

# Commission on the Sustainability of Rural Systems (IGU CSRS) Report 2022

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## A. Membership

### A1. Structure of the Current Steering Committee (2022)

- Co-Chairpersons
  - Serge Schmitz                      Belgium                      [s.schmitz@uliege.be](mailto:s.schmitz@uliege.be)
  - Valerià Paül                      Spain                      [v.paul.carril@usc.gal](mailto:v.paul.carril@usc.gal)
- Secretary
  - Fiona Haslam McKenzie                      Australia                      [fiona.haslam-mckenzie@uwa.edu.au](mailto:fiona.haslam-mckenzie@uwa.edu.au)
- Members
  - Suk Kyeong Kang                      Turkey                      [ecoksk@gmail.com](mailto:ecoksk@gmail.com) | [skang@ohu.edu.tr](mailto:skang@ohu.edu.tr)
  - Hualou Long                      China                      [longhl@igsrr.ac.cn](mailto:longhl@igsrr.ac.cn)
  - Aleksandar Lukić                      Croatia                      [alukic@geog.pmf.hr](mailto:alukic@geog.pmf.hr)
  - William Moseley\*                      United States                      [moseley@macalester.edu](mailto:moseley@macalester.edu)
  - Lou Angeli Ocampo                      the Philippines                      [laocampo@up.edu.ph](mailto:laocampo@up.edu.ph)
  - Cornelia Steinhäuser                      Germany                      [cornelia.steinhaeuser@uni-muenster.de](mailto:cornelia.steinhaeuser@uni-muenster.de)
  - Marcin Wojcik                      Poland                      [wojcik.moskwa@gmail.com](mailto:wojcik.moskwa@gmail.com)

In 2022, there has only been one change to the composition of the IGU CSRS Steering Committee (SC): William Moseley's inclusion (\*). This addition was confirmed at the IGU CSRS SC meeting held virtually on 26 April, 2022 (see section A3), due to Moseley's ongoing participation in the activities of the Commission, his invaluable contribution on the global research in the domain of Rural Geography and its implications in terms of sustainability and the broad world spectrum that he embraces: He is from the Americas and has worked intensively in Western and Southern Africa, liaising Francophone and Anglophone geographies in the former region.

## A2. Structure of the Steering Committee for 2023-2024

- Co-Chairpersons
  - Valerià Paül Spain [v.paul.carril@usc.gal](mailto:v.paul.carril@usc.gal)
  - Fiona Haslam McKenzie Australia [fiona.haslam-mckenzie@uwa.edu.au](mailto:fiona.haslam-mckenzie@uwa.edu.au)
- Secretary
  - Aleksandar Lukić Croatia [alukic@geog.pmf.hr](mailto:alukic@geog.pmf.hr)
- Members
  - Suk Kyeong Kang Turkey [ecoksk@gmail.com](mailto:ecoksk@gmail.com) | [skang@ohu.edu.tr](mailto:skang@ohu.edu.tr)
  - Hualou Long China [longhl@igsrr.ac.cn](mailto:longhl@igsrr.ac.cn)
  - William Moseley United States [moseley@macalester.edu](mailto:moseley@macalester.edu)
  - Lou Angeli Ocampo the Philippines [laocampo@up.edu.ph](mailto:laocampo@up.edu.ph)
  - Serge Schmitz Belgium [s.schmitz@uliege.be](mailto:s.schmitz@uliege.be)
  - Cornelia Steinhäuser Germany [cornelia.steinhaeuser@uni-muenster.de](mailto:cornelia.steinhaeuser@uni-muenster.de)
  - Marcin Wojcik Poland [wojciek.moskwa@gmail.com](mailto:wojciek.moskwa@gmail.com)

This structure is the consequence of Serge Schmitz's commitment to retaining the position of Co-Chair for six years (2017-2022). Fiona Haslam McKenzie, former Secretary, becomes Co-Chair, and Aleksandar Lukić is elected as new Secretary, predictably to become Co-Chair in 2025, when Valerià Paül finishes his four-years term (2020-2024).

