

# IGU CDES Conference - Program



IGU COMMISSION ON "THE DYNAMICS OF ECONOMIC SPACES"  
COMMISSION DE L'UGI DES DYNAMIQUES  
DES SPACES ECONOMIQUES



ZRC SAZU  
Anton Melik  
Geographical Institute



## Rethinking the Economic Geography of Smaller Urban Places: Transformation and Well-Being in Small and Medium-Sized Towns

Wednesday, September 13, 2023,  
University of Bern, Main Building, Hochschulstrasse 4, Room 104/105

| Time                        | Presenter(s)/Event  | Title/Theme  | Chair            |
|-----------------------------|---|--|------------------|
| 13:00-13:30                 | Registration in the conference room at University of Bern |  |                  |
| 13:30-14:00                 | Heike Mayer & Eva Kiss                                    | Welcome & Introduction to Program  |                  |
| 14:00-15:00                 | Carlotta Fioretti & Discussant Loris Servillo             | <b>Keynote 1:</b> Small Urban Areas in the spotlight. Navigating policy challenges and opportunities for Sustainable Urban Development in the EU                                       | Arnault Morisson |
| 15:00-15:15                 | Networking break  |  |                  |
| 15:15-16:15                 | Jörn Harfst & Discussant Jani Kozina                      | <b>Keynote 2:</b> Transformations of what and how? Research perspectives on small and medium-sized towns in Europe   | David Bole       |
| 16:15-16:45                 | Coffee break  |  |                  |
| <b>Regional Perspective</b> |   |  |                  |
| 16:45-17:15                 | Atle Hauge & Giuseppe Calignano                           | Small cities – regional motors or sponge?  | Eva Kiss         |
| 17:15-17:45                 | Madeleine Wagner  | Knowledge-intensive business services in small and medium-sized towns between borrowing size and the agglomeration shadow of large cities: Spatial patterns of the German urban system | Eva Kiss         |
| 17:45-18:30                 | Break   |  |                  |
| 18:30-19:30                 | <b>Guided City Tour of Bern</b>                           |  |                  |
| 19:30-20:00                 | Break   |  |                  |
| 20:00-22:00                 | <b>Reception at Grosse Schanze</b>                        |  |                  |

# IGU CDES Conference - Program

Thursday, September 14, 2023

University of Bern, Main Building, Hochschulstrasse 4, Room 104/105

| Time   | Presenter(s)/Event   | Title/Theme  | Chair            |
|--|--|--|------------------|
| <b>Industrial development and transformation</b> |  |  |                  |
| 9:00-9:30  | Janez Nared  | Quality of life in Slovenia: access to public transport and public services  | David Bole       |
| 9:30-10:00                                       | Eva Kiss   | Industry 4.0 and manufacturing industry in Hungarian small towns   | David Bole       |
| 10:00-10:30                                      | Edilson Pereira Júnior & Regina Tunes  | Articulation dynamics between urban system and industrial production system: some experiences on the role of medium-sized towns in Brazil    | David Bole       |
| 10:30-11:00                                      | Coffee break   |  |                  |
| <b>Entrepreneurship and Innovation</b>           |  |  |                  |
| 11:00-11:30                                      | Henri Hakala, Kaarina Vleru, Chukwuka Igboanua, Olli Kuivalainen                       | SMST Entrepreneurship: a systematic literature review of the contextual factors influencing entrepreneurship in small and medium-sized towns | Heike Mayer      |
| 11:30-12:00                                      | Marcin Rataj & Tilda Rydgren   | Local Social Capital and performance of senior entrepreneurs in Sweden   | Heike Mayer      |
| 12:00-12:30                                      | Nuri Yavan, İsra Hatipoğlu, Mehmet Ragıp Kalelioğlu, Ceyda Kurtar Anlı, Hasan Canbulat | Innovation Activities in "Thin" Regional Innovation Systems: Evidence from Medium-Sized Cities in Turkey                                     | Heike Mayer      |
| 12:30-13:30                                      | Lunch break  |  |                  |
| 13:30-14:30                                      | Monika Litscher & Discussant David Bole  | <b>Keynote 3:</b> Successful transformations in small and medium-sized cities: Challenges and scope for action                               | Heike Mayer      |
| 14:30-14:45                                      | Networking break   |  |                  |
| <b>Agency in small and mediumsized towns</b>     |  |  |                  |
| 14:45-15:15                                      | Şükrü Yılmaz, Nuri Yavan, Robert Hassink   | Tracing Path Transplantation and Opportunity Spaces in a Small-sized Town: The Case of Altınova in Yalova, Turkey                            | Arnault Morisson |
| 15:15-15:45                                      | Heidi Bergsli  | Reseraching Institutional capabilities and place-based leadership in small city regions  | Arnault Morisson |
| 15:45-16:15                                      | Coffee break   |  |                  |

