

Mosaic Rights in the 21st Century

Barbara Heinzen & James Magode Ikuya

11 December 2012

University College, London

Human Ecology Research Group Seminar



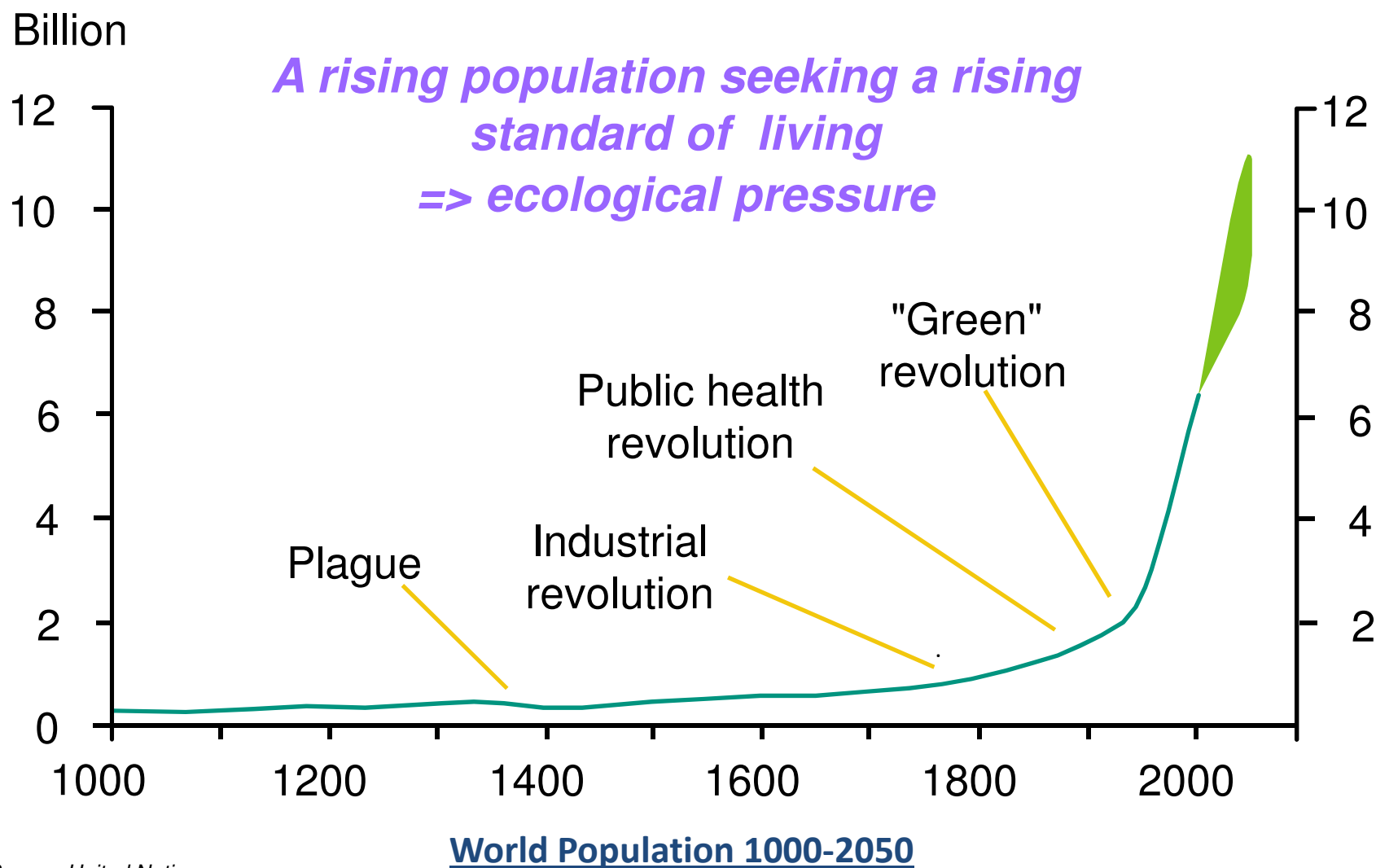
Barbets Duet, 2012

Outline of Talk

- **The Ecological Revolution**
- **Describing Mosaic Rights**
 - the idea & an example
- **Collisions & complications**
 - Charcoal
 - The Fish Pond
 - The State
- **Mosaic Rights & the Ecological Revolution**