## A3. Steering Committee Meetings



Two IGU CSRS SC meetings were held in 2022, both in the first half of the year. The first was during the 29<sup>th</sup> IGU CSRS Colloquium in Egypt, on 3 March, with four of the nine IGU CSRS SC members present, including both Co-Chairs, who attended that event. It was resolved to hold a virtual meeting some weeks later to ensure a better attendance. The Polish delegates organising the 30<sup>th</sup> IGU CSRS Colloquium in Poland in 2023 outlined their plans, and a discussion was held regarding the best dates for the forthcoming event, the main theme and the proposed sessions.

The second annual IGU CSRS SC meeting was held virtually on 26 April, with all nine IGU CSRS SC members present. Many points were discussed. Firstly, the appreciation of the 29<sup>th</sup> IGU CSRS colloquium in Egypt was noted (see section B1). Secondly, the forthcoming events were considered: the fieldwork seminar around Zagreb, the IGU Conference in Paris in July 2022 and the 30<sup>th</sup> Colloquium to be held in 2023 in Łódź (see sections B2 to B4).



At this meeting, the IGU CSRS SC officially invited William Moseley to join the IGU CSRS SC. The invitation letter was subsequently sent on 4 May and he immediately accepted the offer to join.

The second annual IGU CSRS SC meeting also discussed different bids presented for holding the 31<sup>st</sup> Colloquium in 2024, taking into account that the decision is usually made in the IGU CSRS two years before the event. After discussion, it was decided to grant also the organisation for 2025, as follows:

- The 31<sup>st</sup> Colloquium will be held in Mendoza, Argentina, in 2024, with Cornelia Steinhäuser as the IGU CSRS SC member responsible for the event, to be organised by the Universidad Nacional de Cuyo local Organising Committee chaired by Facundo Martín, and the active implication of the HIGHLANDS.3 project network (see section C), coordinated by Fernando Ruiz Peyré (Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften, Austria).

- The 32<sup>nd</sup> will be held in Manila and the Cordillera Region in Northern Philippines, in 2025, with Lou Angeli Ocampo as the IGU CSRS SC member responsible for the event, with a local Organising Committee to be set with her colleagues at the University of the Philippines.

These decisions are particularly relevant as the IGU CSRS will be meeting in countries where the IGU CSRS has not previously met, both in the Global South, which are very important for keeping a global geographical balance in the IGU CSRS' activities.

Latterly (December 2022), the IGU Conference Local Organising Committee of Dublin (to be held in August 2024) has written to the IGU CSRS Co-Chairs to share their plans regarding associated events planned in Ireland organised by the IGU CSRS. The IGU CSRS Co-Chairs have answered that the 2024 IGU CSRS Colloquium will be held in Argentina.

Furthermore, the IGU Commission on Local and Regional Development has written concerning a possible joint event to be held in 2023. Although the IGU CSRS understands liaising with other IGU commissions as relevant and warmly acknowledges the proposal, the conference for 2023 was set to be hosted in Poland in 2019 (it was planned for 2022 and re-scheduled due to the Covid-19 pandemic). Further, a possible joint colloquium with this Commission will be discussed post-2025, taking also into account that the 2028 IGU Conference will be held in Australia. The IGU CSRS acknowledges that the IGU CSRS Colloquium that year should take place in the same country, to save travel costs, prior or after the event to be held in Melbourne.

#### A4. Corresponding Members

The number of corresponding members of the IGU CSRS, as of 14 October, 2022, is 943 in total, from 60 countries. This is calculated by means of the e-mailing list (see D2).

