

SOCIAL-ECOLOGICAL CONFLICTS AND BIOFUELS CROPS:

THE CASE OF OIL PALM EXPANSION IN COLOMBIA




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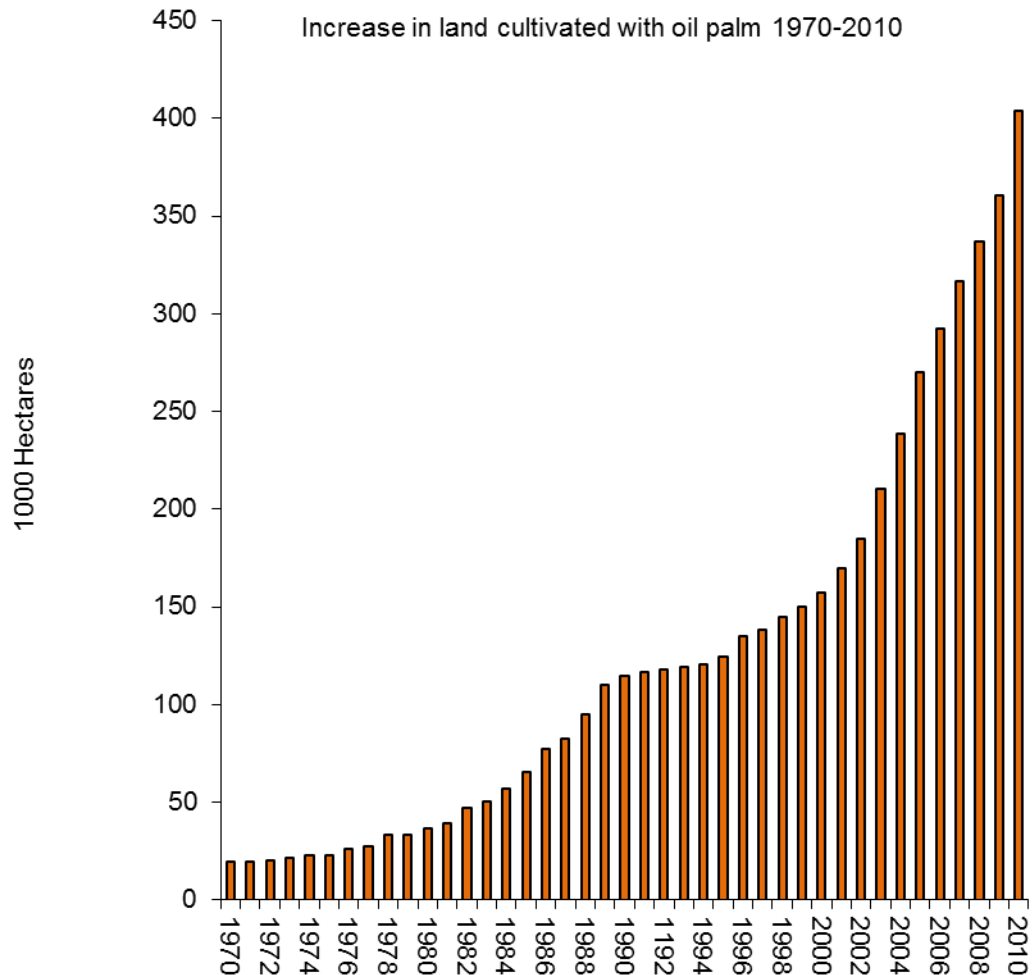


