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Interviews (Gabon)

Date collected	Source of evidence	Author/Interlocutor	Location	Important Contextual Observations
2-Jul-15	Open-ended interview	Lionel Ikogou-Renamy, Galwa, Ph.D. in Anthropology	Residence Lea, Libreville, Gabon	Bar, informal, brother present
6-Jul-15	Open-ended interview	Professor Mouvongu, Loumbou, UOB Linguist	UOB, Libreville, Gabon	Dictaphone, lab with students working
7-Jul-15	Open-ended interview	Professor Joseph Tonda, Gabonese, Anthropology, UOB	UOB, Libreville, Gabon	Dictaphone, students present
7-Jul-15	Open-ended interview	Dimitri Ndomi, PhD, Sociology of Work, UOB	UOB, Libreville, Gabon	Dictaphone, students present
8-Jul-15	Open-ended interview	Professor Ratanga-Atoz, Gabonese, Historian, UOB	His home, Libreville, Gabon	Dictaphone, others present
8-Jul-15	Open-ended interview	M. Koumba, Jurist, Loumbou, relative of Ratanga-Atoz	His office, Libreville, Gabon	Dictaphone, Lionel present
9-Jul-15	Open-ended interview	Professor John Nambo, Law, UOB	His office, Libreville, Gabon	Dictaphone
10-Jul-15	Open-ended interview	Prof. Ndoutoungu, ex-Ministry of Hydrocarbons, Geography at UOB	UOB, Libreville, Gabon	Notes
13-Jul-15	Open-ended interview	Prof. Cyrille Mickala, Philosophy, UOB	UOB, Libreville, Gabon	Notes, chance encounter
13-Jul-15	Open-ended interview	Francis Bivigou, Chief of Gabon-Oregon, UOB	His office, UOB, Libreville, Gabon	Notes
13-Jul-15	Open-ended interview	Dimitri Ndomi, PhD, Sociology of Work, UOB	UOB, Libreville, Gabon	Dictaphone/Notes
14-Jul-15	Open-ended interview	Georges Mpaga, ROLBG, opposition NGO	Office, Libreville, Gabon	Dictaphone/Notes
14-Jul-15	Open-ended interview	Pierre Ndong Aboghe, ROLBG member, Law Ph.D.	ROLBG, Libreville, Gabon	Notes
14-Jul-15	Documentation	Stephane Le Duc Yeno, WWF, et. Al.	WWF, Libreville, Gabon	USB
14-Jul-15	Open-ended interview	Stephane Le Duc Yeno, Researcher, WWF Gabon	WWF, Libreville, Gabon	Notes

14-Jul-15	Open-ended interview	Professor Wilson Ndombet, Historian, UOB	Bar outside UOB, Libreville, Gabon	assistants present
14-Jul-15	Open-ended interview	Gilchrist and Dieu(), Assistants to Ndombet	Bar outside UOB, Libreville, Gabon	Notes, Ndombet present
15-Jul-15	Open-ended interview	Marc Ona Essangui, chief of Brainforest, opposition member	Office, Libreville, Gabon	Notes
16-Jul-15	Open-ended interview	Shana Sherry, Political and Economic Advisor, US Embassy	US Embassy, Libreville, Gabon	Notes, other advisor present (Regina Manga)
16-Jul-15	Open-ended interview	History department faculty, UOB	UOB, Libreville, Gabon	Notes, plenty present
16-Jul-15	Open-ended interview	M. Wanceslas, Ministry of Hydrocarbons	Ministry, UOB, Libreville, Gabon	Notes
20-Jul-15	Open-ended interview	Ghislain Pither, Shell	Gamba, Gabon	Notes
21-Jul-15	Open-ended interview	Mireille Johnson, elephant expert, Smithsonian	Office, Gamba, Gabon	Dictaphone, notes
22-Jul-15	Documentation	Pierre Brice, WWF, et. Al.	Smithsonian Institute, Gamba, Gabon	USB
22-Jul-15	Open-ended interview	Pierre Brice, Sociologist, WWF	Smithsonian Institute, Gamba, Gabon	notes
22-Jul-05	Open-ended interview	M. Ossendo, Secretary-General of departmental council of ndougou	Office, Gamba, Gabon	notes
22-Jul-05	Open-ended interview	Igor, Gamba local radio	Soundbooth, Gamba, Gabon	notes
23-Jul-15	Open-ended interview	Armelle Zabatier, Social Performance, Shell	Shell Terminal Gamba, Gabon	notes
23-Jul-15	Open-ended interview	Jean Churley, Ibonga, conservationist	Home, Gamba, Gabon	notes
24-Jul-15	Open-ended interview	Jean Churley, Ibonga, conservationist	My apartment, Gamba, Gabon	notes
24-Jul-15	Open-ended interview	"Mousse," Marine Marchand	My apartment, Gamba, Gabon	notes
27-Jul-15	Open-ended interview	Prefect of Ndougou	Office, Gamba, Gabon	notes
27-Jul-15	Open-ended interview	ex-VP of departmental council, 2008-2013 (name in dictaphone)	see notebook	notes