Country	Number	Country	Number
Afghanistan	2	Japan	115
Argentina	1	Malaysia	1
Australia	29	Mexico	1
Austria	6	Morocco	2
Bangladesh	1	Netherlands	8
Belgium	7	New Zealand	6
Brazil	21	Nigeria	3
Burundi	1	Poland	4
Cameroon	3	Portugal	8
Canada	56	Romania	9
Chile	2	Russia	3
China	18	Saudi Arabia	1
Colombia	1	Serbia	2
Croatia	2	Singapore	1
Czech Republic	7	Slovakia	1
Egypt	6	Slovenia	3
Ecuador	1	South Africa	7
Finland	1	South Korea	24
France	18	Spain	45
Germany	28	Sri Lanka	1
Greece	1	Sudan	1
Guinea	1	Sweden	5
Haiti	1	Syria	2
Hong Kong	1	Taiwan	2
India	152	Thailand	4
Indonesia	1	Turkey	3
Iran	6	UK	17
Ireland	17	USA	248
Israel	4	Vietnam	5
Italy	10	Others	5
Ivory Coast	1	<b>Total</b>	<b>943</b>

## B. Meetings

The annual IGU CSRS Colloquium is the most important activity of the Commission since its inception (originally as a Study Group “Rural Systems”) at the IGU Conference held in Washington in 1992. It represents a unique opportunity for academic collegiality and the interchange of experiences between global rural geographers. Importantly, they always include a three-four-days fieldtrip developed in rural locations to show initiatives, experiences, economic activities, transformations, conflicts, etc., which are understood as living laboratories to explore and arena for in situ academic debates regarding sustainability in rural areas. Typically, colloquia are progressively held in a different continent, each year trying to alternate Global North and Global South. The 28<sup>th</sup> Colloquium was expected to be held in Croatia in August 2020, following the IGU Conference organised in Turkey; the location being chosen, among other reasons, because of the geographical proximity and the good air transport connections between Istanbul and Zagreb. However, the Covid-19 pandemic caused the postponement of the latter, ultimately held virtually in 2021, in line with the IGU Conference in Istanbul also being postponed. 2020 was the first year since 1992 that the IGU CSRS annual Colloquium has not been held. Given that the 2021 IGU CSRS Colloquium was not held in person, it was decided to develop a fieldwork seminar in rural locations around Zagreb in July 2022. As noted earlier, 2022 was also the year of the 29<sup>th</sup> IGU CSRS Colloquium held in Egypt.

Logically, the IGU CSRS also participates in the IGU conferences, commonly by means of special sessions. This was the case of the IGU Conference held in Paris in 2022.

### B1. 29<sup>th</sup> IGU CSRS Colloquium: Egypt (2022)

This colloquium, held from 28 February to 4 March 2022, was themed *Necessities and Implementations for Sustaining Rural Systems in both Developed and less Developed Environments* and organised by the Department of Geography of the Faculty of Arts at the Menoufia University (Egypt), together with the Egyptian Geographical Group for Rural Development (EGGRD) of the Egyptian Geographical Society. The main leitmotif of the colloquium was as follows: «benefiting, not repeating, the experiences of developed rural communities could set up successful sustainable rural systems in the Global South». The four themes were as follows:

1. Promoting approaches for current Rural Geographies, able to conceive renewed issues in rural areas to achieve more fruitful Rural Studies.
2. Promoting the integrated fundamentals of rural environments: territorial, economic, social and physical through regional case-studies.
3. Smart Rural Innovations guided by the three lenses of innovation: desirability, feasibility and viability.
4. Challenges and compromises of rural-urban equilibrium, with expected contributions regarding the mutual recognition of agriculture and urbanisation as policy priorities for many world countries, principally in peri-urban environments, and their conflict in local case-studies.

There were 24 presentations, with more than 40 scholars present. The countries represented were: Egypt, Argentina, Belgium, China, France, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Romania, South Korea, Spain, Turkey and the USA. Some of the confirmed scholars were not present due to the enduring effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, including travel restrictions in many countries. The conference was held in person, with the exception of one virtual session with the confirmed presenting scholars finally not able/allowed to be present in Egypt.

