



Climate Justice & Gender & Youth  
TRANSFORM  
Learning Series  
Page 3



Northern  
Tanzania  
Grass seed banks  
Page 4



Fieldwork photos  
Moments from  
Fieldwork  
Page 6



# News

Issue 13  
Fall 2025

CENTRE FOR INDIGENOUS CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT ALTERNATIVES

## Marking 50 Years of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement

By Lucía Justo (McGill University)

The Centre for Indigenous Conservation and Development Alternatives (CICADA), together with the Société Recherches autochtones au Québec (SRAQ), recently hosted a two-day conference at UQÀM to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement (JBNQA). Held on November 18–19, 2025, the gathering offered a meaningful moment to look back at a landmark treaty in the history of Indigenous–state relations in Quebec and Canada, and to consider how its legacy continues to shape conversations about Indigenous rights and sovereignties today. The event was well attended, with around 60 participants on site and an additional 50 joining via Zoom.

The program opened on the evening of November 18 with a warm reception and introductory remarks from Charlie Watt, Philip Awashish, and Chief Louise Nattawappio. Their reflections set the stage for the following day's discussions, which brought together

Indigenous leaders, scholars, and practitioners to share perspectives on the treaty's negotiation, its long-term impacts, and the work that still lies ahead.

On November 19, four roundtables explored a wide range of themes, from the original negotiations and ratification of the JBNQA to community life projects



Left to right: roundtable moderator Robert Lanari (President, Société Recherches autochtones au Québec) and participants Maurice J. Kistabish (Anicinabe negotiator), Ghislain Picard (former Chief of the AFNQL), and Constant Awashish (Grand Chief of the Atikamekw Nation). Photo Courtesy: Émile Duchesne

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

and the responsibilities carried toward future generations, especially the youth. Speakers also addressed treaty-making among neighbouring nations and reflected on how governance, research, and Indigenous lifeways intersect in the ongoing implementation of the Agreement. Simultaneous French-English interpretation was available on site, and the event was also streamed live on Zoom to ensure broader participation.

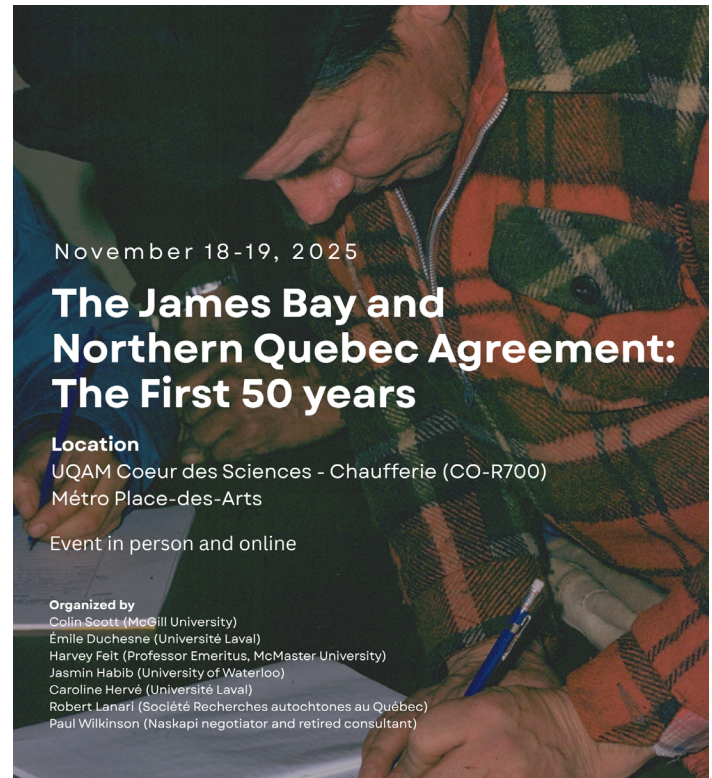
Open to all public, the conference was organized by Émile Duchesne, Colin Scott, Robert Lanari, Caroline Hervé, Harvey Feit, Paul Wilkinson, and Jasmin Habib. Support from a SSHRC Connection Grant made the event possible. The anniversary served not only as a moment of commem-

oration, but as an invitation to continue thinking collectively about the past, present, and future of treaty relations in Quebec and Canada.

