**20th RURAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP CONFERENCE (REC):**

***Challenges and Opportunities for Rural Entrepreneurship in Times of Crisis***

Glasgow, Scotland,17th to 19th May 2023

The Rural Entrepreneurship Conference (REC) gathers a range of national and international academics, practitioners, public servants and other stakeholders who, while developing networks, discuss different aspects of rural development, and share new knowledge informing research, policy and practice. The 20th Rural Entrepreneurship Conference will be held from 17th to 19th May 2023 at the Yunus Centre for Social Business & Health, Glasgow Caledonian University, Glasgow, United Kingdom. The event will take place in person at our [Glasgow](https://www.youtube.com/embed/6jns9H6-9M8?rel=0) campus located in the city centre.

**Conference theme**

In the wake of the rapidly changing socio-economic, environmental and political circumstances influenced by consecutive events such as Brexit, the Covid-19 pandemic, climate change and international conflict, the REC 2023 will focus on ***Challenges and Opportunities for Rural Entrepreneurship in Times of Crisis.*** Indeed,soaring energy prices, growing inflation, raised borrowing costs, labour shortages, disruptions in supply chains and poor economic outlook create ‘a perfect storm’ that influences both global as well as local contexts. But what does it mean for the rural context? In 2023, we want to reflect on this dynamic and highly unpredictable environment, and explore its impact on farmers, rural businesses, community-led social enterprises as well as wider rural communities. Can rural entrepreneurship withstand these challenges and contribute to developing rural resilience? To address this and other relevant questions, and to encourage debate about drivers and impacts of rural entrepreneurship, we welcome presentations that focus on, but are not limited to, the following themes:

* Opportunities and challenges for rural development
* Resilience of rural businesses in times of crisis
* Technology, digitalisation and innovation in the rural economy
* Farming, land-based entrepreneurship and the natural environment
* Tourism, heritage and culture in the rural economy
* Migration and rural development
* Communities and land
* Rural policy, support and investments in rural entrepreneurship
* Regional and international dimensions of rural entrepreneurship
* Entrepreneurship and public service co-production
* Social entrepreneurship and community enterprise
* Social innovation and sustainable development
* Innovative approaches to rural entrepreneurship research and practice
* Critical perspectives and approaches informing rural theory
* Open stream

The call for papers and abstract template can be requested from REC2023@gcu.ac.uk

A maximum of two abstracts may be submitted per presenter (joint papers to be presented by co-authors will also be considered). The deadline for abstract submissions is **31st January 2023.**

To submit your abstracts or panel proposals, please email Artur Steiner at: Artur.Steiner@gcu.ac.uk

For further information, technical issues and other enquiries, please email: REC2023@gcu.ac.uk

**Important deadlines:**

* Abstract submission: 31st January 2023
* Registration opens from: January 2023
* Notification of acceptance: 15th February 2023
* Early Bird REC registration: 28th February 2023
* Final registration: 19th April 2023
* Full papers submitted for consideration in best paper awards due: 15th April 2023

**Rural Entrepreneurship Conference 2023 Organising Committee:**

* *Glasgow Caledonian University* - Prof Artur Steiner, Dr Dani Hutcheon, Dr Micaela Mazzei, Dr Jack Rendall, Dr Anne Smith, Ms Lorna Buckley
* *James Hutton Institute* - Dr Mags Currie
* *University of the Highlands and Islands* - Dr Bobby Macaulay
* *SRUC* - Dr Jane Atterton
* *University of Economics in Katowice* – Prof Izabella Steinerowska-Streb
* *Highlands and Islands Social Enterprise Zone / Impact Hub* - Ms Polly Chapman, Mr Brian Weaver

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