



COMMISSION REPORT (C12-35)

COMMISSION ON THE SUSTAINABILITY OF RURAL SYSTEMS INTERNATIONAL GEOGRAPHICAL UNION

2012 – 2013

1. MEMBERSHIP

a) Commission Chair

Name	Mail Address	Telephone Fax	E-mail
Ana Maria Viegas Firmino (Portugal, 2012- 2016)	Dept. of Geography & Regional Planning Universidade Nova de Lisboa Av. De Berna, 26 – C, Lisbon 1069-061 Portugal	+351-21 790 83 00 +351-217908308	am.firmino@fcsh.unl.pt
Doo-Chul Kim (Japan, 2012-2016)	Graduate School of Environmental and Life Science, Okayama University 3-1-1 Tsushima-naka Okayama 700-8530 Japan	+81-86)251-8886 +81-86)251-8886	kim@cc.okayama- u.ac.jp

b) Steering Committee Members (2008-2012)

In 2013, two new members were added to the Steering Committee : Prof. Holly Barcus, Macalester College, USA; Prof. Serge Schmitz, University of Liege, Belgium.

Name	Mail Address	E-mail
Ancuța Cătălina (Romania)	Department of Geography West University of Timisoara 4, b-dul V. Parvan 300223 Timisoara, Romania	catalina.ancuta@e-uvt.ro
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c) Corresponding Commission Members

In 2013 the commission set up an internet-based communication platform, a mailing list for the IGU Commission on the Sustainability of Rural Systems. It is a closed system to non-members, but open to all of the corresponding members of the IGU Commission on the Sustainability of Rural Systems. Once an email address of a certain member has been registered to this system, he/she can post easily at any time to all of the corresponding members. The address of this system is; <igu-csrs@cc.okayama-u.ac.jp> , based on Okayama University, Japan and managed by Prof. Doo-Chul KIM, the co-chair of the commission. Once a member posts a message to the address, it is automatically forwarded to all of the corresponding members.

The number of corresponding members of CSRS is 517 in total from 54 countries as of 1 December, 2013.

Country	Number	Country	Number
Australia	26	Morocco	1
Austria	3	Netherlands	9
Bangladesh	1	New Zealand	4
Belgium	7	Nigeria	2
Brazil	20	Poland	3
Burundi	1	Portugal	8
Canada	54	Romania	5
Chili	2	Russia	3
China	12	Saudi Arabia	1
Columbia	1	Singapore	1
Czech Republic	7	Slovakia	1
Egypt	2	Slovenia	2
Finland	1	South Africa	6
France	16	South Korea	24
Germany	27	Spain	39
Greece	1	Sri Lanka	1
Guinea	1	Sudan	1
Haiti	1	Sweden	4
Hawaii	1	Syria	1
Hong Kong	1	Taiwan	2
India	13	Thailand	4
Iran	2	Turkey	2
Ireland	16	UK	17
Israel	4	USA	21
Italy	8	Vietnam	5
Japan	113	Yugoslavia	2
Malaysia	1	Others	5
Mexico	1	Total	517

2. MEETINGS

20th Annual Colloquium Commission on the Sustainability of Rural Systems *Université Paul Valéry Montpellier 3, France, 20-24 July 2012*

This colloquium was organized by Prof. Lucette Laurens, Université Paul Valéry Montpellier 3, France. Originally, the 20th Annual Colloquium of the Commission was supposed to be held at Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic, during 20 -26 August, 2013 organized by Prof. Radim Perlín and Prof. Ivan Bičík. But it was unfortunately cancelled without any notice to the Commission on the Sustainability of Rural Systems, though the former co-chairs and the members of the steering committee had repeatedly requested information on the preparations for the colloquium. In these circumstances, and at very short notice, the commission had to change the venue to Université Paul Valéry Montpellier 3, France, where the former co-chair Prof. Lucette Laurens undertook the colloquium organisation. Moreover, the pre-registration list was not transferred to the commission. Given these difficulties in advertising notice of the new venue within a short period of time, only 14 members could participate, from Australia (3), Brazil(2), France(1), Ireland(1), Israel(1), Japan(2), Portugal(3), and Slovenia(1). The activities were divided into one and half day paper presentation and another one and half day field excursion in South France.