Recordings of both sessions on November 18 and 19 will be available online — we will share them on our social media. Stay tuned!



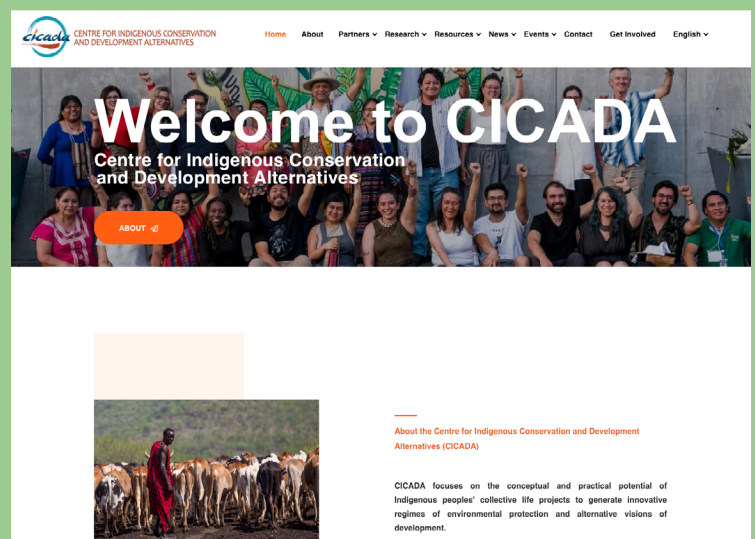
Left to right: Colin Scott, Harvey Feit (via Zoom), Charlie Watt, Émile Duchesne, and James O'Reilly. Photo Courtesy: Lucía Justo



Poster for the event. Photo Courtesy: Harvey Feit; Graphic Design: Wenrui Li

## Our new website!

We are happy to share that our website has been updated, including refreshed presentations of CICADA and INSTEAD! CICADA (Centre for Indigenous Conservation and Development Alternatives) highlights the conceptual and practical potential of Indigenous peoples' collective life projects to inspire innovative approaches to environmental protection and alternative visions of development. INSTEAD (Indigenous Stewardship of Environment and Alternative Development) is a multidisciplinary research program that works closely with Indigenous partner communities around the world to support and strengthen their own visions of environmental stewardship and cultural heritage protection. We invite you to explore more about our mission, research projects, resources, and recent events on our refreshed pages!



# From Global Crisis to Local Action: Youth, Gender, and Climate Justice

By Keith Andre Baybayon (McGill University)

What happens when you put gender transformation and climate justice in the same room... and then let youth lead? That was the guiding question of From Global Crisis to Local Action, a TRANSFORM Learning Series webinar that took place on September 26.

TRANSFORM: Engaging with Young People for Social Change is a SSHRC-funded global partnership led by Claudia Mitchell that positions young people as leaders, innovators, and critical thinkers in advancing gender transformation and social justice. Working across a number of countries including Canada, India, Malawi, Mali, Mexico, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Tanzania and South Africa, TRANSFORM uses participatory visual and arts-based methods—from photovoice to performance to zine-making—to explore how gender norms are challenged and reimagined in practice. Through Youth-to-Youth (Y2Y) spaces, it connects local interventions with global dialogues and intergenerational collabora-



Generated from webinar attendees' responses to the question: "What one word comes to mind when you hear 'Youth & Climate Action'?"

Photos Courtesy: the TRANSFORM Learning Series

ation. Grounded in feminist, decolonial, and intersectional approaches, TRANSFORM amplifies youth voices to disrupt gender norms and influence gender transformative practices across concerns such as gender violence and climate justice.

