

Curriculum Vitae – Dr Ulan Kasymov

EXPERTISE

- Institutional economics
- Social-Ecological-Technical Systems (SETS) and institutional change
- Environmental governance and rural development
- Conflicts and cooperation on natural resources (water and land use)

PROFESSIONAL CAREER

Since April 2019

Postdoctoral Fellow at the Chair of Ecosystem Services, International Institute Zittau, Technische Universität Dresden. A researcher in the project “More Step – Mobility at risk: Sustaining the Mongolian Steppe Ecosystem” funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF). The aim of the transdisciplinary study is to analyse the socio-ecological dynamics in the Mongolian steppe ecosystem in order to identify irreversible processes (tipping points) and thus prevent them at an early stage. I contribute to the analyses of the existing policies on water and water sustainable use and conservation in Mongolia. Furthermore, I explore conflicts between the mining sector and herding communities on water and land access.

Since April 2018

Visiting researcher and lecturer at the Resource Economics Group, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. Teaching the master course “Advanced Empirical Methodology for Social-Ecological Systems Analysis: (1) Multiple Methods in Socio-Ecological Systems Studies; (2) Game Theory & Behavioural Experiments in Natural Resource Use”

July 2016 – April 2019

Postdoctoral Fellow (Project Coordinator) at the Resource Economics Group, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. Coordination of the research projects:

- “Client II-Definitionsprojekt SmartCaDEF - Wie smart kann klima- und bodenangepasste Ressourcennutzung in Zentralasien sein? Innovative Technologien zur Wasser- und Biomassewiederverwendung" financed by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF);
- “Development of methods to assess carbon stocks and improve climate reporting of agricultural ecosystems in Central Asia (CARB-ASIA)” financed by the German Federal Ministry of the Environment Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMUB);
- “Natural Resource Management in Central Asia–NAREMACA” project funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF);

- “Informing climate-sensitive Land and Forest Management Policies for Adaptation to Climate Change in Central Asia – InForMA” project implemented in cooperation with the German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ).

October 2013 – February 2014

Visiting researcher at the Department of Agricultural Economics, Gent University, Belgium.

February 2011 – July 2016

PhD researcher in the project “Designing Social Institutions in Transition: Promotion of Institutional Development for Common Pool Resources Management in Central Asia – InDeCA” financed by the Volkswagen Foundation. Received scholarship of the National Competence Centre in Research (NCCR North-South) program in Central Asia. Within my PhD study, I investigated the Kyrgyz experience in transforming pasture use and the design of pasture management policy. In my research, I employed the evolutionary theories of institutional change, critically assessing the evolution of formal and informal institutional arrangements in pasture management within the implementation of new legislation. In addition, the study evaluated how the pasture management policy affected cooperation and conflicts between pasture users.

June 2005 – October 2007

Regional coordinator of the National Competence Centre in Research (NCCR North-South) program in Central Asia implemented by the Centre for Development and Environment (CDE), University of Bern. I was also responsible for coordinating the NCCR research activities in Central Asia (in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Kazakhstan). The research program was funded by the Swiss Scientific Foundation (SSF) and supported Central Asian and Swiss young scholars (master students, PhD researchers) to study climate change impact on water and land management in the region and competition/conflicts on water and land resources.

June 2005 – March 2010

Director and founder of the Kyrgyz NGO “CAMP Alatau”. Institutional development and projects in the field of mountain development and natural resource management (pasture, irrigated water and energy use).

February 2000 – June 2005

Project coordinator in Kyrgyzstan and team leader of the Central Asian Mountain Partnership (CAMP) program in Tajikistan. The development program implemented by the Centre for Development and Environment (CDE), University of Bern and financially supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).

August 1995 – March 1997

Deputy director of the main office in the development program “Promotion of privatisation in agriculture in Jalal-Abad region, Kyrgyzstan” implemented by CARITAS Switzerland, financially supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).

September 1993 – January 1995

Teacher at the private school in Bishkek.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

February 2011 – July 2016

Doctoral Certificate Program in Agricultural Economics.

PhD study at the Division of Resource Economics, Faculty of Life Sciences, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. Dissertation title “Designing institutions in a post-socialist transformation process. Institutions in regulating access to and management of pasture resources in Kyrgyzstan”. Awarded degree – Doctor Rerum Agriculturarum (Dr. rer. agr.), *magna cum laude*.

September 1992 – June 1993

Post-graduated training at the pedagogical seminar, Stuttgart, Germany

September 1986 – June 1992

State University of Tomsk, Faculty of Philosophy, Russia. Awarded degree – Teacher of Philosophy (Dipl.-Phil.).

