



*ESRS 2022 Satellite Events: far apart but still close together
20-24 June 2022
"Just Rural Transitions: Opportunities and Challenges"*

**CALL FOR PAPERS for the ESRS2022 Satellite event @ Scotland
" Transitioning Rural Futures"**

Date(s): 21st – 23rd June 2022 (with welcome drinks on the evening of the 20th).

Venue: Birnam Arts Centre, Birnam/Dunkeld, Perthshire.

Background: Transitioning Rural Futures

Acknowledging that the Covid-19 pandemic has had fundamental impacts on rural lives, our satellite event aims to pull together different perspectives and share new knowledge on how to transition to new rural futures and transformational rural resilience in a post-Covid world. We welcome contributions which reflect on both how the threats to rural areas (e.g. increased ageing, outmigration and loss of workforce, loss of key services, poor access to digital opportunities and external shocks) can be mitigated, as well as the new opportunities (including the potential higher value of rural natural and cultural assets in a post-Covid world, home working and re-population opportunities) the pandemic and green recovery might bring to rural communities, with consideration to the transitional pathways required for strengthening rural resilience and supporting rural futures. We are also interested in novel methodological approaches to understanding such transitions. We are happy to include contributions that consider these aspects from a number of perspectives, including (but not limited to):

- Digitalisation
- Changes to rural working lives
- Rural social innovation
- Re-population
- Place-based policy

Format of event:

This event is jointly organized by the James Hutton Institute and the European Society for Rural Sociology (ESRS). Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the XXIX ESRS Congress, originally scheduled in June 2021 and later postponed to 2022 will now take the form of eleven satellite events across Europe, of which this is one. The aim is to gather smaller groups of people in face-to-face meetings in different regions of the ESRS community.

The format of the Scottish ESRS satellite event is a working group, which combines traditional paper sessions with a world café to elaborate the working group themes. The event will be held at the Birnam Arts Centre in Birnam/Dunkeld in Perthshire, Scotland – a picturesque rural location, which is easily accessible by road and public transport from major urban centres. The event also includes a field trip relevant to the working group themes. Our event will incorporate two online plenary sessions broadcast by the ESRS committee to all satellite events, as well as a number of face-to-face sessions unique to the Scottish satellite event. We are currently exploring the possibility of a special issue connected to this event,

so there may also be the opportunity for presenters to contribute to this.

This satellite event provides a unique opportunity to bring together a group of academics with shared interests in rural futures, to develop collaborative networking in a way not normally feasible in much larger events.

Membership to ESRS is compulsory to be able to attend all local satellite events and/or the overall event. For renewal or new members, more information and instructions are available on the Wiley website [via this link](#). ESRS membership will give you a discount in the next ESRS conference. It will also give you access to activities organised by ESRS, such as the ESRS study groups and PhD schools. And it allows the Society to organise these events.

Submission format:

- Title of Abstract
- Presenter(s), affiliation(s) and contact email address
- Abstract (200-300 words)

Deadline for submission: March 15th, 2022.

Cost of event: guideline cost for individuals is £150-£200 registration fee (with expected discount for PhD students). This is to include refreshments, snacks, lunches and venue hire at Birnam Arts Centre, a conference dinner and drinks reception.

Field trip: TBC

Email to: *Leanne Townsend, Mags Currie, Christina Noble (James Hutton Institute, Scotland).*

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Notification of selected papers: March 31st, 2022.