



Special Session Proposal

Building territorial and community resilience through disaster risk reduction in marginal areas of rural Europe

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Abstract

European marginal areas, mostly rural, are showing very heterogeneous growth trajectories because of specific local conditions. They are different under many respects, for instance in terms of demography, employment, essential services, and cultural/natural assets. However, they all share the need to cope with the increasing risk of natural and climate-related disasters. This compels the regional and local governments to search for new visions to make communities more resilient and reduce territorial vulnerabilities.

The proposed session aims to explore the following topics, also through insights into case studies and best practices:

- the interrelation between local (under)development and the recurrence of disasters, based both on past records and risk forecasts also considering future socioeconomic scenarios;
- the meaning of resilience and its capacity to orient territorial planning and decision-making throughout the disaster risk management cycle;
- the potential of community participation in the disaster risk management cycle to enhance climate risk awareness and increase resilience;
- the role of natural capital in the strategies to reduce the risk of natural and climate-related disasters;
- the methods to assess risk and measure resilience, for a full understanding, management, planning and monitoring of territorial dynamics;
- the models, strategies, policies, market and financial instruments, to increase regional attractiveness while promoting disaster risk reduction.