Save the Date
International Conference URP2020

SUSTAINABLE & RESILIENT URBAN-RURAL PARTNERSHIPS

25-27 November 2020 || Leipzig Germany

www.URP2020.eu
Regions are of critical importance to achieve the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda including the Sustainable Development Goals and the HABITAT III objectives. The traditional distinction between urban and rural is imprecise and obviously shapes conflicts hindering constructive approaches. Knowledge and policies can support sustainable and resilient urban-rural partnerships at various spatial levels for stronger regions. Innovative and comprehensive perspectives on common targets are needed together with strategies to put them into practice. It is important to understand the complexly structured continuum in-between the urban and the rural and unleash synergies by close interaction and mutual support.

This perspective unfurls particular relevance concerning sustainable and resilient development pathways, including topics such as:

- supporting equity in living conditions while accepting local particularities;
- establishing multi-level, multi-actor and multi-sectoral regional governance approaches to mediate conflicting positions, trade-offs, dilemmas or paradoxes;
- improving integrated land-use management, social and technological infrastructures and mobility services to enable proper living conditions and quality of life;
- designing new sociotechnical approaches towards robust regional systems coping with climate change, extreme events, disruptive changes and uncertainties;
- building the regional circular economy, enhancing resource efficiency based on a deeper understanding of the urban-rural metabolism;
- exploiting digitalization strategies as catalyst and enabler of innovative development strategies irrespective of the location.
The URP2020 conference aims at developing new urban-rural imaginaries, integrating strategies and projects that explore present and future potentials in terms of sustainability and resilience. The conference brings together and connects recent scientific insights and enlightening experiences of on-going projects in practice. It stimulates learning on various levels, i.e. from the local level via entire regions to the broader European understanding of integrated urban-rural development.

The URP2020 conference “Sustainable and Resilient Urban-Rural Partnerships” draws specific attention to closing the gap between available scientific knowledge on the one hand and decision making in practice on the other. We offer a forum for exchange and support the co-design of ideas to tackle the challenges listed above.

By focusing on sustainable and resilient urban-rural partnerships, the international URP2020 conference contributes to the implementation of key elements of the Leipzig Charter 2.0, which will be signed by the European ministers responsible for urban and regional planning during their meeting in Leipzig, 30 November and 1 December 2020.

Important dates

- **in November 2019** Call for Sessions opens
- **in January 2020** Closing Call for Sessions
- **in February 2020** Call for Abstracts opens
- **in April 2020** Closing Call for Abstracts
- **30 June 2020** Early bird registration deadline
- **25 November 2020** Conference opening
- **26 – 27 November 2020** Conference

Conference Venue

Leipziger KUBUS – the UFZ conference venue
Is located at Wissenschaftspark Leipzig
Permoserstr. 15 | 04318 Leipzig | Germany
http://www.leipziger-kubus.de/

Website & Social Media

Website: www.URP2020.eu
Twitter: @URP2020 #URP2020
## Programme Committee

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* Conference chairs
Tentative URP2020-Agenda

25 November, 2020 (pre-programme)

08:30 – 17:30
At Leipziger KUBUS: Annual status seminar of projects funded by BMBF in the measure Stadt-Land-Plus. Circa 200 participants from municipalities, science and society - aimed at exchange and knowledge transfer (in German)

afternoon
Excursions (optional) – to Stadt-Land-Plus projects in Leipzig region

19:30
Official reception and welcome for all participants of the status seminar and the international conference by the Mayor of Leipzig at Neues Rathaus (new city hall)

26 November, 2020 (main-programme)

10:15 – 11:45
At Leipziger KUBUS Opening ceremony (with simultaneous interpretation service):
- Forewords and words of welcome linking to the Leipzig Charter 2.0 process and German EC presidency by the Minister of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research, by the Mayor of Leipzig and President of the Deutscher Städtetag (Association of German Cities) and conference chairs
- Three highlight statements featuring contributions to the conference topics

11:45 – 12:15
Introductory pitches to poster sessions and exhibitions

12:15 – 13:30
In the lunch and coffee breaks: various exhibition formats including posters, video wall, interactive exhibit, publication desks, contributions from selected BMBF-projects as well as relevant European networks, projects and researchers

13:30 – 18:30
Several classic and interactive sessions (a call for sessions will invite innovative formats) to discuss and address the conference topics.

19:30
Social event by invitation of the BMBF at Moritzbastei (The Moritz Bastion, t.b.c.)

November 27, 2020 (main-programme)

08:00 – 12:00
At Leipziger KUBUS: Continuation of mixed sessions. Various formats to discuss and present scientific and transdisciplinary approaches and projects

12:15 – 13:00
Keynote

13:00 – 13:30
Closing ceremony

afternoon
Excursions (optional) – to Stadt-Land-Plus projects in Leipzig region
URP2020 is supported by

[Logos of various organizations]