

March 2018

BEJOY K. THOMAS

Water, Land and Society programme
Centre for Environment and Development
Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE)
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Employment

2015-till date: Fellow (Associate Professor level), ATREE, Bangalore, India

2008-2015: Fellow (Assistant Professor level), ATREE, Bangalore, India

2008: Research Associate, IT for Change (ITfC), Bangalore, India

2002-2003: Research Assistant, IVO, Tilburg University, The Netherlands & Department of Applied Economics, Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT), India

Other positions

2017 Mar-Apr: Visiting Fellow, The Liu Institute for Global Issues, The University of British Columbia, Canada

2016 Mar: Royal Bank of Canada Visiting Fellow, The Water Institute, University of Waterloo, Canada

Education

2009: Ph.D. (Development Studies), Tilburg University, The Netherlands

2001: M.B.E (Business Economics), Cochin University of Science and Technology, India

2000 Feb-Aug: Prepared Masters dissertation in Development Economics at Tilburg University, The Netherlands with Jan Tinbergen Scholarship

1998: B.A. (Economics), Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, India

Publications

Journal articles

Lele, S., V. Srinivasan, **B.K. Thomas** & P. Jamwal, 2018, 'Adapting to Climate Change in Rapidly Urbanizing River Basins: Insights from a Multiple Concerns, Multiple Stressors, and Multi Level Approach', *Water International*, 43(2): 281-304

Eswar, M. & **B.K. Thomas**, 2017, 'Data Discrepancies: Interpreting Rural Water Data in Decadal Census', *Economic and Political Weekly*, 52(28): 29-32

Thomas, B. K., S. Lele, V. Srinivasan & P. Jamwal, 2017, 'Rethinking Resilience in Urbanizing River Basins', *Seminar*, 694: 55-8

Purushothaman, S., **B.K. Thomas**, R. Abraham & U. Dhar, 2013, 'Beyond Money Metrics: Alternative Approaches to Conceptualising and Assessing Ecosystem Services', *Conservation and Society*, 11(4): 321-5

March 2018

Srinivasan, V., **B.K. Thomas**, P. Jamwal & S. Lele, 2013, 'Climate Vulnerability and Adaptation of Water Provisioning in Developing Countries: Approaches to Disciplinary and Research-Practice Integration', *Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability*, 5(3-4): 378–83

Thomas, B.K., R. Muradian, G. de Groot & A. de Ruijter, 2010, 'Confronting or Complementing? A Case Study on NGO-State Relations from Kerala, India', *Voluntas*, 21(3): 258-70

Thomas, B.K., 'Participation in the Knowledge Society: the Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) Movement Compared with Participatory Development', 2010, *Development in Practice*, 20(2): 270-6

Thomas, B.K., R. Muradian, G. de Groot & A. de Ruijter, 2010, 'Resilient and Resourceful? A Case Study on How the Poor Cope in Kerala, India', *Journal of Asian and African Studies*, 45(1): 29-45

Thomas, B.K., R. Muradian, G. de Groot & A. de Ruijter, 2009, 'Multidimensional Poverty and Identification of Poor Households: A Case from Kerala, India', *Journal of Human Development and Capabilities*, 10(2): 237-57

Thomas, B.K., 'Methodological Debate in Poverty Studies: Towards 'Participatory Qual-quant'?', 2008, *Development in Practice*, 18(2): 280-8

Book chapters

Thomas, B.K., N. Deepthi & P. Jamwal, 2017, 'Going With the Flow? Urban Wastewater and Livelihoods Change in Peri-urban Bengaluru', in Hiremath, A. J, N. D. Rai & A. Siddhartha (eds.) *Transcending Boundaries: Reflecting on Twenty Years of Action and Research at ATREE*, Bangalore: ATREE, 114-121

Srinivasan, V., S. Lele, **B.K. Thomas** & P. Jamwal, 2017, 'Whose River? The Changing Waterscape of the Upper Arkavathy Under Urbanisation', in Hiremath, A. J, N. D. Rai & A. Siddhartha (eds.) *Transcending Boundaries: Reflecting on Twenty Years of Action and Research at ATREE*, Bangalore: ATREE, 122-130

Thomas, B.K., 2014, 'Monetary and Multidimensional Poverty in Kerala: A Review of Recent Evidence', in Kurian V. M & R. John (eds) *Kerala Economy and its Emerging Issues*, Kottayam: SPCS, 238-51.

