Socioeconomics in Agriculture

Stefan Mann: Lecture 9 "Common Land Management"

The Lecture in one sentence:

Common land management has a long tradition but works best when property rights are clearly and wisely allocated and where extensive land management prevails.

You should, at the end of the lecture

- understand the historic process of emerging private and collective property rights.
- be able to explain the stability of collective property institutions in the case of Törbel over the last centuries.
- be aware of the dominating collective land management on summer Alpine farms in Switzerland.
- know the types of land that are often managed collectively and be able to explain the reasons for this situation.
- understand the dialectics between natural conditions and political conditions that shape the institutional setting of farmland.
- be able to explain the collective land management institutions in Kafue Flats (Zambia) and the dynamics in the region.
- be able to synthesize the experience from the two case studies for success factors for collective land management.

Further reading:

Haller, T., G. Fokou, G. Mbeyale, P. Meroka (2013): How fit turns into misfit and back: Institutional Transformations of Pastoral Commons in African Floodplains. Ecology and Society 18 (1) 34

Mann, S., A. Stoinescu (2021): Exploring Draheim's three dimensions of success in cooperative organisations – the case of collective Alpine summer farms. Annals of Public and Cooperative Economics 92 (4) 587-602

Tilzey, M. (2017): Reintegrating economy, society, and environment for cooperative futures: Polanyi, Marx, and food sovereignty. Journal of Rural Studies 53, 317-334