

**The 19th workshop on  
"Social Capital and Development Trends of Countryside in  
Knowledge and Risk Society"**

NOVA FCSH  
(NOVA University of Lisbon – School of Social Sciences and Humanities)

1-2 October 2025

Organized by  
Marginal Area Research Group (MARG) and  
NOVA University of Lisbon, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities  
(FCSH)

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# Program

## DAY 1 (Oct. 1)

8:45 Opening

*Session 1 Keynote Presentations Chair: Dalila Cerejo (NOVA University of Lisbon)*

9:00 Kiyoshi Kobayashi (Kyoto University)

“Quo Vadis? Japan”

9:40 Hans Westlund (KTH and Jönköping International Business School)

“Opening Pandora’s Box: The Evils of Social Capital”

10:20 Coffee break

*Session 2 Sustainable Management of Natural Asset Chair: Emi Tohyama (Kyoto University)*

10:30 Kenji Tsutsumi (The University of Osaka)

“German Forest Management and Japanese Forestry— Toward an Integrated and Sustainable Model —”

*Kenji Tsutsumi*

11:00 Tetsu Lucas Matsushima (Ehime University)

“Mokuseishi: A Forest Narrative and Its Impact on Awareness of Abandoned Forests”

*Tetsu Lucas Matsushima and Tsuyoshi Hatori*

11:30 Francesca Poggi (NOVA University of Lisbon)

“A Transformative Roadmap Model for the Future of Rural Areas: Insights from a Bibliometric Analysis of Global Research Trends”

*Francesca Poggi*

Lunch 【12:00-13:20】

*Session 3 Governance of Commons Chair: Francesca Poggi (Nova University of Lisbon)*

13:20 Kamila Borseková (Matej Bel University)

“Open and Participatory Governance of Commons”

*Kamila Borseková*

13:50 Tsuyoshi Hatori (Ehime University)

“Weather Commons: Towards Convivial Weather Modification Technologies”

*Tsuyoshi Hatori, Chris Berthelsen and Christoph D. D. Rupprecht*

14:20 Debapriti Sengupta (Ehime University)

“Sacred Atmospheres and Smart Skies: Weather Modification and Regional Resilience through Indic Knowledge Systems in South Asia”

*Debapriti Sengupta and Christoph D. D. Rupprecht*

14:50 Coffee Break

*Session 4 Infrastructure Management and Citizen Engagement Chair: Anna Lundgren (Nordregio)*

15:10 Akinobu Nishio (Kyoto University)

“Methods for Developing Consensus Building Skills of Client in Public Project Implementation Using the Case Method”

*Akinobu Nishio*

15:40 Ismu Rini Dwi Ari (Brawijaya University)

“Tactical Urbanism, Sustainable Infrastructure, and Urban Poverty: Theory and Practice from Kampung Warna-Warni, Indonesia”

*Ismu Rini Dwi Ari, Wulan Dwi Purnamasari, Wawargita Permata Wijayanti, and Deni Agus Setyono*

16:10 Emi Tohyama (Kyoto University)

“Vietnamese L1 Speakers’ Perceptions of English and Their Code-Switching Practices”

*Emi Tohyama*

**DAY 2 (Oct. 2)**

*Session 5 Rural Sustainability and Resilience Chair: Kamila Borseková (Matej Bel University)*

9:30 Sipho R. V. Simelane (Ehime University)

“Protecting the Commons under Dual Land Governance: Social Identity Approach to Determinants of Sustainable Land Management in Southern Eswatini”

*Sipho R. V. Simelane and Tsuyoshi Hatori*

10:00 Kakuya Matsushima (Kyoto University)

“Resilience of Rural Areas after Big Disasters: Some Insights from Survey Data about the Recovery Process of SMEs”

*Kakuya Matsushima and Hans Westlund*

10:30 Anna Lundgren (Nordregio)

“Challenges and Opportunities for Sustainable Local Labour Markets in Remote Areas. Results from Two Swedish Case Studies”

*Anna Lundgren*

11:00 Closing

# **German Forest Management and Japanese Forestry — Toward an Integrated and Sustainable Model —**

Kenji TSUTSUMI <sup>a</sup>

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## **ABSTRACT**

Japanese forestry has been in steady decline, particularly since the period of rapid economic growth following World War II, and issues surrounding forest management have become increasingly critical. Although modern Japanese forestry research initially drew extensively from German models, a significant divergence has emerged between the rational, integrated forest management practiced in Germany and the current state of forestry in Japan. Today, revitalizing the forestry sector and establishing effective forest management systems are urgent challenges for Japan. In Germany, forestry is closely intertwined with tourism, hunting, environmental conservation, and recreational use, supported by a comprehensive framework that emphasizes the multifaceted public functions of forests. This study focuses on how forest management and forestry in Germany are structured around the functional roles of forests, examining their rational foundations and ongoing challenges. By doing so, the research aims to explore potential directions for addressing the pressing issues facing Japanese forestry.

