

International Conference
“Rural Areas between Decline and Resurgence:
Lessons from Japan and Austria”

01–02 November 2016

**Venue: University of Vienna, Institute for East Asian Studies – Japanese Studies,
Spitalgasse 2, Hof. 2.4, 1090 Vienna, Austria**

Programme and Schedule

1 November (Tue)

13:45–14:00: Melanie MALZAHN, Dean of the Faculty
Ralph LÜTZELER, Conference organizer
Welcome addresses

14:00–16:00: **Session 1 – Structural change in rural areas**
Chair: Barbara HOLTHUS

Ralph LÜTZELER, University of Vienna
Living conditions in rural areas: Stuck in a downward spiral?

Shin'ya UENO, Kumamoto University
*Impact of structural change on social capital and social networks in rural
Japan*

Coffee break (approx. 15:00–15:30)

Gerhard HOVORKA, Bundesamt für Bergbauernfragen (Vienna)
Structural changes in Austrian agriculture in mountainous areas

18:00–21:00: Welcome reception in a typically Viennese “Heurigen” restaurant (“10er
Marie”, Ottakring)

2 November (Wed)

10:00–11:30: **Session 2 – Subjective well-being and local community building**

Chair: Ralph LÜTZELER

Barbara HOLTHUS, University of Vienna

Parental well-being in Japan: Regional differences

Wolfram MANZENREITER, University of Vienna

Rural well-being in Japan: Reexamining the Aggregate Kumamoto Happiness Index

Yoko KAWAMURA, Kumamoto University

Health for sustainable community development: The case of Kumamoto City's program

11:30–13:15: Lunch break

13:15–16:30: **Session 3 – Revitalizing rural areas: challenges and opportunities**

Chair: Wolfram MANZENREITER

Johannes WILHELM, University of Vienna

Vulnerability and resilience as seen in a post-disaster rural environment

Naoto TANAKA, Kumamoto University

Participatory community development based on local identity in Kumamoto Prefecture

Hanno JENTZSCH, Deutsches Institut für Japanstudien (Tokyo)

Hamlet-based collective farming: Village institutions as resources in Japan's changing agricultural sector

Coffee break (approx. 14:45–15:00)

Georg WIESINGER, Bundesamt für Bergbauernfragen (Vienna)

The importance of social capital in rural development in Austria

Theresia OEDL-WIESER and Thomas DAX, Bundesamt für Bergbauernfragen (Vienna)

LEADER initiatives and rural revitalization in Austria

Pia KIENINGER and Lena SCHALLER, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (Vienna)

Public goods or public bads? The influence of agriculture on Austrian rural areas

16:30–16:45 Coffee break

16:45–18:00: **Concluding discussion and exploration of future collaborations**

End of the conference