



REGIONS ON THE RISE

Rethinking Strategies for Rural Development

*#connectivity #resilience&sustainability #identity&diversity
#localknowledge #coproduction #perception
#planninginstruments #mobility*

This theme explores strategies and creates new visions for the development of rural regions of the future.

INTRODUCTION AND AIMS

Our age of urbanisation has focussed primarily on city inhabitants, while developments in rural areas drifted into the background. As a result, a binary differentiation between centre and periphery arose, which no longer took (inter)dependencies into account. Regions on the Rise focuses on fresh concepts and rethought design approaches with which to understand and plan rural regions. Conceptual understandings of the region as only a supportive hinterland for the city appear invalid, out of date and ineffective; as are the design and planning tools and instruments grown from this thinking.

Rather, as an examination of recent generations of economic, environmental and recreational activities in the rural region can demonstrate, the region is built upon spatial interdependencies that are increasingly autonomous of the city. The goal of the theme is to identify and highlight strategies for the development of a future sustainable rural area, connected to the metropolitan areas and cities in the digital age. Society, these days, is fundamentally questioning the various processes and practices that agriculture had developed under the pressure of the producer prices and cost savings. The lost knowledge about modern agriculture and animal husbandry is now followed by a phase of new appreciation and increased interest in supply, animal welfare and sustainability. The interrelationship between rural production and urban culture is increasingly being placed in the centre of society. This includes awareness in the context of urban agriculture, local markets, organic food stores, regional and seasonal consciousness and ecological strategies, as well as a new density and rising consumption.

What choices, offers and services are needed to identify a new regional confidence and create an attractive environment for the next generation of rural citizens? How can new visions and opportunities for a circular economy and local products be created?.

ANCB FORMATS

Public Debates

Concise presentations jumpstart an interdisciplinary exchange between peers, involving a public audience. Our public debates are not about showcasing portfolios. Instead, key figures from architecture, planning, research, governance, industry, civil society and the arts take on topics ranging from climate change to the social fragmentation of our societies, anchored in the discussion of the built environment. ANCB's public debates aim at generating an understanding of the complex issues our cities and regions are facing today.

Lab Talk	Two-hour evening talks – as one-off events or a series – consisting of three to four short presentations and a moderated discussion with an interdisciplinary panel
Symposium	All-day events consisting of several panels
Exhibition Talk	Lectures and discussions in conjunction with Aedes exhibitions
Book Presentation	Book launches with talks involving the protagonists of the publication and a book sale

Workshops

University Design Studio	Students from ANCB's international partner universities and their teachers explore a globally relevant topic through specific case study sites and/or building typologies in Berlin over a two to eight-week period. The studios are enriched with lectures and urban tours tailored to the specific topic and the outcomes are presented to our local network.
Round Table	Closed expert colloquia accompanying public debates to prepare them or deepen their outcomes
Metro Lab	Workshops with students or young professionals lasting up to a week in combination with a public debate
Junior Campus	Workshops to introduce children and youth to the perception of architecture and urban space and to foster an interest in design through cultural education and aesthetic development

Collaborative Projects

ANCB and a partner from industry, governance or research collaboratively explore a particular architectural or urban question over a one to three-year period with bespoke enquiry formats including a combination of lab talks, symposia, design studios, round tables and publications.

Publications & Outputs

ANCB collects, edits and shares the processes, ideas and proposals created in its programme and invites others to contribute their experience. A unique knowledge resource, the ANCB archive includes publications, research reports and video recordings.

PROJECTS SO FAR

2020

Online Conference: **Integrated Urban-Rural Planning and Governance: A Global Perspective** with Urban-Rural Assembly (URA) with TU Berlin

2019

Exhibition Talk: **Christoph Hesse und Ritter Schumacher im Gespräch**

Exhibition Talk: **Regions on the Rise - New Space for Built Experiments in Rural China** with Li Xiangning, Shanghai

2018

International Conference in Songyang, China: **Regions on the Rise - Culture and Architecture as Drivers for Rural Development** with the Songyang People's Government

Exhibition Talk: **Rural Moves - New Perspectives for Rural Areas in China and Germany** with Xu Tiantian, Beijing

2015

Exhibition Talk: **Mountains / Architecture / Tourism. Between South Tyrolean Alps and Tibetan Himalayas**

2014

Lab Talk Series: **Retooling the Trades. #1 Region as City: The Spatial Interdependencies Beyond the City** with the Netherlands Embassy in Berlin

2013

Lectures: **The Regional City – Local Campus in the Metropolitan Fringe**

University Design Studio: **Politecnico di Milano: Edgelands and Urban Agriculture**

University Design Studio: **Regional City – Vom Wohnort zum Lebensort**. Internationale Sommerschule zur Zukunft der Peripherie: **Münster School of Architecture, TU Berlin, KTH Royal Institute of Technology Stockholm, Leibniz Universität Hannover, HafenCity Universität Hamburg**

2012

University Design Studio: **TU Delft – The Why Factory: Resilience. Testing Regions Under Stress**

University Design Studio: **TU Delft – Design as Politics: Shrinking Regions Growing Democracy**

2011

Lectures: **City and Region: Learning from Berlin, Melbourne and Limerick**

ANCB The Aedes Metropolitan Laboratory in Berlin is a unique interdisciplinary platform for urban discourse, exploring the interplay between built environment and social life for the future of our human habitat at an international level. Since 2009, ANCB has curated an internationally renowned discussion and enquiry programme, complementing Aedes Architecture Forum. At the centre of a global network, ANCB initiates interdisciplinary processes into critical issues facing the built environment. By bringing together proposals from architecture and spatial practice with societal and cultural discourses, technical research, political considerations and industry products, ANCB generates collaborations across conventional boundaries and facilitates exchange to explore potentials for improved sustainable living conditions around the world. Through its programme, ANCB contributes substantially to the discourse of space making in its changing political, societal and cultural frameworks. The outcomes and ideas thus generated have been captured in a series of ANCB publications and are documented in an open-access video archive.

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