



Workshop

2. Flows of people, ideas and images

WG 2:2 From rurality to ruralities: an inquiry into the new rural spaces

Convenor

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The theme of the workshop is an inquiry into the notion of the rural in the context of increasing mobility of people, ideas and images. Spatial dynamics such as the coupling of rural spaces with other spaces across space and time is an important driver for the differentiation of rural areas. Several recent contributions on rural development and on the notion of rurality indicate that if there is one common feature of rural areas, then it must be that they are differentiated and patterns of development are contingent on social, political, economical and territorial context of rural spaces. Recent concepts such as New Rural Areas, New Suburbia and Dreamland has been proposed in order to capture essential characteristics of rural differentiation.

The aim of the workshop is to explore whether new forms of rural spaces are emerging beyond the urban centres and how they might be conceptualized. What meaning can be attributed to terms like New Rural Areas? Do they constitute new spaces, and in case they do, what about Old Rural Areas? How are these notions conceptualized and represented, e.g. in media discourse? What are the implications for the core notion of rurality itself? Both theoretical papers and empirical studies are welcome.

The papers could inquire into issues such as:

- space-time compression and rural space
- mobility and rurality
- new rural spaces
- urban-rural continuum
- representations and discourses of the rural
- modernity and rurality.

- Abstracts 400 words.
- Dead line for abstract is December 15th 2009.
- Suggestions for abstracts should be sent to: Chris Kjeldsen at Chris.Kjeldsen@djf.au.dk.
- Deadline for full papers is April 15th 2010.