

Geographisches Kolloquium



Dienstag, 22.04.2025

Dr. Michael Spies

HNE Eberswalde

Chinese agribusiness and the neoliberalization of seed systems in Pakistan and Tajikistan

This presentation explores the often overlooked role of Chinese agribusinesses as agricultural input suppliers in neighbouring countries, specifically focusing on the emergence of Chinese seed varieties in Pakistan and Tajikistan. Both countries have experienced a significant increase in imports of hybrid seeds from China in recent years, particularly for rice and maize, which have gained popularity among farmers due to their high yields. Furthermore, in Pakistan, Chinese companies have formed partnerships with local enterprises to engage in domestic seed production. What are the drivers of these developments, and what are their consequences for local seed systems? Drawing on field research conducted in Tajikistan and Pakistan between 2021 and 2023, this presentation examines these questions by focusing on the examples of hybrid rice and maize. Drawing on the concept of seed regime, it highlights how the local developments reflect a broader neoliberalization of seed systems, concentrating profit and control among transnational enterprises while creating new dependencies and risks for local farming communities.

Erwin-Schrödinger Zentrum
Rudower Chaussee 26
Raum: 0'307
15:00 Uhr c.t. – Eintritt frei