28-Jul-15	Open-ended interview	Dr. Sisso, Medecin at Gamba Hospital, 1st Mayor of Gamba	Hospital, Gamba, Gabon	dictaphone and notes
29-Jul-15	Semi-structured interview	Chef de canton de Ndougou	Pitonga, Ndougou, Gabon	dictaphone, notes, villagers present and contributing
29-Jul-15	Semi-structured interview	Brother of chef de canton de ndougou	Pitonga, Ndougou, Gabon	notes
30-Jul-15	Semi-structured interview	Chef de village de Soungha	Soungha, Ndougou, Gabon	dictaphone, notes, villagers present and contributing
30-Jul-15	Semi-structured interview	Chef de regroupement de Sette-Cama	Sette Cama, Ndougou, Gabon	dictaphone, notes, villagers present and contributing
30-Jul-15	Semi-structured interview	Chef de village 1 de sette cama	Sette Cama, Ndougou, Gabon	dictaphone, notes, villagers present and contributing
30-Jul-15	Open-ended interview	Herve Ngoma, boat captain, Vili	Sette Cama, Ndougou, Gabon	notes, cantonal secretary present
31-Jul-15	Semi-structured interview	chef de village 2 de sette cama	Sette Cama, Ndougou, Gabon	notes, assistant present
31-Jul-15	Semi-structured interview	"Notable" of Mougambi	Mougambi, Ndougou, Gabon	dictaphone, notes, villagers present and contributing
31-Jul-15	Open-ended interview	Head of Ibonga	Sette Cama, Ndougou, Gabon	notes
3-Aug-15	Semi-structured interview	Villagers, chef de canton, chef de regroupement de Ingoueka	Ingoueka, Nougou, Gabon	dictaphone, notes, villagers present and contributing
3-Aug-15	Semi-structured interview	Chef de village de Vara	Vara, Ndougou, Gabon	dictaphone, teachers/villagers present
4-Aug-15	Documentation	Armelle Zabatier, Social Performance, Shell	Shell Terminal Gamba, Gabon	Paper
4-Aug-15	Open-ended interview	Armelle Zabatier, Social Performance, Shell	Shell Terminal Gamba, Gabon	notes
5-Aug-15	Semi-structured interview	Alain Mougamba, "notable" de village de Mayonami	Mayonami, Ndougou, Gabon	dictaphone, notes, villagers present and contributing
5-Aug-15	Semi-structured interview	chef de village de mougagara	Mougagara, Ndougou, Gabon	dictaphone, notes, villagers present and contributing
6-Aug-15	Open-ended interview	Treasurer (percepteur) of Ndougou	Office, Gamba, Gabon	notes