The session marked the partnership's first deep dive into the gender-climate nexus, building on a global youth consultation and emphasizing the need for intersectional, intersectoral approaches.

Advocacy as practice and self-work: Stacey Alvarez de la Campa, President and Co-Founder of Climate Rights & Justice International, reframed advocacy as a practice rather than a slogan:

the work of balancing what communities want and need while pushing for systemic change. Drawing from Caribbean examples, she highlighted how post-hurricane recovery sidelined fisherwomen while privileging male boat owners, which shows the gendered fault lines in the "blue economy." She also reminded participants of the hidden precondition of care: "The only person who's going to be with you the whole time is you. Be your own best friend."

Bridging national plans and local voices: Angie Dazé (IISD) and Aisha Constable (GirlsCARE; Global Fund for Women) introduced Envisioning Resilience, a National Adaptation

*Continued on page 9*



CICADA.world



CICADA.world



CICADA.world



CICADA\_org



CICADAorg



CICADAorg

## Keep in touch—send us your news!

Members and partners, please send us your news items to share in future newsletters with the wider CICADA community. Text and images can be sent to: [cicada.news@mcgill.ca](mailto:cicada.news@mcgill.ca)

To subscribe to this newsletter, in print or digital format, visit:

<https://cicada.world/en/home/news/newsletter/>

# Women at the Center with Grass

*By Pastoral Women's Council (PWC)*

An inspiring initiative by the Pastoral Women's Council (PWC) is transforming landscapes and lives across Monduli District! In six villages: Baraka, Selela, Loisirwa, Makuyuni, Mbaashi, and Mswakini Juu, women are leading ecological restoration and economic empowerment through Grass Seed Banks (GSBs).

Grass Seed Banks are restoring degraded grazing lands through native grass cultivation while creating in-

come for women who grow, harvest, and sell grass seeds. These community-run banks help prevent soil erosion, improve water retention, and serve as a nature-based solution to climate change by supporting livestock during droughts and strengthening food security.

At Pastoral Women's Council (PWC), these initiatives are fully led and managed by women, where their leadership repositions them as rightful stewards of the land, empowered not only to



Freshly harvested Maasai love grass seeds.

nurture it but to protect and advocate for it.

The initiative has secured and restored over 77 acres across six villages and trained women in sustainable land management.

A shining example is the Loisirwa Grass Seed Bank, established in 2024, and already transforming lives. In their first year, the women of Loisirwa earned 1,115,000 Tanzanian Shillings



Two grass seed bank members harvesting mature seeds in the field, Loisirwa. Photos courtesy: Pastoral Women's Council

# r of Land Stewardship

## Seed Banks



Chairlady of the Loisirwa grass seed bank group inspecting the field and assessing the maturity of the seeds.

from seed and grass sales, income that was equally shared, granting each woman financial independence and dignity!

The grasses grown in Loisirwa are not only sold, but also used to feed livestock, ensuring animals survive during harsh droughts, an act that has profound ripple effects. Because in pastoralist communities, an animal is never "just" an animal. It is food on the table, school fees for children, medical care, income for the household, and security for the home, for children's education, and for generations to come.

But it didn't stop there.

With this new income, many of the women began making smart, long-term investments, including purchasing their own cattle. These animals not only provide daily essentials like milk, but they also grow, reproduce, and offer a new sustainable source of income. And as their confidence and resources grew, so did their influence.

Today, these women are not just benefiting from restored lands; they have become leaders in their communities. They are teaching others about

the importance of nurturing the earth, protecting grazing lands, and using nature-based solutions to build resilience. Their work is reviving traditional ecological knowledge and placing women at the center of land stewardship.

Members of the Loisirwa grass seed bank gathered for a post-harvest meeting.

