Telecouplings and Land-Use/Cover Change in an Economic Corridor in Southeast Asia

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Tuesday, Oct. 17th, 2017, 12:00 – 1:00 pm
Morgan Library Room 203

The concept of telecoupling as a framework to analyze and understand land-use and land-cover change seeks to explicitly link land changes in one (or many) places to distant, usually non-physically connected locations, and has been offered as a new way of understanding land changes.

Focusing on the land-use and land-cover changes taking place along the economic corridor that runs from Dong Ha City, Vietnam, through Khon Kaen, Thailand, this presentation makes use of data gathered from fieldwork and remote sensing analysis to examine telecouplings between sending, receiving and spill-over systems in the region.

Findings are that the telecouplings are driving changes in rural and urban areas, and are enabled by a policy environment that has sought to facilitate the cross-border transportation of goods within the region.

Stephen Leisz is an Associate Professor of Geography in CSU’s Dept. of Anthropology. For the past 20 years he has lived and worked in SE Asia investigating the drivers of land-use and land-cover changes in the region. The work presented in this seminar was completed as part of the project “Increased Accessibility, Landscape Changes, Rural Transformations, and Urbanization: Impacts of the east-west economic corridor from Da Nang, Vietnam, to Khon Kaen, Thailand.”