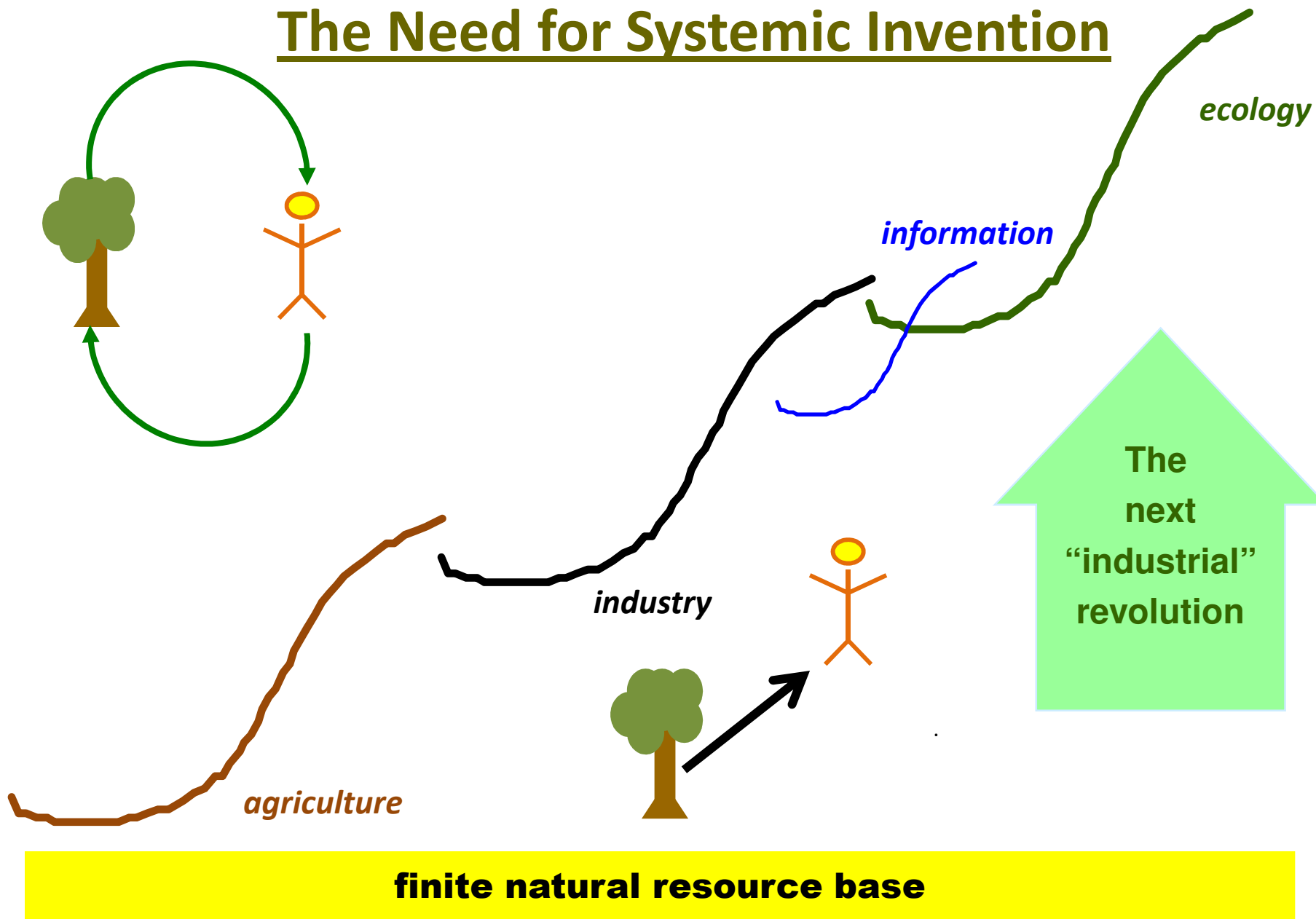
THE ECOLOGICAL REVOLUTON

Hockey Stick Pressures – on Many Fronts



Source: United Nations

The Need for Systemic Invention



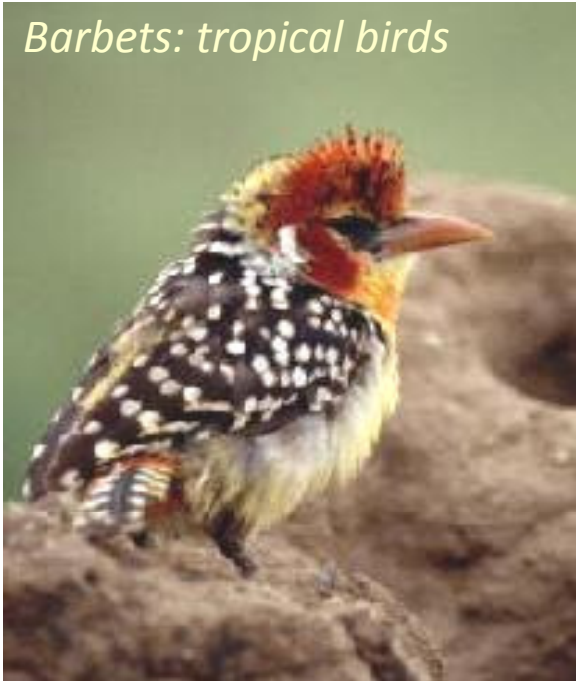
Places to Intervene in a Human System



Barbets Duet

A Business Idea, Not a Charity

Barbets: tropical birds



(“It will take 20 years...”)

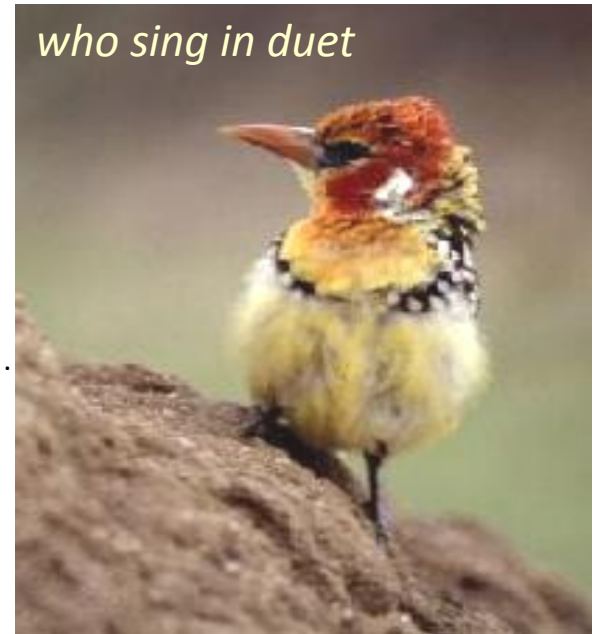
SUPPORTING
people

who support
the
natural world

INVENTING
New institutions

e.g. property rights
& marketing structures
organisational forms

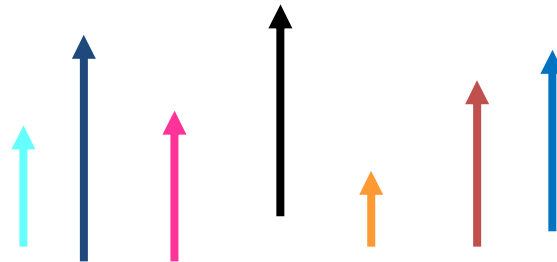
who sing in duet



LEARNING
from
2 cultures:

Africa + West,
Modern & Traditional

on equal terms



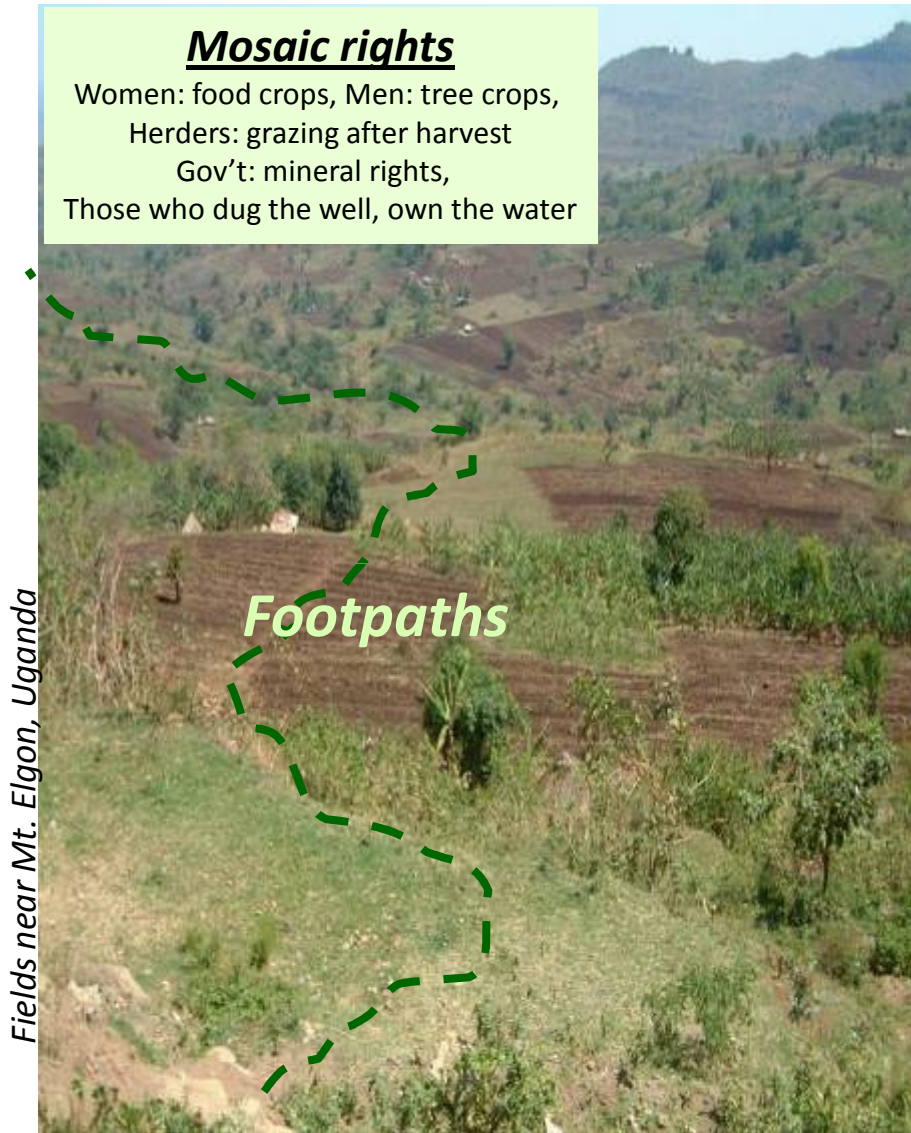
Barbet learning sites

MOSAIC RIGHTS – IDEA & EXAMPLE

Two Cultures: Mosaic Rights & Column Rights

Mosaic rights

Women: food crops, Men: tree crops,
Herders: grazing after harvest
Gov't: mineral rights,
Those who dug the well, own the water



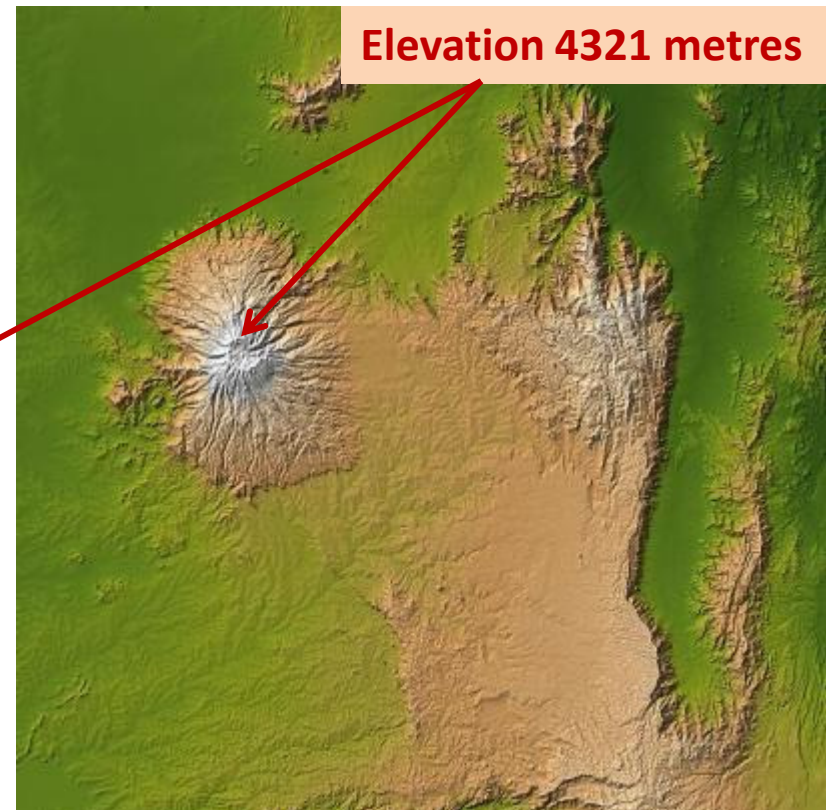
Column rights

Minerals, land, buildings, air rights
all owned by one



Mosaic rights → high social equity, high biodiversity;
Column rights → successful markets