# **Mokuseishi: A Forest Narrative and Its Impact on Awareness of Abandoned Forests**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Across many mountainous areas of Japan, the declining population and aging have left post-war plantation forests insufficiently managed, resulting in an acute proliferation of so-called “neglected forests.” The spread of these unmanaged stands threatens to degrade the multifunctional roles of forests—slope stabilization, carbon sequestration, water regulation, and biodiversity conservation—and thus poses serious risks to local communities. Although the issue has long been recognized in Japan, the general public still lacks an intuitive understanding of its reality. This study, therefore, proposes a novel method, grounded in multispecies perspectives, that recounts the developmental trajectory of a neglected forest as a “tree life history,” or Mokuseishi, and examines the educational impact of reading such a narrative. Fieldwork was conducted in Kumakogen Town, Ehime Prefecture, where a representative neglected forest site was selected. Drawing on interviews with stakeholders and surviving archival materials, we constructed the site’s Mokuseishi and measured changes in participants’ awareness of the problem after its presentation. Based on this evaluation, we discuss insights into how contemporary society might engage with the escalating challenge of neglected forests.

# **A Transformative Roadmap Model for the Future of Rural Areas: Insights from a Bibliometric Analysis of Global Research Trends**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Rural areas are undergoing rapid and complex transformations in response to a range of economic, social, environmental, political, and technological changes. While traditionally viewed as spaces for agricultural and forestry activities, these territories now face growing pressure from other land uses, including housing, recreation, tourism, and, more recently, renewable energy production. This evolving context raises critical questions about the future agenda for rural development and the need for a sustainable transition toward new multifunctional models. This research contributes to the ongoing debate on rural futures by conducting a bibliometric mapping analysis using VOSviewer. Drawing on a review of global research trends from the literature, the study identifies five key thematic clusters: climate change and sustainability, economic development and governance, land use and scenario planning, territorial diversity, and rural revitalisation. These clusters inform a conceptual framework of a transformative roadmap for the future of rural areas, emphasising multifunctionality, participatory planning, and the integration of local knowledge and innovation. The roadmap outlines five strategic drivers of agriculture, forest and landscape management, housing, tourism and culture, and energy transition, each linked to governance, natural resources, social capital, and technological innovation. The proposed roadmap aims to support a place-based planning process that promotes community engagement, cross-sector collaboration, and shared knowledge as essential conditions for transformative and resilient rural change. By aligning spatial planning practices with emerging global challenges, this study contributes to the vision of autonomous, innovative, and sustainable rural communities in the context of the knowledge and risk society. The findings aim to support policymakers, planners and stakeholders in identifying interdisciplinary pathways for rural development grounded in socially embedded, research-informed, and actionable planning strategies.

# Open and participatory governance of commons

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## ABSTRACT

Addressing contemporary regional, urban and rural challenges demands a rethinking of governance frameworks and academic practices to better harness local knowledge and participatory approaches. Historically, commons governance has required a sophisticated balancing of social, ecological, and cultural factors. Today, open and participatory governance emerges as a key approach for enhancing regional resilience and sustainability, drawing from concepts by Magnaghi (2010), the European Landscape Convention (2000), and the European Convention on Cultural Heritage for Society (2005). Our analysis synthesizes historical perspectives on commons governance (Ostrom 1990; De Moor 2015; Avise 2020; Coriat & Leyronas 2023; Dépôts 2023), emphasizing contemporary strategies rooted in local stakeholder collaboration and shared responsibility.

This paper explores how integrating local knowledge through participatory governance can effectively address regional disparities and ecological pressures, identifying barriers such as legal inertia and socio-economic power imbalances, alongside benefits including community cohesion, ecological stewardship, and rural revitalisation. Three inspiring case studies illustrate this intersection: (1) Bibracte, France—a landscape of participatory heritage governance fostering territorial experimentation; (2) traditional irrigation systems in South-East Spain—historically resilient commons now threatened by agricultural intensification yet sustained through community-driven approaches; and (3) Slovakia's Banská Štiavnica water management system—revitalized via volunteer-based governance within a UNESCO-listed heritage context.

We argue that to better mobilize regional smartness, academic disciplines must become more interdisciplinary, actively engaging communities and stakeholders in research and policy co-creation and practice. This approach requires novel research paradigms that bridge theoretical insights and real-world community challenges, thus enhancing regional adaptability and sustainability.