The first academic sessions took place in the magnificent Egyptian Geographical Society building in Cairo, in the premises of the Egyptian Parliament. Here is stored a prominent collection of objects from different Sub-Saharan African regions; many expeditions used Cairo as the base for explorations of inland Africa in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The opening session and the presentations were held in the superb Main Hall of the Egyptian Geographical Society, echoing the sessions of the 11<sup>th</sup> IGU Conference in 1925 which also took place here almost one century ago. The inaugural session was chaired by the President of the Egyptian Geographical Society (Essayed Elhusseini) and the President of Menoufia University (Aadel Mubarak). Other speakers were the President of the local Organising Committee (Salah Eisa), the Vice-President of the IGU (Rubén C. Lois) and both Co-Chairs of the IGU CSRS. The 30<sup>th</sup> IGU CSRS Colloquium to be held in Łódź (Poland) was presented in that opening session.





Subsequently, the scheduled sessions for paper presentations took place at Menoufia University headquarters, in Shebeen El-Kom (Northern Egypt), with excellent attendance by local students. Most of the fieldwork was based in the Nile Delta region, also in Northern Egypt.

The fieldwork included a visit to places such as the Regional Centre for Adult Education in Sers El-Layan, created under the auspices of the UNESCO. The irrigated area of the western Nile Delta (Rosetta branch of the river) from the Edfina barrage was also visited. This included a discussion of the problems caused by the sea erosion experienced in the river mouth area due to the upstream obstruction of sediments in the Aswan dam, affecting both farmlands and coastal tourism developments. Further visits included the modern fruit and dairy farms developed in desert lands (located outside the Nile Delta), whose products are delivered to national and international markets, and the regions of Wadi El-Natroun and Fayoum Depression around the Lake Qararound. Wadi El-Natroun and Fayoum Depression are important international tourism attractions due to their historical heritage. Importantly, sustainability issues therein are exacerbated by political instability in Egypt, which has caused a decrease in the number of tourists visiting remote rural areas located far away from the main, widely known tourism hotspots of the country in the very valley of the Nile river.



## B2. Fieldwork Seminar subsequent to the 28<sup>th</sup> IGU CSRS Colloquium: Croatia (2022)

This fieldwork seminar took place around Zagreb (Croatia) from 13 to 16 July, 2022, chaired by Aleksandar Lukić, assisted by Ivan Šišak. It was attended by 20 rural geographers from 10 different countries. The purpose was to discuss in situ the different topics covered in the event held virtually held the year before, around the notion of ongoing transformations of the countryside.

The first day was devoted to studying the Medvednica Natural Park, located North of Zagreb, with ski resorts developed in a peri-urban area of the capital city of Croatia which is allegedly earmarked to nature preservation. The second day was dedicated to consideration of the sustainability linked to over-tourism in the Plitvice National Park, a dramatic Karst landscape. The following day the studied area was the Banovina



region, located on the border between Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. The area was already lagging behind in social and economic indicators in the Croatian context, however the effects of a border with a non-EU country in addition to the earthquake experienced in 2020 have worsened the region's situation. Some local development initiatives around inclusive and organic farming were visited and analysed, discussing the contribution of EU funds. The last day was devoted to analysis of the Krapina-Zagorje county, bordering Slovenia. In that region there is a relevant presence of post-/non-productivist rural activities, and tourism developments mainly linked to the proximity to Zagreb.



### B3. Participation in the IGU Conference in Paris (2022)

In the context of the centennial IGU conference held in Paris from 18 to 22 July 2022, the IGU CSRS sponsored four sessions:

1. *Rural Geography Avant la Lettre and the Development of the Sub-Discipline*, devoted to considering the history of the Rural Geography sub-discipline, in the context of the congress celebrating the IGU centenary. The first chair of this session was Valerià Paül. Four presentations were held, with a consideration of the following countries/regions: Belgium, Latin America as a whole, Poland and Spain.
2. *Is it still Relevant to Speak of Sustainability of Rural Systems in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century?*, devoted to the ongoing discussion on sustainability of rural areas. The first chair of this session was Serge Schmitz. This was the most well attended session, with 16 different presentations, including those from attendants from countries that are not commonly present at the IGU CSRS events, such as Ecuador, Estonia and India.
3. *Considering, Protecting and Promoting the Night-Time Environment: A New Interface of Tensions and Projects Between Cities and the Countryside*, devoted to studying the rural regions that are managing their environments to avoid night-light pollution related to their neighbouring urban areas. The first chair of this session was Johan Milian. Six presentations were presented, half of them from France but three others respectively, from Australia, Serbia and the United States.
4. *The Covid-19 Pandemic: An Opportunity for Rural Areas?*, devoted to consideration of the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic in the countryside. The first chair of this session was Eugenio Cejudo. Eleven presentations were presented, all in Spanish and from Spain.

