



Rural Sustainability Programme – APAC Initiative for Regional Impact (AIRI) Regional Roundtable on Rural Sustainability – critical issues in Asia

Date & Time: 25th June 2022 (Saturday), 14:00-17:00 pm Hong Kong Time

Format: Zoom Webinar (Facebook live broadcast available @hkuccsg)

Languages: English (with simultaneous interpretation into Mandarin and Thai on Zoom Webinar)

Peri-urban areas in the Asia-Pacific Region are at crossroad. While the rural communities are facing severe challenges of depopulation and environmental deterioration, these areas offer invaluable opportunity to addressing climate change, food and water security as well as other lifestyle change issues. This Roundtable will call upon academics and practitioners from Mainland China, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Thailand to share their experiences in addressing key issues and challenges of rural sustainability in the region. The event will also officially launch the APAC Initiative for Regional Impact (AIRI) programme and introduce the regional partnership for rural sustainability. The one-year incubation programme, **AIRI Urban-Rural Sustainability Fellowship 2022-23**, will be announced at the launch and will call for interest from those keen individuals aspire to be the change fellows steering rural sustainability.

TIME	PROGRAMME
14:00-14:05	Opening Remarks
14:05-14:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professor William Hayward, Dean of Social Sciences, The University of Hong Kong
14:15-14:45	Introduction: Rural Sustainability Programme – APAC Initiative for Regional Impact (AIRI) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Winnie Law, Deputy Director, Centre for Civil Society and Governance, The University of Hong Kong
14:15-14:45	Building Rural Resilience Through Collaborative Governance: insights from the Lai Chi Wo experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Jessica Marie Williams, Post-doctoral Fellow, Centre for Civil Society and Governance, The University of Hong Kong • Dr. Kwei-kin Liu, Registered Veterinary Surgeon; Director of Farmshare Limited
14:45-15:15	Riverine Initiative for Rural Sustainability: toward concerted diversity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professor Ching-Ping Tang, Director, University Outreach Office, National Chengchi University • Mr. Yang-Hsian Chang, Owner, Zebra Crossing Library Co.
15:15-15:45	Practice and Experience of Rural Sustainability in Beijing Miyun <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Ruijuan Zhang, Associate Research Fellow, Rural Development Institute, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences • Ms. Yuhan Chen, Postgraduate, Rural Development Institute, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences
15:45-16:15	Decentralising Rural Governance for Sustainability: Thailand's experiences <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistant Professor Thi Phuoc Lai Nguyen, Program Chair of Development Planning Management and Innovation, Department of Development and Sustainability, Asian Institute of Technology • Dr. Sayamon Saiyot, Town Analyst, Department of Public Works and Town & Country Planning, Ministry of Interior, Thailand • Ms. Siwarat Pattanasri, Urban Planner, Department of Public Works and Town & Country Planning, Ministry of Interior, Thailand
16:15-16:45	Roundtable Discussion and Q&A Moderator <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Theresa Marie Lorenzo, Post-doctoral Fellow, Centre for Civil Society and Governance, The University of Hong Kong Discussants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professor Wai-Fung Lam, Director, Centre for Civil Society and Governance, The University of Hong Kong • Professor Ching-Ping Tang, Director, University Outreach Office, National Chengchi University • Professor Yahua Wang, Associate Dean, School of Public Policy and Management, Tsinghua University; Executive President, China Institute for Rural Studies, Tsinghua University • Professor Mokbul M. Ahmad, Head of Department of Development and Sustainability, Asian Institute of Technology
16:45-17:00	Concluding Remarks and Call for Interest for AIRI Urban-Rural Sustainability Fellowship 2022-23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professor Wai-Fung Lam, Director, Centre for Civil Society and Governance, The University of Hong Kong