PROGRAMME

ZiF WORKSHOP

The Good Life in Late Socialist Asia: Aspirations, Politics and Possibilities

Convenors: Prof. Dr Minh Nguyen (Bielefeld, GER)
Dr Phill Wilcock (Bielefeld, GER)

16 – 18 September 2019

IN COOPERATION WITH:

SUNDAY – 15 SEPTEMBER

18:00 – 20:00 Arrival and Welcome Drink at ZiF

MONDAY – 16 SEPTEMBER

08:00 – 09:00  - Breakfast at ZiF -

09:00 – 09:30 Registration

09:30 – 11:00 Opening remarks by:
Professor Veronique Zanetti (5mins) - Director of Center for Interdisciplinary Research (ZIF)
Professor Joanna Pfaff-Czarnecka (10 mins) – Dean, Sociology Faculty, Bielefeld University
Professor Minh Nguyen (15 mins)
Keynote address (60 mins) – In Search of the Good Life in China and Beyond – Professor Li Zhang

Session chair: Dr Phill Wilcox

11:00 – 11:15 – Coffee & tea break –
11:15 – 12:45  **Panel – Infrastructure and Living Space**
- Building an ideal house, making a good life: a case study of Baikou New Village in the south of China – Dr Wei Lan
- The good life at the heart of the home: the politics of kitchen design – Professor Annuska Derks
- Express Train to the Good Life? The Lao-China Railway, Imagined Futures and Pragmatic Aspirations in Laos – Dr Phill Wilcox

**Discussant: Professor Andrew Kipnis**
**Chair: Dr. Éva Rozália Hölzle**

12:45 – 13:45  **Lunch**

- Green living in times of ecological civilisation: struggles over environmental conscience between cosmopolitan centres and rural peripheries in China – Dr Charlotte Bruckermann
- “Agrarian transformation and environmental change in Southwest China” – Professor Jun He
- “The Good Life and Lowland Rice Farming Change in Savannakhet Province, Southern Laos” – Professor Ian Baird

**Discussant: Professor Jonathan Rigg**
**Chair: Dr Jake Lin**

15:15 – 15:30  **Coffee, tea & cake break**

15:30 – 17:30  **Panel – Governance and Policies**
- “Staying or moving: government compliance and agency in post Zomian Laos” – Professor Guido Sprenger
- “After 40 years of reform: transformation in ethnic communities in China” – Professor Ming He
- Modernizing a backward population: colonial experiences/memories and discourses on lagging behind (落后) in time – Dr Marius Meinhof
- Alternative routes to development? The role of Hmong Christian pastors and entrepreneurs in the advance of neoliberalism in Vietnam’s highlands – Mr Seb Rumsby

**Discussant: Professor Ian Baird**
**Chair: Mr Seb Rumsby**

18:00 – 19:00  ERC Project Welfare Struggles kick-off – Ms Yueran Tian, Ms Minh Ngoc Luong, Dr Jake Lin, Professor Minh Nguyen

19:00  **Dinner at ZiF**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 – 9:00</td>
<td>Breakfast at ZiF</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 9:30 – 11:00 | **Panel – Mobility and Livelihoods**  
- Trans-local households and family visions in contemporary Vietnam – Professor Hy Van Luong  
- Vietnamese migrant communities in Laos: precarity and opportunity in the tin mines of Khammouane (colonial times to the present) – Dr Oliver Tappe  
- TITLE TBC – Professor Duc Loc Nguyen  
**Discussant:** Professor Hy Van Luong  
**Chair:** Professor Ruth Ayaß |
| 11:00 – 11:15 | Coffee & tea break |
| 11:15 – 13:15 | **Panel – Religion and Spirituality**  
- Girls, mom and guru: singing for a good life in a Tibetan town – Dr Fan Zhang  
- Protection and vulnerability: (re)creating health in rural lowland Laos – Ms Elizabeth Elliot  
- Morality and the jungle: Good life in Laos through the bang bot imagery – Dr Michael Kleinod  
**Discussant:** Professor Hy Van Luong  
**Chair:** Dr Oliver Tappe |
| 13:15 – 14:30 | Lunch |
| 14:30 – 16:30 | **Panel – Consumption and Desire**  
- Europe's new Kulturbürger? Chinese migrants in search of a pure land – Professor Pal Nyiri  
- Materializing the good life: Food, cosmetics and the changing concept of life quality in Vietnam Dr Giang Nguyen-Thu  
- “Plugged into the good life”: electric supply and home appliances in market socialist Vietnam” – Dr Kirsten Endres  
- NN - TBC  
**Discussant:** Professor Susanne Brandstaedter  
**Chair:** Dr Charlotte Bruckermann |
| 17:00 – 18:00 | Keynote speech – The Ideological Reconstruction of Values in Reform-Era China: A Brief Overview – Professor Jiwei Ci |
| 19:00 | Dinner at ZiF |
**WEDNESDAY – 18 SEPTEMBER**

**08:00 – 09:00**  
*Breakfast at ZiF*

**09:00 – 11:00**  
**Panel - Care and Welfare**

- Good baby, good life: exploring the new Akha life free from ‘abnormal births’ – Dr Ruijing Wang

- Paternal Grandma’s Obligation, Maternal Grandma’s Right – A Study of Postpartum Care in Chinese Urban Families – Professor Peiqin Zhou

- The predicament of care: grassroots philanthropy in late socialist China – Jiazhi Fengjiang

**Discussant: Professor Andrew Kipnis**

**Chair: Professor Alexandra Kaasch (TBC)**

**11:00 – 11:30**  
*Coffee & tea break*

**11:30 – 13:00**  
**Panel – Marriage and private life**

- Not before 25: resisting marriage, looking for autonomy in Xi Jinping’s China - Dr Roberta Zavoretti

- Social transformation and affective life: some observations from China – Professor Bo Cheng

- Single Mothers’ Livelihoods in a Rural Area of North Central Vietnam: Struggles for a Good Life – Professor Tuan Anh Nguyen

**Discussant: Professor Susanne Brandstaedter**

**Chair: Dr Marius Meinhof**

**13:00 – 14:00**  
*Lunch*

**14:00 – 16:00**  
**Panel – Young lives**

- Rural schools as sites of the circulation, performance and articulation of contradictory versions of ‘The Good Life’ in late socialist Laos - Dr Roy Huijsmans

- Assembling a good life: peasant workers, mobility and utilising uncertainties at special economic zones in post Mao China - Professor I-Chieh Fang

- Dancing the good life, rapping about the bad life: aspiring subjects in Vietnamese hip hop – Professor Sandra Kurfuerst

**Discussant: TBC**

**Chair: Dr. Éva Rozália Hölzle**

**16:00 – 17:00**  
Wrap up and publication plans

**19:00**  
*Dinner at restaurant “Wirtshaus 1802 im Bültmannshof”*

- End of the Workshop -