

Scientific Programme

Europe contains a kaleidoscope of different rural areas. Especially after enlargement this diversity in terms of geography, economy, socio-political systems and social cultural identities is impressive. At the same time, mobility of capital, people and knowledge has increased. This sets challenges for the sustainability of rural areas, while mobility also creates vulnerabilities and opportunities for new rural development pathways. The congress will act as a focus to examine – through multiple, and competing perspectives – the ways in which these three spheres – mobilities, vulnerabilities and sustainabilities – interact in and through different rural spaces.

The theme is taken up in the plenary programme and through **twenty-two working groups**, such as:

1. The future of multifunctionality of agriculture and its relationship with sustainability, by E. Sabourin (Cirad, France), S. Trifunovic (University of Masky, Serbia), D. Roep (Wageningen University, NL)
2. [Negotiating sustainabilities - reshaping the sciences](#), by S. Rist (Centre for Development and Environment, CH),
3. [Accounting for change: evaluation and integrated development in the project state](#), by C. High (Open University, UK) and G. Nemes (Hungary)
4. [Mountain/upland landscapes between marginalisation, commodification and conservation](#), by K. Ronningen (Centre for Rural Research, Norway) and I.L. Saglie (Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Studies)
5. [Landscape change and rural development in Europe: policies, mobilities and sustainabilities](#), by T. Kizos (Aegean University, Greece), J. Primdahl, A. Gravsholt Busck and L.S. Kristensen (Danmark)
6. [Multi-arena governance and networks in rural areas: the impact of mobilities, vulnerabilities and sustainabilities on policies and politics for agriculture and rural development](#), by P.H. Feindt (University of Hamburg, Germany), A. Greer (University of West of England, UK), H. Vihinen (MTT, Finland)
7. [Rural-urban relations, short-termism and sustainable development](#), by K. Andersson, E. Eklund, M. Lehtola and S. Sjöblom (University of Helsinki), P. Salmi (Finnish Game and Fisheries Research Institute)
8. [Rural entrepreneurs, businesspeople and farmers? Problems of identification](#), by G. McElwee (Lincoln Business School, UK)
9. [Disease, rurality and biosecurity: \(im\)mobility, \(in\)vulnerability and \(un\)sustainability?](#), by G. Enticott, A. Franklin (Cardiff University), A. Donaldson (Newcastle University), N. Wright (University of British Columbia)
10. [Rescaling governance: comparing the experience of devolution](#), by N. Thompson (University of Newcastle)
11. New questions and challenges of rural tourism, by A. Verbole (Macedonia) and D. Kovacs (Hungary)
12. [Knowledges and the technology-driven food system: past, present and future](#), by J. Phillipson, R. Lee and P. Lowe (University of Newcastle)
13. [The people left behind: new social vulnerabilities in rural Europe](#), by P. Milbourne (Cardiff University)
14. [The different trajectories of European organics and their sustainability](#), by C. Lamine (Inra, France)
15. [Gender studies and rural development: towards a new research agenda](#), by R. McAreavey, Sally Shortall (Queens university of Belfast) and B. Bock (Wageningen University, NL)
16. [Rural mobilities](#), by M. Mayerfeld Bell (University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA) and G. Osti (Trieste University, Italy)
17. [Collective action of farmers in the marketing of food products, services and public goods](#), by E. Noe (Danish Institute of Agricultural Science), M. Schermer (Innsbruck University), H. Renting (WUR), I. Kovach (Institute for Political Studies, Hungary)
18. [Europe and beyond: methodological challenges towards a rural sociology of the global?](#), by A. Arce (Wageningen University), G. Blanco (Austral University, Chile), E. Fisher (University of Swansea)
19. [Innovation in natural resource management](#), by S. Lockie (Central Queensland University, Australia) and C. Deverre (University of Avignon)
20. [Restructuration of dairy farming: towards new strategies and organisational forms in agricultural production](#), by R. Almas and E. Petter Straete (Centre for Rural Research, Trondheim)
21. [Local food, identity and rural sustainable development](#), by M. Fonte (University of Napoli) and A.G. Papadopoulos (Harokopion University, Greece)
22. [Development, resistance and empowerment](#), by T. Tisenkopfs (University of Latvia)