

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

Scientific Conference
Copenhagen (DENMARK), 25-28 January 2016

Rural-Urban Connections in Sub-Saharan Africa

This is the first announcement of the international conference “Rural-urban connections in sub-Saharan Africa”. The conference is being held on the 25th to the 28th of January 2016, at the University of Copenhagen.

Conference Concept Note

The conference addresses the dynamic relationships between rural and urban transformations in sub-Saharan Africa, which is also the focus of the ongoing EU funded research project RurbanAfrica (see <http://rurbanfrica.ku.dk/>). During the past 5-10 years, there has been a renewed academic and policy interest in understanding how socio-economic changes are intertwined with territorial changes, including new mobilities and complex processes of urbanization. Central to these discussions is considering how societies and people of Sub-Saharan Africa are experiencing and responding to these changes; bearing in mind that Africa is the most rural continent while at the same time having the highest actual (and projected) population growth rates, these are crucial questions. These considerations form the catalyst for this conference, which aims to explore how insights and visions of rural and urban transformations are translating into structural changes in agriculture, international and domestic migration practices, rural livelihood dynamics and small town development, changing demographic and settlement dynamics in cities, and shifting demands and provisions of private and public services. The conference will also contribute to broader policy debates in sub-Saharan Africa by examining how documented transformations and trends in African rural-urban connections might have implications for poverty reduction and the ongoing development of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Conference format

The conference will take place at University of Copenhagen, Oster Voldgade 10, Copenhagen, Denmark. Participation will depend on acceptance of paper/panel presentation. There is no conference fee, and lunches and tea/coffee will be provided free of charge. However, there will be a charge for attendance at the conference dinner on Wednesday, 27 January. Conference participants are responsible for arranging and covering the costs of their own transport, accommodation, per diem etc. Information on some hotel options will be available from the conference webpage. In special cases the organizers can be helpful in making bookings etc.

Stay updated on the conference

Keynote speakers and other practicalities will be announced regularly up until the conference. You can stay updated on the latest information on the following website; http://rurbanfrica.ku.dk/conference_2016/

Organizing Committee:

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