



EXPERIENCING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - SUMMER SCHOOL

Call for participants for ESRS 2022 Satellite Event in Avesta,
hosted by Linnaeus University, Sweden

In place of its biennial conference, the European Society for Rural Sociology is organizing 11 satellite events around the common theme of Just Rural Transitions: Opportunities and Challenges. The Swedish event will focus on transdisciplinary knowledge production in applied research and practice.

Format: Workshops, lectures, field studies, and tutorials

When: 20th -23rd June 2022

Deadlines:

Submission of applications to participate: 25th April March 2022

Notification of selection: 2nd May 2022

Registration: 27th May 2022

Local Theme: Experiencing community development.

The summer school will focus on transdisciplinary knowledge production, linking research and practice in the field of local community development. It will feature presentations and experience sharing from local volunteers and the community, blended with lectures and workshops led by experienced researchers and facilitators, and a chance to present and get feedback on participants' own projects and project ideas. The interaction with community members and organisational actors, is intended to help to relate the theoretical and methodological traditions of rural sociology to the realities, aspirations and activities of actual community development projects.

Where: Krylbo is district within Avesta, a small rural town in Dalarna, Sweden. Krylbo is the focus of a project managed by the local municipality to bring together community organisations, NGOs and different agencies to address historic injustices, deprivation and disadvantage.

Expected Numbers: Up to 12 postgraduate students, early career researchers and community development practitioners. The summer school will be of interest to anyone who would like to research or work with community development, social integration, project management, CLLD or similar.

Activities:

- Expert presentations and workshops on community development, territorial approaches and local government, drawing on applied work in Sweden, Hungary, India and Africa.
- Presentations and experiences hosted by the community volunteers on the Krylbo projects.
- Participant presentations & one-to-one tutorials on project ideas.



- Facilitated workshops to understand and analyse the work in Krylbo, using mobile technologies and participatory visual methods.
- Final presentation to the local community and the local municipality of summer school experiences on the evening of the 23rd June.

Application format:

To apply to join the Summer School, please email chris.high@lnu.se by the deadline (25th April) and attach (i) a motivational letter explaining what you hope to get from attending , (ii) a short (≤ 1 page) description of a current or future project that you would like to discuss in the summer school & (iii) a short (≤ 2 page) CV

Cost of attending:

- There will be a registration fee of €200 to cover the costs of operating the summer school.
- You will need to be a registered member of the ESRS to participate. ESRS membership comes with a number of benefits. These include a discount in the next ESRS conference, access to activities organised by ESRS such as ESRS study groups and PhD schools. Your membership allows the society to organise these events. For more information on membership and for link to apply, follow [this link](#).
- On top of this you should budget for travel, accommodation and subsistence.

We do not want that anyone should feel that they can't take part because they can't afford it, and we are exploring ways to make staying in Kryllbo cheaper. We hope to be able to secure a reduced rate for accommodation nearby, and homestay and self-catering options. If possible, we will offer a reduced participation fee for the unwaged. Please contact us if you have any questions.

The team: Chris High and Gusztáv Nemes have worked together on scholarship and activism at the community level for the last 15 years. As well as community-facing projects, they have trained researchers and practitioners in participatory methodologies, rural development in Europe, Africa and Australia. Josefine Sjöberg is a project manager, working for Avesta Municipality on the Krylbo project. Her professional focus is on social sustainability, with projects in Sweden and Africa.

Note: The 24th June in Sweden is midsummer eve, an important cultural day in Sweden and nearly as important as Christmas. We propose to start a day earlier than other events (afternoon of the 20th) to ensure that participants can leave on the 23rd or stay on in Dalarna and enjoy the midsummer festivities.