Who needs Political Ecology?

The field of political ecology gained momentum in the 1970s, in response to dominant ideas about environmental changes and its causes. Political ecology challenged hegemonic explanations of environmental change in the ‘Global South’ as caused by local people, redirecting attention to more distant political and economic forces that structured local lives and environmental uses. Today, we are grappling with new forms of environmental change and an increasing intensity in global flows of people, ideas, finance, and materials. Yet, the tendency to focus on some forms and explanations of environmental change, while disregarding others, remain. Thus, a political ecology that questions dominant ideas of environmental change and its causes remains as important as ever.

Inaugural lecture and reception // Open to all