In the context of these days, the Co-Chairs organised an evening event on 20 July 2022 with all the rural geographers who wanted to liaise in Le Temps des Cerises restaurant, with fresh, slow food products. Despite more than 30 attendees expected, the Covid-19 heavily impacted those days and many delegates did not attend at the end.



#### B4. 30<sup>th</sup> IGU CSRS Colloquium: Poland (2023)

Conference website: <https://wng.geo.uni.lodz.pl/pl/nauka/konferencje/igu-csrs2022>

The 30<sup>th</sup> IGU CSRS will be held in Łódź from 5 to 9 June, 2023. The overarching intention is to discuss the “green agenda” which is repeatedly argued must affect rural areas (e.g. energy transition and climate change adoption), assuming this agenda is controversial and widely contested. In this sense, the theme for the conference is “Clashes of Knowledge”.

Three sub-themes are planned:

1. Environmental risk and social transformations in rural areas, including issues of migration due to environmental change, resources and space conflicts, social disparities and quality of life.
2. Rural local communities and the challenges of the “green deal”, including concerns about social movements and organisations regarding sustainable development projects and smart growth, local initiatives, perception and image of the rural environment.
3. Transformation of the rural cultural landscape, including issues regarding environmental change impacts on the rural settlement physiognomy, implications of new green energy investments on rural landscapes and landscape adaptation to environmental change.

As usual, the conference is scheduled with fieldwork in the Łódźkie region.

The first call circulated in September 2022 and the second call in November 2022. The acceptance of abstracts has been extended until 11 January 2023, so currently it is still unknown how many presentation proposals have been submitted. It is a repeatedly argued concern of the local Organising Committee that the war in the neighbouring country of Ukraine affects the number of attendants.

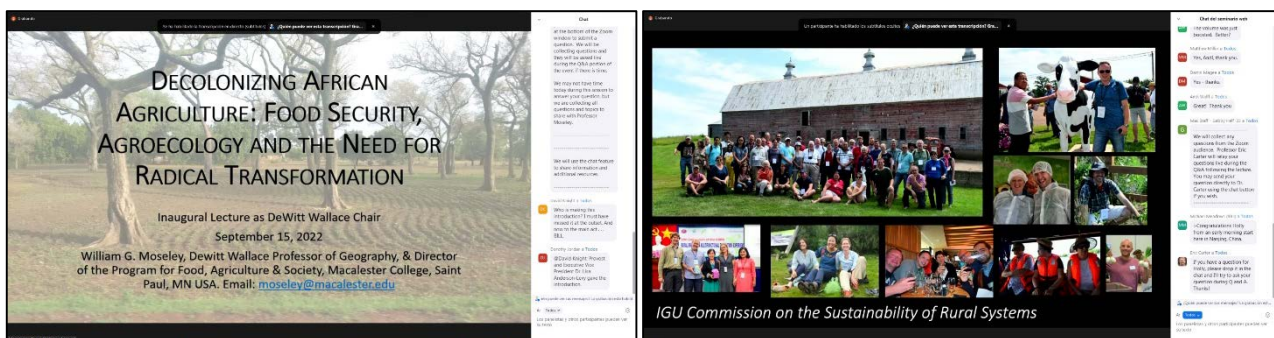
#### C. Networking

The IGU CSRS collaborates with other IGU commissions and related international, intergovernmental or inter- and multi-disciplinary groups. These include:

- Since 2019, IGU CSRS corresponding members from Poland are part of the DESIRA (*Digitisation: Economic and Social Impacts in Rural Areas*) initiative, a EU H2020 Project coordinated by the University of Pisa on improving the capacity of society and of political bodies to respond to the challenges that digitisation generates in rural areas, agriculture and forestry in the next years (<https://desira2020.eu/>). The project has been granted for the period 2019-2023.
- In early 2020 a EU H2020 RISE project on sustainable development in mountain areas was granted (<https://www.highlands3.eu/>) for the period 2020-2023, extended to 2025 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. In this project, IGU CSRS corresponding members from different Argentinean, Austrian, Romanian and Spanish universities cooperate. There is a month session planned in early 2023 that will be held around Mendoza which is seen as an opportunity to test how the 31<sup>st</sup> IGU CSRS Colloquium to be held in 2024 will take place (see section A3).
- In mid-2022 the Local Organising Committee of the 21<sup>st</sup> Colloquium of the Spanish Group of Rural Geography asked the IGU CSRS to support this event held in early October 2022. A letter of support was sent. Thirty-seven presentations were presented, mainly by rural geographers from Spain but also France and the UK. The book of proceedings entitled *¿Renacimiento rural? Los espacios rurales en época de pos-pandemia* is available at <https://www.age-geografia.es/site/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/LibroActasColorural2022SantiagoCompostela.pdf> (in Spanish).



- For the 29<sup>th</sup> IGU CSRS Colloquium held in Egypt, Salah Eisa prepared a volume with 11 texts in English compiling his presentations at this colloquium and previous IGU CSRS colloquia. Valerià Paül, editor of the Catalan Society of Geography journal so-called *Treballs*, asked Salah Eisa to submit one of these texts as a paper to this journal. After peer-reviewing, this article was accepted and published at <http://revistes.iec.cat/index.php/TSCG/article/view/150032/147780> ("Readiness for Developing Rural Tourism in Egypt: An Overall Assessment and Three Case-Studies"). Also Valerià Paül invited Scott W. Hoefle (Brazil) to submit a manuscript on rural research methods to this journal, which, after peer-reviewing, it was accepted and published at <http://revistes.iec.cat/index.php/TSCG/article/view/150033/147784> ("Objectivities and Subjectivities in Geographical Research: A Philosophical Inquiry into Methods").
- Lou Angeli Ocampo (the Philippines) and Serge Schmitz (Belgium) have published together in 2022: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/1745-5871.12565> ("Accumulation by Dispossession and Hazardscape Production in Post-Corporate Gold Mining in Itogon, Philippines").
- Rubén Boga, Valerià Paül (Spain) and Fiona Haslam McKenzie (Austria) have published together in 2022: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1111/soru.12415> ("Padrón Peppers or Peppers from Herbón? Discussing the Controversial Attainment of a Geographical Indication in Light of Food (Re)Localisation Approaches").
- Serge Schmitz is an editorial member of the journal *Geography and Sustainability*, an initiative largely supported by the IGU: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/geography-and-sustainability>
- Prof Holly Barcus and Prof William Moseley held their inaugural lectures in late 2022 as DeWitt Wallace Professors of Geography. Their lectures, both on rural geography, were widely attended, virtually, by IGU CSRS corresponding members from across the globe, despite the time zones differences.



## D. Publications and Dissemination

Academic dissemination has been a central purpose of the IGU CSRS since its origins. Most of the early colloquia developed conference proceeding books which usually took considerable time to publish after the respective colloquia. Further, in many countries a proceedings book is not considered a legitimate scientific publication. For these reasons, in recent conferences it was decided that the outcomes of the presentations held in the colloquia would be published in peer-reviewed conference proceedings and peer-reviewed papers in ranked scientific journals (commonly, by means of a special issue). A weakness of the latter is that they appear after the event and depend on the *ex post* submission of papers and the reviewing timing of the respective journal.

All these publication systems have been intensively discussed in recent years by the IGU CSRS SC. Hence, the current publications reflect different choices made between the IGU CSRS SC and the respective local Organising Committee of the colloquia that are annually held.

