

# IGU - UGI

## Commission on Local Development

### 2004-2008 Report

#### ***1. Membership***

##### **A. Steering committee members**

###### **Chair of the Commission**

- **Michael Sofer**, Bar-Ilan University, Faculty of Social Sciences Department of Geography and Environment, Ramat-Gan, 52900, Israel, [soferm1@mail.biu.ac.il](mailto:soferm1@mail.biu.ac.il), tel. +972-3-531-8773, fax: +972-3-7384033

###### **Vice-Chair**

- (2004-2007) **Clélio Campolina Diniz**, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Faculdade de Ciências Econômicas, Centro de Desenvolvimento e Planejamento Regional. Rua Curitiba, 832 – 50, 506 Centro 30170120 - Belo Horizonte, MG - Brasil, [camp@cedeplar.ufmg.br](mailto:camp@cedeplar.ufmg.br), tel. (31) 32799001, fax: (31) 32799009
- (2007-2008) **Jerzy Banski**, Institute of Geography and Spatial Organization, Polish Academy of Sciences, 00-818 Warszawa, ul. Twarda 51/55, Poland, [jbanski@twarda.pan.pl](mailto:jbanski@twarda.pan.pl), tel. (48) 22 6978922

###### **Steering Committee Members**

- **Ash Amin**, Department of Geography Science Laboratories South Road, University of Durham, Durham DH1 3LE, United Kingdom, [ash.amin@durham.ac.uk](mailto:ash.amin@durham.ac.uk), tel. +44 (0) 191 33 41850, fax: +44 (0)191 33 41801
- **Biörn T. Asheim**, University of Lund, Sölvegatan 12, 223 62 Lund, Sweden, [Bjorn.asheim@keg.lu.se](mailto:Bjorn.asheim@keg.lu.se), tel. +46 46-2228402, fax: 046-2228401
- **Ayda Eraydin**, Orta Dogu Teknik Üniversitesi (Middle East Technical University), Mimarlik Fakültesi, Şehir ve Bölge Planlama Bölümü, İnönü Bulvarı, 06531 Ankara – Türkiye, Turkey, [ayda@metu.edu.tr](mailto:ayda@metu.edu.tr), tel. + 90 - 312 - 210 22 04 fax: +90 - 312 - 210 12 50
- **Kee-Bom Nahm**, Department of Urban Sociology, University of Seoul, Seoul 130-743, [nahm@uoscc.uos.ac.kr](mailto:nahm@uoscc.uos.ac.kr), tel. +82+2+2771+2233
- **Fermín Rodríguez**, (University of Oviedo), Departamento de Geografía Campus del Milán C/. Tte. Alfonso Martínez s/n 33001-Oviedo-Asturias-España, Spain, [cecodet@uniovi.es](mailto:cecodet@uniovi.es), tel.+34 985 10 44 04, fax: +34-985 104684
- **Tony Sorensen**, School of Human and Environmental Studies, University of New England, Armidale, NSW 2351, Australia, [asorensen@metz.une.edu.au](mailto:asorensen@metz.une.edu.au), tel. 02 6773 2880 (or +61 2 6773 2880), fax: 02 6773 3030

- **Michael Storper**, Department of Geography and Environment, London School of Economics Houghton Street London WC2A 2AE, England, [m.storper@lse.ac.uk](mailto:m.storper@lse.ac.uk), tel. +44 020 7955 6550, fax: +44 (0)20 7955 7412
- **Liu Weidong**, Chinese Academy of Sciences, 11 A Datun Road, Chaoyang District, Beijing 100101, China, [liuwd@igsnr.ac.cn](mailto:liuwd@igsnr.ac.cn), tel. 86-10-64889276, fax: 86-10-64851844

## **B. Corresponding members**

The distribution of corresponding members by countries in alphabetical order:

Australia	4	Italy	1
Brazil	4	Romania	1
Canada	5	Slovenia	1
China	2	South Africa	2
Check Repub.	1	Sweden	1
Ethiopia	1	Turkey	2
Finland	1	UK	3
France	1	USA	4
Ireland	5	UAE	1
Israel	15		
Total	55		

## ***2. Meetings***

### **A. Organized meetings 2004-2008**

**2004:** The commission was allocated seven sessions in the IGU Congress in Glasgow. The sessions were organized by the congress organizing committee with an involvement of the current chairman in his capacity as a steering committee member at that time. The commission received a permission of continuation after the congress.

**2005:** The annual meeting was organized in the form of web conference.

The conference was organized from Bar-Ilan University, Ramat-Gan, Israel

Date: 14-22 November 2005

Number of papers: 5

Number of participants: 60

### **Major issues addressed:**

- 1) **What is local development and for whom? - 14-15 November**

- 2) **The nature of local development in developing countries - 16-18 November**
- 3) **The role of talents and creative industries for local development in a globalising economy - 19-22 November**

**2006:** The Commission was fully involved in organizing four sessions in the IGU Regional Conference in Brisbane, Australia.

