

RSA Research Network
Ecological Regional Development

Call for Papers

First Workshop

at the Institute of Ecological and Regional Development

11-12 June 2010, Dresden, Germany

Recent years have seen the aggravation of many environmental problems – climate change and a loss of biodiversity becoming a global threat to humankind. The Research Network aims to explore the implications of environmental constraints and opportunities from a regional development perspective in an interdisciplinary way. In a series of three workshops, building on each other, researchers and practitioners will address the main question of how to better support ecological regional development as a dimension of sustainable development.

The workshop will have two components. In the first, – which follows the usual format – a range of current pieces of research are discussed. In the second part a more focused approach is adopted and this element will be prepared by a core group of leading academics in the field: In the first workshop in Dresden the main task is to create a common understanding of ecological regional development. A second workshop will concentrate on measures to achieve a more ecological regional development (January/February 2011, Barcelona), and in a third workshop the participants will identify the most important questions for future research (June 2011, Hull).

For the first component of the Dresden workshop the organisers invite presentations from RSA members and non-members on a wide range of related topics, **for example** theoretical and empirical work on:

- defining ecological regional development;
- measuring ecological regional sustainability (e.g. ecological footprint, concept of happiness);
- material aims: what should regional development look like? (e.g. green belts, regional supply chains, low carbon approaches);
- positioning ecological regional development in a multilevel governance setting;
- policy-making and governance: improvement of formulation and implementation of policies and planning, e.g. through changes in institutions or assessment methods;
- regional, spatial and environmental planning;
- contribution of environmental quality to general development success (regional environmental competitiveness);
- green strategies for special types of regions: e.g. agglomerations, old industrial or rural areas.

For the two-day workshop in Dresden **no fee** will be charged. The **deadline** for the submission of **abstracts** (300 to 500 words) is **11 April 2010**. Abstracts should include names of all the authors, affiliation and full contact details. To submit an abstract, or for further information, please contact one of the workshop organisers:

- Prof. Bernhard Müller, Dr Gerd Lintz, Institute of Ecological and Regional Development, Dresden, Germany
G.Lintz@ioer.de
- Prof. David Gibbs, Department of Geography, University of Hull, UK
d.c.gibbs@hull.ac.uk
- Prof. David Sauri, Department of Geography, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain
David.Sauri@uab.es

Core group of Research Network: Ulf Hahne, Graham Haughton, Roger Hayter, Rob Krueger, Christian Schulz, Alain Thierstein, Manfred Walser, Sophie Wolfrum and Bertrand Zuindeau.

Thanks to the support of the Regional Studies Association, we are able to offer some **travel bursaries** to assist eligible attendees with their travel and accommodation costs. The bursary is redeemable on presentation of receipts for eligible expenses. Bursaries will be offered preferentially using the following criteria:

- member of the Regional Studies Association (from band 'b' to 'd' country**);
- offering an abstract for presentation at the event;
- student** or Early Career Researcher;
- no access to own research or travel funds.

*** these criteria will count double*

Those wishing to apply for bursaries should include an additional paragraph in their abstract submission, or send one paragraph outlining their eligibility to the workshop organisers. The closing date for bursaries is also **11 April 2010**.

More information will be available soon on the Network's website:

<http://www.regional-studies-assoc.ac.uk/research-networks/current/erd.asp>

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*Further information on the Regional Studies Association and details on how to join is available at the Association website: www.regional-studies-assoc.ac.uk
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