

IK

i

f

e

a

s

Paolo Gaibazzi (Berlin)

Stalling and Speculating: West African Traders in the Angolan Crisis

The onset of the 2014 global oil crisis brought stagnation to Angola after a decade of rapid expansion. Taking cue from West African traders in Luanda, this lecture reflects on the shifting temporalities and imaginative horizons emerging in the transition between fast growth and standstill in the Angolan economy, and in contemporary capitalism more generally. While West Africans experienced their businesses as stalling, they also “stalled for time,” tactically waiting to see how the crisis would evolve. In the process, speculative projections, moods and practices spread among traders, as they tried to navigate the open-ended nature of the oil crisis and the related forex stalemate.

Paolo Gaibazzi is Senior Researcher at the Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient (ZMO), Berlin. He is an anthropologist specializing on West Africa and the West African diaspora. He is the author of *Bush Bound: Young Men and Rural Permanence in Migrant West Africa* (Berghahn 2015), an ethnographic exploration of immobility and social reproduction in rural Gambia. He has also published on post-slavery, migration and border regimes, and economies of fate and fortune in Africa.

Institutskolloquium Sommersemester 2019 (Leitung: Heike Drotbohm)

Wann? Dienstag, 23. April 2019, 18:15-19:45 Uhr

Wo? Hörsaal 14 / Großer Übungsraum (Raum 01-715), Forum 7, Becherweg 4, 1. Stock,

Weitere Informationen: www.ifeas.uni-mainz.de