LAND RESTRUCTURATION OR LAND GRABBING?
TOWARDS A WORKING CONCEPT OF LAND GRABBING FOR FAMILY FARM REGIONS

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Picture: www.agweb.com/mobile/article/how_big_economies_of_scale
EXPLORING THE CONCEPT OF LAND GRABBING….

Student:
„Why do you use the word land grabbing to name land restructuration? Land restructuration is not always bad… so these are two different things! „

⇒ How is land grabbing defined in literature? Different perspectives?
⇒ What do we learn about land grabbing as a phenomenon in Western Europe?
⇒ Using texts defining land grabbing from 10 different sources
ASPECTS MENTIONED IN THE DEFINITION OF LAND GRABBING: WHAT MAKES A GRAB?

- Transfer of Property Rights
- Structural
- Resulting changes in land use
- Political: Who gets the land?
Aspects of agricultural and institutional economics, Shared criteria among all sources

Aspects covered mainly by some sources only (civil society, opposition parties (green); Political ecology
Claim:
„Small scale agriculture is the main source for food“
MEANING FOR AGROECOLOGY AS A SCIENCE

=> Official communications and research tend to rely more on structural aspects

=> AE needs to enter agricultural economics

=> Challenging agricultural economics in their basic assumptions to justify the debate as a political and institutional one
LAND RESTRUCTURATION OR LAND GRABBING?

Since land restructuration is a process going on since the 1950’s and the result of the current mainstream agricultural economic theory and research, ....

⇒ Is land grabbing the expression of a hidden conflict behind land restructuration?

⇒ What is the agricultural economics that we need and how to come to it?
1. BMZ Investitionen in Land und das Phänomen des “Land Grabbing” Strategie-papier Bonn 2012
2. Deutscher Bundestag Land Grabbing - Ursachen, Wirkungen, Handlungsbedarf Infobrief Berlin 2011