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Special Session (SS03) on:

Territorial Governance and Local Development in Developing Countries

Organisers:

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The aim and scope of the special session:

In general, the developing countries are facing many economic issues, such as governance problems, globalization, infrastructural development, investment, migration, displacement, and human resource management, etc. The mix of them lead to various governance issues, as well as conflicts over priorities and the urgency to transit to a "territory" an often overwhelming array of dilemmas. It is commonly accepted that territorial governance in the developing countries is the complex of policies by which public powers are exercised in the management of economic and social resources for development. Where, the power used for multiple land uses; thus the superposition of lands often create conflicts, which the developing countries are facing at greater extent.

Through this session new research on some of above cited issues will be presented and discussed. Particularly, the session aims to present the most recent developments regarding territorial governance, placing particular emphasis on infrastructural development. The participants will bring information on the processes of infrastructural development in the developing countries, as well as on the behaviors and strategies adopted by the different actors and stakeholders, whose relationship network create conflicts at different levels of governance, i.e., the extent to which these conflicts have an adverse impact on life, livelihood, and land productivity.. The session also aims to address questions about the methodology and governance structure to be adopted for local development in rural areas. Thus, it would be an imperative to focus attention not only on urban areas, but on rural development in the developing countries as well. And also on the fact that various stakeholders are taking part to the governance process, which is not only lead by public authorities but also by public firms, NGOs, groups of local people, etc.

As regional scientists, we notice that with the globalization and the demand for new infrastructure; the nature of development dynamics assert itself as more and more transnational, and it tends to be directly in line with a worldwide space, while questioning territorial governance. Therefore, the trend of the Proximity Dynamics provides tools to tackle issues concerning the diversity of

the development projects rooting in territories. Several proximity dimensions could be discussed and distinguished. For example, geographical one, related to space, where organizational one due to the participation to a productive activity, and institutional, referring to social conventions shared by some actors. Then, it would encourage for the study of various mix of kind of proximity in order to understand the multiple means of the development. It is in running from these two approaches, highlighting the diversity of the ongoing changes concerning development in the developing world.

Therefore, through this session we promote an idea of enhancing geographical proximity for development of complementary corporate network, based on cooperation or conflict between local actors and other stakeholders; moreover, to extract the ways to mobilize the organized proximity for boosting institutional coherence towards good governance.

PS: after the session, call for an edited book will be announced, partially based on the best papers to be presented in the session as well as in the congress.

[**SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT**](#)