7-Aug-15	Open-ended interview	Middle-school teachers, college de Gamba	My apartment, Gamba, Gabon	dictaphone, notes
9-Aug-15	Open-ended interview	M. Chambrier, ex-functionary at City Hall	His home, Gamba, Gabon	notes
10-Aug-15	Open-ended interview	Guy Kassa Koumba, head of social performance, Shell	Skype meeting at Shell terminal, Gamba, Gabon	notes, Armelle Zague present
10-Aug-15	Open-ended interview	Pierre Brice, Sociologist, WWF	in transit, Gamba, Gabon	notes
12-Aug-15	Structured interview	Chef de village de Soungha	Soungha, Ndougou, Gabon	notes, villagers present
12-Aug-15	Structured interview	Sounga chief's little sister	Soungha, Ndougou, Gabon	notes, villagers present
12-Aug-15	Structured interview	Fisherman, temporarily in Soungha	Soungha, Ndougou, Gabon	notes, villagers present
12-Aug-15	Structured interview	Jean-Louis Louemba, Sette Cama villager	Sette Cama, Ndougou, Gabon	notes, villagers present
12-Aug-15	Open-ended interview	Chef de regroupement de Sette-Cama	Sette Cama, Ndougou, Gabon	notes, villagers present
12-Aug-15	Structured interview	Gracia Tchibinda	Sette Cama, Ndougou, Gabon	notes
13-Aug-15	Structured interview	Stephane Fouity	Sette Cama, Ndougou, Gabon	notes, villagers present
13-Aug-15	Open-ended interview	Jean-Alain Pamba	Sette Cama, Ndougou, Gabon	notes
13-Aug-15	Open-ended interview	Jean-Marie Ndombe, guide to famous hunter Maurice Patry	Sette Cama, Ndougou, Gabon	notes
13-Aug-15	Structured interview	Jean-Alain Pamba	Sette Cama, Ndougou, Gabon	notes
13-Aug-15	Structured interview	Glen Mbouity	Sette Cama, Ndougou, Gabon	notes
13-Aug-13	Open-ended interview	Chef de canton de Ndougou	Pitonga, Ndougou, Gabon	notes
13-Aug-15	Structured interview	Etienne Pouebou	Pitonga, Ndougou, Gabon	notes
14-Aug-15	Open-ended interview	M. Chambrier, ex-functionary at City Hall	My apartment, Gamba, Gabon	notes
14-Aug-15	Structured interview	Francis Yaba's sister in Plaine 4, Gamba	Her house, Gamba, Gabon	notes
14-Aug-15	Open-ended interview	Francis Yaba, builder	His house, Gamba, Gabon	notes
14-Aug-15	Open-ended interview	ANPN agents, Yaba's house	Yaba house, Gamba, Gabon	notes

18-Aug-15	Open-ended interview	Professor Djoumata, high school teacher	High School, Gamba, Gabon	notes
18-Aug-15	Open-ended interview	Nazaire Boussouba Yaba, Francis' father, former Shell employee	His home, Gamba, Gabon	notes, many friends present
19-Aug-15	Open-ended interview	M. Ossendo, Secretary-General of departmental council of ndougou	Office, Gamba, Gabon	notes
19-Aug-15	Documentation	Censeur and Proviseur, High School	Office, Gamba, Gabon	USB
19-Aug-15	Open-ended interview	Censeur and Proviseur, High School	High School, Gamba, Gabon	notes
19-Aug-15	Documentation	Treasurer (percepteur) of Ndougou	Office, Gamba, Gabon	Paper
19-Aug-15	Open-ended interview	Treasurer (percepteur) of Ndougou	Office, Gamba, Gabon	notes
19-Aug-15	Open-ended interview	Sitting senator from Gamba	His home, Gamba, Gabon	notes
21-Aug-15	Structured interview	"Notable" of Mougambi	Mougambi, Ndougou, Gabon	notes
21-Aug-15	Structured interview	Robert Moundanga	Pitonga, Ndougou, Gabon	notes
21-Aug-15	Structured interview	Jeanne-Marie Mboumba, femme de menage of case de passage	Pitonga, Ndougou, Gabon	notes
22-Aug-15	Open-ended interview	Stephane Moussavu	Mougambi, Ndougou, Gabon	notes
22-Aug-15	Open-ended interview	Villagers of Ibouka	Ibouka, Ndougou, Gabon	notes
23-Aug-15	Open-ended interview	Pastor Daniel Boudika, Alliance Chretienne	Office, Gamba, Gabon	notes
24-Aug-15	Open-ended interview	Prefect of Ndougou	Office, Gamba, Gabon	notes
24-Aug-15	Open-ended interview	Chargee de mission to mayor of Gamba	conference room, City hall, gamba, gabon	notes
24-Aug-15	Open-ended interview	Sitting senator from Gamba	His home, Gamba, Gabon	notes
26-Aug-15	Open-ended interview	Radio chief Marc Boulondo	Office at Radio Gabon, Gamba, Gabon	notes
26-Aug-15	Open-ended interview	Dieudonne, plays news at radio	Radio, Gamba, Gabon	notes