Presentation themes

1. Discussing the countryside and rural sustainability
2. Land use, agricultural and non-agricultural activities and new functions of the countryside
3. Agro-complexes for food, fibre and bio-fuel production in global markets
4. Quality production, environmental services and fair trade for conservation and social justice
5. Governance and social networks in rural restructuring
6. Identity and cultural heritage in local development



Dinner at an UNESCO World Heritage site, Saint Guilhem le desert, France

21st Annual Colloquium Commission on the Sustainability of Rural Systems
Nagoya University, Japan, 29 July-4 August 2013

The 2013 colloquium of the Commission was a pre-IGU 2013 Kyoto Regional Conference meeting organized by Professor Doo-Chul KIM, Okayama University, Japan, from 29 July to 4 August with the general theme of *Globalization and New Challenges of Agricultural and Rural Systems*. It was the second meeting for the Commission on the Sustainability of Rural Systems in Japan, following the 1995 Tsukuba Colloquium.

There were 39 participants from 16 countries and 36 presentations including two keynote speeches and 8 poster presentations. Another 16 scholars contributed to this Colloquium as co-authors. The 39 participants were from Australia (2), Belgium(2), Brazil(1), Canada(1), France(1), Israel(3), Japan(16), Nederland(2), Portugal(1), Romania(1), South Korea(5), Spain(1), Turkey(1), USA(1), and Vietnam(1).

The activities were divided into two days of paper presentations (36) and four days of field excursions.

Presentation themes

1. The social construction and analysis of 'rural sustainability'
2. Governance and rural development: progress and prospects

3. Rural society, population and settlement under conditions of economic and social change
4. Sustainability and the rural business enterprise
5. Heritage, tourism and environment: challenges and opportunities
6. Sustainability in the interaction between rural and urban systems
7. Land use, agriculture and food: issues of local sustainability in a global context

Field excursion themes in Central Japan

- Atsumi Peninsula: Sustainable or Neo-productivist Agricultural Development?
- *Shirakawa-go* & Tonami dispersed settlement (*sankyo-son*): Rural tourism renews remote mountain villages?
- *Noto* Peninsula designated as a site of GIAHS: Japanese cultural landscape and new challenges in remote rural areas
- Lake Biwa and its Watershed: Rich history and environmental friendly agriculture

Salient insights and conclusions from the 21st Annual Colloquium

- Concepts of rural space and landscape have been developed with reference to sustainability and new forms and functions of the countryside in different regions of the world with regard to global and local processes
- The rise of new productive and service relationships for quality and differentiated markets which increase farm income and quality of life.
- The development of agro-ecological farm systems related to consumer concerns over food and environmental quality
- Spreading multi-functionality involving farm and non-farm activities alongside and in the same rural establishment to overcome problems with overspecialization and falling farm incomes
- The increasing importance of production and the use of rural space for renewable energy sources
- Local political empowerment and community development based on building social capital and multi-scalar networks
- The predominance of conflict over land and resources in contexts of extreme poverty in less developed countries distant from the realities of post-industrial regions

- Difficulties with governance involving participatory rural development in poor nations



The former chair, Prof. Chris Bryant



At the Hikone Castle, Shiga Prefecture

IGU 2013 Kyoto Regional Conference

Kyoto International Conference Center, Japan, 4-9 August 2013

The Commission on the Sustainability of Rural Systems had 9 sessions with 35 presentations at 2013 Kyoto Regional Conference. Among them, 3 sessions with 11 papers were the joint session with the Commission on Marginalization, Globalization and Regional and Local Responses. The titles of each session are as follows:

- Rural areas, Development Dynamics, Policy Options and Marginalization (3 joint sessions)
- Environmental challenges, agricultural production and food security (2 sessions)
- Competing land use systems and rural demographic trends in the restructuring countryside (2 sessions)
- The impact of globalization, agribusiness and international trade on local agricultural systems and people (1 session)
- Policy, governance and local resistance in sustainability of rural systems in localities and regions (1 session)

FUTURE EVENTS

22nd Annual Colloquium Commission on the Sustainability of Rural Systems

Bucharest and Sibiu, Romania 24 August - 3 September 2014

The 2014 colloquium of the Commission will be a post-IGU 2013 Krakow Regional Conference event, organized by Professor Ioan Ianos at University of Bucharest from 24 August - 3 September 2014, with the theme of *Rural Life and rural systems between traditional and integrated urban-rural development*. The colloquium has the objectives of deepening ties with East European geographers. The event is still in the registration phase so the number of participants is still not available. As usual, the activities will be divided into days and part-days of paper presentations and field excursions.