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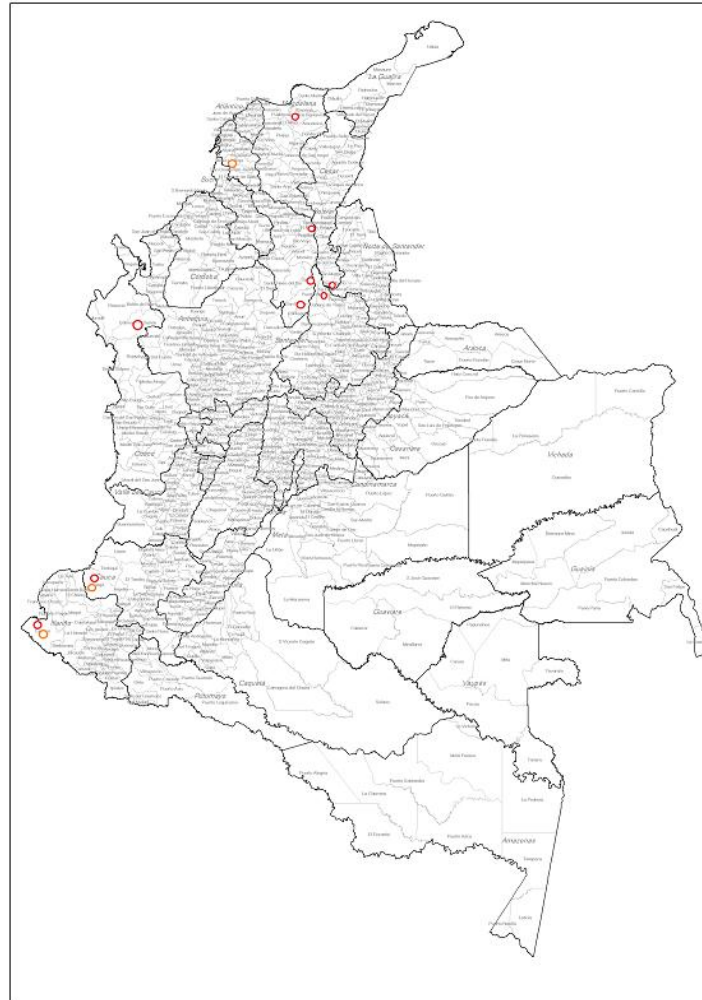
THE CASE OF OIL PALM EXPANSION IN COLOMBIA

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- ✓ Background
 - Expansion of oil palm cultivation
 - Conflicts for access to resources
 - ✓ The political ecological character of the conflicts
 - The material dimension: the ecology
 - Power: Land control & Influence in access mechanisms (policy-making)
 - ✓ Palm oil expansion, conflicts and agrofuels
 - ✓ Conclusion

