

<b>Paper ID</b>	190
<b>Author(s)</b>	guillemette Crouzet
<b>Title</b>	'The Malavois Decree: Environment and Sustainability in the Late Eighteenth-century Seychelles'
<b>Abstract</b>	
<p>In 1787, Louis Malavois, the governor-general of the French Seychelles, promulgated an official decree which inaugurated a framework for a drastic policy of environmental protection of the islands. The decree regulated land concessions on the Seychelles archipelago and launched a vast programme of reforestation and protection of species that were endemic to the Seychelles, notably the Adalbra giant tortoise and the coco-de-mer palm tree. The historian Richard Grove has argued that tropical islands under European colonial rule constituted a laboratory of environmentalism in the late eighteenth century. Was the Malavois decree therefore an attempt to restore a lost Eden — one which had been largely destroyed by the attempts of the earlier French colonists to transform the Seychelles into an imitation of Ambon, the spice island in present-day Indonesia which had proved so profitable to the Dutch? This paper argues that Malavois' attempts at environmental protection were driven by a moral ecology that sought, influenced by Enlightenment ideas, to develop a rationalist quest for natural resources whereby these would be protected with a view to maintainable imperial profitability over the long term. Malavois's decree shows that, on the cusp of the French Revolution, the environment of the French Empire in the Indian Ocean World remained a commodity, but one where the aspiration was for exploitation to be undertaken according to some programme of sustainability</p>	
<b>Keywords</b>	Islands, Environmental protection, land, water, animals, plants

<b>Paper ID</b>	093
<b>Author(s)</b>	Maxime Decaudin
<b>Title</b>	'Oasis in the Desert': the role of private and public gardens in the greening and afforestation of colonial Hong Kong
<b>Abstract</b>	
<p>This paper investigates urban greening in 19th-century Hong Kong, driven by health, aesthetic, and colonial motivations. British colonization in 1841 introduced health crises, including epidemics attributed to climate factors like polluted air. Following neo-Hippocratic theories, colonial doctors promoted tree planting to combat diseases and mitigate environmental risks. Gardens emerged as both leisure spaces and protective measures against hostile conditions. Early private initiatives by wealthy colonists, such as Charles Joseph Braine's Green Bank estate, highlighted the benefits of vegetation for health and environmental adaptation. However, significant governmental involvement began in the 1860s, culminating in the establishment of Hong Kong's first public garden in 1864 and a reforestation program under Governor Hercules Robinson. Challenges included typhoon damage and poor survival rates for young trees. Botanist Charles Ford, appointed in 1871, played a pivotal role in urban greening, experimenting with resilient and economically viable tree species, including eucalyptus. Between 1880 and 1900, millions of trees transformed Hong Kong's barren landscape. By the 20th century, this transformation symbolized British dominance and progress, framing the greening as a moral and symbolic conquest over nature. Urban greening in Hong Kong illustrates the interplay of health, environment, and colonial power. Initially motivated by public health and aesthetics, it evolved into a visual assertion of colonial progress, turning Hong Kong's "barren rock" into a "miniature forest," reinforcing narratives of British civilization over local practices.</p>	

<b>Keywords</b>	Afforestation, Colonization, Gardens, Hong Kong
-----------------	---

<b>Paper ID</b>	050
<b>Author(s)</b>	Masahiro Ikeda
<b>Title</b>	Extreme weather and rice shortage in 1919 Southern Vietnam: The role of the colonial authorities in famine prevention
<b>Abstract</b>	
<p>This paper highlights the impact of extreme weather on the rice shortage in Southern Vietnam in 1919 and examines the role of the colonial authorities in alleviating famine.</p> <p>During the colonial period, the Mekong Delta, a region encompassing a range of geographical environments, expanded rice production and dramatically increased the rice exports to the world. Local farmers developed a variety of rice production techniques to adapt to the area's distinctive topographical characteristics and inundation patterns. Scholars have demonstrated the significance of local connections, such as the relationship between a disadvantaged tenant and a wealthy landowner, as a factor that mitigates production volatility caused by adverse climate conditions.</p> <p>In the event of a disaster, however, such personal relationships failed as a mean of food security because crop failure becomes regional issue. In 1919, a combination of factors, including a shortage of precipitation, an elevated Mekong River water level, and a typhoon, resulted in considerable damage to the harvest throughout the Southern Vietnam. As a result, the several provinces in the Mekong Delta jeopardized their self-sufficiency.</p> <p>To manage the situation, the colonial government implemented a quota system to control rice exports immediately after the harvest. In local areas, Provincial administrations preceded poverty alleviation strategies and facilitated intimate communications with local authorities. They initiated public works projects to create employment opportunities and implemented rationing in impoverished local areas. The effectiveness of these measures depended on regular visits to the villages and ongoing engagement with local authorities.</p>	
<b>Keywords</b>	Water, Disasters, Foods, Humans, the Mekong Delta

<b>Paper ID</b>	274
<b>Author(s)</b>	Jonel MAría Caba, Lyra Joy Collantes and Ralph Jason Abad
<b>Title</b>	Coffee Cultivation in the Philippines since the American colonial occupation
<b>Abstract</b>	
<p>This study examines the impact of American colonial policies on the coffee cultivation and trade in the Philippines, since 1898. It argues that the American colonial state, through its economic, political, and cultural interventions, transformed the local coffee industry and connected it to the global market. Using archival sources, oral histories, and comparative analysis of existing literatures, the study traces the historical development of coffee production and export in the Philippines, and analyzes the factors that influenced its growth and decline. The study also explores the social and environmental consequences of coffee cultivation and trade for the people. The study contributes to the understanding of the complex and dynamic relationship between colonialism, agriculture, and globalization in Southeast Asia.</p>	
<b>Keywords</b>	Coffee production, food