

Review of: "Ecosystem Services Inequality Driven by Agroextractivism in Salamina, Colombia: A Critical Institutional Analysis"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

- The abstract is well-structured, effectively conveying the study's integration of ecosystem services governance and critical institutional analysis. It clearly outlines the Hass avocado industry's dual impact on agro-capitalism and ecosystem service inequality, emphasizing the interplay between social structures and human agency.
- The introduction skillfully integrates diverse frameworks, laying a strong theoretical groundwork. It effectively communicates the challenges faced by Salamina, attributing them to the rapid growth of Hass avocado plantations and subsequent agrarian change. The claim regarding governance arrangements and ecosystem services inequality is well-supported. The methodology's thoroughness, including fieldwork and referencing prior research, enhances the overall coherence of the introduction.
- The text is also providing a detailed analysis of governance modes in Salamina. The integration of examples and policies enhances clarity, and the transition to micro-scale governance prepares the groundwork for the critical institutional analysis. It might be advisable to pay attention to the numbering in Section 2 (2, 2.1, 2.2) to ensure better readability and hierarchy in presenting concepts.
- The text introduces the CIAD framework for examining ecosystem services inequality related to agroextractivism. It explains the framework's roots in Critical Realism, emphasizing the interplay between social structures and human agency. The adaptation of Bhaskar's differentiation of powers enhances the analytical clarity of the CIAD framework, offering a nuanced perspective on power dynamics within ecosystem services governance.
- There is a comprehensive analysis of the political economy, biophysical and material aspects, social attributes, discourses, and rules and norms associated with the expansion of Hass avocado plantations in Salamina. It effectively delves into the economic incentives, environmental characteristics, and social dynamics shaping the avocado industry. Additionally, the discussion on conflicting discourses and the impact of certification processes adds depth to the understanding of the socio-environmental complexities. However, the text could benefit from more explicit connections between these elements and their contributions to ecosystem services inequality, enhancing the overall coherence of the analysis.
- The text offers a comprehensive analysis of Salamina's agricultural transformation, focusing on the shift to agro-capitalism and the emergence of Hass avocado plantations. It effectively explores the social, economic, and environmental consequences, highlighting contradictions in global food systems and the impact on local communities. The inclusion of theoretical frameworks adds depth to the analysis. However, the text could benefit from improved

clarity and organization, with concise summaries and visual aids to enhance readability.

- The conclusion emphasizes the need for local bridging institutions to address inequalities in ecosystem services governance caused by agrarian changes. Proposed equalizing rules aim for fairness, suggesting an adaptive 'institutional bricolage' to align with micro-level contexts. Overall, the paper advocates for a more flexible approach to tackle challenges arising from agrarian change and current governance arrangements impacting ecosystem services disparities.

Positive Aspects:

- In-Depth Analysis: The article demonstrates a thorough analysis of the impact of agroextractivism in Salamina, addressing social, economic, and environmental aspects.
- Clear Structure: The overall structure of the article is clear, with distinct sections outlining the social, economic situation, and consequences.
- Use of Theoretical References: Inclusion of theoretical references, such as works by Bunker & Ciccantell, Therborn, Ostrom, etc., enhances the credibility of the analysis.
- Identification of Contradictions: The author highlights key contradictions in the agroextractivism process, enriching the reader's understanding.

Areas for Improvement:

- Dense Language: Some sections use complex language, making the reading dense. Simplifying the language in these parts would improve overall accessibility.
- Sentence Length: Certain sentences are quite long, complicating understanding. Breaking down or rephrasing these sentences would make the text more fluid.
- Repetition of Concepts: Some concepts are repeated multiple times, which could be streamlined to avoid redundancy.
- General Accessibility: While informative, working on greater accessibility for a non-specialized audience could broaden the impact of the research.
- Synthesis in Conclusion: The conclusion could be more concise by summarizing key points without repeating earlier detailed content.

In summary, the article presents a robust analysis, but by simplifying language and avoiding redundancy, it could become more accessible while maintaining conceptual depth.