

Bochum

March, 11th-13th 2025

Interweaving Resources

**From Economic
Hegemony towards a
New Understanding of
Resources**

Programme

The conference is organised by



In co-operation with



DEUTSCHES
BERGBAU-MUSEUM
BOCHUM



Imprint

Organised by: Leibniz-ScienceCampus
„Resources in Transformation (ReForm)“:
Dr. Andreas Angourakis, Prof. Dr. Thomas
Stöllner, Milena Müller-Kissing, Pia Weber

Editors: Pia Weber, Milena Müller-Kissing,
Dr. Andreas Angourakis

Layout and design: Pia Weber

Photos: © Deutsches Bergbau-Museum
Bochum

Responsible in terms of press law:
Prof. Dr. Thomas Stöllner

Content

About the Conference	4
General Information	6
Programme Overview	7
Tuesday, March 11th	9
<i>Session 1: Resource Discourses of Modernity</i>	<i>9</i>
Wednesday, March 12th	10
<i>Session 2: Resource Cosmologies</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Session 3: Extractivism and Dark Resources.....</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Poster Session</i>	<i>11</i>
Thursday, March 13th	12
<i>Session 4: Resource Metabolism</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Session 5: Resource Materiality.....</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>Closing</i>	<i>13</i>

About the Conference

The term “resource”, derived from the Latin *resurgere* (“to rise again”), has evolved significantly over time, encompassing a wide range of meanings across disciplines. Often understood through an economic lens, resources are traditionally seen as external entities to be studied, appropriated, and exploited for human benefit. This perspective frames humans as active agents, with the material world as passive receivers.

However, recent theoretical developments propose a relational perspective, viewing resources as deeply embedded in social, cultural, and material networks. In this view, resources are not only socially and culturally constructed but also inherently active, with physical properties and material affordances that shape interactions and outcomes.

This transdisciplinary shift calls for a holistic understanding of resources, addressing complex, non-linear causalities, such as those tied to climate change. Resources are never isolated; their use generates unforeseen societal challenges and opportunities, such as economic inequalities, unsustainable practices, and innovation races. Some approaches even dismantle the human-resource dualism, suggesting a flat ontology where all entities – human and non-human – share agency within entangled relationships.

Do we still need the utilitarian concept of resources, or should we rethink them entirely? Revisiting the notion of “living” resources may inspire science to connect material properties and their sensory qualities to humans and other species, deepening our understanding of (geo)resource interdependencies.

General Information

Venue: House of Archaeologies

Rooms: Lecture Hall (Hörsaal)

How to get here:

Public transport: Take the DB to Bochum or Herne, then take the U35 to the stop 'Bergbaumuseum'

Car: Am Bergbaumuseum 31, 44791 Bochum; limited parking space

Conference Office

You will find the conference office in the **foyer of the House of Archaeologies**.

Opening hours:

Tuesday	13:30 - 16:00
Wednesday	08:30 - 13:30
Thursday	08:30 - 13:30

Catering during breaks

You can get coffee, tea, drinks and small snacks in seminar room 2.

WiFi

Eduroam is available in the House of Archaeologies.

General Information

Reception

The reception on Tuesday will take place in the Kumpels museum restaurant. Drinks and snacks will be provided.

City map

A city map as well as the conference venues, restaurants etc. can be found on the conference homepage and with this QR code:



Photography and filming

Photography or filming is only permitted with the personal consent of the persons captured in pictures or films. Photography and filming is generally prohibited during the lecture events.

Programme Overview

Tuesday, March 11th

- 14:30 Welcome
- 15:15 *Coffee Break***
- 15:45 Session 1: Resource Discourses of Modernity
- 18:30 *Coffee Break***
- 19:00 Keynote 1
- 20:00 Reception at the
Deutsches Bergbau-Museum Bochum**

Wednesday, March 12th

- 09:00 Session 2: Resource Cosmologies
- 12:45 *Lunch***
- 13:45 Session 3: Extractivism and Dark Resources
- 17:20 *Coffee Break***
- 17:50 Poster Presentation
- 19:00 Day Conclusion**

Programme Overview

Thursday, March 13th

09:00	Session 4: Resource Metabolism
12:45	<i>Lunch</i>
13:45	Keynote 2
14:45	Session 5: Resource Materiality
17:10	<i>Coffee Break</i>
17:40	Plenary Discussion and Conclusion

Tuesday, March 11th

14:30 **Welcome**

14:45 **Andreas Angourakis, Johannes Jungfleisch, Thomas Stöllner**
Resources Alive?