# **Weather Commons: Towards Convivial Weather Modification Technologies**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Concerns about the intensification of extreme weather events due to climate change have led to a resurgence of interest in weather modification worldwide. Alongside global climate engineering, weather intervention technologies at the regional and local levels have consistently sparked policy debates over their implementation and impact. We argue that technocratic approaches to weather modification treat weather as a resource to be exploited, thereby disrupting the intricate human-weather relationship. As an alternative, we propose the concept of weather commons as a democratic, community-centered approach. This study elucidates the concept and requirements of weather commons and reassesses the appropriate trajectory for weather modification technologies. To this end, it critically reviews the viability of existing commons theories in the context of weather modification and discusses four key agendas: commoning, scale, non-human agency, and convivial technology. Drawing from these agendas, we propose a pluriversal definition of weather commons as a relational ontology that embodies a perspective of being alive to a pluri-weather world. We then outline the principles of ontology design necessary for commoners. Furthermore, we present a conceptual framework for integrating weather modification technologies into the weather commons assemblage in a bricolage manner, exploring the development of convivial technologies that harmonize with local communities and ecosystems. Finally, practical considerations and future directions are addressed.



# **Sacred Atmospheres and Smart Skies: Weather Modification and Regional Resilience through Indic Knowledge Systems in South Asia**

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## **ABSTRACT**

As climate crises intensify, approaches such as weather modification and geoengineering have gained global attention. Weather modification comprises local to regional scale interventions in the atmospheric system seeking to ameliorate effects of climate change in addition to transformative change called for by the IPCC and IPBES. However, such technologies do not exist in a socio-cultural-historical vacuum. Exploring how intersectionality and indigenous as well as local knowledge systems might inform and shape weather modification methods and contexts, while providing new perspectives leading to improved regional resilience and sustainability.

For the purpose of this paper, we have chosen three ancient South Asian texts — namely, the Rig Veda (Vedic Sanskrit text approximately dating back to 1500–1000 BCE), Khana's Bachan (agricultural proverbs, 9th and 12th Centuries, approx.), and the late 19th Century Bonbibī (the lady of the forest) Johuranama (book of glory). All these texts contain substantial instances and understandings of atmospheric behaviour, seasonal patterns and mutual stewardship between humans and non-human entities. This paper offers an alternative view on weather modification technologies by interpreting the Rig Vedic hymns to Parjanya (God of rain) as early atmospheric stewardship, Khana's Bachan as folk meteorological algorithms, and Bonbibī's Johuranama as environmental governance models. These texts advocate for relational, local and ethically informed engagements with weather as well as climate and they play a crucial role in not alienating marginalized citizens like farmers and fishermen through 'technocratic development'. By bridging these insights with contemporary weather modification technologies, such as cloud seeding and AI-based forecasting this paper aims to outline a hybrid mode of resilience that privileges intergenerational wisdom, cultural embeddedness, and ecological justice. The findings suggest that meaningful climate adaptation in the Global South vis-a-vis the world must begin not with satellite control rooms, but with oral histories, ritual calendars, and sacred atmospheres of the land.

# **Methods for Developing Consensus Building Skills of Client in Public Project Implementation Using the Case Method**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Construction and improvement of infrastructure play an important role in restoration and reconstruction of communities in areas affected by large-scale disasters, such as earthquakes and floods. However, it takes a great deal of time to reach a consensus among local residents. Residents have a wide variety of preferences and perceptions of the burden to be borne.

To promote smooth project implementation, it is important to: (1) build consensus at the project initiation stage (careful explanation of the project's purpose and benefits of the project) and (2) build consensus at the construction stage (resolution of inconvenience and dissatisfaction associated with construction, and (3) ensure that the project order-taker is aware of the inconvenience and dissatisfaction associated with construction. cooperation, and (3) ensure that the project order-taker is aware of the project's objectives.

The project client is required to communicate well with local residents, construction companies and related organisations to promote the project smoothly. However, it is difficult to say that education and training in these communication skills are being effectively implemented for those who place orders. Therefore, we have planned a training programme based on case studies, which aim to cultivate practical skills by encouraging participants to think and discuss independently using case studies as teaching materials. The results of the questionnaire showed that approximately 80% of participants were able to think proactively about how they would act, as opposed to the more passive approach of traditional case studies.

Further research is needed to determine how the training programme should be implemented. in order to appropriately apply the 'modelling, facilitation, coordination and mediation' skills required for consensus building according to the level of consensus in the community. other stakeholders.