Example of Magodes in Mount Elgon Watershed



**Magodes, Molo, Uganda
Clan land**

**21 km on the Kagninima stream - from stream to ridge
Feeding Lake Kioga → Nile River**

Riparian Land

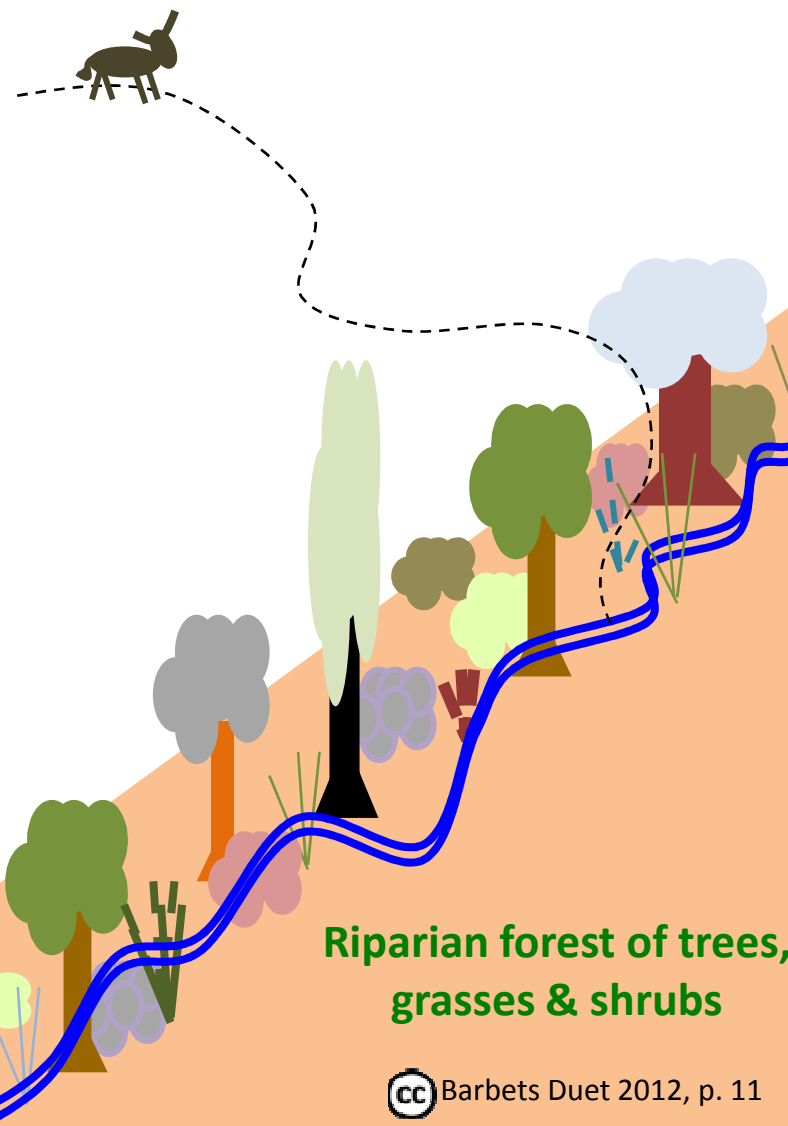
Magodes, Molo, Uganda

Protected riparian land

- Communal clan ownership
- No unethical behaviour allowed
- Knowledgeable elders can collect medicinal plants
(& replant at homestead)
- Access points for animals
- *Protects & cleans water*
- *'Savings Bank' of genetic reserves*

Animals' access to water.

