corporations in countries of the global south (India, African countries) and the growing marginalisation of traditional seeds, producers and farmers. Various experts from NGOs like Navdanya International, GRAIN, MELCA Ethiopia, but also local farmers talk about their deep concerns regarding to these current developments.

Film online: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C-bK8X2s1kI> or <https://vimeo.com/43879272>

Reviews: <https://globalfoodpolitics.wordpress.com/2013/07/18/patents-and-seed-a-short-review-of-seeds-of-freedom/> or Review from the „other side“, from chemist James Cooper: <http://www.examiner.com/article/seeds-of-freedom-a-beautiful-but-puzzling-film>

Comment: Produced by Gaia Foundation and African Biodiversity Network (in collaboration with MELCA Ethiopia, Navdanya International, GRAIN), online: <http://www.gaiafoundation.org/seeds-of-freedom-a-landmark-film>

More Infos on the Film: <http://www.seedsoffreedom.info/>

Sowing the Seeds of Hunger: The Cost of the Right to Food 2014, EN, Esteban Arellano, 10 Min.

Keywords: *Green Revolution, India, right to food, history, Rockefeller Foundation, new varieties, seeds, monocrops, pesticides, fertilizers, irrigation practices, Vandana Shiva*

Documentary on the history and the costs of the Green Revolution.

Film online: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ngt7w7RyC5E>

Comment: Documentary of a highschool pupil (Standley Lake High School). Winner in the Category „Senior Individual Documentary“ (State Competition, University of Colorado) More Infos:

<http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/CLAS/Centers/ColoradoHistoryDay/Documents/State%20Competition%20Program%202014-4.18.pdf>

Seeds of Plenty, Seeds of Sorrow. The Dark Side of the Green Revolution 1992, EN, Manjira Datta, 52 Min.

Keywords: *India, Green Revolution, development, development strategy, agro-economics, social impacts on farmers, Rockefeller Foundation*

“A documentary from India about the effects of the highly touted Green Revolution there. Credited with ensuring that India is no longer a developing countries' "basket-case", the Green Revolution is widely regarded as one of the most successful development strategies of the 20th century. But this film reveals that in India it has helped to create a new serf class and the dramatic yields of the early years have fallen away in the wake of pesticide poisoning and the short-lived miracle wheat strains. ” (bullfrog films)

Review: <http://www.vtape.org/artist?ai=806>

Comment: on Video, VHS. Datta shot Seeds Of Plenty, Seeds of Sorrow for BBC2 for the series Developing Stories for the Rio Conference.

The Future of Food Part 1: India / The Future of Food Part 2: Senegal / The Future of Food Part 3: Cuba 2009, EN, Gareth Williams, 59 Min (each).

Keywords: *BBC, food security crisis, hunger, global, food riots, global water resources, irrigation, droughts, climate change, diets, processed food, fish industry, meat industry, food market, oil, biofuels, population growth, world economy, global landgrab, food prices, monocrops, poverty, aid, foreign investment, scientific solutions, GM controversy, GM contamination, Global South, neocolonialism, Vandana Shiva, India, Senegal, Cuba, UK, Kenya, USA, urban gardening, urban farming, food security, sustainability, Africa Biodiversity Network, Mburu Gathuru, Green Revolution, intensive farming, Green Revolution for the 21st Century?, activism, food waste aquaponics*

“After global riots in 2007 and 2008, George Alagiah travelled the world to reveal why we could be heading for a food crisis, and what we can do about it. When three continents witnessed food riots in 2007 and 2008, we saw the international food system is not as stable as it looks. There’s unprecedented competition for food due to population growth and changing diets. Experts predict that by 2050, if things don't change, we will see mass starvation across the world. In this documentary, George Alagiah travelled the world to unravel the complicated web of links that binds the world's food together, bringing it from farm to table. It reveals a growing global food crisis that could affect the planet in the years ahead. What can we do to avert this?” (bbc.com)

Film online (Part 1: India):

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XiPuCSGo_w0

Film online (Part 2: Senegal):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7YDQU7Ts10Q>

Film online (Part 3: Cuba):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GaSd7BkJa1M>

Reviews: <http://www.naturalfoodfinder.co.uk/future-food-bbc>

http://www.naturalnews.com/021827_Big_Agriculture_future_of_food.html

Comment: BBC documentaries.

The Global Banquet (By Invitation Only): Politics of Food 2001, EN, Anne Macksound/ John Ankele, 57 Min.

Keywords: *Small farmers, globalization, food economy, agribusiness, hunger, food production, water, food security, women`s perspectives, politics of food, myths about global hunger*

“The Global Banquet reveals the profoundly negative impact of globalization on our food system. It explains how Agribusiness is squeezing out small farmers and how our trade policies are destroying peoples’ ability to feed themselves. The documentary debunks underlying myths such as: hunger is the result of scarcity that small countries simply can’t feed themselves, that only market driven, chemically based, industrial agriculture can feed the world.” (<https://catalog.libraries.wm.edu/Record/1929318>)

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ka3I1CqLOS4>

Reviews: http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anthfood/video/Global_Banquet.html (scroll a bit down for review - „discussion guide“); or <http://www.eco-justice.org/C-Report.asp?ID=25>

The Seeds of Vandana Shiva: A Documentary Film. The Remarkable Life Story of Indian Eco-Activist Vandana Shiva 2015, EN, Jim Becket / Becket Films (**UPCOMING**)

Keywords: *Vandana Shiva, sustainability, indigenous knowledge, GMO, climate change, nature, patriarchal, Western, knowledge, biography, India, activism, civil society, visions*

“(…)Vandana Shiva is an icon of a global movement, a veritable rock star. But even among those who pride themselves on being well-informed, she’s relatively unknown. And even among activists, few know how this daughter of a forest guard (…) rose from obscurity to become the single most articulate voice of anti-corporate sustainability in the world(…) The Seeds of Vandana Shiva focuses on the people, circumstances and seminal events in Vandana’s life--what shaped her thinking and defined her purpose.” (BecketFilms)

UN Decade on Biodiversity – Official Video 2010, EN, UN, 12:52 Min.

Keywords: *Biodiversity, UNO, UN Decade on Biodiversity, climate change, dying reefs, desertification, deforestation, nature, cities, global, economic value of biodiversity, agriculture, agricultural diversity*

„The Decade coincides with and supports the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting held in Nagoya, Japan.“ (Youtube text)

Film: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zpM-nkhZCgk>

Comment: official video for the UN Decade on Biodiversity 2011-2020, Convention on Biological Diversity.