



IOER Forum

Transforming places together: citizens and community engagement responding to climate change

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The simple evidence of global ambient temperature rises, changing rainfall patterns and more frequent and extreme weather events are indisputable and will severely impact communities and society as a whole. Incremental adaptation and coping strategies (such as building higher dikes) may not be enough to protect communities from greater risks in the future. Scholarly attention has therefore shifted to the concept of transformative adaptation to address the root causes of climate risks, shifting systems away from unsustainable, unjust and unequal trajectories. The key topic which will be discussed is how transformative citizens initiatives and resourceful communities take the lead in transforming places together. An emergence of citizens initiatives in the field of food, energy and nature can be witnessed taking matters in their own hand within the 'do-it yourself' democracy. This creates dilemma's when collaborating with spatial planners. Networked movements such as transition towns and eco-villages contribute to the 'up-, out- and deep-scaling' of community strategies, while engaging in capacity building and different dimensions of transformation. A conclusion so far is that key conditions for the development of place-based transformative responses to climate change are capacity building, inclusive governance, place leadership, 'inner' transformation and scaling of successful practices.

(Source photo: University of Groningen)

Wednesday
12.1.2022
4 p.m.

Zoom-Link:

<https://ioer-de.zoom.us/j/81736890939?pwd=ZHVBRkcZWEMyS2pwY1RWMjc5NkY5QT09>

Co-Presentation

Reframing places, communities and identities: The contextualisation of social learning processes in urban experimentation

Dr. Franziska Ehnert
IOER Dresden

Urban experimentation has emerged as a transdisciplinary and co-creative research approach, which seeks to harness the potential of proximity. However, there is limited understanding of the contextualisation of experimentation in local settings and the reframing of places, communities and identities. Adopting a relational understanding of space, this research seeks to shed light on the meanings attached to artefacts and spaces, and illustrate social learning processes in socio-material contexts.

Moderation

Prof. Dr. Marc Wolfram

Coordination

Dr. A.-M. Schielicke



Our speakers

Lummina (Ina) Horlings is affiliated as Prof. Socio-Spatial planning at the University of Groningen in The Netherlands. She has an educational background in social geography and finalized a PhD in Policy Sciences. Her research work broadly deals with place-based local/regional development and the 'human factor' in shaping sustainable places, addressing questions such as how and why do collective civic initiatives take the lead in 'making better places together'. Research topics are leadership, place-based development, sustainable place-shaping, resourceful communities, (cultural) sustainability, self-governance, values, coalitions, and place branding. Her focus recently shifted to transformative citizens' and community responses to climate change. She is an active fellow within the RSA as member of the Research Committee. She was also involved in the RSA Research Network on 'Leadership in Urban and Regional Development'. Lummina Horlings participated in several INTERREG projects, co-coordinated the Marie Curie ITN program SUSPLACE on sustainable place-shaping, and is co-initiator/partner of the Marie Curie ITN project RECOMS on resourceful communities). She edited several books, on Passion (2009), Vital Coalitions (2010), Leadership (2012), and the role of Culture in Regional Development (2015), and has written many peer-reviewed scientific articles in various journals. She is member of the academic board of the Platform Sustainable Society in Groningen.

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Dr Franziska Ehnert is a senior researcher who focuses on the empowerment of citizens and the potentials of transdisciplinary and transformative research to govern sustainability transitions. She leads the research project "Dresden – City of the Future: Empowering Citizens, Transforming Cities!" (IOER).

IOER Forum

The "IOER Forum" is a public platform for scientific dialogue and exchange with society. With this event series, we highlight current topics in the field of sustainable development and transformation of cities and regions. We invite speakers to join us: from research (science dialogue) or from public administration, companies or civil society (science-policy dialogue). The lectures of our guests from Germany and abroad will be accompanied by short inputs from the research work of the IOER. The "IOER Forum" is open to all interested persons. Participation is free of charge, registration is not required.

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