



Generational Crises in Smallholder Farming

Ben White

International Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, NL

Tatjana Fischer

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Karin Aschauer

Farmer and Teacher, Lower Austria

Monday, 3 June 2019, 18:00 - 19:30

Hörsaal 1, ground floor, Oskar-Simony-Haus
Peter-Jordan-Straße 65, 1180 Vienna

Free admission, but please register!
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Smallholders feed the world, but will they continue to do so in the future? Farming populations are ageing, and most rural youth aspire to careers outside of farming. Are young people unwilling to start or are their parents unwilling to stop? Access to land, possibility to farm for a market, or to complement farm with non-farm income contribute to the aspirations of rural youth. In future, generational renewal will depend on a reversal of current chronic governmental neglect of smallholder farming.

Ben White, professor emeritus of rural sociology at the International Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, The Netherlands, will share some of his longstanding research, focusing on sustainability and succession issues. Tatjana Fischer, deputy head of the Institute of Spatial Planning, Environmental Planning and Rural Rearrangement, will enrich the evening with a perspective on agriculture from spatial planning and rural development. Karin Aschauer runs a farm in Lower Austria and teaches at a vocational school. She will share her experiences in taking over from her parents and successfully converting from conventional dairy cattle farming to organic meat production.

Ben has researched and taught about rural childhood and youth since the 1970s, mainly in Indonesia. He is a founder member of the Emancipatory Rural Politics Initiative (www.iss.nl/erpi).

Tatjana investigates change and challenges in rural areas and addresses structural weaknesses. She is also a member of BOKU Vienna's ethics platform.

Karin previously worked for the Agrarian Chamber of Lower Austria and studied at BOKU Vienna, as well as at the Vienna University of Economics and Business.

Public event on Monday, 3 June 2019

6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

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Peter-Jordan-Straße 65, 1180 Vienna

Free admission

Please register until May, 31st

Contact: rosana.kral@boku.ac.at

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