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| **Project properties** | |
| **Title** | Mapping hybrid governance for sustainable global value chains |
| **Group** | PAP |
| **Project type** | Master thesis |
| **Credits** | 18-24 |
| **Supervisor(s)** | Dr. Otto. Hospes |
| **Examiner(s)** | Prof. Katrien Termeer and Dr. Otto Hospes |
| **Contact info** | Dr. Otto Hospes |
| **Begin date** | asap |
| **End date** | November 2016 |
| **Description** | This master thesis project is part of a larger (PhD) project that examines the potential for developing synergies between public and private governance for sustainable global value chains (GVCs). A central aim of the PhD project is to develop innovative governance arrangements with public authorities in both producing/exporting and importing countries.  Private governance initiatives are considered more effective than state-led initiatives in addressing environmental and social problems in global value chains. However, these private initiatives are increasingly criticised for their limitations in addressing land conflicts and smallholder concerns, their bias towards a single-commodity approach and their lack of area-based governance. These criticisms are paralleled by an increasing role of public actors in developing public sustainability schemes or quasi-accreditation policies for private standards. While currently these public and private initiatives often exist next to each other or even compete, there is great potential for synergies because public and private actors can complement each other’s roles in GVCs.  The first objective of the master thesis project is to map different forms of hybrid governance of global value chains. For this purpose the following preliminary classification can be tested and adjusted: a) private certification programmes with government involvement through official recognition of the standard; b) social-private partnerships (roundtables) for specific commodities with limited government involvement through subsidies; c) public-private partnerships with direct involvement of public authorities; d) public-private value chain initiatives with explicit linkages with area-based public policies in the producing country. The second objective is to make an inventory and classification of different scientific concepts that are used by scholars to understand and analyse hybrid governance forms, arrangements and interactions involving public and private actors. The third objective is to conduct a quick scan of the underlying motives and perceived challenges and obstacles for organizing synergies between private and public forms of governance.  Data collection and methods consists of three steps: 1. systematic literature review; 2. analysis of professional reports of public and private actors involved in certification programmes, social-private partnerships or public-private partnerships; 3. interviews with stakeholders that are involved in the larger (PhD) project. |
| **Requirements and skills** | * Bachelor BIN or BEB; enrolled in master program MID or MME * Ambition to develop a master thesis that can serve as a basis for writing and publishing a scientific article * Skills: 1. Good English writing; 2. Experience with organizing Endnote libraries 3. Experience with organizing search queries through Scopus, google advanced search, and other search machines. |