

## Acknowledgements

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This volume is part of the results of a research project on ‘The negotiation of law in the peripheries of southern Ethiopia’. It was funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG) and hosted at the Frobenius Institute at the Goethe University in Frankfurt/Main. Susanne Epple – a social anthropologist – was the principal investigator of the project and did her own research in the very south of Ethiopia. In order to widen the scope of the research and get an interdisciplinary perspective, she invited Getachew Assefa – a lawyer and expert on constitutional law and legal pluralism in Ethiopia – to cooperate. Together they organized two interdisciplinary events: an international conference organized at Jinka University (JKU) in Jinka, southern Ethiopia in January 2018, and a panel at the 20<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Ethiopian Studies (ICES) at Mekelle University, northern Ethiopia in October 2018. Both were titled ‘Legal pluralism in Ethiopia: The interplay of international, national and customary law’. Most of the papers in this volume are results of these events; some joined the group at a later stage.

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1 For an overview of the engagement of the Frobenius Institute in Ethiopia see Dinslage, Sabine and Sophia Thubauville (eds.), 2017 *Seeking out wise old men: Six decades of Ethiopian studies at the Frobenius Institute*. Berlin: Reimer

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To address the complexity of customary law and legal pluralism in contemporary Ethiopia from an interdisciplinary perspective, the editors invited experienced scholars from both of their disciplines – social anthropology and law – to contribute. We wish to thank all the authors for their great efforts and the patience they have shown in the course of publishing this volume.

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