### D1. Publications Derived from Previous Colloquia Appeared in 2022 or in Process of Edition

- From the 27<sup>th</sup> IGU CSRS Colloquium held in 2019, there are two 2022 publications:
  - The special issue 112(3) of *Geographical Review* "Sustaining Rural Systems: Rural Vitality in an Era of Globalization and Economic Nationalism", edited by Holly Barcus and William Moseley, available at <https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/utgr20/112/3?nav=tocList>



- The book entitled *Rural Transformations: Globalization and its Implications for Rural People, Land, and Economies* (ISBN 9780367626464), edited by Holly Barcus, Roy Jones and Serge Schmitz, published at Routledge, available at <https://www.routledge.com/Rural-Transformations-Globalization-and-Its-Implications-for-Rural-People/Barcus-Jones-Schmitz/p/book/9780367626464>
- From the 28<sup>th</sup> IGU CSRS Colloquium held virtually in 2021, a total of 9 manuscripts have been submitted following a post-colloquium specific call by the Organising Committee. The academic journal will be the *Croatian Geographical Bulletin* and the special issue containing these 9 articles is expected to be published in early 2023.
- From the 29<sup>th</sup> IGU CSRS Colloquium held in 2022, a call by the Organising Committee for manuscripts to be published at the historical *Bulletin de la Société de Géographie d'Égypte* was convened, the deadline being 31 July, 2022.

## D2. Digital Networking

Website <https://igu-csrs.github.io>

In mid-2020, we set up a new website of the IGU CSRS. In 2021 it was updated, including a section on previous publications from the Commission and another on previous reports from the IGU CSRS SC available at <https://igu-csrs.github.io/reports.html>. Currently, there is a need to update this website (see section G).

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/ruralgeography/>

This social network is constantly updated by Suk Kyeong Kang.

E-mail list [igu-csrs@okayama-u.ac.jp](mailto:igu-csrs@okayama-u.ac.jp)

This e-mail list is maintained from Okayama University. The e-mails are filtered by Doo-Chul Kim.

## E. Archival Contributions

In 2022, the IGU CSRS has transmitted to the IGU Archive in Leipzig (Archiv für Geographie, Leibniz-Institut für Länderkunde/Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography), kept by Bruno Schelhaas, three volumes from previous activities held by the IGU CSRS. In the next years, and depending the availability of funds, more publications of the IGU CSRS will be sent to the IGU Archive.

## F. IGU Commission Excellence Award 2021

Michael E. Meadows, IGU, sent a letter in April 23, 2022 formally awarding and subsequently congratulating the IGU CSRS for the IGU Commission Excellence Award for 2021. This award invokes a commemorative lecture at a future IGU event (probably, the IGU Conference to be held in Dublin in 2024). The Co-Chairs warmly acknowledged this award and informed the whole IGU CSRS community.

IGU News: <https://igu-online.org/igu-commission-excellence-award-2021-igu-commission-on-rural-sustainability/>

## G. Accountability

Part of the IGU funds received for 2020 and 2021 are earmarked for updating the IGU CSRS website until 2024. In early 2023 this will be done, with the corresponding payment for 2023.

With the IGU funds received for 2022, the event outlined in section B3 was partially covered. The remaining funds, plus the IGU funds to be received for 2023, will be the used for the Ana Firmino Scholarship for the two scholarships to be granted for the 30<sup>th</sup> IGU CSRS Colloquium to be held in Poland (one for a student from the Global South/UN developing countries and one for a student from Ukraine covering the fees), both including the fieldwork and, if possible, the travel costs. Ultimately, it was decided that no Ana Firmino Scholarship was granted for the 29<sup>th</sup> IGU CSRS Colloquium.

The prize of US\$2500 linked to the IGU Commission Excellence Award (see section F) has not yet been transferred.

Submitted by



Serge Schmitz



Valerià Paül



Fiona Haslam McKenzie

Liège, Santiago de Compostela and Perth, 30 December, 2022