

CHRISTOPH HESS

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German, 31 years

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATION

Period: 10/2013 – 11/2015

Degree: **Master of Science**

Course: Water Resources Engineering and Management (WAREM)

Institution: University of Stuttgart

Period: 08/2014 – 07/2015

Course: Student exchange

Focus: Water Management and Energy Policy

Institution: Escola Politécnica, University of São Paulo (USP)

Period: 09/2008 – 02/2013

Degree: **Bachelor of Science**

Course: Environmental Engineering

Institution: University of Applied Sciences (HAW) of Hamburg, Germany

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Period: 06/2015 – 11/2015

Level: **Master Thesis**

Thesis Title: Hydropower and Environmental Justice – The case of the São Luiz do Tapajós project in Brazil

Institution: Institute for Modelling Hydraulic and Environmental Systems, University of Stuttgart / Department of Geography, Faculty of Philosophy, Languages and Literature, and Human Sciences (FFLCH), University of São Paulo (USP)

Supervisors: Prof. Dr.-Ing. Silke Wieprecht (Stuttgart), Prof. Dr. Wagner Costa Ribeiro (USP)

Period: 02/2015 – 05/2015
Level: **Research Project**
Topic: Water Resources, hydropower and socio-environmental conflicts in Brazil
Institution: Institute for Modelling Hydraulic and Environmental Systems, University of Stuttgart / Department of Geography, Faculty of Philosophy, Languages and Literature, and Human Sciences (FFLCH), University of São Paulo (USP)
Supervisors: Prof. Dr.-Ing. Silke Wieprecht (Stuttgart), Prof. Dr. Wagner Costa Ribeiro (USP)

Period: 06/2013 – 08/2013
Level: **Internship**
Topic: Biodiesel production and socio-environmental aspects in Brazil
Institution: Instituto Observatório Social (IOS), São Paulo, Brazil
Supervisor: Lilian Rose Arruda (Research Coordenador)

Period: 08/2012 – 02/2013
Level: **Bachelor Thesis**
Thesis Title: Scenarios of substrate composition for the anaerobic treatment of blackwater
Institution: Institute of Sanitary Engineering and Water Protection, Technical University of Hamburg (TUHH), Germany
Supervisors: Prof. Dr.-Ing. Jörn Einfeldt (HAW Hamburg), PD Dr.-Ing. habil. Ina Körner (TUHH)

Period: 09/2011 – 01/2012
Level: **Student Internship**
Topic: Anaerobic pre-treatment of industrial effluents
Institution: School of Chemistry, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ), Brazil
Supervisor: Dr. Magali Christe Cammarota

CONFERENCES

Event: 7th German Brazilian Symposium for Sustainable Development, Heidelberg, Germany
Date: 04.-10.10.2015
Participation: Oral presentation in Session 9: Politics, Social Action
Presentation: Fenrich E, Hess C: Socio-environmental conflicts related to hydropower development in Brazil

RESEARCH INTERESTS

During my studies I noticed that the solutions of many problems dealt with in environmental engineering are strongly interconnected with and often depend on other fields, such as politics and social sciences. Yet whereas an interdisciplinary approach in engineering studies is recognized and to some extent realized with some other disciplines, notably economics, social sciences remain largely separated from engineering. My research interest is to transcend this separation. Therefore I designed my Master Thesis as an interdisciplinary research project between engineering and social sciences. The theoretical fundament for this approach is the Critical Theory of Technology from Andrew Feenberg, which discusses the relationship between technology and the society. I merged this theory with an Environmental Justice approach and discussed the socio-environmental impacts of a large hydropower project in Brazil on this basis in my Master Thesis. As a result I developed a qualitative method for the assessment of Environmental Justice in hydropower projects and suggested to enhance this approach to energy planning in general.

As can be inferred from my research experience, my former research during my Bachelor Studies was much more purely technical oriented, with a focus on wastewater management. I decided for a new orientation during my Master Studies, however building on the basis of a solid technical understanding in the field of water engineering and management.

The research topics which I am most interested in can be synthesized as the following:

- Environmental justice and water management
- Environmental justice and hydropower
- Environmental justice and energy planning
- Theory of Technology

GRANTS

Student grant from the Hans Böckler Foundation during Bachelor and Master Studies due to excellent performance

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Institution: Network WATERLAT-GOBACIT
Membership: Student Member
Webpage: www.waterlat.org

LANGUAGES

German fluently – mother language

English fluently – total score of 116 in TOEFL English Test

Portuguese fluently – experience of two years in Brazil, certificate B2 from University of Stuttgart

Spanish advanced – experience of one year in Guatemala

NON-ACADEMIC EDUCATION

Period: 09/2001 – 07/2004

Education: Apprenticeship as Mechatronic

Company: Frech GmbH, Schorndorf, Germany

Description: Vocational training of 3,5 years in the machine building industry