cont.

# IGU CDES Conference - Program

Thursday, September 14, 2023

University of Bern, Main Building, Hochschulstrasse 4, Room 104/105

| Time        | Presenter(s)/Event                                    | Title/Theme   | Chair       |
|-------------|---|---|-------------|
|             |   | <b>Strategies and policymaking</b>  |             |
| 16:15-16:45 | Denise Cristina Bontempo & Carla Camila Gomes Freitas | Educational public policies as a vector of economic and population dynamism in small towns in the Northeast region of Brazil    | Jani Kozina |
| 16:45-17:15 | Michael Caroll  | Evaluating Viable Economic Development Policy Options for Small to Medium-Sized Towns   | Jani Kozina |
| 17:15-17:45 | Kvetoslava Matlovicova & René Matlovic                | Strategies of municipalities in the Slovak regions of small towns for overcoming the negative effects of the current polycrisis | Jani Kozina |
| 17:45-19:30 | Break   |   |             |
| 19:30-22:00 | Conference Dinner at Rosengarten Restaurant           |   |             |

## Keynote Speakers



### Dr. Carlotta Fioretti

Carlotta Fioretti is a researcher in territorial and urban policies, with a focus on place-based, strategic and integrated development. She is expert for the European Urban Initiative and previously researcher at the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission where she has contributed to numerous research projects aimed at promoting sustainable urban development in the European Union. In addition, she also researched and taught urban policy and planning at several public and private institutions, including Roma Tre University, Cornell University, Sciences Po and Pablo de Olavide University.



### Dr. Jörn Harfst

Jörn Harfst is Geographer and a research associate at the University of Graz (Austria). He holds a PhD from the University of Hannover (GER) and has studied both at the Universities of Hamburg (Germany) and Southampton (UK). He has a long academic track-record connected to the development of small and medium-sized towns in Europe. His major research interests are regional development issues, regional governance and European networking processes.



### Dr. Monika Litscher

Dr. Monika Litscher is Vice-Director of the Swiss Association of Cities. She has extensive experience with urban development in research and practice. She holds a PhD in cultural anthropology from the University of Zurich.