Killada, N.V., S. Badiger & **B.K. Thomas**, 2012, 'Flood in Krishna Basin: Institutional Responses to Flood Regulation', in Prasad, E., K.J. Joy, S. Paranjape & S. Vispute (eds) *Agony of Floods: Flood Induced Water Conflicts in India*, Pune: Forum for Policy Dialogue on Water Conflicts in India, 101-12

Proceedings/Discussion papers

Srinivasan, V., G. Penny, S. Lele, **B.K. Thomas** & S. Thompson, 2017, 'Proximate and underlying drivers of socio-hydrologic change in the upper Arkavathy watershed, India', *Hydrology and Earth System Sciences Discussions*

Thomas, B. K., P. Jamwal, S. Lele & V. Srinivasan, 2014, 'Thinking About Urban Resilience: The Case of Water Scarcity and Wastewater Reuse in Bengaluru', *Urban Resilience: Proceedings of the Colloquium*, Bengaluru: Public Affairs Centre, ISBN 9788188816378

Jamwal, P., **B.K. Thomas**, S. Lele & V. Srinivasan, 2014, 'Addressing Water Stress Through Wastewater Reuse: Complexities and Challenges in Bangalore, India', *Proceedings of the Resilient Cities 2014 Congress*, Bonn: ICLEI.

March 2018

Lele, S., V. Srinivasan, P. Jamwal, **B.K. Thomas**, M. Eswar & T. Md. Zuhail, 2013, 'Water Management in Arkavathy Basin: A Situation Analysis', Environment and Development Discussion Paper 1, Bengaluru: ATREE, ISBN 9788190233866

Book reviews

Thomas, B.K., 2009, 'International Development Studies-Theories and Methods in Research and Practice' by A. Sumner and M. Tribe, *Development and Change*, 40(5): 977-8

Thomas, B.K., 2007, 'Doing Development Research' edited by V. Desai and R. B. Potter, *Development and Change*, 38(3): 560-1

Dissertation

Thomas, B.K., 2009, 'Poverty Knowledge and Development Actors', PhD dissertation, Tilburg University, The Netherlands, xvi + 160 pp. ISBN 9789066290105

Conference papers (unpublished)

Thomas, B.K., M. Eswar, S. D. Kenchaigol, V. Srinivasan & S. Lele, 2015, 'Enhancing Resilience or Furthering Vulnerability? Responses to Water Stress in an Urbanizing Basin in Southern India', presented at the ICARUS Fourth Global Meeting, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Major research projects

2012-16: Adapting to climate change in urbanizing watersheds (ACCUWa). Funded by IDRC, Canada. Field research in Karnataka, India. Co-investigator.

2011-16: Rural-urban conundrum: political economy of social and environmental transformation in agrarian landscapes. Tata Trusts grant for Land, Water and Livelihoods programme at ATREE. Field research in Karnataka, India. Principal investigator: 2012-14; Co-investigator: 2011-12, 2014-16.

Teaching

2017-18, 2015-16, 2013-14, 2011, 2009, 2008: Social Sciences foundation (C2, F2), Research methods (C4, C5, C2): co-taught, ATREE PhD programme

2016: Sessions on Resilience, Community based adaptation (E11): ATREE PhD programme

2016 Mar: Sessions on Agrarian livelihoods (WATER 601, graduate), Governance (INDEV 101, undergraduate): University of Waterloo

2018, 2014, 2011: Sessions on Political Economy (C3), Sustainable Livelihoods (C3, C4): ATREE PhD programme

Supervision

Approved PhD guide, Manipal Academy of Higher Education (formerly Manipal University), India (Areas: Development Studies, Political Economy)