# **Tactical Urbanism, Sustainable Infrastructure, and Urban Poverty: Theory and Practice from Kampung Warna-Warni, Indonesia**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Tactical urbanism—characterized by low-cost, temporary, and community-driven urban interventions—emerges as an effective catalyst for sustainable infrastructure development and urban poverty alleviation. Through iterative, participatory processes, these interventions—such as pop-up public spaces, visually-appealing street art, and pedestrian-friendly upgrades—create immediate impacts in under-resourced neighborhoods while serving as testbeds for long-term, low-carbon, inclusive planning. In Malang, Indonesia, the transformation of Jodipan slum into Kampung Warna Warni illustrates this synergy. Initiated in 2016 by local students and supported by paint-industry CSR and community collaboration, the colorful makeover converted derelict housing along the Brantas River into a vibrant tourism destination. This project improved environmental quality, generated income through entrance fees (~Rp 2,000) and micro-enterprises, and enhanced public space for children and families. The city government later formalized the initiative within municipal planning frameworks, ensuring budget allocation and regulatory support. This case demonstrates how tactical urbanism can evolve into collaborative governance, enabling sustainable infrastructure upgrades and fostering community resilience—ultimately contributing to multidimensional poverty reduction and equitable urban development.

# **Protecting the Commons under Dual Land Governance: Social Identity Approach to Determinants of Sustainable Land Management in Southern Eswatini**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Land degradation, particularly soil erosion, poses a critical threat to rural livelihoods and ecosystems in Eswatini. This challenge is especially severe on the Swazi Nation Land (SNL), where communal land tenure under customary authority coexists with Title Deed Land (TDL) governed by statutory law. This dual governance structure contributes to institutional fragmentation, weak coordination, and inconsistent conservation efforts. Grounded in Social Identity Theory and environmental governance frameworks, this study investigates how psychological factors and dual governance influence commons protection in communal land settings.

A structured questionnaire was administered to 203 residents of Ezikhotheni, a rural community severely impacted by erosion. The study employed Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) to examine how national and indigenous identification and their interaction predict three behavioural outcomes through other psychological factors (perceived group norms and collective efficacy): National Government-Led Behaviour, Indigenous Government-Led Behaviour, and Modest Land Use Behaviour.

Perceived group norms consistently emerged as the strongest predictor. National identification positively predicted National-led Behaviour and Indigenous-led Behaviour, but negatively affected Modest Behaviour. Indigenous identification positively predicted Modest Behaviour. The interaction between identities showed negative effects on both Indigenous-led and National-led Behaviour, and a small positive effect on Modest Behaviour. Collective efficacy had limited influence.

The findings highlight the importance of psychological drivers, especially norms and identity, in shaping sustainable land behaviour. However, behavioural change alone is insufficient without governance reform that integrates indigenous and formal systems to promote collective action and long-term resilience.

# **Resilience of rural areas after big disasters: Some insights from survey data about the recovery process of SMEs**

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## **ABSTRACT**

The 2024 Noto Peninsula Earthquake on the western side of central Japan has had a considerable impact on companies in the affected region, presenting substantial challenges to their recovery efforts. The geographical characteristics of the disaster-affected region have served to compound these difficulties. The restoration of business facilities and the reconstruction of livelihoods in these areas are not only essential for the survival of the local workforce but also a critical component for the survival of the region. Furthermore, these initiatives are positioned as integral components of a comprehensive policy framework aimed at enhancing the resilience of not only the affected region but also the entire nation. This study analyzes the impact of various preemptive measures and post-disaster assistance programs on the recovery process of SMEs in disaster-affected areas. The analysis is based on survey results on the extent of damage and recovery processes. The objective of the analysis is to give new knowledge for enhancing the resilience of regions by facilitating the rapid recovery of businesses in depopulated marginal areas. Furthermore, the analysis will examine necessary approaches to preemptive measures in anticipation of potential future disasters.

# **Challenges and opportunities for sustainable local labour markets in remote areas. Results from two Swedish case studies**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Local labour markets in remote areas are not only characterized by being small and by long distances to city centers, in most cases they are also less economically diversified, which make them more vulnerable to change. Many remote local labour markets are furthermore negatively impacted by the global trends of urbanisation and ageing populations, leading to a decreasing workforce. The lack of accessibility and a less diversified business and industry sector may also make them more vulnerable to changes in global value chains. In this paper we explore challenges and opportunities for sustainable labour market participation in remote areas and how they manage the global megatrends of demographic change, globalisation, technological change, climate change and the green transition.

The paper mainly builds on interviews conducted 2024-2025 in two case study municipalities in Sweden, Skellefteå and Gotland. The paper is part of the SUNREM (2023-2027) research project, exploring sustainable labour market participation in remote areas in Sweden, Norway, Iceland and Åland. The project is funded by NordForsk.