27-Aug-15	Open-ended interview	Ex-mayor and sitting 2nd adjoint Panga	Office, Gamba, Gabon	notes
27-Aug-15	Open-ended interview	secretary general of city hall	Office, Gamba, Gabon	notes
28-Aug-15	Open-ended interview	cabinet director for mayor	Office, Gamba, Gabon	notes
31-Aug-15	Open-ended interview	secretary general of city hall	Office, Gamba, Gabon	notes
31-Aug-15	Open-ended interview	Taxi union boss, Cedric Mangala	My apartment, Gamba, Gabon	notes
1-Sep-15	Semi-structured interview	Poroty, market stand owner	Market, Gamba, Gabon	notes
1-Sep-15	Semi-structured interview	Commercial fisher Pegiza	Market, Gamba, Gabon	notes
1-Sep-15	Open-ended interview	"Serge", from village of Mbouda	Market, Gamba, Gabon	notes
1-Sep-15	Semi-structured interview	Woman at manioc factory	Market, Gamba, Gabon	notes
1-Sep-15	Open-ended interview	M. Chambrier, ex-functionary at City Hall	My apartment, Gamba, Gabon	notes
2-Sep-15	Documentation	Obtained from radio chief, written by city hall and departmental council	Radio, Gamba, Gabon	USB
2-Sep-15	Open-ended interview	Radio chief Marc Boulondo	Office, Gamba, Gabon	notes
2-Sep-15	Open-ended interview	secretary general of city hall	Office, Gamba, Gabon	notes
5-Sep-15	Open-ended interview	Ingoueka villagers, funeral rites	Ingoueka, Nougou, Gabon	notes
7-Sep-15	Open-ended interview	secretary general of city hall	Office, Gamba, Gabon	notes
10-Sep-15	Presentation & Focus Group	Elected officials, NGOs, administrators, etc.	City Hall, Gamba, Gabon	Dictaphone

Interviews (Ghana)

Date collected	Source of evidence	Author/Interlocutor	Location
7-Jan-16	open-ended int.	Dorcas Ansah Mark Evans & Samuel	Offices in Accra
8-Jan-16	open-ended int.	Behoe	NRGI, Accra
8-Jan-16	open-ended int.	Nana Ama Richard Acheampong, Labour Organizer	COLANDEF, Accra Labour College / TUC, Accra
10-Jan-16	open-ended int.		COLANDEF, Takoradi
13-Jan-16	open-ended int.	Orei-Akoto	Empire Radio, Takoradi
18-Jan-16	open-ended int.	Bob Gardinier Mores, "The Daily Graphic"	Coffee shop, Takoradi
18-Jan-16	open-ended int.		Coffee shop, Takoradi
18-Jan-16	open-ended int.	Kweku, Joy FM	Takoradi
18-Jan-16	open-ended int.	John Blay	Bollore, Takoradi Coffee shop?
19-Jan-16	open-ended int.	Chief, member of PIAC	Takoradi Coffee shop, Takoradi
19-Jan-16	open-ended int.	Joseph, ExIm Tullow Osabarima, Kwaw Entsie II	Coffee shop, Takoradi
19-Jan-16	open-ended int.	Matthew, Oswald, Bernice	Takoradi
20-Jan-16	open-ended int.		WRCF, Takoradi Shipper's Council, Takoradi
22-Jan-16	open-ended int.	Nana Kwasi Ogyema	Social Performance, Tullow, Takoradi
22-Jan-16	open-ended int.	Korkor	Takoradi
22-Aug-16	open-ended int.	Domnic, Taxi Driver	Taxi, Takoradi
22-Aug-16	open-ended int.	Mabel, WRCF Stephen Blighton, Regional Co- Regional Co- Coordination Councillor	WRCF, Takoradi Regional Co- Coordinating Council, Sekondi Western Regional Youth Authority, Sekondi
23-Aug-16	open-ended int.	Emmanuel Papa Assan, Regional Youth Elizabeth Arthur, Presiding Member, Policy Planner	STMA District, Takoradi
23-Aug-16	open-ended int.	Solomon Ampofo, Conversation Manager	Takoradi
24-Aug-16	open-ended int.		FON, Takoradi