Background: expansion of OP cultivation



Background: conflicts and land

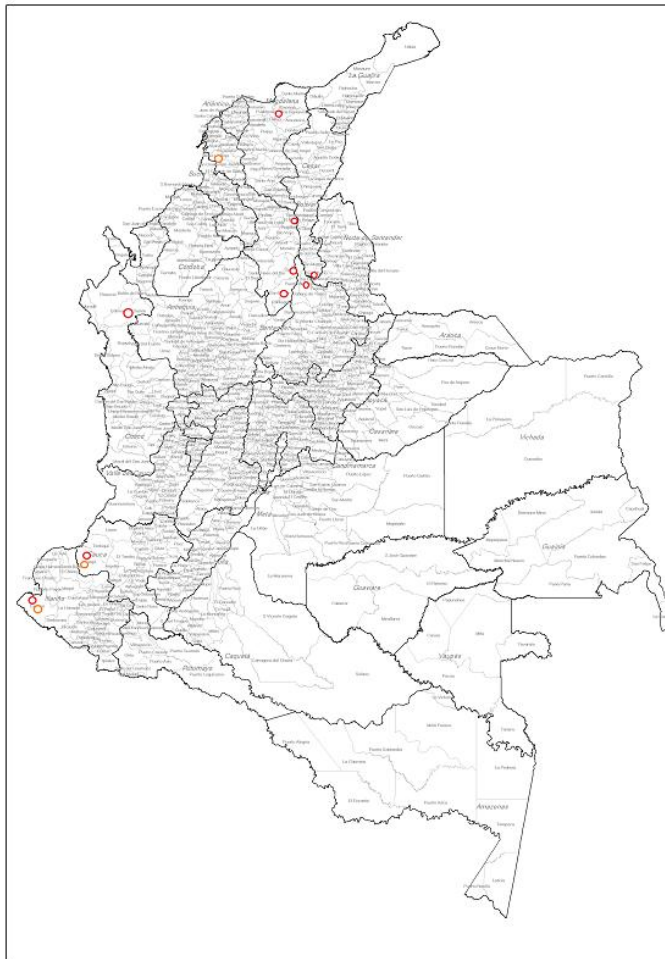


Source: Own construction

The PE character of the conflicts: ecology



The PE character of the conflicts: land access control



Cluster Model → Territorialisation

Powerful actors seek
access through legal
and illegal means

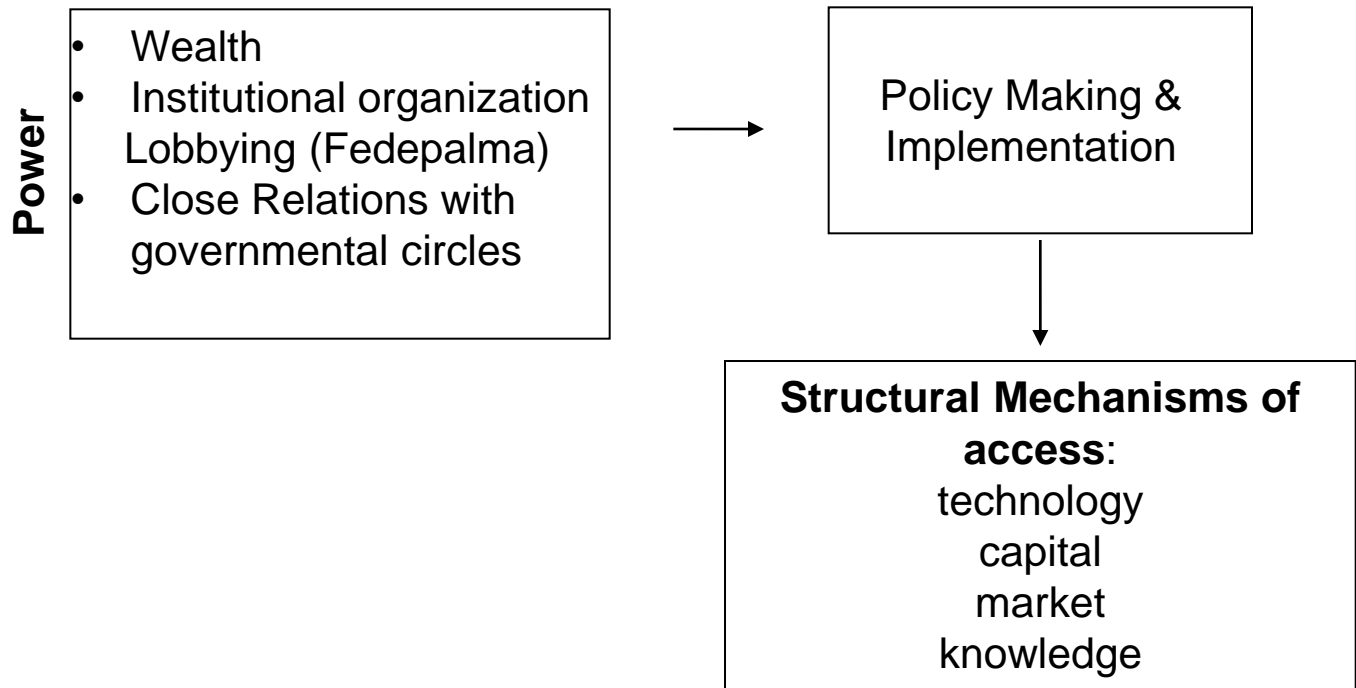
Landowners reclaim
access from *aparceros*

Public lands
Territorialised

Productive
Alliances

The PE character of the conflicts:

Influence mechanisms of access



Theory of Access (Ribot and Peluso 2003)