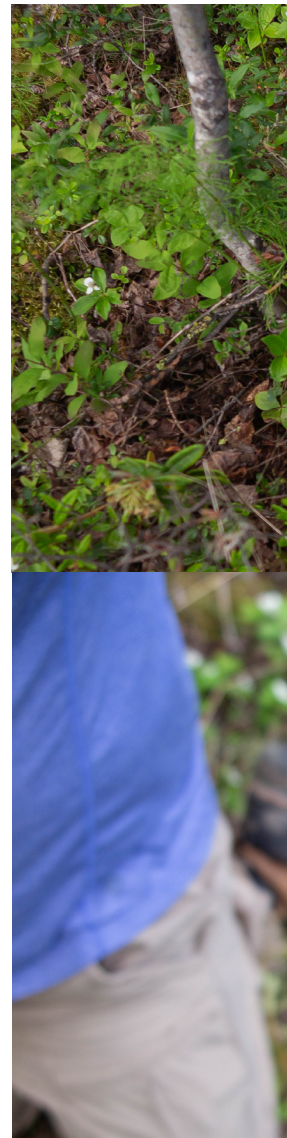




Youth at the TRANSFORM Summit, Durban, South Africa, sorting their photos on 'gender in my community'.  
 Photo courtesy: Claudia Mitchell, TRANSFORM: Engaging with young people for social change. SSHRC Partnership Grant

# Fieldwork

Following a special call  
 This section offers a vis



Labrador tea sampling by first n...  
 by the underground portion (b...  
 means to determine the health



Waterbody restoration efforts by KRPAVIS in the Orans (Community-Conserved Areas) are reviving an ancient lifeline for indigenous people and local community (IPLC), livestock, wildlife, biodiversity, and culture in the Indian Thar Desert. This photo is from Ainath Oran, Sanwala village, in Indian Thar Desert.  
 Photo courtesy: KRPAVIS

# Work Photos from Our Network

For fieldwork photos, we received a wide range of contributions from colleagues and partners across our networks worldwide. A visual glimpse into the diverse contexts in which our community works.



Labrador tea (*Rhododendron groenlandicum*) plants were sampled across locations of varying disturbance levels. Sampling was situated in Bigstone Cree Nation territory within Northern Alberta, Canada. *Photos courtesy: Tisha Belle Halim*



Removing the above-ground portion of the plant (top), followed by the below-ground portion (bottom). Samples were analyzed for microbial composition as part of a study on the impacts of disturbance on Labrador tea.



Observation of sampling site that had been recently clear-cut. Labrador tea plants were scouted and collected across sites of varying disturbance levels, including the pictured site.



Katarin learning how to dye with indigo during a session with the dyer, Francisco Álvarez Montoya, in the Barrio de los Mexicanos, San Cristóbal de Las Casas, Chiapas, Mexico.

*Photo courtesy: Karla Faro Ruiz, Centro de Textiles del Mundo Maya A.C.*



The Yukon lies within the Aurora Oval, a doughnut shaped circle area where particles flow in along the magnetic poles. In the dark winter months, Northern lights can be seen almost everyday. Teechik/Old Crow, Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation Territory, Yukon, Canada.

*Photo courtesy: Irène C. A. Svoronos*



Xuankou's former town site was submerged following the construction of a reservoir. Wenchuan County, Aba Tibetan and Qiang Autonomous Prefecture, China.

*Photo courtesy: Wenrui Li*

Continued from page 3

Plan initiative training women in photography and storytelling while connecting them directly with policy-makers. Handing cameras to participants is about “redistributing power,” Constable argued, creating both visual evidence and cohorts of solidarity. One participant’s photo story even prompted the “Planning Institute of Jamaica” to revisit its policy priorities.