25-Aug-16	Participation	WCRF Assembly	Dixcove COLANDEF,
26-Aug-16	open-ended int.	Osei Akoto, COLANDEF	Takoradi
26-Aug-16	open-ended int.	Nana Akosua Gyamfiaba II, Queen Mother; Elders FON/Peace Corps Community	Palace/Residence, Shama
28-Aug-16	Participation	Engagement/Conference	Nyankrom
		Joseph Kudjo, Presiding Member, Nzema East?	Ghana Gas Workshop,
30-Aug-16	open-ended int.	District Assembly	Esiama Ghana Gas Workshop,
30-Aug-16	open-ended int.	Ruth Anwuboh, Unit Community Member	Esiama Ghana Gas Workshop,
30-Aug-16	open-ended int.	Maxwell Essien, National Assemblyman	Esiama Ghana Gas Workshop,
30-Aug-16	open-ended int.	Wisdom, Community Development Officer, Ellembelle	Esiama
30-Aug-16	open-ended int.	Elders	Atuabo
30-Aug-16	open-ended int.	Chief and elders representing fishermen	Baku
30-Aug-16	open-ended int.	Larry, Fisherman and Student	Baku

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Samenvatting

Politicologische studies van Afrika ten zuiden van de Sahara concentreren zich vooral op staten en negeren daarom vaak lokale krachten en actoren in ontwikkeling en onderontwikkeling. Dit komt deels door de alomtegenwoordigheid van extractieve economieën en van verstedelijkte, naar buiten gerichte *rentier* groepen. Hierdoor richt de academische belangstelling zich vooral op actoren op het statelijke niveau die formeel verantwoordelijk zijn voor publieke goederen, waaronder genationaliseerde bezittingen, en bestuur. Een heel andere combinatie van thema's, samengevat onder de begrippen idiosyncrasie en banaliteit, brengt het risico mee dat men Afrikaanse politieke culturen stereotypeert ter verklaring van verschijnselen als informalisering en corruptie. Dit kan zo ver gaan dat men begrippen als 'het dorp' (*the village*) en zijn 'grote mannen' (*big men*) een universeel karakter toedicht en extrapoleert naar andere situaties. Dit proefschrift problematiseert en verzoent beide benaderingen door etnografisch veldwerk in Gamba, Gabon, een gemeenschap in een olieproducerende regio in een staat die al lang geassocieerd wordt met *rentierism* (inkomsten uit niet-productieve activiteiten). De conclusies worden vervolgens vergeleken met de ontwikkelingen in Takoradi, Ghana, waar offshore oliebronnen pas sinds kort worden geëxploiteerd in een context van een staat die niet direct bekend staat om *rentier*-gedrag.

Oliegemeenschappen figureren zelden als case-studies van lokale politieke arena's in Afrika. Vaker worden ze gebruikt om politieke beeldspraken en concepten op grond van *rent-seeking* en *resource curses* een té concrete realiteit toe te dichten, waarbij dan geldstromen het politieke gedrag van lokale, regionale, nationale en internationale actoren conditioneren. Hoofdstukken 1 en 2 van dit proefschrift gaan in op de bestaande literatuur over politieke veranderingen en effecten in Afrika, waarbij de relatieve causaliteit van internationale en lokale krachten wordt onderzocht. Dit vormt de opmaat voor de onderzoeksopzet zoals besproken in hoofdstuk 2. Dit hoofdstuk voert argumenten aan voor een vergelijking tussen twee gemeenschappen woonachtig in olieproducerende regio's van Gabon en Ghana. Tevens worden drie representatieve benaderingen van lokale politiek en lokale economie (in de zin van systemen van levensonderhoud) in Afrika besproken. Hoofdstukken 3 en 4 beschrijven de geschiedenis en de recente geschiedenis van politieke instituties en systemen van levensonderhoud (*livelihoods*) in Gamba, Gabon, gevolgd door toepassingen van bovengenoemde drie benaderingen in hoofdstukken 5 en 6, ten einde te bepalen wat de beste verklaring vormt voor de politiek beïnvloede veranderingen in de gemeenschap. Hoofdstuk 7 past dezelfde methode van historisering en theoretische applicatie toe op Sekondi-Takoradi, Ghana, maar dan op een gecondenseerde manier.