IGU 2014 Krakow Regional Conference

Krakow, Poland, 18-22 August 2014

The Commission on the Sustainability of Rural Systems has proposed 10 sessions at 2014 Krakow Regional Conference. Among them, one session is the joint session with the Commission on Gender and Geography. For those sessions, 35 oral presentations and 5 poster presentations were submitted. The titles of each session are as follows:

- Heritage and Tourism for a Sustainable Territorial Development (2 sessions)
- Women in Agriculture - strategies to reach equity and fight back hunger (2 joint sessions)
- Farming in Peri-Urban Areas and Rural-Urban Interactions (2 sessions)
- Societies in Transition – evidence of changes in values and expectations (2 sessions)
- Food Chains and the 3 S (Sovereignty, Safety and Sustainability) (2 sessions)

23rd Annual Colloquium Commission on the Sustainability of Rural Systems

Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Portugal, 27th July- 2nd August 2015

The 2015 colloquium of the Commission will be organized by Prof. Ana Maria Viegas Firmino, Universidade Nova de Lisboa from the 27th July to the 2nd August 2015, with the title "*Sustainability of Rural Systems: smart answers for a smiling future*". The Fieldwork will deal with the theme "*Tourism and Wellness in the Douro Valley*" and will be organized together with the Universities of Coimbra, Porto and Minho.

3. NETWORKING

a) Collaboration with Other IGU Commissions

- Organizing 3 joint sessions with the Commission on Marginalization, Globalization and Regional and Local Responses at 2013 Kyoto Regional Conference
- Organizing one joint session with the Commission on Gender at Krakow Regional Conference, in 2014

b) Collaboration with IGU-CSRS Members of the Steering Commission

- Irit Amit Cohen (February – May, 2012) Stage at Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Faculty of Human and Social Sciences. Collaboration in the Ph. D. Course: Geography and Territorial Planning (March, 2012) with a Seminar on “Values and sites, attitudes for development – the status of cultural built heritage in the Kibbutz”, Bar Ilan University, Tel-Aviv, Israel.
- Roy Jones (September 2013-August 2014) Visiting Professorship (0.2) at the Department of History, University of Gloucestershire; collaborative research on rural change.

c) Collaboration with Other International, Intergovernmental and Multidisciplinary Groups

Commission members as individuals or groups have participated in collaboration with the following research, planning and extension institutions:

- Participation in bilateral, multidisciplinary projects of the research in OECD “Rural-Urban Partnerships: an integrated approach to economic development”, financed by OCDE and the European Union (coordinator of the Portuguese case-study in Castelo Branco). Presentation of the Portuguese case-study in Bologna, Italy, in October 2013
- Participation at Eugeo Conference, Università de la Sapienza, Rome, Italy, as co-chair of the IGU-CSRS, in the coordination of Pannel “Agriculture Policy role and value in a changing world. Food-Agriculture-Environment as key factors in order to get through the current global economic crisis, together with Prof. Gemma Grillotti.
- Participation and organizing “Korea-China-Japan Joint Conference on Geography” since 2008.

- Coordinator of bilateral project between Okayama University, Japan and Hue University, Vietnam concerning sustainability of rural and environmental system.
- Participation and organizing Korean Rural Geography Association.
- Cooperation with SEAGA(Southeast Asian Geography Association).
- Organisation of the Institute of Australian Geographers Conference, Perth, July 2013
- Research on World Heritage designations in remote Western Australia for the state Department of Environment and Conservation and Tourism Western Australia
- Non Member Director of the Wadjuk Boodja Gateway Aboriginal Corporation

4. PUBLICATIONS

Most of the publications have been collections of papers presented at the annual colloquia. The edited books are organized around the themes of each colloquium and usually published six to twelve months after the event. Consequently, the publications are not mere proceedings. Individual authors are encouraged to take into account comments made at the time of their presentations as well as to mature their ideas according to general themes of the colloquium. All the publications use a process of peer review. The followings are just a part of articles published by the Commission members.

Cawley, M. Bicalho, A.M.S.M., and Laurens, L. (eds.), 2013, *The Sustainability of Rural Systems: Local and Global Challenges and Opportunities*, Whitaker Institute, NUI Galway and CSRS of the International Geographical Union. (**The Proceedings of the 19th Annual Colloquium Commission on the Sustainability of Rural Systems in Galway, 2011**)

Nguyen Trinh Minh Anh and Kim Doo-Chul, 2013, "Inter-ethnic Assimilation and Differentiation in Rural Development: Local response to Forestry Land Allocation in Vietnam", in M. Cawley, A. M. Bicalho and L. Laurens (eds.), *The sustainability of Rural Systems: Local and Global Challenges and Opportunities*, Whitaker Institute, NUI Galway and CSRS of the International Geographical Union. (in print)

Chau Ngoc Minh Hoang and Doo-Chul Kim, 2013, "Suppliers networks in rural tourism: the case of Phu Quoc Island, Vietnam", *Journal of Systematic Regional Geography*, 19-2, pp.25-46.