Guiding three PhD candidates and on the dissertation committee of four PhD candidates (1 graduated and 3 in progress) at ATREE

March 2018

Awards

2016: Royal Bank of Canada Visiting Fellow, The Water Institute, University of Waterloo, Canada, for collaborative research and teaching during March 2016

2007: 2020 Vision Doctoral Student of the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI): One among ten leading doctoral students working on poverty, selected by IFPRI through a global competition

2000: Jan Tinbergen Scholarship from Netherlands Organization for International Cooperation in Higher Education for studies at Tilburg University, The Netherlands during February-August 2000

Professional service

External

Reviewed research papers for *Conservation and Society*, *Development in Practice*, *Ecological Economics*, *Social Indicators Research*, *Voluntas* and Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative; book manuscript for Oxford University Press; grant proposals for National Geographic Society and National Science Foundation, USA; curriculum design for Kerala State Higher Education Council

2016-18: Executive committee member (elected), Indian Society for Ecological Economics (INSEE)

Guest editor, INSEE special section on ecosystem services, *Conservation and Society*, 11(4), 2013

Scientific advisory committee member, INSEE 8th biennial conference on urbanization and the environment, Bangalore, 2016

Internal

2015-17: Faculty representative to the Governing Board (elected), ATREE

2013-17: Academic committee member, ATREE

2011-13: Executive committee member (elected), ATREE

2011-12: Chair, Affirmative action taskforce, ATREE

Professional membership

Indian Society for Ecological Economics (INSEE)

Outreach

Training programmes

2016 Oct: Joint coordinator of a national level training workshop by Forum, TERI and ATREE on water conflicts for researchers, activists and water sector professionals

2015 Jun: Joint coordinator of a national level summer school by ATREE in water and society for early career researchers and PhD students

2011 Mar: Joint coordinator of a national level certificate course by ATREE in environment and development for early and mid career professionals

March 2018

Popular media

2016 Aug: Short documentary 'Arkavathy: A Changing Waterscape', based on research on Arkavathy sub-basin during 2012-16

2016 Aug: Short documentary 'River or Sewer? The Story of Vrishabhavathy in Bengaluru, Southern India', based on research on water quality in urban and peri-urban Bengaluru during 2011-16

Select external talks

2018 Mar: Indian Institute of Plantation Management, Bangalore, India; National Conference on Climate Change and its Impacts on Livelihoods

2017 Mar: The University of British Columbia, Canada; Future of Food Global Dialogue Series

2016 Jul: Utrecht University, The Netherlands; LANDac Annual International Conference

2016 Jun: National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore, India; Workshop on Bangalore's Great Transformation: Land, Ecologies, Economies, Communities

2016 Apr: Manipal University, India; Panel Forum on Water Security at the adelphi-Manipal University Exhibition on Environment, Conflict and Cooperation

2016 Mar: University of Waterloo, Canada; The Water Institute Seminar

2015 May: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA; ICARUS Fourth Global Meeting

2014 Sep: Public Affairs Centre, Bangalore, India; Colloquium on Urban Resilience

2013 Jul: The Energy and Resources Institute, Bangalore, India; Regional Consultation on Designing Sustainable Development Goals

2013 May: National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore, India, Seminar

2013 Feb: Centre for Technology Alternatives for Rural Areas, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, India; Seminar

2009 Jan: National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore, India; The Knowledge Society Debates of The STEPS Centre, IDS, Sussex

2008 Mar: Kerala State Planning Board, Thiruvananthapuram, India; State Level Workshop on Poverty in Kerala

2007 Nov: Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium; Chaire Quetelet 2007 on Poverty Dynamics and Vulnerability

2007 Oct: Beijing Normal University, China; IFPRI 2020 Vision Doctoral Students Workshop

2006 Apr: Maastricht Graduate School of Governance, The Netherlands; Development Economics PhD Seminar

2005 Dec: Warsaw School of Economics, Poland; EADI/DSA Multidimensional Poverty Working Group Meeting