

# WORKSHOP

This workshop is funded by  
the Center for  
InterAmerican Studies  
(CIAS) Bielefeld

## FROM PAST TO FUTURE. TOWARDS HISTORICALLY-INFORMED RESEARCH IN CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTION

May 6-7, 2016 at the Center for Interdisciplinary  
Research (ZiF) Bielefeld



### Organizers

Eleonora Rohland, Asst. Professor for History of the Americas, Bielefeld University; George Adamson, Lecturer in Geography, Kings College London; Matthew Hannaford, Postdoctoral Researcher, Utrecht University.

### Invited Experts/ Commentators

**Greg Bankoff**, Professor for Modern History, University of Hull; **Coleen Vogel**, Professor of Global Change and Sustainability Research, University of the Witwatersrand; **Franz Mauelshagen**, Senior Fellow Sustainable Interactions with the Atmosphere (SIWA), Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS) Potsdam.

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*This workshop seeks to explore the contribution that historical research can make to contemporary climate change adaptation research. It arises from a proposition, shared by all participants, that the past does have much to contribute, but that this contribution is not necessarily as has been previously presented in the literature. Preliminary work by Hannaford, Adamson and Rohland suggests important contributions from historical research in decolonising adaptation debates; in 'downscaling' and particularising adaptation; in examining path dependencies; in exploring cultural and institutional memory. This workshop is timely due to a growing call for culturally-informed climate adaptation and the growth of the pathways to sustainability research field. However, we suggest that incorporating historically-informed research in this debate will necessitate a change in research culture, and the workshop is therefore looking to build towards an intervention in a mainstream climate change journal.*

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If you are interested in participating in the Workshop **please apply to [eleonora.rohland@uni-bielefeld.de](mailto:eleonora.rohland@uni-bielefeld.de) until May 5, 2016**, as the conference is small and space is very limited.