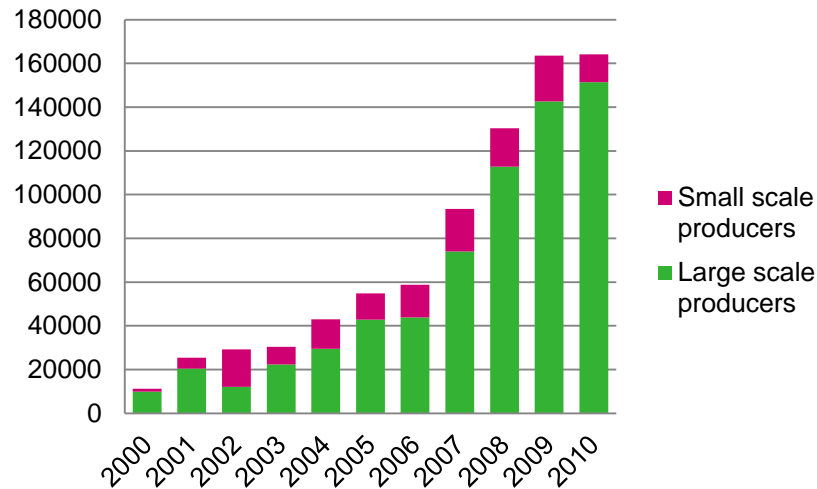
The PE character of the conflicts:

Influence mechanisms of access

| Access Mechanism Position in the Value chain | Access to Capital | Access to Technology And Knowledge | Access To Markets |
|--|---|---|---|
| Agro-Industry Crop Production | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Income tax exemption (10 years) - Soft Credit (AIS –LEC) - Subsidy (AIS-ICR) - Guarantee agricultural credit. - Venture Capital Investment fund | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Co-funding R&D (Fondo Concursal Ciencia y Tecnologia) - Co-funding irrigation and drainage - Soft Credit Technical Assistance - Subsidy Technical assistance (ICR) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Guarantee to cover risks of operations in the national agricultural stock exchange. - Subsidy to cover the fee of exchange rate risk coverage instruments. |
| Agro-Industry Crop processing (crude palm oil extraction) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agro-Industrial Tax-Free Zones | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Price Regulation (Minimum income to the producer) |
| Industrial Transformation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agro-Industrial Tax-Free Zones -Financed biodiesel plant | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plan Biocom Colciencias (palm-oil biodiesel) | |
| Demand | | . | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Obligatory blending targets - VAT and global tax exemption for biodiesel |

The PE character of the conflicts: Influence mechanisms of access

Institutional Credit to Start Cultivation

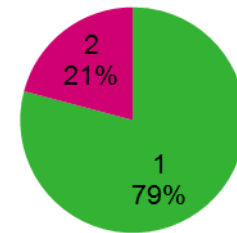


Sources: Own construction on the basis of
FEDEPALMA, 2005,2010,2011

Ha registered for income tax
exemption: 42072Ha
37500Ha oil palm (89%)

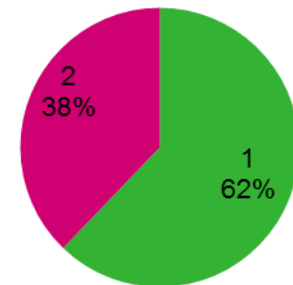
Sources: Own construction on the basis of
MADR, 2010

Agricultural Soft credit 2007-2009



Sources: Own construction on the basis of
MADR, 2010

Agricultural subsidy 2007-2009



Sources: Own construction on the basis of
MADR, 2010

Palm oil expansion, conflicts and agrofuels

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A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide, consisting of a series of black and yellow lines radiating from a central point, and a cluster of green, geometric shapes at the bottom left.

Conclusion

The analysis of conflicts connected with the expansion of energy crops cultivation from a political ecology perspective requires the consideration of complex relations between varied socio-economic, cultural and environmental aspects at different levels. Biofuels may be embedded in these relations, but may not be the only or most relevant factor.

A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide, featuring a stylized plant with yellow and black lines, a dashed line, and a cluster of green, geometric shapes at the bottom.

Thank you Questions?