



RSA Research Network
Ecological Regional Development

Open Call for Papers

Third Workshop

at the Université du Luxembourg, Luxembourg

June 7-8 2012

Recent years have seen the aggravation of many environmental problems – climate change and a loss of biodiversity becoming a global threat to humankind. For two years this Research Network, which is supported with funds from The Regional Studies Association, has explored the implications of environmental constraints and opportunities from a regional development perspective in an interdisciplinary way. In the first two network conferences, researchers and practitioners came together to examine the how to better support ecological regional development as a dimension of sustainable development.

The third workshop will take place on June 7-8 of 2012. The aims of this conference are to: identify the most important research fields, find points of orientation for conceptual and policy-focused research, and discuss possibilities for future collaboration within the framework of the Research Network both in terms of immediate products and future Research Network proposal applications. The international team of conference organizers recently met to discuss the format of this final workshop. The team decided to focus on two and sometimes disparate perspectives: theory and practice. As such, day one will be focused on papers that address cutting edge theory and day two will have researchers and practitioners discussing exemplary, methodologically rigorous, in-depth empirical case studies. Conceptual and empirical presentations will take place during the mornings, while the afternoons will be dedicated to facilitated group discussions and other activities. In order to accommodate this ambitious agenda, the team has organized a two-and-a-half day conference, which the Laboratoire de Géographie et Aménagement du Territoire at the Université du Luxembourg shall host.

Conceptual papers shall be presented on the first day, for which an internal (only) call for papers has been circulated. In this open call for papers on the second day, we seek case study papers from practitioners and researchers alike that address various aspects of ecological regional development such as: ecological regional development and multilevel governance, environmental policies and spatial planning, green space reconversion, and environmental justice. If you are interested in participating in this capacity, please submit to us an **abstract by December 31, 2011**, and submit a draft of your paper by April 15, 2012. From these papers we anticipate publishing a special issue of *Local Environment*. Once we have established our field of papers we will submit a proposal to *Local Environment's* editorial board. A proposal will be submitted, and we anticipate a favourable response, well before

the conference in June. Abstracts should include names of all the authors, affiliation and full contact details.

Conference participation shall carry a fee of 70€. Thanks to the support of the Regional Studies Association, we are able to offer members of the RSA modest travel bursaries to assist 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.

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 15 April 2012.

If you have any questions, please contact one of the following organizing committee members:

- Dr. Constance Carr, Dr. Julia Affolderbach, Prof. Christian Schulz, Luxembourg
constance.carr@uni.lu
- Prof. David Gibbs, Department of Geography, University of Hull, UK
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- Dr. Gerd Lintz, Prof. Bernhard Müller, Institute of Ecological and Regional Development,
Dresden, Germany
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Core group of Research Network: the organizers, Ulf Hahne, Graham Haughton, Roger Hayter, Rob Krueger, Alain Thierstein, Manfred Walser, Sophie Wolfrum and Bertrand Zuideau.

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

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

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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