De geschiedenis van extractieve economieën in Afrika bezuiden de Sahara heeft lokale factoren in politieke ontwikkeling versluierd, terwijl het omgekeerde geldt voor essentialistische benaderingen. Mijn onderzoek hoopt deze tegenstelling te verzoenen met behulp van theoretische literatuur die nog nooit is gebruikt voor de studie van extractieve ruimten, alsmede de desbetreffende lokale gemeenschappen 'voor zichzelf te laten spreken'. Het benadrukt de ondergewaardeerde conditie van lokale politiek in Afrika. Oliewinning in dit paradigma is niet langer zowel oorzaak als gevolg van anomie, maar een andere vorm van 'sedimentering'.

Abstract

Political science as applied to sub-Saharan Africa is largely preoccupied with states, and as a consequence often sidesteps local agents of development and underdevelopment. This is partly due to the pervasiveness of extractive economies and extraverted rentier classes in urban spaces, situations which tend to redirect academic interest towards state-level actors who are formally responsible for nationalized assets and governance. Another set of motifs, that of both idiosyncrasy and banality, risks essentializing African political cultures so as to explain informalization and corruption, going as far as to universalize and extrapolate the “village” and its “big men.” This thesis problematizes and reconciles both approaches through ethnographic fieldwork in Gamba, Gabon, an oil-bearing community in a state long associated with state rentierism. The conclusions are then compared to the experiences of Takoradi, Ghana, where offshore deposits have only recently been exploited in a state not especially known for rentier behavior.

Oil communities rarely appear as case studies of local political arenas in Africa. More often, they serve to reify tropes and concepts based on rent-seeking and resource curses where a cash nexus conditions the political behavior of local, regional, national, and international actors. Chapters 1 and 2 begin by reviewing the literature on political changes and impacts in Africa, surveying the relative causality of international and local forces. This sets the stage for the research design in Chapter 2, which justifies a comparison of two oil-bearing communities in Gabon and Ghana, as well as the selection of three representative approaches to local politics and livelihoods in Africa. Chapters 3 and 4 detail the history and recent history of political institutions and livelihoods in Gamba, Gabon, followed by applications of the three approaches in Chapters 5 and 6 to determine what best explains politically-impacted change in the community. Chapter 7 applies the same method of historicization and theoretical application to Sekondi-Takoradi, Ghana, but in a condensed manner.

The history of extractive economies in sub-Saharan Africa has obfuscated local contributions to political development, while the inverse is true of essentialist approaches. My research hopes to reconcile this, using a body of literature which has yet to be applied to extractive spaces and which allows communities to “speak for themselves” and acknowledges the understudied condition of local politics in Africa. Oil extraction in this paradigm is no longer both cause and consequence of anomie, but another form of “sedimentation.”

Curriculum Vitae

Joseph Neal Mangarella was born on July 25, 1984 in Rahway, New Jersey (USA). In 2008, Joseph obtained his BA in political science from Earlham College, a Quaker-affiliated liberal arts college in Indiana, USA. He then received his MA in International Relations from the American Graduate School in Paris in 2012, *summa cum laude*, with an area concentration in Africa. In 2014, Joseph entered into a joint doctorate with the African Studies Centre Leiden and the Université Paris 8 (Institut Français de Géopolitique) in anthropology and geopolitics respectively.

Over the course of his doctoral studies, he has contributed to the *Africa Yearbook* and the *Bertlesmann Transformation Index* as a country expert on Equatorial Guinea. Joseph has also contributed to the ViEWS initiative at Uppsala University as a country expert on both Gabon and Equatorial Guinea. In addition to presenting his research at several conferences, Joseph joined the organizing team of a DFG-funded workshop which successfully brought together researchers from several disciplines working on francophone Equatorial Africa. He is now using this expertise to draft a proposal to research the historical trajectories of oil-bearing communities along the entire Loango Coast.

Joseph has taught a wide range of courses to undergraduate and graduate students in writing, language, legal English, and African business and economics at the Université Paris 2, Université Paris 1, INSEEC Paris, and most recently the University of Regensburg. In 2018, he was awarded a Visiting Ph.D. Fellowship at the ASC Leiden, where he was fortunate to share his research and confer with esteemed colleagues.