

Call for Sessions
International Conference URP2020

Sustainable & Resilient Urban-Rural Partnerships

25-27 November 2020 || Leipzig Germany

under the auspices of the Minister of the
German Federal Ministry of Education and Research



Topics: Related to our overarching conference theme "Sustainable & Resilient Urban-Rural Partnerships" conceptually as well as empirically enriched submissions are welcomed. During session submission, proposers are required to describe their session content background, aim and relate it to one conference topic listed below:

TOPIC	EXEMPLARY QUESTIONS
1) Supporting equity in living conditions while accepting local particularities	What are minimum standards of quality of life (housing, provision, environmental quality, well-being) and how can these be safeguarded? How can EU or national policies and funding more effectively support regions, municipalities and local initiatives?
2) Establishing multi-level, multi-actor, spatially sensitive governance approaches to mediate conflicting positions, trade-offs, dilemmas or paradoxes	What are examples of integrated territorial development strategies? How to address tensions, dilemmas and paradoxes in establishing appropriate governance arrangements? Which planning/moderation tools are effective in transforming towards sustainable and resilient urban-rural partnerships?
3) Improving integrated land-use management, social and technological infrastructures and mobility services	How to foster the multi-functionality of land and infrastructure? What are new models of integrated infrastructures? Who are the most suitable actors to provide integrated infrastructures (public, private, funds, agencies)?
4) Designing new sociotechnical approaches towards robust regional systems coping with climate change, extreme events, disruptive changes and uncertainties	Who are the major actors pushing innovative and resilient sociotechnical approaches? Can smaller towns become forerunners? Who takes over responsibility in case of extreme events integrating local and regional level?
5) Building regional circular economies, enhancing resource efficiency based on a better understanding of the urban-rural metabolism	What are particularly smart (rather than best) practices in building circular economies in the urban-rural context? How to detect relevant flows of resources and foster more sustainable urban-rural relations? How to create and sustain food systems that benefit both urban and rural areas?
6) Digitalization strategies as a catalyst and enabler of innovative development strategies	How can digitalization bridge spatial distance and enable flexibility, e.g. by decoupling fixed working arrangements from a specific place? How can digital solutions support better regional governance? How can digitalization support the measuring and monitoring of progress in sustainable and resilient urban-rural development?

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Formats: URP2020 is seeking effective and exciting session formats. To foster exchanges between scientists and stakeholders from practice and politics, we encourage both classical and non-conventional formats of sessions and workshops. During session submission, proposers are required to describe their session format. Assume a standard session length of 90 minutes. Potential formats are listed below for inspiration – the proposals can, but need not to be in line with one of these.

FORMAT	DESCRIPTION
Present and discuss	Classical format of presentations to the audience using slides or similar screen facilities 10–15 minutes presentations + 5 minutes Q&A from audience Session host moderates and keeps time
Fishbowl	Similar to a traditional “plenary style” session with the audience set up encircling the moderator and at least 2 speakers Next two the speakers, there is an empty chair available to anybody from the audience to join the discussion of the moderator and speakers.
Symposium	Convener or institution is responsible for content and format Some institutions can use the frame of the conference to introduce their concept and research
Flash presentations	2–3 minutes presentation max 1 slide – can be linked with a poster Exploratory and ongoing research, short or experimental case studies
Posters and digital media presentations	Presentation during dedicated poster sessions and video presentations Clear message and formats Poster format will be announced
World-Café or split discussion stations	The speakers/facilitators have 2–3 minutes to introduce their topic/question to the full audience Then facilitators split to tables / split up sections of the room and audience chooses which topic they will listen to / want to discuss about After a certain time, audience might be invited to change tables / topics Needs adequate room setup

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FORMAT	DESCRIPTION
Controversies	Entire session set up around a subject where there is a clear pro and con argument to be had Two or more speakers introduce the opposing positions - one moderator is important to facilitate the discussion Audience is asked to vote on their opinion for a favorite position at the end of the session
Hands-on workshop / Meet the expert	Introduce software or a tool and have the audience test it in the workshop. Active learning / direct contact with subject matter experts Can work through an app, with laptops or in a computer room.
Other	Open for suggestions!