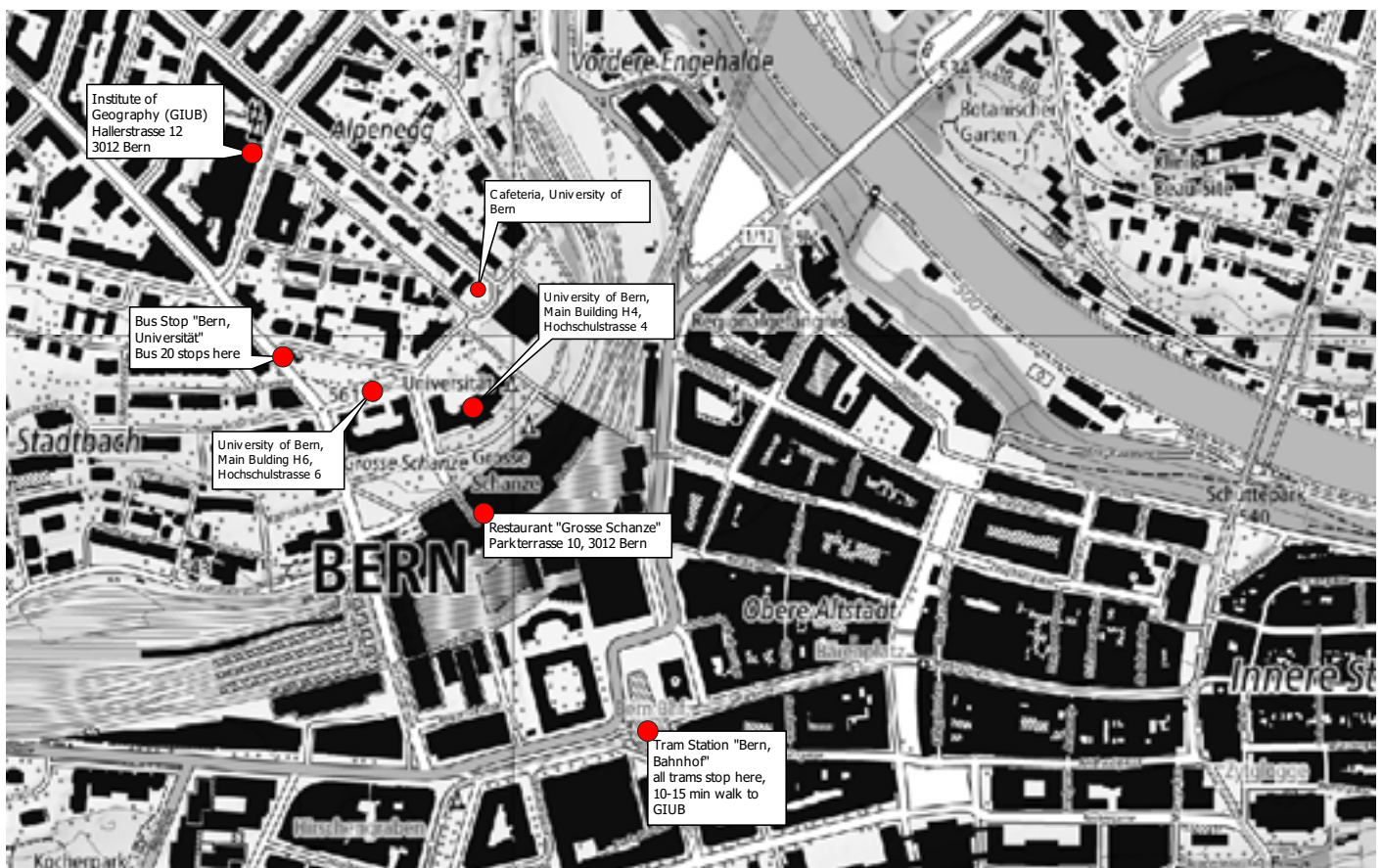
# IGU CDES Conference - Program

Friday, September 15, 2023  
Kongresshaus, Biel/Bienne, Workshop 1 & 2

| Time        | Presenter(s)/Event                                    | Title/Theme  | Chair        |
|-------------|---|--|--------------|
| 8:15        | Transfer by bus to Biel/Bienne                        |  |              |
|             |   | <b>Green economy in SMSTs</b>  |              |
| 9:30-10:00  | Mengcheng Li  | Ecological transition for economic growth: Green development and international cooperation in a small Chinese city   | Ottavia Cima |
|             |   | <b>Labour and SMSTs</b>  |              |
| 10:00-10:30 | Kimsa Maradan, Christophe Gironde, Olivier Crevoisier | From the informality approach to the plurality of occupational relationships: The contribution of labour to emerging economies, specifically in Ha Tien, Vietnam | Ottavia Cima |
| 10:30-11:00 | Coffee break  |  |              |
|             |   | <b>City image and new sectors</b>  |              |
| 11:00-11:30 | Neil Reid   | Craft Breweries and their Role in Revitalizing American Small Towns  | Janez Nared  |
|             |   | <b>Shrinking SMSTs</b>   |              |
| 11:30-12:00 | Tadeusz Stryjakiewicz                                 | Shrinkage and regeneration of medium-sized industrial towns in Poland – lessons from the past and new challenges   | Janez Nared  |
| 12:15-13:15 | Lunch break at La Rotonde in Biel                     |  |              |
| 13:15-17:00 | Excursion   | Biel: A multicultural and innovative medium-sized city in Switzerland. Visit of Terrain Gurzelen, Kulturfabrik & Switzerland Innovation Park.                    |              |
| 17:00-18:00 | Transfer by bus back to Bern                          |  |              |