Riparian forest of trees,
grasses & shrubs



Shrub Land

Magodes, Molo, Uganda

Shrub land

- Communal clan ownership

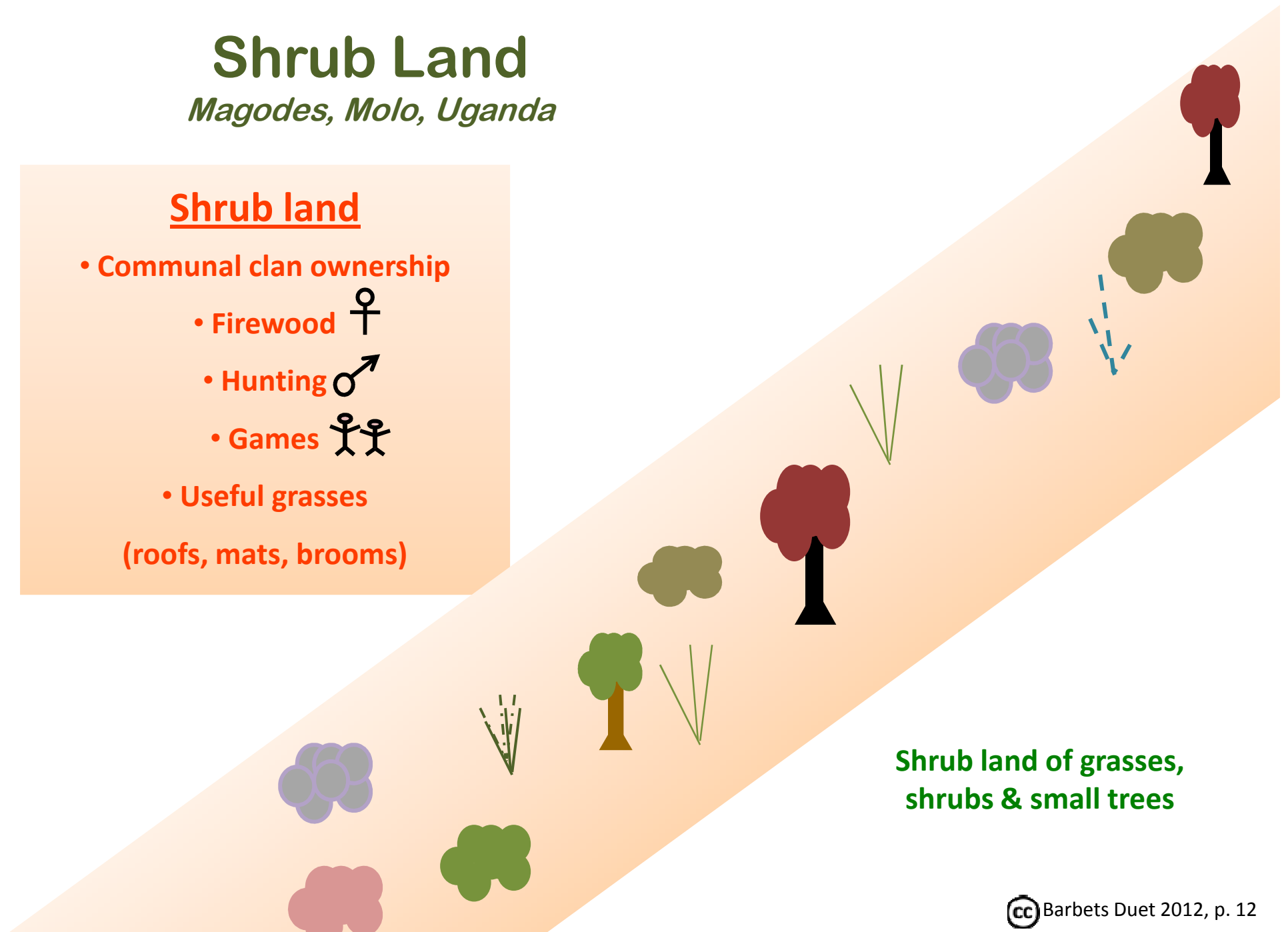
- Firewood 

- Hunting 

- Games 

- Useful grasses

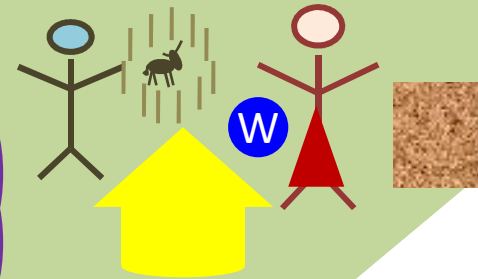
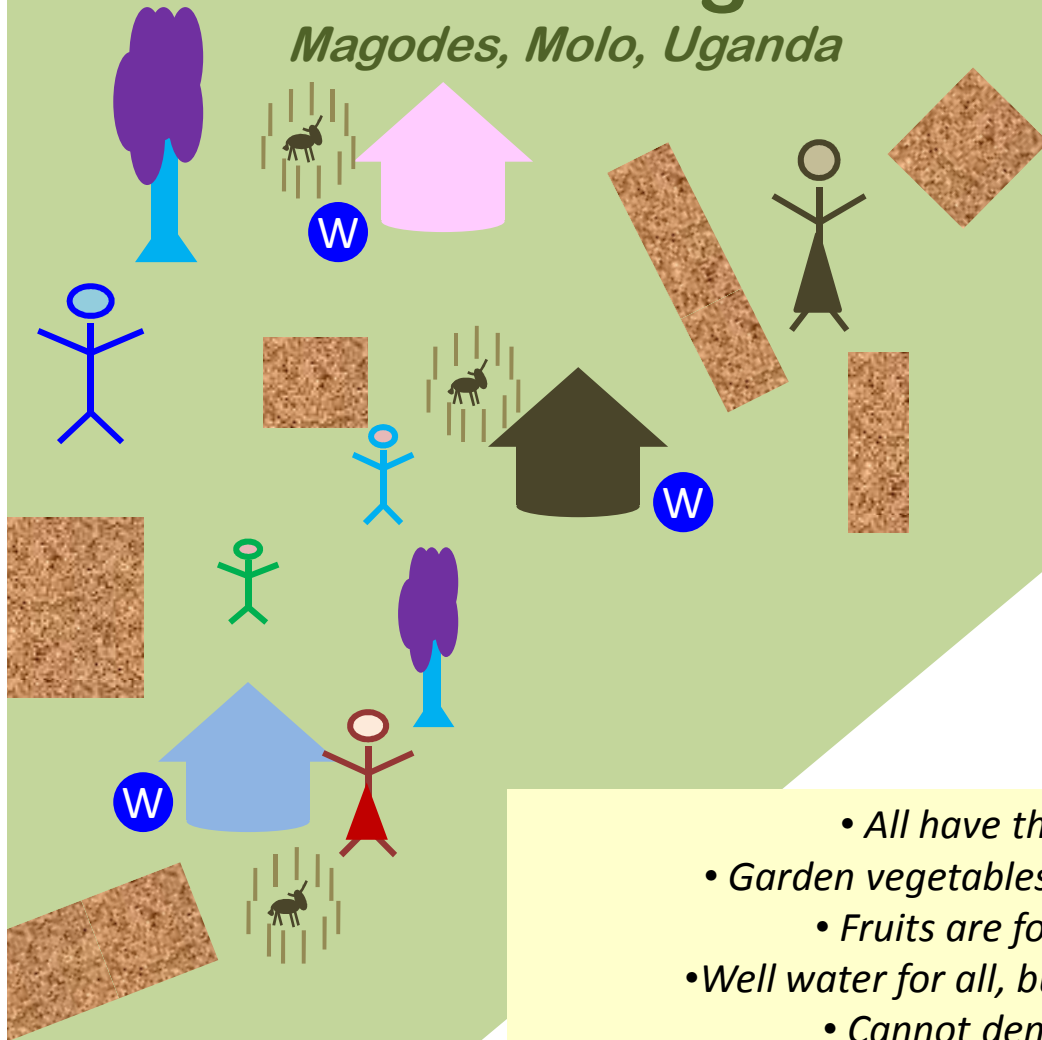
(roofs, mats, brooms)



