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We are drawn by desire

a chance at good living, yet

Struggles over Consensus, Anti-Politics and Marketing

This book investigates the impact of contemporary neoliberalism on transfrontier conservation and development in Southern Africa. It argues that the neoliberalisation of conservation and development has progressed from its earlier political manifestations to be characterised by new modes of politics that work to further entrench more established neoliberal modes of governance, such as competition and commercialisation. Using empirical data from research done on regional Southern African transfrontier conservation areas in general and a case study of the Maloti-Drakensberg Transfrontier Project between Lesotho and South Africa in particular, the book analyses these new neoliberal political strategies and shows that they intensify and further fuel already inherent contradictions in conservation and development interventions and realities.

Bram Büscher worked as a PhD candidate at the Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology and as a project manager at the Centre of International Cooperation of the VU University Amsterdam. At the moment, he is a lecturer at the Rural Development, Environment and Population Studies staff group of the Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, The Netherlands and a Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Johannesburg

Bram Büscher

Struggles over Consensus,
Anti-Politics and Marketing

Struggles over Consensus, Anti-Politics and Marketing

Neoliberalism and Transfrontier Conservation
and Development in Southern Africa

Bram Büscher



"We are drawn by desire – a chance at good living, yet we are consciously or unconsciously aware that the world is suffering for our success. Our dependence on nature to provide the materials for our consumption and our concern for the health of our planet sets us into an uneasy contradiction".
Edward Burtynsky