LANGUAGE SKILLS

English (proficient), German (proficient), Russian (native), Kyrgyz (native) and Tajik (basic)

Dr. Ulan Kasymov - Publication list

Refereed Publications (In academic Journals and refereed contributions to collections and proceedings)

- Sandström, C., Ring, I., Olschewski, R., Simoncini, R., Albert, C., ... **Kasymov, U.**, et al. (2023). Mainstreaming biodiversity and nature's contributions to people in Europe and Central Asia: Insights from IPBES to inform the CBD Post-2020 agenda. *Ecosystems and People*, 19:1, 2138553, <https://doi.org/10.1080/26395916.2022.2138553>
- Kasymov, U.**, Ring, I., Gonchigsumlaa, G., Dejid, N., Drees, L. (2022). Exploring complementarity of interdependent pastoral institutions in Mongolia. *Sustainability Science*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11625-022-01198-9>
- Hamidov, A., **Kasymov, U.**, Allahverdiyeva, N., Schleyer, Ch. (2022). Governance of technological innovations in water and energy use in Uzbekistan, *International Journal of Water Resources Development*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/07900627.2022.2062706>
- Hamidov, A., **Kasymov, U.**, Djumaboev, K., Paul, C. (2022). Rebound Effects in Irrigated Agriculture in Uzbekistan: A Stakeholder-Based Assessment. *Sustainability*, 14, 8375. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su14148375>
- Kasymov, U.**, Wang, X., Zikos, D., Chopan, M., Ibele, B. (2022): Institutional barriers to sustainable forest management: Lessons from a framed field experiment. *Ecological Economics* 193, 107276. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolecon.2021.107276>.
- Busch, J., Ring, I., Akullo, M., Amarjargal, O., Borie, M., Cassola, R. S., Cruz-Trinidad, A., Droste, N., Haryanto, J. T., **Kasymov, U.**, Kotenko, N. V., Lhkagvadorj, A., Lima De Paulo, F.L., May, P. H., Mukherjee, A., Mumbunan, S., Santos, R., Tacconi, L., Selva, G. V., Verma, M., Wang, X., Yu, L., and Zhou, K. (2021). A Global Review of the Ecological Fiscal Transfers. *Nature Sustainability*. 4, 756–765. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41893-021-00728-0>
- Kasymov, U.**, Hamidov A., & Hagedorn, K. (2020). Editorial: Introducing “Transformation in Common-Pool Resources Management in Central Asia”. *International Journal of the Commons* 14(1): pp. 439–444. <https://doi.org/10.5334/ijc.1053>
- Hamidov, A., **Kasymov, U.**, Salokhiddinov, A. & Khamidov, M. (2020). How can intentionality and path dependence explain change in water-management institutions in Uzbekistan? *International Journal of the Commons*. 14(1), pp. 16–29. <http://doi.org/10.5334/ijc.947>
- Yu, L., **Kasymov, U.** (2020). Social construction of pastureland: Changing rules and resource use rights in China and Kyrgyzstan, *International Journal of the Commons*. 14(1), pp. 1–15, doi: <https://doi.org/10.5334/ijc.940>
- Kasymov, U.**, Thiel, A. (2019). Understanding the role of power in changes to pastoral institutions in Kyrgyzstan. *International Journal of the Commons*. 13(2), pp. 931–948, doi: <https://doi.org/10.5334/ijc.870>
- Simoncini, R., Ring, I., Sandström, C., **Kasymov, U.**, Arlettaz, A. & Albert, X. (2019). “Constraints and opportunities for mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystem services in the EU’s Common Agricultural Policy: Insights from the IPBES Assessment for Europe and Central Asia”. *Land Use Policy*. Vol. 88. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.landusepol.2019.104099>.
- Olschewski, R., Sandström, C., **Kasymov, U.**, Johansson, J., Fürst & Ch, Ring, I. (2018). Challenges and opportunities in developing new forest governance systems – Insights from the IPBES assessment for Europe and Central Asia. *Journal of Forest Policy and Economics*, Vol. 97, 175-179. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.forpol.2018.10.007>.
- Kasymov, U.**, Hamidov, A. (2017). Comparative Analysis of Nature-Related Transactions and Governance Structures in Pasture and Irrigation Water Use in Central Asia. *Sustainability*, 9(9), 1633. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su9091633>
- Kasymov, U.**, Zikos, D. (2017). Understanding Human Actions and Institutional Change: What Are the Impacts of Power Asymmetries on Efficiency in Pasture Use? *Resources*, 6(71). <https://doi.org/10.3390/resources6040071>
- Kasymov, U.**, Undeland, A., Dörre, A. & MacKinnon, A. (2016). Central Asia – Kyrgyzstan and

the learning experience in design of pastoral institutions. *The Future of Pastoralism, OIE Scientific and Technical Review*, Vol. 35 (2). <https://doi.org/10.20506/rst.35.2.2538>

Baerlein, T., **Kasymov, U.** & Zikos, D. (2015). Self-Governance and Sustainable Common Pool Resource Management in Kyrgyzstan. *Sustainability* 7(1), 496-521. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su7010496>