Shrub land of grasses,
shrubs & small trees

Homesteading Land

Magodes, Molo, Uganda

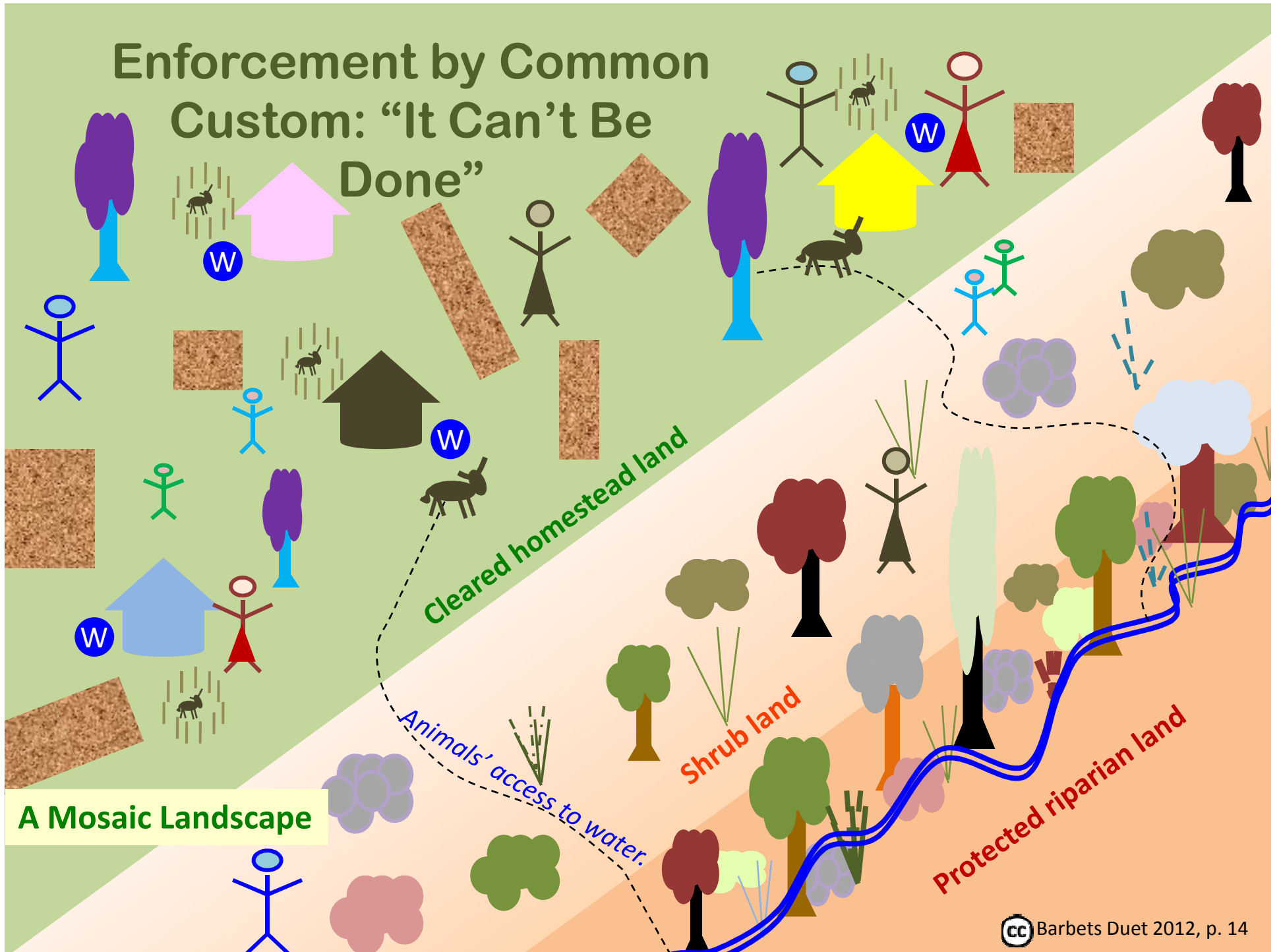


Cleared Homestead Land

- Defined living spaces as personal right
 - Includes fields, kraals, wells
 - Shared grazing on fallow land
 - Elders grant permission to shift homestead
- Protected trees under clan authority
- Specific trees for building & firewood

- All have the right to eat, at any door
- Garden vegetables can be picked & eaten by anyone
 - Fruits are for all, but especially children
- Well water for all, but rules on damage & maintenance
 - Cannot deny drinking water to anyone
 - Households own the water they draw
- Chickens can eat anywhere, but can only be eaten by owner
- Men & women share rights to fish, but restrictions on women in water

Enforcement by Common Custom: "It Can't Be Done"



COLLISIONS & COMPLICATIONS



Wood-Gathering Right + Market Forces

Forest & swamp to horizon – cleared in 12 years

Southern Africa



© A Turton, 2000



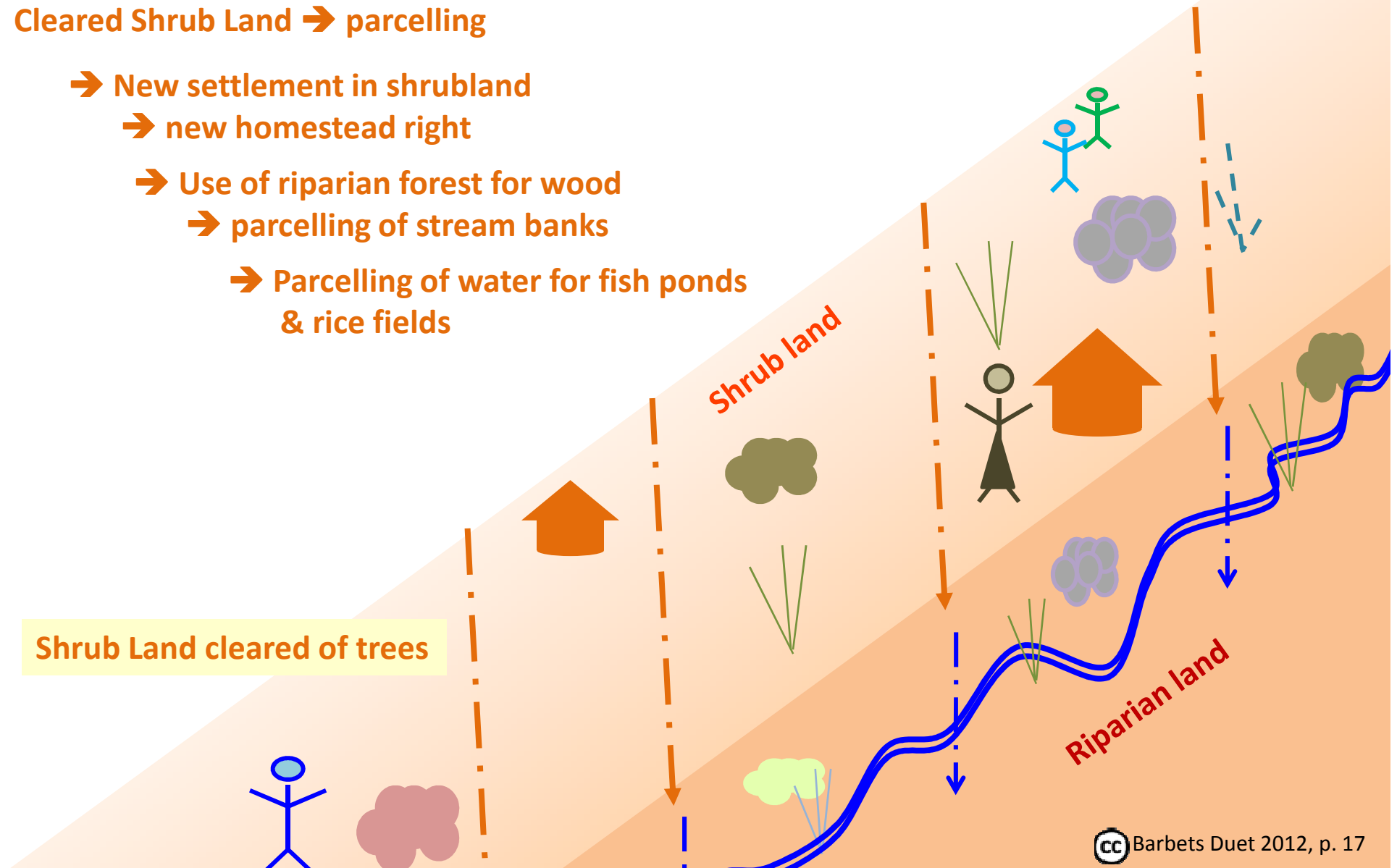
Rufigi, TZ 2009

Molo, Uganda, 2009
 Barbets Duet 2012, p. 16

Impact of Charcoal Market on Rights & Uses

Cleared Shrub Land → parcelling


- New settlement in shrubland
- new homestead right
- Use of riparian forest for wood
- parcelling of stream banks
- Parcelling of water for fish ponds & rice fields



