Commodity Frontiers Editorial Board
Mindi Schneider, Senior Editor

Editors-in-Chief
Sven Beckert, Ulbe Bosma, Mindi Schneider, Eric Vanhaute

Section Editors

Feature Article
Kristina Dietz
Bettina Engels

Studying Commodity Frontiers
Samuël Coghe
Shaohua Zhan

Teaching Commodity Frontiers
Gayatri A. Menon
Elisabet Rasch

Historians take on the Present
Pim de Zwart
Mamoudou Sy
Simon Jackson

Commodity Frontier Political Ecology
Andrew Curley
Mattias Borg Rasmussen

Conflicts, Frictions, and Counternarratives
Katie Sandwell
Serena Stein

Creative Frontiers
Maarten Vanden Eynde
Marjolein Dijkman

From the Field
Hanne Cottyn
Sthandiwe Yeni

Publications
Ernst Langthaler
Rafael Marquese

Op-Eds
Mindi Schneider

Events and Announcements
Claudia Bernardi

For further information about the Editorial Board, see the CFI website at:
https://commodityfrontiers.com/aboutus/
## Table of Contents

All articles are posted online at *Commodity Frontiers*, or our website, commodityfrontiers.com.

**Editorial Introduction**  
Mindi Schneider ................................................................. i

**Feature Article**  
Gold is not for Eating: Conflicts Related to Gold Mining in Burkina Faso  
Bettina Engels ................................................................. 1

**Studying Commodity Frontiers**  
Making Sense of Global Gold Mining  
Boris Verbrugge and Maria Eugenia Robles Mengoa ............................................. 7

**Teaching Commodity Frontiers**  
Teaching Extraction and its Discontents: A Conversation with Anna Zalik  
Gayatri Menon ................................................................. 12

**Historians take on the Present**  
Copper, Llamas and a Virus: A Tale of Historically Entangled Frontiers  
Hanne Cottyn ................................................................. 16

**Commodity Frontier Political Ecology**  
Frontiers of the Green Energy Transition: An Interview about Lithium Mining in South America  
Maria Cariola ................................................................. 22

**Conflicts, Frictions, and Counternarratives**  
Anti-Mining Conflicts and Degrowth  
Julien-François Gerber ........................................................ 28

**Creative Frontiers**  
On-Trade-Off: Countering Extractivism by Transnational Artist’s Collaborations  
Lotte Arndt and Oulimata Gueye in close exchange with the members of On-Trade-Off .......... 32

**From the Field**  
“COVID-19 has Crippled Our Struggle”: An Interview with Pinky Langa  
Sithandiwe Yeni ................................................................. 43

**Publications**  
Mining and Historical Capitalism: Book Reviews  
Leonardo Marques ........................................................... 48

**Op-Eds**  
WWF’s “Living Planet Report 2020” and the Long History of Capitalism  
Ulbe Bosma ................................................................. 53

The End of Naïve Europe, The Rise of Green Imperialism  
Alberto Vázquez Ruiz ........................................................ 56

**Events and Announcements**  
Claudia Bernardi ................................................................. 60

Cover Image by United States Geological Survey (USGS) on Unsplash.
Mission Statement

*Commodity Frontiers* is the Journal of the Commodity Frontiers Initiative (CFI). Edited by a group of scholars and researchers from various disciplines and organizations in the CFI Network, *Commodity Frontiers* explores the history and present of capitalism, contestation, and ecological transformation in the global countryside. Each themed issue includes articles and interviews with experts about studying and teaching commodity frontiers in theory and in practice. The Journal features reflections and reviews on the dynamics of capitalist expansion, social change, and ecological transformation on global as well local scales, in the past and at the present. Contributors include historians, social scientists, (political) ecologists, artists, and activists who work on global commodity production and circulation, rural societies, labor history, the history of capitalism, social metabolism, and contemporary politics, conflicts, and counternarratives in the countryside. *Commodity Frontiers* endeavors to carry out one of the central goals of the CFI: to provide long historical perspectives on problems that are often assumed to be modern, and to link historical and contemporary research to recast our thinking about sustainability, resilience, and crisis.

*Commodity Frontiers* is a biannual open-access publication housed at commodityfrontiers.com, through *Commodity Frontiers* in the Open Journal System at Wageningen University, and distributed through email subscriptions. Its editorial collective is committed to inclusive, anti-racist, anti-sexist, decolonial scholarship and politics.

Objectives

*Commodity Frontiers* aims to provide accessible content from diverse perspectives on the past, present, and future of commodity frontiers and their dynamics. We feature research and educational activities undertaken by academics, artists, activists, and other civil society actors. By soliciting short contributions from our multidisciplinary and multi-sectoral networks, and distributing the open-access Journal through our website and the Open Journal System, we aim to reach a broader audience than typical academic publishing allows. We strive for “real-time” reports and reflections on contemporary issues, as well as contributions that link the past and present.

Editorial Process

The articles in *Commodity Frontiers* are not double-blind peer reviewed. Rather, Section Editors purposely solicit contributions related to the theme of each issue from experts in respective fields. All articles are reviewed by Section Editors and at least one Editor-in-Chief.