



Ideas for Solutions



Documentary Film of the Month – August

Organized by Dr. Iyas Salim, GRM (Advance Doctoral Program in Global Resource Management)

Empire of Dust



Date: Thursday 2 August 2018

Time: 17:30 P.M.

Venue: Meeting Room, Shikokan Building, Karasuma Campus, Doshisha University

***No Reservation Required**

Theme: Empire of Dust (A Documentary Film, 77 Minutes)

The documentary *Empire of Dust* explores the fraught relationship between the Congolese and the Chinese, as shown through their efforts to build a road between two major cities in the DRC. The film explains the implication of the China-Congo deal, the future of the DRC moving forward and a day-to-day account of globalization at work.

The Storyline of the Film (Content)

The film focuses on two employees of the China Railway Engineering Company (CREC): Lao Yang, the company's Head of Logistics; and Eddy, his Congolese translator. The two visit construction sites around the country, overseeing a project marred by cultural misunderstandings.

The vast wilderness of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is a world away from the urban centers of China. Yet it is there that greater numbers of Chinese engineers are doing business. In 2007, China and Congo signed a massive resources-for-infrastructure deal with projected revenues of \$40-\$120 billion. China endeavors to take on a wide range of development projects (including roads, hospitals, schools and airports) to be paid for by Congo's immense copper and cobalt reserves. Though a promising deal for the Congolese—the majority of whom live on less than \$1.25 a day—the deal's lack of transparency has made it the subject of scrutiny for human rights organizations..

You are welcome and free to join watching the documentary film. We will have free talk and discussion afterwards about the film and related issues and views.

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