# Article information:

Shifting Environmental Governance in a Neoliberal World: US AID for Conservation - Corson - 2010 - Antipode - Wiley Online Library  
<https://onlinelibrary-wiley-com.wwwproxy1.library.unsw.edu.au/doi/full/10.1111/j.1467-8330.2010.00764.x>

# Article summary:

1. Neoliberalism has shifted the landscape of environmental governance, allowing private actors to influence state policy.

2. An alliance among members of the US Congress, USAID, environmental NGOs, and the corporate sector around biodiversity conservation funding has shaped public foreign aid policy and created spaces for capital expansion.

3. The focus on international biodiversity conservation has contributed to the process by which environmentalism has become enrolled in the promotion of capitalist expansion, creating both symbolic and material spaces for global capital expansion.

# Article rating:

Appears moderately imbalanced: The article provides some useful information, but is missing several important points or pieces of evidence that would be required to present the discussed topics in a balanced and reliable way. You are encouraged to seek a more balanced perspective on the presented issues by exploring the provided research topics and looking at different information sources.

# Article analysis:

The article "Shifting Environmental Governance in a Neoliberal World: US AID for Conservation" by Corson (2010) provides an insightful analysis of the changing landscape of environmental governance under neoliberalism. The author argues that the reduction of the state under neoliberalism has opened up room for private actors to influence state policy, particularly in the area of biodiversity conservation funding. The article explores how an alliance among members of the US Congress, USAID, environmental NGOs, and the corporate sector has shaped public foreign aid policy and created new spaces for capital expansion.

Overall, the article provides a well-researched and nuanced analysis of the complex inter-organizational relations entailed in US environmental foreign aid policy-making. However, there are some potential biases and limitations to consider.

One potential bias is that the article focuses exclusively on international biodiversity conservation and does not address other important environmental issues such as climate change or pollution. This narrow focus may limit the generalizability of the findings to other areas of environmental governance.

Another potential bias is that the article emphasizes the role of NGOs in shaping public policy while downplaying the influence of other actors such as corporations or government agencies. While it is true that NGOs have played a significant role in advocating for environmental issues, it is important to acknowledge that they are not always representative of civil society and may have their own interests at stake.

Additionally, while the article highlights how neoliberalism has created new opportunities for capital expansion through biodiversity conservation funding, it does not fully explore potential risks or negative consequences associated with this trend. For example, some critics argue that market-based approaches to conservation may lead to displacement or marginalization of local communities who rely on natural resources for their livelihoods.

Finally, while the article presents evidence supporting its claims about shifting power dynamics among state, market, and civil society organizations under neoliberalism, it does not fully explore counterarguments or alternative perspectives. For example, some scholars argue that neoliberal reforms have actually strengthened state power rather than reducing it.

In conclusion, while "Shifting Environmental Governance in a Neoliberal World: US AID for Conservation" provides valuable insights into changing power dynamics in environmental governance under neoliberalism, readers should be aware of its potential biases and limitations. It is important to consider multiple perspectives when analyzing complex social phenomena like environmental governance.

# Topics for further research:

* Neoliberalism and climate change policy
* Environmental pollution and neoliberalism
* Corporate influence on environmental policy
* Government agencies and environmental governance
* Critiques of market-based conservation approaches
* Neoliberalism and state power

# Report location:

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