

Urban Forum 2019

'Livelihood needs for Namibia's urban future'

Seminar series with John Mendelsohn

Seminar 1

'Traditional' and 'modern' forms of capital and security: value production and circulation

Friday, August 30th, 9-13h

Today, many forms of value exist in 'traditional' form (e.g. social, land, education, livestock, land, etc.) in a context increasingly privileging 'modern' ones. This furthermore takes place in a context where the urban and rural interconnections change, income-based economies overtake food-based ones, and where 'the economy' seems to display distinct prospects different from those 'ideals'

Seminar 2

Land as capital and foundation: opportunities and limitations of empowerment of the poor

Monday, September 16th, 14-16.30h

Land ownership has been long debated as the answer to the plight of the, while questions arise on the assumptions behind this. This seminar will engage in this debate based on experiences in Namibia.

Seminar 3

The question of 'the informal': engaging with the 'formal' economic and labour outlook in Namibia

Friday, October 4th, 9-13h

Namibia displays 'dual economy' characteristics, where 'the rich' and 'the poor' economic realities seem to both link and disconnect at different occasions. At the same time, 'the informal' economy is increasingly playing a more important role nationally, which furthermore seems to be increasingly recognised. This seminar will explore the question of how 'the informal' serves as an interface between the two economic realities.

> The venue of each seminars will be announced shortly after each event.

About John Mendelsohn Born in Kenya in 1953, John Mendelsohn found wings before he found his feet. From a childhood passion for birds, ornithology soon became his career after finishing his PhD on the biology of Blackshouldered Kites at the University of Natal. He started RAISON in 1996. Today matters concerned with environmental processes, the socio-economics of rural livelihoods, land rights and uses, and river systems form the basis of his academic passions. <http://www.raison.com.na/>

Contact urbanforum@nust.na