

Report: Summer school in Guangzhou, September 2016

Under direction of Prof. Dr. Revilla Diez and Mr Joeran Wrana, eight Master's degree students went to Guangzhou, South China in September 2016. They attended a summer school at the Sun Yat-sen University. The summer school was part of the thematic international network "Remapping the Global South" (funded by DAAD with means from BMBF).



Picture 1: Students and lecturers after an interview at the international supermarket chain *Carrefour*

In cooperation with Chinese students the proceeding transformation of the food retail sector was analyzed. The focus of the research laid on supermarketization – the retail shift towards supermarkets. During the preparation seminar several involved actors were identified and then questioned on-site. Qualitative interviews were, amongst others, conducted with urban planners, farmers and managers of both international and domestic supermarket chains.

402 consumers were questioned during a quantitative survey on wet markets and supermarkets.



Pictures 2+3: Due to the diversity of the involved actors, even the interview situations were divers. Here are two examples from an urban planner's office and an on-site interview with a supermarket manager.

The combined results from the different approaches allowed to draw conclusions regarding the effects of supermarketization on the local retail sector, the structure of agriculture and changing consumption patterns.



Foto: R. Sabelfeld

Picture 4: A traditional Chinese wet market. What effect does the ongoing supermarketization have on the current structures?

Lena Krist, November 2016