Youth strategies and the long arc: Youth experiences anchored the second half of this webinar. Shir Gruber (Sustainable Youth Canada) shared case studies from composting initiatives to large-scale community clean-ups, emphasizing that meaningful collaboration requires compensation, mentorship, and timelines that respect student realities. Queen Elizabeth Scholar Shannon Weekes emphasized succession planning: youth are already leading local projects and COP delegations, but need support in financial literacy, proposal writing, mental health, and inclu-



Screenshots from the the webinar: From Global Crisis to Local Action: Youth, Gender, and Climate Justice  
Photos Courtesy: the TRANSFORM Learning Series

sion beyond formal NGOs.

Why it matters: If there was one argument in this webinar, it was this: climate justice becomes real when national plans absorb community knowledge, and when youth are not only consulted but compensated, mentored, and trusted to lead.

Watch the recording here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lf1qMU552n8&feature=youtu.be>

---

## Exploring Self-Determination and Extractive Projects: Le Lagopède’s Fall Overview

By Charles Gagnon-Gilbert (University of Quebec at Chicoutimi)

**T**his fall, Le Lagopède continues its exploration of issues related to self-determination and the relationships between local communities and extractive industries, notably through conferences and essays produced by its members.

Presented in collaboration with the NGO Above Ground on October 2, the conference *Canada’s Responsibility on Business and Human Rights: The Case*

*of ReconAfrica* gave us a better understanding of how transnational extractive projects can unfold at the expense of local communities’ rights and the Canadian and international legal frameworks intended to protect them. The speaker, Karen Hamilton, is currently the director of Above Ground. The following week, on October 9, Le Lagopède had the honor of welcoming two leading human rights defenders from Colombia, Luz Marina Monzón

and Constanza Ramírez Molano, who gave a lecture on the tragedy of forced disappearances and the initiatives of the association Otras Voces to locate the thousands of people still missing in Colombia.

Published in the Les Envolées du Lagopède series, Paul Bégin Duchesne’s essay *The Macdonald-Laurier Institute, the Atlas Network, and Indigenous Peoples: Commitment*

*Continued from page 9*

to Reconciliation or Reproduction of Economic Colonialism? questions the authenticity of the reconciliation discourse promoted by certain right-leaning neoliberal think tanks. The author proposes the idea of a “para-discourse”

on reconciliation based on a “fictionalization” of the relationship between Indigenous Peoples and large energy projects.

To stay updated on the lab’s work and upcoming activities, we invite you to explore the different sections of our

website at <https://www.uqac.ca/lagopede/> or to follow our Facebook page, Lagopède – UQAC

## Would you like to support our work?

Your gift empowers students, fuels research, and strengthens our community.  
Help us continue our mission.

Contribute here:

<https://www.alumni.mcgill.ca/give/index.php?new=1&allocations=09558>



CENTRE FOR INDIGENOUS CONSERVATION  
AND DEVELOPMENT ALTERNATIVES



McGill

## Recent publications by CICADA partners

Bolduc, V., Després-Einspenner, M.-L., **Jaeger, J.A.G.** (2025): Efficacité limitée des ponts et ponceaux non aménagés pour la connectivité dans les Laurentides. (Limited effectiveness of unmitigated bridges and culverts for mammal connectivity in the Laurentides.) *Le Naturaliste canadien* 149(1): 28-42. <https://doi.org/10.7202/1117577ar>

**De la Chevrotière, V. D.**, Maheux, G., Mangiuk, S. M., Uitangak, E., Lamoureux, E., Angiyu, S., Qinaujuak, M.-C., Tukulak, M., and Mangiuk, P. (2024): Récit d’une expérience pratique de développement collaboratif d’un lexique en éducation en inuktitut pour la formation enseignante au Nunavik. *Études Inuit Studies* 48(1–2): 101–122. <https://www.erudit.org/fr/revues/etudinu-it/2024-v48-n1-2-etudinu010286/>

