

Launch of documentary

Diary of Travelling Rivers

12 APRIL 2024

Venue: Wageningen University, Impulse
(WUR Campus, building 115), Stippeneng 2



Programme

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| 14h00 – 14h30 | <p>Opening: 'Moving Rivers' audiovisual messages</p> <p>Introduction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Riverhood and River Commons projects Documentary 'Diary of Travelling Rivers' | <p>Jeroen Vos (WUR)</p> <p>Bibiana Duarte (WUR)</p> |
| 14h30 – 15h00 | Screening of the documentary 'Diary of Travelling Rivers' | |
| 15h00 – 15h45 | <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rivers as socio-nature communities Counter-mapping as a transdisciplinary methodology to learn and act Bridging river communities and knitting water justice networks: making rivers travel beyond their basins | <p>Rutgerd Boelens (WUR)</p> <p>Daniele Tubino (WUR)</p> |
| 15h45 – 16h15 | <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Documentaries bridging the global South and North, for impact, solidarity and social justice | <p>Paris Carr (Makmende)</p> <p>Alessia Barbiero (Makmende)</p> |
| 16h15 – 16h45 | <p>Q&A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Panel with academia and documentary makers | <p>Ivan Mikulić, Alessia Barbiero, MSc & PhDs Riverhood/River-Commons, Bibiana Duarte, Rutgerd Boelens, Daniele Tubino, Leontien Cremers</p> |
| 16h45 | Drinks | |



What is the Travelling Rivers?

Travelling Rivers is a collective counter-mapping initiative that aims to illustrate and mobilise the knowledge, imaginaries and conflicts around rivers that are generally hidden, but perceived and experienced daily by riverine communities.

From April to June 2023, fishing and peasant communities, social movements and activists-artists and researchers from the Riverhood and River Commons projects engaged in local counter-mapping workshops on four rivers in Colombia and two in Ecuador: the Magdalena, La Miel, Bogotá and, Sumapaz and the Guargalla y Alao rivers. By taking the mapping workshops and the maps themselves from one context to another, the different experiences and struggles were woven together, connecting stories, concerns, debates and movements. Rivers travelled and promoted transnational solidarity.

Synopsis: Diary of Travelling Rivers

The mistreatment of rivers and those who defend them is a pressing issue. This documentary follows the journey of Maria in Colombia, a fisherwoman and artist, and Vanessa in Ecuador, an activist and artist. They are part of the Travelling Rivers initiative. The aim? To create a mapping movement that connects communities living along rivers, sharing their stories and bridging their contexts and experiences.

These maps are not just visual tools; they are expressions of local knowledge, conflicts and struggles, and the basis for connections between different riverine communities. They encapsulate past and present, history and future, and represent the heart and soul of the communities themselves. The documentary highlights the importance of strengthening social movements around rivers and the power and significance of uniting in the fight for water justice. Maria and Vanessa sought to cross river basins, national, cultural and knowledge boundaries to bring communities together in their struggle to protect, regenerate and honour their rivers.

The "Diary of Travelling Rivers" has won the international Impact Docs Award. The Impact Docs Awards are part of the prestigious Global Film Awards family and are an international awards competition designed specifically for documentary filmmakers. Its focus is to recognise and promote documentaries that address pressing global issues and engage audiences through compelling storytelling.

Check out the trailer here: <https://shorturl.at/yBJVX>

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Researchers from various river cases, filmmakers and protagonists featured in the documentary will be present to share their experiences and discuss the challenges of conducting research through counter-mapping. In addition, the filmmakers will comment on the difficulties of communicating key messages in the midst of socio-political and environmental complexity. During the session, panelists will discuss how the documentary and its dissemination can act as a valuable resource to strengthen river community initiatives and facilitate the implementation of actions for river defence plans. The public is invited to comment and ask questions after the screening of the documentary.

For more information: www.movingrivers.org

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