

XXII Congress of the [European Society for Rural Sociology](#)

20-24 August 2007 in Wageningen

Mobilities, Vulnerabilities and Sustainabilities:

New questions and challenges for rural Europe

www.esrs2007.nl

Europe contains a kaleidoscope of different rural areas. Especially after enlargement this diversity in terms of geography, economy, socio-political systems and social cultural identities is impressive. At the same time, mobility of capital, people and knowledge has increased. This sets challenges for the sustainability of rural areas, while mobility also creates vulnerabilities and opportunities for new rural development pathways. The congress will act as a focus to examine – through multiple, and competing perspectives – the ways in which these three spheres – mobilities, vulnerabilities and sustainabilities – interact in and through different rural spaces.

The theme is taking up in the plenary programme and through several working groups, such as:

1. [The future of multifunctionality of agriculture and its relationship with sustainability](#),
2. [Negotiating sustainabilities - reshaping the sciences](#),
3. [Accounting for change: evaluation and integrated development in the project state](#),
4. [Mountain/upland landscapes between marginalisation, commodification and conservation](#), [Landscape change and rural development in Europe: policies, mobilities and sustainabilities](#),
5. [Multi-arena governance and networks in rural areas: the impact of mobilities, vulnerabilities and sustainabilities on policies and politics for agriculture and rural development](#),
6. [Rural-urban relations, short-termism and sustainable development](#),
7. [Rural entrepreneurs, businessmen and farmers? Problems of identification](#),
8. [Disease, rurality and biosecurity: \(im\)mobility, \(in\)vulnerability and \(un\)sustainability?](#),
9. [Rescaling governance: comparing the experience of devolution](#),
10. [New questions and challenges of rural tourism](#)
11. [Knowledges and the technology-driven food system: past, present and future](#),
12. [The people left behind: new social vulnerabilities in rural Europe](#)
13. [The different trajectories of European organics and their sustainability](#),
14. [Gender studies and rural development: towards a new research agenda](#),
15. [Rural mobilities](#)
16. [Collective action of farmers in the marketing of food products, services and public goods](#)
17. [Europe and beyond: methodological challenges towards a rural sociology of the global?](#),
18. [Innovation in natural resource management](#),
19. [Restructuration of dairy farming: towards new strategies and organisational forms in agricultural production](#),
20. [Local food, identity and rural sustainable development](#)
21. [Development, resistance and empowerment](#),

The conference is organized by the Rural Sociology Group of Wageningen University together with the Scientific Committee chaired by Professor Terry Marsden of Cardiff University.

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