General degradation: water, biodiversity, fertility



Molo, Uganda, 2009

 Barbets Duet 2012, p. 18

Collisions with the State – Story of Dams

Bujagali Falls, Uganda, 2003

2012
New Bujagali
Dam
built here



2012
Proposed
Mbale dam

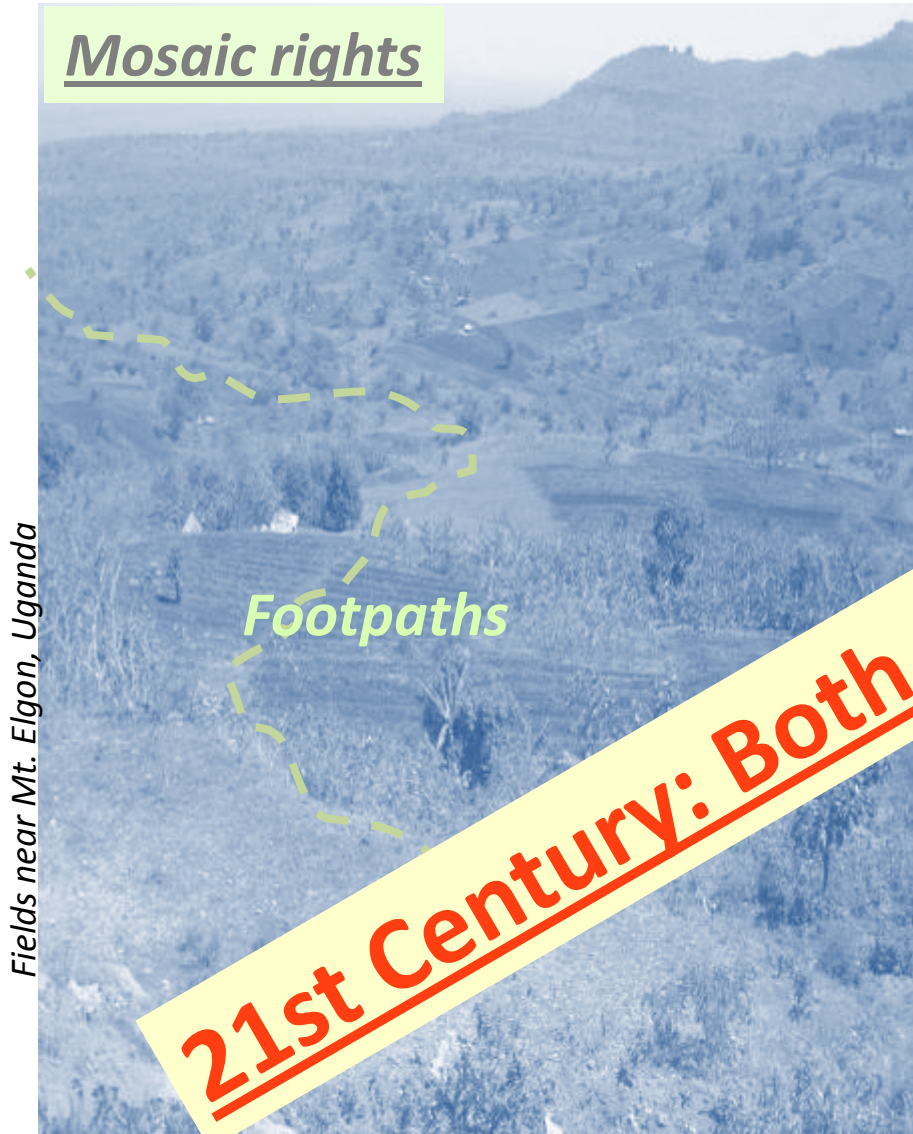


Clashes,
Claims
&
Compensation

Modern states: alien & coercive, interested in control & capture
(offer opportunities for personal gain)

MOSAIC RIGHTS
& the
ECOLOGICAL REVOLUTION

Mosaic rights



21st Century: Both Systems Are Failing

Are not supporting higher populations

Column rights



Are not supporting environmental wealth

**Barbet Learning Site
Confirmed Feb08**



**Identification, protection & propagation
of useful trees;
Safari Convention, April 2011**



Magode Ikuya
Clan land, 12 families.
Writer, activist,
businessman

Molo, near Tororo **Uganda**



**First fish pond, 2011
Molo Rural Agricultural Farming Initiative
(MRAFI)**



**Clan land: 21 km along Kanginima stream,
feeding Nile River, 2009**



**oil seeds for
cash cropping,
April 2011**



forest & swamp land cleared in previous 12 years, 2009

New Agreements for New Conditions

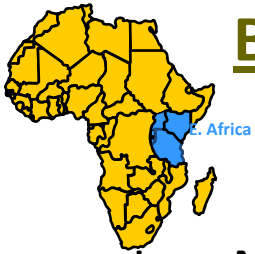
*2012 agreement, witnessed by elders,
right to flood a neighbour's land*