Location: Brisbane

Dates: 4-5 July

Number of papers: 14.

**Major issues addressed:**

- 1) **Brownfields, the urban landscape and local development**
- 2) **The nature of local development in peripheral areas**
- 3) **Local responses to local and global challenges**
- 4) **The nature of local development in peripheral areas**

**2006:** The annual meeting was organized as a joint tri-commission meeting: Sustainability of Rural Systems, Land Use Cover Change, and Local Development

Location: Cairns, Australia

Dates: 9-14 July

Number of papers: 38

Number of participants: 67

**Major issues addressed:**

- 1) **Thinking About Countryside**
- 2) **Landscapes and Rural Communities**
- 3) **Development of Rural Regions I**
- 4) **Rural Policy-Making**
- 5) **Development of Rural Regions II**
- 6) **Issues in Land Use Cover Change**
- 7) **Environmental issues**
- 8) **Changes in the rural-urban fringe**

**2007:** The commission meeting was part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Economic Geography Conference.

Location: Beijing, China

Dates: 28 June (The conference took place from 25-28 June)

Number of papers: 12.

**Major issues addressed:**

A mixture of issues concerning: urban, rural and regional development.

### **C. Planned meetings**

**2008:** 12-13 August 2008, Tunis, Tunisia, IGU International Congress, Commission meeting (during the congress)

#### **Topics to be addressed:**

1. **What is local development and for whom**
2. **The nature of local development in a mobile society**
3. **The role of talents and creative industries for local development in a globalising economy**
4. **Issues of Local Development in Mediterranean countries**

**2009:** 24-31 August 2009, Warsaw, Poland, Commission annual meeting, theme - *Poverty-reduction through local development*

**2010:** July 2010, Tel Aviv, Israel, IGU Regional Conference, Commission meeting, theme – **to be decided.**

Each of these meetings will be accompanied by a field trip of at least two days.

### ***3. Networking***

#### **A. Collaboration with other IGU Commissions**

1. The 2006 annual meeting was a joint venture together with two other commissions: *Sustainability of Rural Systems* and *Land Use Cover Change*.

#### **B. Collaboration with other international, intergovernmental, and inter- and multi-disciplinary groups**

1. The 2008 meeting of the Spanish national Commission on Local Development, to take place in the University of Valencia, is being in collaboration with the *IGU LD commission*.

### ***4. Publications***

#### **A. Assorted of publications**

**Newsletters:** 3 newsletters were distributed: September 2006, January 2007, and January 2008.

**Reports:** 2 reports were submitted to the steering committee members: October 2005 and June 2006.

**The Web conference papers** are on line located at the Bar-Ilan conference Internet site. The link is: <http://hl2.biu.ac.il/NewLoginFrames.asp?TopLang=1&lang=1>

**The proceedings of Cairns tri-commission meeting** have been published:

Proceedings of the 14th Colloquium of the Commission on the Sustainable Development of Rural Systems of the International Geographical Union (I.G.U.), held conjointly with the Commissions on Land Use and Cover Change and Local Development, Cairns, Australia, July 2006. Hard copy: ISBN 92-95027-11-6. CD-ROM: ISBN 92-95027-12-4.

### **C. The URL of the commission web site**

<http://www.biu.ac.il/soc/ge/igucomld/>

### **5. Archival Contributions**

All (3) newsletters and (1) report published since June 2006 were sent to the IGU archives.

### **6. Continuation**

#### **A. There is no request to change the name of the commission**

#### **B. The commission mission**

To learn, discuss, advance and disseminate the variety of issues and aspects concerned with local development. To advance our knowledge regarding the major economic actors shaping the local economic space, and to understand the local institutions and their role in the transformation of the economic space. To learn the processes of spatial rescaling of institutions and their role in local economic coordination, regulation and governance. To understand the impact of global processes and institutions on the local economy; to understand the de-localizing and dis-embedding force of globalization and its social and economic impact, by exposing local economies to an increasing state of uncertainty. To learn the role of both local and global mechanisms and processes in generating social and economic inequality within and between places, and the ways to decrease gaps of spatial unevenness. To recognize the forces undermining the local prospects for development and those that may carry the local economy towards growth and development. To disseminate the accumulated knowledge to the geographical community at large and to the practitioners who may apply this knowledge in the spheres of planning, entrepreneurship and social and economic life.

**D. The work plan – main task**

- To promote the Commission mission and to enlarge the number of members
- To implement every year a Commission annual meeting
- Maintenance and extension of the web site of the Commission
- Preparation of informative brochure about activity of Commission
- To establish a periodical titled “Local development” with the aim to publish papers from Commission meetings as well as other venues

**E. The anticipated results**

The anticipated results have a major role in enlarging and solidifying the scholarly knowledge base, and may serve as inputs for policy makers, planners, economic and social actors in their specific tasks.