

The Institute of Sociology, CSS Hungarian Academy of Sciences
cordially invites you to its twentieth *Jour fixe* event:

Alexandra Franklin:
Metropolitan Rurality and Community-led Sustainability Practice:
a case study of the south-east Wales city-region

Academic Symposium

Presenter:

Alexandra Franklin, Sustainable Places Research Institute, Cardiff University, Wales

Discussants:

Bernadett Csurgó and **Gergely Olt**, Institute of Sociology, CSS HAS

Moderator: **Imre Kovách**



This presentation uses a practice-based conceptualisation of 'metropolitan rurality' as a starting point for exploring the role of shared spaces of community land use in the context of sustainable city-region building. Taking as a case in point the newly formed 'south east Wales city-region', it focuses in particular on the potential role of these shared spaces in facilitating community-led sustainable transition and adaptation from the 'bottom-up'.

Community land use initiatives are understood here as place-based initiatives, involving a group of participants who come together around a shared production and/ or consumption-based land use interest. Acting as a driver to many of them is the ambition of collapsing the distance in the supply chain (e.g. food; renewable energy) and thereby achieving localised, in situ production and consumption of natural resources. As such, these spaces and the shared practices which they support are capable of broadening the sustainable productivity of land – that is, developing its social as well as environmental and economic productivity – across a range of urban, peri-urban and rural settings. Significant to achieving this goal, however, is the degree and type of connectivity which exists between the community participants, land owners, and other key stakeholder organisations. Equally as important is the role of planning and other forms of legislation in influencing the availability of land for community practice, as well as regulating the types of use.

During the presentation the discussion will be supported by reference to illustrations from desk based studies of existing initiatives across England and Wales, and by primary empirical research undertaken within the south east Wales city-region as part of a wider review of a recent Welsh Government 'Community action on climate change' sustainability programme.

The event will take place
in the **Hegedüs Room** (Institute of Sociology, CSS HAS, Budapest I. Úri u. 49.)
on **Thursday 22 May, 2014, 1p.m.**

If you wish to participate, please send an e-mail with your name and affiliation to
szociologia@tk.mta.hu by 21 May.