**Kanginima
stream**



**First fish pond, 2011
Molo Rural Agricultural
Farming Initiative (MRAFI)**



Barbets Duet: an Experiment in Systemic Invention

2008-2012

James Magode Ikuya
Molo, near Tororo, Uganda



Sammy Muvelah,
Lukenya,
nr Nairobi, Kenya



Oby & Hilda Obyerodhyambo,
Seme, near Kisumu, Kenya



Rose Lyimo,
Himo, Tanzania



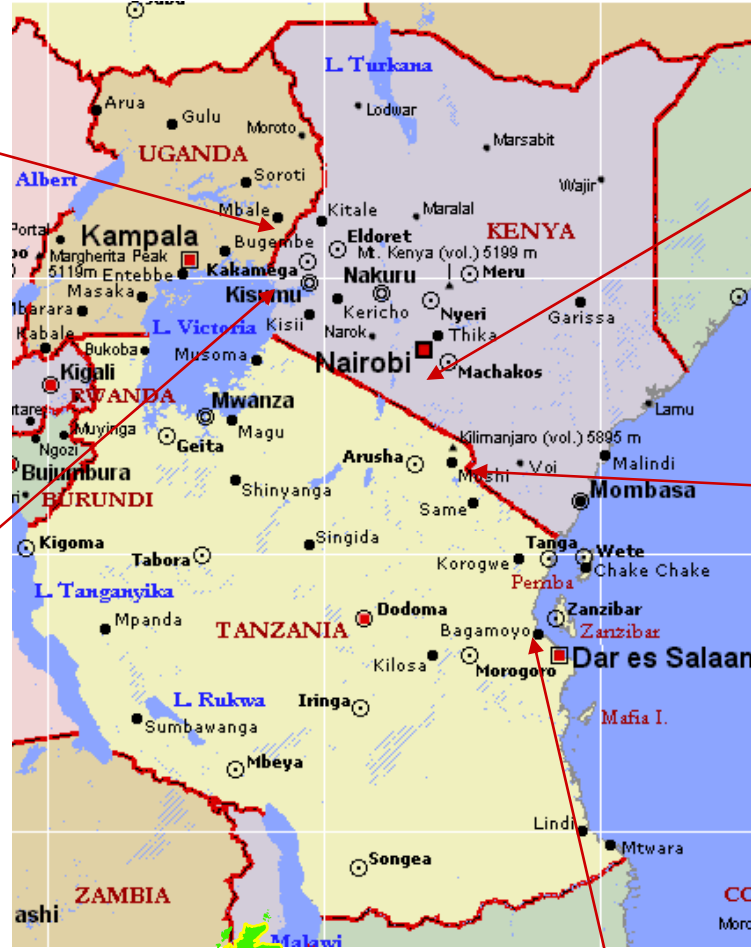
Barbara Heinzen,
Coordinator, UK &
Hudson R. NY, USA



Chris Jones,
Woodland Valley
Farm, Cornwall, UK



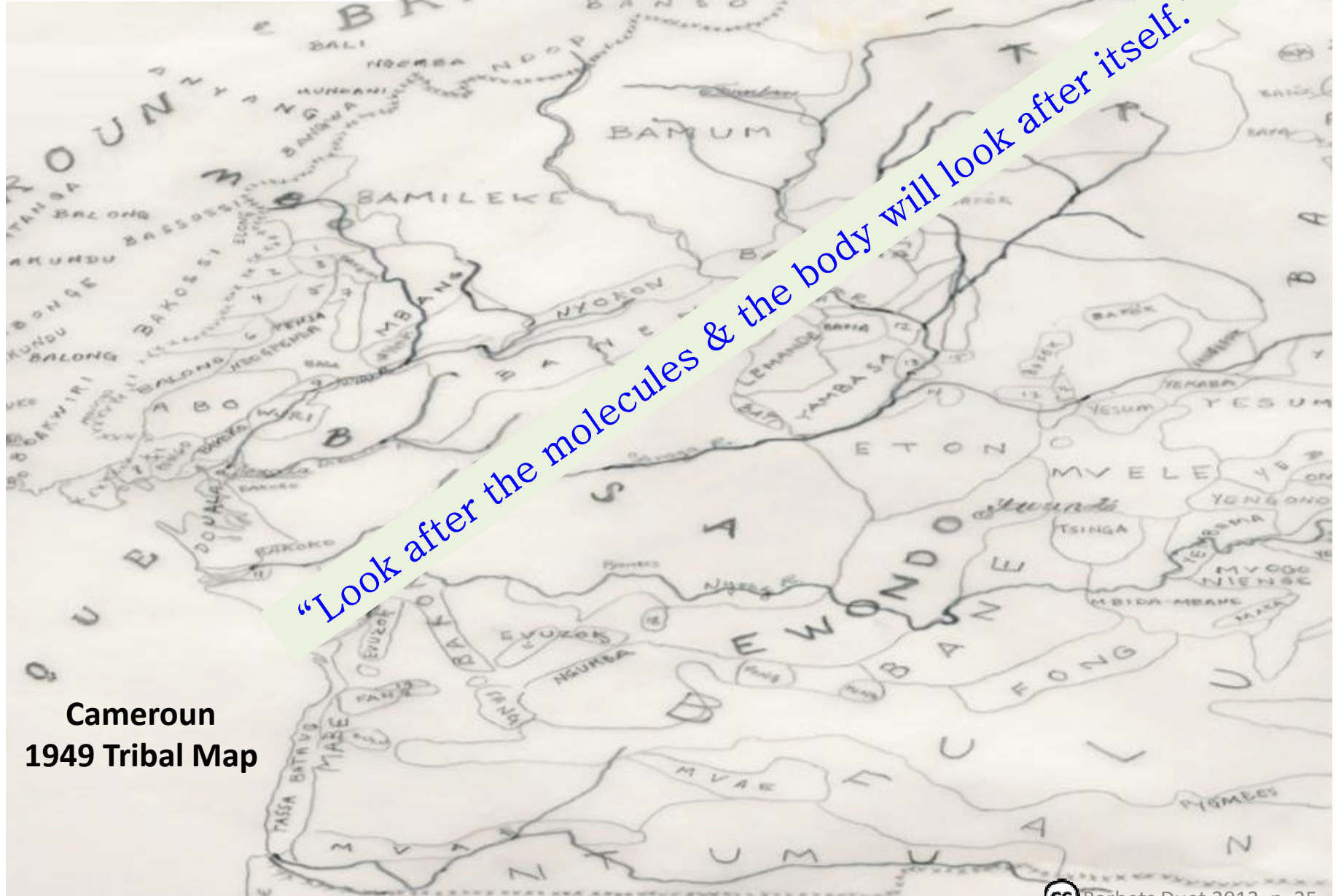
Msichoke Seaweed Farmers
& Mwajuma Masaiganah,
Mlingotini, Bagamoyo, Tanzania



Networked Governance

A legitimate & sophisticated political system

pullout map from Irene Dugast, *Inventaire Ethnique du Sud-Cameroun*. (Série: *Populations*, No. 1. *Mémoires de l'Institut Français d'Afrique Noire, Centre du Cameroun, 1949*), Scale distorted for graphic effect.



**Cameroun
1949 Tribal Map**