



University of the
West of England

Health: The Design, Planning and Politics of How and Where We Live

- **Paper / Proposal Title:**

How the lack of sustainable public policies towards tackling rural poverty can impact on urban settlements

- **Format:**

Written paper and Presentation (in-person)

- **Author(s) Name:**

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- **University or Company Affiliation:**

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- **Abstract (300 words):**

Sustainability for a community can be defined as the existence of economic, ecological, social, and political conditions that allows the community to function harmoniously over time and space. In rural development, it means improving the quality of life for the rural poorer population by developing capacities that promote community participation, health, education, food security, environmental protection and sustainable economic growth; thereby enabling community members to leave the cycle of poverty and achieve their full potential.

Currently, one of the major challenges that our society faces is the eradication of poverty, which limits the freedom that people have to decide what kind of life they desire. According to CEPAL data, approximately 60% of of the region's rural population was in situations of poverty. Moreover, studies show that it is estimated that after the

next two decades, the majority of the population living in developing countries will remain rural; thus, the development challenge will remain associated with rural conditions. Consequently, achieving the targets set by the international community, especially in relation to poverty reduction and basic education, will require exceptional emphasis in rural areas.

In Argentina, studies of the proposals for Territorial Rural Development since 1985 show that the actions taken for each focal group were punctual and not integrated into a more comprehensive territorial or regional perspective. Additionally, after analyzing a vast amount of public policies, it is evident that the productive, commercial, and institutional articulation between actors and policies are scarce, and that the continuity and sustainability of the projects developed failed to continue after the economic and institutional support leaves. Simultaneously, the lack of training and transmission of knowledge towards the actors fails to consolidate the social capital needed to oversee the sustainability in time of the projects initiated by the government.

• **Author(s) Biography (200 words each):**

National Technical Builder, currently developing an Architecture and Urbanism master's thesis on "Equipment for the development of educational, productive, sanitary activities, accompanied by a program for the strengthening of social capital related to the execution of public rural development policies" at the Universidad Nacional del Litoral (Santa Fe, Argentina). The mentioned thesis also related to the final project for the Diplomature on European Energy Manager, a training program that enhances the skills of technical experts in the field of energy efficiency improvement, hosted by the Technological Institute of Buenos Aires and the German Chamber of Commerce.

Scholar of the Botin Foundation Programme for Strengthening of Civil Service in Latin America and firm believer on the conviction that the existence of a solid public service is a sine qua non condition for societies to enjoy long-lasting social, economic and cultural development.

Overall Winner Project of the Global Entrepreneurship Summer School (GESS). A program from: Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Technische Universität, University of Applied Sciences and Bundeswehr University from Munich, with the project "LoHoop" a Mobile App to fight bullying in schools. And later, Mentor in the GESS MOOC "Enabling Entrepreneurs to Shape a Better World " where virtual teams were tasked with developing and testing an innovative and entrepreneurial concept to tackle issues posed by migration in China.

American Field Service volunteer since 2010 and a strong supporter on intercultural understanding as a powerful and productive tool for building a more just and peaceful world.