



China Goes Global: A comparative study of Chinese hydropower dams in Africa and Asia

Consent and information sheet

Thank you for your interest in the China Goes Global research project. This sheet aims to provide information about our project, the people who are involved and what we are asking of you. We hope you will find it useful – if you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch, contact details are provided at the end of the sheet.

What is this project about?

The project is funded by the UK Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC). The aim of this project is to provide the first systematic and comparative analysis of the environmental, social, economic and political impacts of Chinese hydropower dam projects in low and middle income countries, that will inform corporate behaviour of hydropower firms in China and the UK and shape emerging national and international policy responses.

Who is conducting the project?

The UK project team is based at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) and the Open University. We also work with the University of Nottingham Ningbo in China, the University of Ghana, Cambodia's Development Resource Institute (CDRI), the Nigerian Institute of Social and Economic Research (NISER), Universiti Malaysia Sabah, Tsinghua University in Beijing, the University of Nottingham in Malaysia and the NGO International Rivers.

What does the research involve?

This is a three and a half-year project running from late 2012 to early 2016. Chinese state-owned enterprises have become the global leaders in hydropower dam-building. As there is not much room for dam development in China these enterprises are turning overseas, mainly to low and middle income countries in Southeast Asia and Africa. This project explores the environmental, social, economic and political impacts of China's engagement in the hydropower sector in Cambodia, Ghana, Malaysia and Nigeria. Fieldwork in each country includes interviews and focus group consultations as well as document and data analysis. The selected case studies are the Kamchay Dam in Cambodia, the Bui Dam in Ghana, the Bakun Dam in Malaysia and the Zamfara Dam in Nigeria, where our team visits the dam sites, the local communities and the resettlement sites. The project also explores the implications of China's rise in the hydropower sector and its effects on the UK and the OECD, such as the impacts on hydropower firms and international donors.

What are we asking of you?

We would like to arrange for the project team to meet and talk with you [individually for a research interview] / [as part of a group for the focus group discussion] (select relevant option), where we would ask questions about [your life before and after the dam, the dam-building process and how you were consulted] / [the dam-building process and your organisations role in it] / [your experience of the hydropower sector and the opportunities and limitations of China's rise and/or your experience of international development and

the opportunities and limitations of China's rise]. This will be in the form of a conversation rather than anything formal. With your permission, we would like to record the discussion so that we can transcribe it later. We can provide you with a full transcript of the interview afterwards, if you would like one. Everyone will be anonymised so no one will have their real names used at any point in the analysis of the interview data. The interview would usually take around an hour, at a time and place convenient to you.

What you can ask of us?

If you choose not to participate in the research now, or at a later stage, we will respect that choice and you are under no obligation to take part. If you do wish to withdraw your consent for us to use your information, you can let us know at any time up until one month after any interview or focus group you take part in. Throughout the research we will keep your information safe (see below).

We will do our best to listen carefully and sensitively to what you tell us, and to reflect with you on the questions we are asking. We would like your participation to be about helping us to think and discover, not just about us gathering information or answers from you. We would like this to be an exchange of information, where both sides gain from participating. We will keep you updated on the project and any publications we produce, either directly or through our website.

How will the information we collect be used?

We will anonymise all of the information we collect so that no one will have their real names used in the analysis of data. During the project, all of our data will be stored on a secure university server so that it is not accessible to anyone outside the research team.

Throughout the project, we may publish updates on our project website. We will try to share what we have found through events and the media, and we will also use our research to write academic articles and conference papers. Ultimately, we hope our findings will develop a dialogue with the hydropower industry, local and national government policy and practice, as well as communities affected by dam-building. We hope our research will be relevant for affected local communities, local and national authorities as well as those that work in the hydropower and international development sector.

How can you find out more?

The core research team consists of:

- Dr. Frauke Urban, Principal Investigator: Centre for Development Environment and Policy, SOAS, University of London
- Dr. Giuseppina Siciliano, Research Fellow and Project Manager: Centre for Development Environment and Policy, SOAS, University of London
- Professor May Tan-Mullins, Co-Investigator: University of Nottingham Ningbo, China
- Professor Giles Mohan, Co-Investigator: Development Policy and Practice Group, The Open University

If you would like to find out more about the China Goes Global project, please contact Frauke Urban on f.urban@soas.ac.uk or Giuseppina Siciliano on gs45@soas.ac.uk.

Please also visit our websites: <https://www.soas.ac.uk/cedep/research/cgg/> and <http://www.risingpowers.net/projects/chinaglobal/>

Thank you for your cooperation!