15:15 **Coffee Break**

Session 1: Resource Discourses of Modernity

15:45 **Dorothee Meer**

Hydrogen vs. LNG – On the Handling of (Geo-)Resources in the Hegemonic German Interdiscourse. Empirical Observations on a Bifurcation of the Current Energy Dispositive

16:20 **Dolly Jørgensen and Nora Thorade**

Petrocultures of Progress in History of Technology Museums

17:00 **Shu Wan**

Making the Deaf Useful:
The Human Resources Policy of Deafness in 1950s China

17:40 **Session Discussion: Imke Rhoden**

18:30 **Break**

19:00 **Keynote: Shadreck Chirikure**

Cosmologies and Resources Across Geographies and Time Periods

20:00 **Reception**

Wednesday, March 12th

Session 2: Resource Cosmologies

09:00 ***Tina Asmussen***

Active Matter and Cosmological Entanglements in Early Modern European Mining

09:40 ***Julia Mariko Jacoby***

Optimizing Spares: Paper in Early Modern Japan

10:20

Coffee Break

10:50 ***Shivangi Maindola***

Green Narratives and Colonialism in India (1860-1900)

11:30 ***Vanessa Arteaga Bernal and Eduardo Erazo Acosta***

The Power of the Ancestral Philosophy of Alli Kawsay (Buen Vivir) in the Indigenous Movements of Colombia – Ecuador vs. the Exclusion by the Big Mining Development, Contribution to the Rights of Mother Nature from the Global South in the Middle of Climate Change

12:10

Session Discussion: Roland Hardenberg

12:40

Lunch Break

Session 3: Extractivism and Dark Resources

13:40 ***Thomas Stöllner***

The Beginnings of Extractivism:
A Perspective from the Prehistory

Wednesday, March 12th

14:20 ***Dorothea Hamilton***
Unveiling the Interwoven: Small-Scale Mining in Peru, the Overlooked Aspect of Extractivism

15:00 ***Coffee Break***

15:30 ***Adam Green and Simon Mair***
Investigating the Dynamics of Inequality, Productivity and Resource Flows in the Deep Past

16:10 ***Johannes Jungfleisch***
From Humans to Resources: The Materiality of Precarious Migrant Labour in Agriculture

16:50 ***Session Discussion: Jerry Jacka***

17:20 ***Coffee Break***

Poster Session

17:50 ***Poster Presentations***

18:50 ***Discussants: Tina Asmussen and Constance von Räden***

19:00 ***Day Conclusion***

Thursday, March 13th

Session 4: Resource Metabolism

09:00 **Dries Daems**

Resource Use in Past Societies: From Operational Sequences to Computational Modelling through an Archaeological Perspective

09:40 **Luis Inostroza**

Integrating Urban Metabolism With Landscape Disciplines by Applying Technomass

10:20

Coffee Break

10:50

Andreas Angourakis and Alex Shenderov

Planetary Humanism: A Framework to Combine Sustainable Resource Metabolism and Planetary Intelligence

11:30

Mario Giampietro

The Metabolic Rift: Why Circular Flows of Resources Cannot Sustain Contemporary Society

12:10

Session Discussion: Harald Zepp

12:40

Lunch Break

13:40

Keynote: Bjørnar Julius Olsen

Waiting in Readiness? Reflections on Resources and Abandoned Things

Thursday, March 13th

Session 5: Resource Materiality

14:40 **Constance von Rüden**
Resources Embodied

15:20 **Frank Hillebrandt**
How Resources Become Practical through Active
Interwovenness

16:00 *Coffee Break*

16:15 **Thomas Widlok**
The Social and Comparative Dimensions of Resource Use:
Examples from Africa

16:55 **Session Discussion: Eloise Govier**

17:25 *Coffee Break*

Closing

17:40 **Plenary Discussion**

18:50 **Conclusion**

Room for Notes

Room for Notes



**Deutsches Bergbau-
Museum Bochum**



**Ruhr University
Bochum**