

Socioeconomics of Agriculture

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Stefan Mann: Lecture 2 „ The foundations of socioeconomics”

The Lecture in one sentence:

Hierarchies, markets and cooperation are the main modes of human interaction that finally result in socioeconomic systems on the macro-level.

You should, at the end of the lecture

- know why people submit themselves into hierarchies
- know what social dilemmas have to do with cooperation
- be able to name some of the challenges of organizing institutions
- understand that there are interdependencies between the characteristics of economies
- be able to link the institutional fields of society to Bruno Amable's five varieties of capitalism
- understand why the dynamic element in the approach has originally been weak
- understand the inherence of conflict for dynamic societies
- know the political causes of institutional change

Further reading:

Amable, B. (2003): The Diversity of Modern Capitalism. Oxford: Oxford University Press

Hall, P.A., K. Thelen (2008): Institutional change in varieties of capitalism. Socio-Economic Review 32 (1) 7-34

Kollock, P. (2011): Social Dilemmas: The anatomy of cooperation. Annual Review of Sociology 24 (2) 183-214

Menard, C., M.M. Shirley (2005): Handbook of New Institutional Economics. Heidelberg: Springer