## Addresses for Social Events and the Biel/Bienne Day

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Lunch and coffee break, cafeteria       | Universität Bern 2, Gesellschaftsstrasse, 3012 Bern                     |
| Meetingpoint, city tour                 | Heiliggeistkirche, Spitalgasse 44, 3011 Bern (at the Tram Station)      |
| Reception Apéro, Grosse Schanze         | Parkterasse 10, 3012 Bern   |
| Dinner, Rosengarten Restaurant          | Alter Aargauerstalden 31b, 3006 Bern                                    |
| Meetingpoint for the Bus to Biel/Bienne | Siderstrasse 1, 3012 Bern (in front of Building H6, University of Bern) |
| Biel, Presentations at Kongresshaus     | Zentralstrasse 60, 2501 Biel/Bienne                                     |
| Biel, Lunch at la Rotonde Restaurant    | Bahnhofstrasse 11, 2502 Biel/Bienne                                     |



| Participants              | Affiliation   |
|---------------------------|---|
| Anli, Ceyda Kurtar        | Ankara University, TUR  |
| Bergsli, Heidi            | OsloMet, NOR  |
| Bole, David               | Anton Melik Geographical Institute, ZRC SAZU, SVN               |
| Bontempo, Denise Cristina | Ceará State Educational Foundation, BRA                         |
| Calignano, Giuseppe       | Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences, NOR               |
| Canbulat, Hasan           | Nevsehir Haci Bektas Veli University, TUR                       |
| Caroll, Michael. C        | University of North Texas, USA                                  |
| Cima, Ottavia             | University of Bern, CH  |
| Crevoisier, Olivier       | University of Neuchâtel, CH                                     |
| Fairfield, Christiana     | United States Military Academy West Point, USA                  |
| Fioretti, Carlotta        | European Urban Initiative Expert, ITA                           |
| Golusza, Marusa           | Anton Melik Geographical Institute, ZRC SAZU, SVN               |
| Hakala, Henri             | LUT University Business School, FIN                             |
| Harfst, Jörn              | University of Graz, AUT   |
| Hatipoglu, Isra           | Istanbul Technical University, TUR                              |
| Hauge, Atle               | Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences, NOR               |
| Kalelioglu, Mehmet Ragip  | Gaziantep University, TUR                                       |
| Kiss, Eva                 | Geographical Institute RCAES, HUN                               |
| Kozina, Jani              | Anton Melik Geographical Institute, ZRC SAZU, SVN               |
| Lazzeroni, Michela        | University of Pisa, ITA   |
| Litscher, Monika          | Swiss Association of Cities, CH                                 |
| Maradan, Kimsa            | University of Neuchâtel, CH                                     |
| Matlovic, René            | Slovak Academy of Sciences, SVK                                 |
| Matlovicova, Kvetoslava   | University of Economics in Bratislava, SVK                      |
| Mayer, Heike              | University of Bern, CH  |
| Mengcheng, Li             | Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University, FRA                       |
| Merckhoffer, Anaïs        | University of Neuchâtel, CH                                     |
| Morisson, Arnault         | University of Bern, CH  |
| Nared, Janez              | Anton Melik Geographical Institute, ZRC SAZU, SVN               |
| Pereira JR, Edilson       | Ceará State University, BRA                                     |
| Rataj, Marcin             | Umeå University, SWE  |
| Reid, Neil                | University of Toledo, USA                                       |
| Richmond, Amy             | United States Military Academy West Point, USA                  |
| Rydgren, Tilda            | Umeå University, SWE  |
| Servillo, Loris           | Politecnico di Torino, ITA                                      |
| Strykiewicz, Tadeusz      | Adam Mickiewicz University, POL                                 |
| Theurillat, Thierry       | University of Applied Sciences and Arts Western Switzerland, CH |
| Tunes, Regina             | Rio de Janeiro State University, BRA                            |
| Wagner, Madeleine         | Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, DE                           |
| Wolfel, Richard           | United States Military Academy West Point, USA                  |
| Yavan, Nuri               | Ankara University, TUR  |
| Yilmaz, Sukru             | Kiel University, DE   |