- Doo-Chul Kim and Truong Quang Hoang, 2013, "Development of Coffee Production and Land Mobility in Dak Lak, Vietnam", *Journal of the Economic Geographical Society of Korea*, 16-3, 359-371.
- Chau Ngoc Minh Hoang and Doo-Chul Kim, 2013," Stakeholder Networks Supplying Rural Tourism in The Mekong Delta, Vietnam: The Case of Thoi Son Islet, Tien Giang Province", *Journal of the Economic Geographical Society of Korea*, 16-3, 423-444.
- Asano Toshihisa, Kim Doo-Chul, Hirai Yukihiro, Kagawa Yuichi, Ito Tatsuya, 2013, "Residents and Environmental Conservation of the Upo Wetlands Ramsar Site, Republic of Korea", *E-journal GEO*,8-2, 223-241.
- Doo-Chul Kim, 2013, "Development and Geography", in The Human Geographical Society of Japan (eds.), *The Dictionary of Huamn Geography*, Maruzen, 490-491.
- Jun Tsuchiya, Hiroo Kamiya and Kim Doo-Chul, 2012, "Working and life conditions of Japanese single women in Ho Chi Minh City", *Urban Geography of Japan*, 6, 16-28.
- Doo-Chul Kim and Nguyen Huu Ngu, 2012, "Shrimp Aquaculture and Changes in Fishery Communities in Vietnam", in Asano Toshihisa and Nakajima Koji (eds.), *Social geographies of nature*, Kaiseisha, 257-272.
- Doo-Chul Kim, 2012, "Some Current Features of Geography in Korea", *Journal of Geography(Chigaku Zasshi)*, 121-5, 815-823.
- Firmino, Ana, 2014, "Agriculture and Ecotourism in India's Goa Province: A Taste of Spices", in Lee Jolliffe(eds.), *Spices and Tourism: Destinations and Attractions*, Channel View Publications, Canada. (forthcoming)
- Firmino, Ana, 2013," Food and Consumption: How a Meal can Change the World", in Mary Cawley, Ana Maria Bicalho, Lucette Laurens (eds.), *The Sustainability of Rural Systems: global and local challenges and opportunities*, Whitaker Institute, NUI Galway and CSRS of the International Geographical Union.
- Firmino, Ana, 2013, "The Future is in the Countryside: survival kit for a world in crisis?" in Ana Bicalho and Lucette Laurens (eds.) (accepted for publication)
- Barcus, H.R., 2013, "Sustainable Development or Integrated Rural Tourism? Considering the Overlap in Rural Development Strategies." *Journal of Rural and Community Development (Special Issue)* 8-2.
- Werner, C. and H. R. Barcus. "Discovering a sense of well-being through the revival of Islam: Profiles of Kazakh Imams in western Mongolia". *Central Asian Survey*. (forthcoming)
- Barcus, H.R. and Laura Simmons*, 2013, "Ethnic Restructuring in rural America: Migration and the changing faces of rural communities in the Great Plains". *Professional Geographer* 65-1,130-152.

