

Call for papers

Land use, land-use policies and their consequences for economic, environmental and social outcomes

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Estimates for OECD countries suggest that land and buildings constitute approximately 86% of the total capital stock and represent a value of approximately 249 trillion US dollars. These figures hint at the importance of land-use policies for economic outcomes. They affect the wealth distribution and appear to be at least partially responsible for the increase in house prices that has been observed over the past decades in many countries. Beyond economic outcomes, land use has consequences for environmental outcomes, such as biodiversity and carbon emissions. Furthermore, it is an important determinant of urban form and affects outcomes such as the walkability and attractiveness of urban areas. The importance of land use is also reflected in the contentious nature of many land-use planning decisions and the frequent conflicts that erupt over land use at the local level.

The special session aims to present research on the relation of land use, land-use related policies and economic, environmental, social, and other relevant outcomes. Contributors are invited to submit work that analyses the determinants of land use patterns as well work that investigates how land use patterns affect the abovementioned outcomes. The session may also feature descriptive research focusing on novel ways to describe land use patterns and their evolution over time. Both theoretical and empirical contributions may be presented in the session, as long as they are policy relevant.

The session does not focus exclusively on land-use planning. Instead, it encourages submissions of policy relevant contributions related to all policy fields that influence land use (including for example tax policies, transport policies and agricultural policies). Contributions to the session may also discuss the political economy of land-use decisions, for example by analysing the incentives that local governments face to pursue particular land-use planning policies.

Contributors are invited to submit either an extended abstract of 1,500 words or a draft paper of 5,000 to 10,000 words by **February 10, 2017**. Contributors will be notified of the acceptance decision in March 2017. The deadline to submit a final draft paper is June 9, 2017. As of 2017, ERSA organisers require a minimum six accepted contributions for a special session. If fewer contributions will be accepted to the session, the session will be included in the programme as a refereed R-session.