- Grilo, C., Neves, T., Bates, J., + 420 co-authors, among them **Jaeger, J.A.G.**, (2025): Global Roadkill Data: a dataset on terrestrial vertebrate mortality caused by collision with vehicles. *Scientific Data* 12: 505. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41597-024-04207-x>. – The dataset is available on figshare: [https://figshare.com/articles/dataset/Global\\_Roadkill\\_Data\\_a\\_data\\_set\\_on\\_terrestrial Vertebrate\\_mortality\\_caused\\_by\\_collision\\_with\\_vehicles/25714233](https://figshare.com/articles/dataset/Global_Roadkill_Data_a_data_set_on_terrestrial Vertebrate_mortality_caused_by_collision_with_vehicles/25714233)
- Grivegnée-Dumoulin, V., **Jaeger, J.A.G.**, Piyale-Anisman, A., Gélinas-Noble, A.-F., Weiland, C., Donnini, J., St-Jean, S. (2025): Des résultats prometteurs pour le premier passage faunique aménagé sous l'autoroute 10 en Estrie. *Natura* 5(1): 19-28 (octobre 2025). <https://www.revuenatura.ca>
- Johansen, P.** (2025): Archaeology, colonial politics and the struggle for First Nations' heritage sovereignty: Three vignettes from the Canadian state. Paper presented at Reconfiguring Anthropology and Archaeology Through Indigenous Knowledge: Fieldwork, Territories, and Heritage, seminar RESCI (Retours, restitutions, circulations), hosted by UMR LESC, TEMPS, MSH Mondes, and CNRS at Université Paris Nanterre.
- Johansen, P.** (2025): Heritage politics and their publics: Archaeology, settler-colonialism and the struggle for First Nations' heritage sovereignty in Canada. Paper presented at The Public and the Professional: Navigating History and Archaeology in the Twenty-first Century (April 11–12, 2025), session "Community Engagement and the Discipline of Archaeology," Shiv Nagar University and the Max Weber Forum for South Asian Studies, SNU Noida, Delhi NCR.
- Maurer Weisbrod, Y., Hersperger, A., Giezendanner, R., Kellenberger, M., **Jaeger, J.** (2025): Ein neuer Geodatensatz für das Monitoring der Siedlungsentwicklung. (A new geomatic dataset for the monitoring of settlement development.) *Geomatik Schweiz* 123(1-2): 4-10. <https://geomatik.ch/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/FA-792-def.pdf>
- Patterson, S., Fahrig, L., **Jaeger, J.A.G.**, Meek-Sauriol, O., Teixeira, F.Z., Torres, A., Rytwinski, T. (2025 or 2026, in press): Mammals with large home ranges, low reproductive rates and small body sizes are most vulnerable to roads: A meta-analysis. *Journal of Applied Ecology* x(x): x-x. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1365-2664.70190>
- Reid, M., Fritsch, M., Tittler, R., Townsend, C., Bukowski, W., Persram, R., **Jaeger, J.A.G.** (2025): Sharing cities with the future: How concerned are young Montrealers today about the implications of their residential choices for future generations? *Canadian Geographies / Géographies canadiennes* 69(1): e70006. <https://doi.org/10.1111/cag.70006>. – Presented in the Concordia News in May 2025 at: <https://www.concordia.ca/news/stories/2025/05/07/urban-sprawl-remains-a-vague-risk-to-many-young-montrealers-concordia-research-finds.html>
- Related interview by CBC Radio "Daybreak" on 10 July 2025: <https://www.cbc.ca/listen/live-radio/1-15-daybreak-montreal/clip/16157071-how-far-move-home>
- Velosa, S., Turner, S., **Jaeger, J.A.G.** (2025): Spatial distribution of wildlife road mortality: How important is rigorous data collection? *Transportation Research Part D: Transport and Environment*, 149: 105016. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.trd.2025.105016>
- Wilansky, J., **Jaeger, J.A.G.** (2024): Predicting the effectiveness of wildlife fencing along roads using an individual-based model: How do fence-following distances influence the fence-end effect? *Ecological Modelling* 495: 110784 (20 pp.). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolmodel.2024.110784>

