

OSTROM WORKSHOP RESEARCH SERIES

Martin Delaroche

*School of Public and Environmental Affairs
IU Bloomington*

“Land-Use Patterns in the Brazilian Amazon and Cerrado: Exploring the Farmers’ Self-Identity Hypothesis”

Wednesday, March 28, 2018

12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Ostrom Workshop, 513 N. Park



Decades of environmental policies in the Brazilian Amazon have resulted in a dramatic reduction in deforestation rates. However, the multiple occurrence of policies and commodity supply-chain initiatives makes it difficult to disentangle the influence of each respective intervention. What is more, deforestation has not waned everywhere and even bounced back over the past years, raising doubts about the ability of policies to fully control deforestation and the extent to which local actors respond to them. Based on a case study of a consolidated Amazon frontier dominated by soybean production, I explore how the particular group of large-scale soybean farmers has been marginally affected by variations in economic and policy conditions over the course of their residence in the region. I highlight the importance of the socioeconomic characteristics of this group as well as their strong identity and values as potential explanatory factors to their land-clearing patterns and rise as Brazil’s leading soybean producers.



Martin Delaroche is a PhD student at the School of Public and Environmental Affairs (SPEA) at Indiana University, and in the Department of Geography at the University Paris 3 Sorbonne-Nouvelle, in France. His interdisciplinary research looks at the evolution of the environmental behavior of farmers in large-scale soybean-producing regions of the Brazilian Amazon. He holds an MA in International Economic Law and an MA in Applied Economics, both from the University Paris 1 Sorbonne-Nouvelle (France) ([website](#)).

Presentations are open to the public (see our website for papers). You are welcome to bring your lunch. For questions, contact Allison Sturgeon (sturgeon@iu.edu; 812/855-3151).