



GENDER, DIVERSITY & INTERSECTIONALITY RESEARCH CENTRE

PLEASE NOTE: THIS RESEARCH SEMINAR TAKES PLACE ON
MONDAY 23rd SEPTEMBER (not on 26th as mentioned earlier)

RHEA RESEARCH SEMINAR

"Resisting Displacement: an exploration of the Caño Community Land Trust from a political-ecological perspective"

by LINE ALGOED (PhD-researcher)

MONDAY 23th SEPTEMBER 2019

VUB - Pleinlaan 5 - room PL5.5.61. (5th floor)

12.30h - 14h



Founded in 2004 by the residents of seven informally established neighbourhoods located along the Martín Peña channel, a highly polluted and flood prone channel in San Juan, Puerto Rico, the Fideicomiso de la Tierra del Caño Martín Peña (the Caño Martín Peña Community Land Trust or Caño CLT) is the first community land trust in Latin America and the Caribbean, and one of the only two CLTs in informal settlements worldwide. It has become an international reference for other

informal and low-income communities across the world, as an instrument to regularise land tenure and protect communities against displacements driven by gentrification, economic decline, neoliberal austerity, and climate change-induced natural risks.

My research explores the Caño CLT from a political ecological perspective, as I aim to identify how the interests, policies and discourse of political and economic elites function to perpetuate the vulnerability of residents in unplanned settlements, particularly in the aftermath of natural disasters, and how the Caño CLT is an effective instrument to counter this process. From a perspective of decolonial feminism, my research also looks into the ways these struggles to resist displacements and organise grassroots neighbourhood development are challenging modern, colonial, capitalist thinking about property, race and gender (Lugones, 2010).

Line Algoed is an urban anthropologist with 15 years of work and research experience in urban planning, housing, community work and international development. She is connected to the VUB research group [Cosmopolis](#) (Centre for Urban Research), where she teaches the seminars "Geographies of a Globalising Europe" and "Social Geography".



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