

Sustainable Rural Entrepreneurship - A case in Hungary

By Szilvia Luda

The majority of sustainable development experts agree that, even though eco-efficiency usually positively correlates with economies of scale, globalization tends to have a negative effect on the state of the environment, as opposed to the positive impact of the appearance of self-sufficient micro-regions. From amongst all types of micro-regions, rural areas are of special significance. This paper discusses some of the contrasts between urban and rural forms of habitat in terms of sustainability and discusses the importance of the visioning process in generating sustainable rural development outcomes. An example of a biodynamic agricultural initiative in Hungary funded through the collective investment of 24 city-dwelling individuals provides an example of how a bridge can be built between urban and rural settlements which serves the needs of participants in a more sustainable way.

The workshop goes into more depth in explaining the bridging model. Furthermore, an opportunity will be provided for participants to engage in a Q model exercise designed to examine the value systems of agricultural entrepreneurs and to explore how these values relate to 'rural sustainability'.

Author Bio

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