## Conservation in Common: Managing Wildlife and Sustaining Community on the Maasai Steppe

By Justin Raycraft

Wildlife conservation in Tanzania is fraught with conflicts between the state, international organizations, private investors, and local communities over the rights to rangeland resources and the benefit streams associated with safari tourism. This book takes up the question of how a Wildlife Management Area (WMA) in Tanzania's Tarangire ecosystem is viewed from the bottom up, by the people who are directly affected by its implementation. Based on historically grounded ethnographic research, Justin Raycraft documents a shift in local attitudes toward Randilen WMA—from fear and protest to widespread support. He analyzes this process of transformation in the context of empathetic management practices that have fostered feelings of trust and uncovered common ground between conservation stakeholders. Raycraft shows that although WMAs are not fully devolved to the local level, pastoral communities can use them to defend the things they value most: their land and livelihoods. *Conservation in Common* makes a much-needed intervention in critical political ecology literature by providing the first account of a conservation area in Tanzania that serves the interests of its local community, thereby making the case that protecting wildlife habitat and safeguarding human well-being are not mutually exclusive activities.

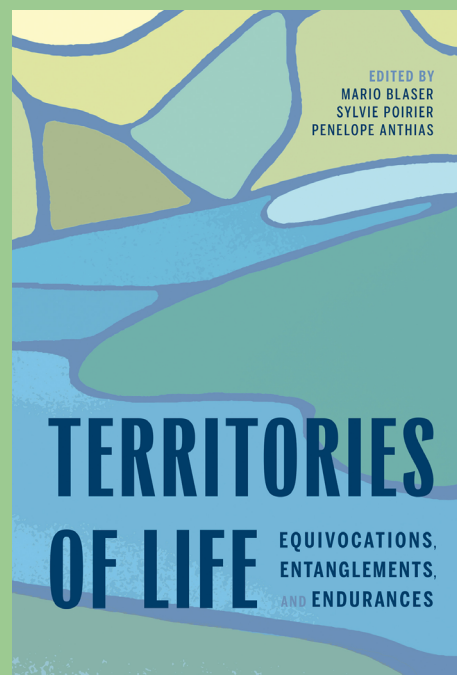


## Territories of Life: Equivocations, Entanglements, and Endurances

Edited by Mario Blaser, Sylvie Poirier, and Penelope Anthias

Contributors to this book explore the diverse ways Indigenous and other collectives strive to sustain their unique territories of life under the heavy shadow of modernization and coloniality. They emphasize that these struggles involve not only humans but also more-than-human collectives. To portray the complexity of the relations between these collectives and the forces of modernization, the volume is structured around three keywords: equivocation, entanglement, and endurance. Each of its ten chapters draws on extensive ethnographic research conducted in various countries, including those colonially known as Australia, Bolivia, Canada, Colombia, Paraguay, and Taiwan. *Territories of Life* offers a framework to discuss the challenges and possibilities that exist for the continuation of territories of life that have endured, for the renewal of those that have been severely damaged, and for the creation of those that must flourish to sustain diverse modes of existence.

Contributors: Penelope Anthias, Jacinta Baragud, Mario Blaser, Yamila Gutierrez Callisaya, Benoit Éthier, Sipi Flamand, Hernán Ruiz Fournier, Sarah C. Moritz, Adam Nye, Sylvie Poirier, Lorna Quiroga, Qwalqwalten (Garry John), Christina Rojas, Scott E. Simon, Kim Spurway, Annick Thomassin, Carolina Tytelman, and Paul Wattez.



Special thanks to Jane Calderbank, Camilo Gomez Chaparro, Ségolène Guinard, Lucía Justo, Wenrui Li, and Irène Svoronos for their support in the design, translation, and final edition of this new issue of the CICADA newsletter.