### Module: Rural and Regional Development in Practice

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>MSLS_AF-33</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Degree Program</td>
<td>Master of Science in Life Sciences (MSLS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECTS Credits</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Workload</td>
<td>150 h: Contact 40 h; Group Exercise 20 h; Self-study 90 h</td>
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<tr>
<td>Module Coordinator</td>
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**Lecturers**
- Dr. Hochuli Andreas
- Dr. Dominique Guenat
- Hans Schaltenbrand

**Entry Requirements**
None

**Learning Outcomes and Competences**

- Explain various approaches of rural development, resp. regional development, underlying paradigms and their influences at household level and beyond;
- Analyse and evaluate rural and regional development approaches, in different places and under different circumstances;
- Identify and assess potentials and limitations for development in a given environment, both in terms of natural resources and in terms of institutions and people;
- Propose strategies and organisations to support sustainable rural development.

**Module Content**

The module content will address those aspects of rural development that will be of highest relevance to the participants. It will be more applied than theoretical, and offers a set of problem cases (Problem Based Learning). Therefore the contents can be adapted and resource persons (lecturers) selected according to the specific needs. The following main topics will be included:

- **Rural and regional development:** with aspects such as decentralization, community development, migration, governance, center vs. peripheral regions, and the role of agriculture and forestry
- **Transition processes and rural development in practice:** how can rural development approaches support transition processes, how do they interact in practice?
- **Community forestry and forest economics:** role of communities for sustainable management of natural resources, especially forest resources
- **Rural development from a welfare economic perspective:** addressing issues such as equity and access to resources, income distribution, role of remittances, etc.
- **Safety nets and rural development:** poverty in rural areas, social safety nets to mitigate the effects of liberalisation and development
- **Watershed management:** including aspects of compensation mechanisms (upstream – downstream) for environmental services.

**Teaching / Learning Methods**
Introductory lectures, Problem Based Learning (there will be 5 PBL problem cases submitted to the participants) each problem case has been formulated by a specialist who will also provide the coaching.

**Assessment of**
1) Written exam to assess the ability of students to apply the concepts of rural development to new situations (60%)
### Learning Outcome

2) Two individual working papers (20+20%)

### Bibliography


A selected list of references and documents related to the different problem cases will be made available before the start of the module.

### Language

English

### Comments

The following sequences are compulsory for students: All PBL tutorials. For details on compulsory sequences, please refer to the detailed schedule of the module, which will be uploaded on Moodle 4 weeks before the start of the module.

### Last Update

12.02.2016 / Dominique Guenat