Contributions to Edited Books, Collections and Proceedings

Edited Books, Series and Special Issues

- Murzakulova, A., Schmidt-Vogt, D., Balla, D., Darr, D., Hamidov A., **Kasymov, U.**, Mendelevitch, R. & Orazgaliyev, S. (2019): Water for agriculture and other economic sectors, In: Xenarios, S. (Ed.), Schmidt-Vogt, D. (Ed.), Qadir, M. (Ed.), Janusz-Pawletta, B. (Ed.), Abdullaev, I. (Ed.), Smakhtin, V. (2019). *The Aral Sea Basin. Water for Sustainable Development in Central Asia*. London: Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9780429436475>
- Ring, I., Sandström, C., Acar, S., Adeishvili, M., Albert, C., Allard, C., Anker, Y., Arlettaz, R., Bela, G., ten Brink, B., Coscieme, L., Fischer, A., Fürst, C., Galil, B., Hynes, S., **Kasymov, U.**, Marta-Pedroso, C., Mendes, A., Molau, U., Olschewski, R., Pergl, J. & Simoncini, R. Chapter 6: Options for governance and decision-making across scales and sectors. In IPBES (2018). *The IPBES regional assessment report on biodiversity and ecosystem services for Europe and Central Asia*. Rounsevell, M., Fischer, M., Torre- Marin Rando, A. and Mader, A. (eds.). Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem services, Bonn, Germany, 927-1130.
- Ridder, R., Isakov, A. & **Kasymov, U.** (2017). Transformation in Pasture use in Kyrgyzstan. What are the Costs of Pasture Degradation? In V. R. Squires, S. Zhan-Huan, & A. Ariapour, eds. *Rangelands along the Silk Road: Transformative Adaptation under Climate and Global Change*. Nova Science Publishers, 299–322.
- Kasymov, U.** (2016). *Designing institutions in a post-socialist transformation process. Institutions in regulating access to and management of pasture resources in Kyrgyzstan*. Institutional change in agriculture and natural resources. V. Beckmann & K. Hagedorn, eds., Aachen: Shaker Verlag.
- Bichsel, C., Ibraimova, A., **Kasymov, U.**, Steimann, B., Thieme, S. & Fokou, C. (2010). Natural resource institutions in transformation: The tragedy and glory of the private. In H. Hurni & U. Wiesmann, eds. *Global Change and Sustainable Development: A Synthesis of Regional Experiences from Research Partnerships*. Bern: Geographica Bernensia, 255–269.

Discussion Papers and Working Papers (Non-refereed Discussion Papers and Working Papers, accepted Contributions to Conferences, Seminars, Workshops or Meetings etc.)

- Kasymov, U.**, and Ring, I., (2021). *Exploring institutional complementarity and social thresholds of mobility in pastoral social-ecological systems in Mongolia*. Congress Proceeding, International Rangeland Congress, Nairobi, October 23-29, 2021. Available at <https://uknowledge.uky.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=4326&context=igc>
- Dörre, A., and **Kasymov, U.** (2021). *User-Based Pasture Management in Kyrgyzstan: Achievements, Challenges, and Trends*. Paper presented at the XXIV International Grassland Congress / XI International Rangeland Congress (Sustainable Use of Grassland and Rangeland Resources for Improved Livelihoods), 25–29 October 2021. Available at <https://uknowledge.uky.edu/igc/24/6/11/>

Other Publications (Book Reviews, Research and Project Reports, Popular or professional outlets, policy papers, newspaper articles etc.)

- Korintenberg, M., Gotgelf, A., Baibagyshov, E., Judis, R., **Kasymov, U.**, Walter, J., Lange, S., Neetow, P., Eisenack, K. & Zeitz, J. (2021). *Method for organic carbon stock assessment and improvement of Land Degradation Neutrality and climate change reporting on*

agricultural ecosystems in the Kyrgyz Republic, Soil Science Department and Resource Economics Group, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany.

Kasymov, U., Oyundelger, K., Uvgunkhuu, M. & Ring, I. (2020). Regional socio-economic report. Research report of the BioTip project MORE STEP – Mobility at risk: Sustaining the Mongolian Steppe Ecosystem. International Institute Zittau, Technische Universität Dresden, Zittau.

Margaret, D. M., Drees, L., **Kasymov, U.**, Dejid, N., Batbuyan, B., Dashpurev, T., Dorj, U., Gonchigsumlaa, G., Müller, T., Ring, I. & Mehring, M. (2020). *Mobility at risk: Sustaining the Mongolian steppe ecosystem –developing a vision. Stakeholder involvement and identification of drivers and pathways towards sustainable development*. ISOE-Materialien Soziale Ökologie, Nr. 62. Institut für sozial-ökologische Forschung (ISOE) GmbH, Frankfurt am Main.

Kasymov, U. (2016). Book review: Mensch und Umwelt in Kirgistan Politische Ökologie im postkolonialen und postsozialistischen Kontext. *Central Asian Survey*, 35(2), pp.313–315. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02634937.2016.1143293>