- Brede, Namara*, Holly R. Barcus and Cynthia Werner, "Negotiating Everyday Islam after Socialism: A Study of the Kazakhs of Bayan-Ulgii, Mongolia", in Stan Brunn (ed.) *The Changing World Religion Map*. (forthcoming).
- Barcus, H.R. and Werner, C.A., 2012, "Transnational Migration, Local Economic Change, and the Persistence and Adaptation of Rural Livelihoods: A Case Study of the Kazakh Diaspora in Western Mongolia" in Cawley, M. Bicalho, A.M.S.M., and Laurens, L. (eds.), *The Sustainability of Rural Systems: Local and Global Challenges and Opportunities*, Whitaker Institute, NUI Galway and CSRS of the International Geographical Union.
- Vanderheiden V., Van Der Horst D., Van Rompaey A. and Schmitz S., 2014, "Perceiving the Ordinary, a study of everyday landscapes in Belgium", *Tijdschrift voor Economische en Sociale geografie*, DOI: 10.1111/tesg.12066
- Dubois C. and Schmitz S., 2013, "What is the position of agritourism on the Walloon tourist market?", *European Countryside*, 5-4, 295-307.
- Potocnick I. and Schmitz S., 2013, "Farm tourism across Europe", *European Countryside*, 5-4, 265-274.
- Schmitz S., 2013, "The prohibition of dogcarts: a hidden agricultural policy?" in Peter Moser, Tony Varley (eds.), *State Agricultural Policies : Causes, Implementation and Consequences*, Turnhout : Brepols, 289-299.
- Lekané Tsobgou D. and Schmitz S., 2012. "Le tourisme dit "ethnique" : multiples usages d'un concept flou", *BISGLg*, 59, 5-16. (*Ethnic tourism. Multiple Uses of the Notion of Authenticity*)
- Schmitz S., 2012, "Un besoin de territoire à soi : quelques clés pour un aménagement des espaces communs", *Belgeo*, 1-2, <http://belgeo.revues.org/6627> (Human Territoriality from a Place Management Perspective)
- Schmitz S., 2012, "Le « *mode d'habiter* »: analyse de l'usage d'une notion émergente en géographie", in O.Lazzarotti (ed.), *L'habiter vers un nouveau concept*, Paris: Armand Collin, 35-47. (*Way of Dwelling: a new Perspective in Geography*)
- Schmitz S., Vanderheyden V., Vandenbrouckes S. and Loopmans M., 2012, "The Shaping of Social attitudes toward Energy-Parks in the Belgian Countryside", *Horizons in geography*, 81-82, 83-93.
- Schmitz S., Potocnick I., 2013, "Farm tourism across Europe", *European Countryside*, 5-4.
- Argent N., Tonts M., Jones R and Holmes J, "The amenity principle, internal migration and rural development in Australia", *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*. (in press)
- Argent N., Tonts M., Jones R and Holmes J., 2013, "A creativity-led rural renaissance? Amenity-led migration, the creative turn and the uneven development of rural Australia", *Applied Geography*, 44, 88-98.

- Catlin J. Campbell R., Hughes, M., Jones T and Jones R, 2013, "Keeping perspective on using tourism values for conservation- reply to Vianna" , *Biological Conservation*, 166, 303.
- Jones R., 2012, "Time-specific martyr or enduring symbol? Tom Edwards and Western Australian labour heritage 1919-2010", pp.197-207 in I. Robertson (ed.) *Heritage from Below: Social Protest and Resistance*, Ashgate, Aldershot.
- Jones R. and Selwood J., 2012, "From shackies to silver nomads: coastal recreation and coastal heritage in Western Australia" pp. 125-145 in I. Robertson (ed.) *Heritage from Below: Social Protest and Resistance*, Ashgate, Aldershot.
- Hughes M. Tye M. and Jones R., 2013, "Whose land is it anyway? Contesting urban fringe nature-based tourism and recreation in Western Australia", *Tourism Recreation Research*, 38, 29-42.
- Catlin J., Hughes M. Jones T. Jones R. and Campbell R., 2013, "Valuing Individual Animals through Tourism: Science or Speculation?", *Biological Conservation*, 157, 93-98.
- Jones R. and Shaw B., 2012, "Thinking locally, acting globally? Stakeholder conflicts over UNESCO World Heritage Inscription in Western Australia", *Journal of Heritage Tourism*, 7, 83-96.
- Catlin J. Jones T. and Jones R., 2012, "Balancing commercial and environmental needs: licensing as a means of managing whale shark tourism on Ningaloo Reef", *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*, 20, 163-178.
- Jones R. and Dolin T., 2012, "Literary heritage or national heritage? Landscape preservation and change in Dorset", pp.1119-1125 in Amoeda, R. et al. (eds.) *Heritage 2012: Heritage and Sustainable Development*, Green Lines Institute for Sustainable Development, Porto, Portugal.
- Duram, L. and Cawley, M., 2012, "Irish chefs and restaurants in the geography of 'local' food value chains", *The Open Geography Journal*, 5, 16-25.
- Conway, T. and Cawley, M., 2012, "Organizational networking in an emerging ecotourism destination", *Tourism Planning and Development*, 9-4, 1-13.
- Cawley, M., 2012, "Networks and networking in rural tourism", *Horizons in Geography*, 81-82, 69-82.

b) Commission web site: <http://www.igu-csrs.ccsv.okayama-u.ac.jp/>

5. Archival Contributions

See the commission's WEBSITE archiving publications since 1992:

<http://www.igu-csrs.ccsv.okayama-u.ac.jp/>

and "IGU Urban Commission" FACEBOOK Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/?ref=home#!/ruralgeography>

In preparation the availability at the IGU site of all the IGU-CSRS publications since 1992.