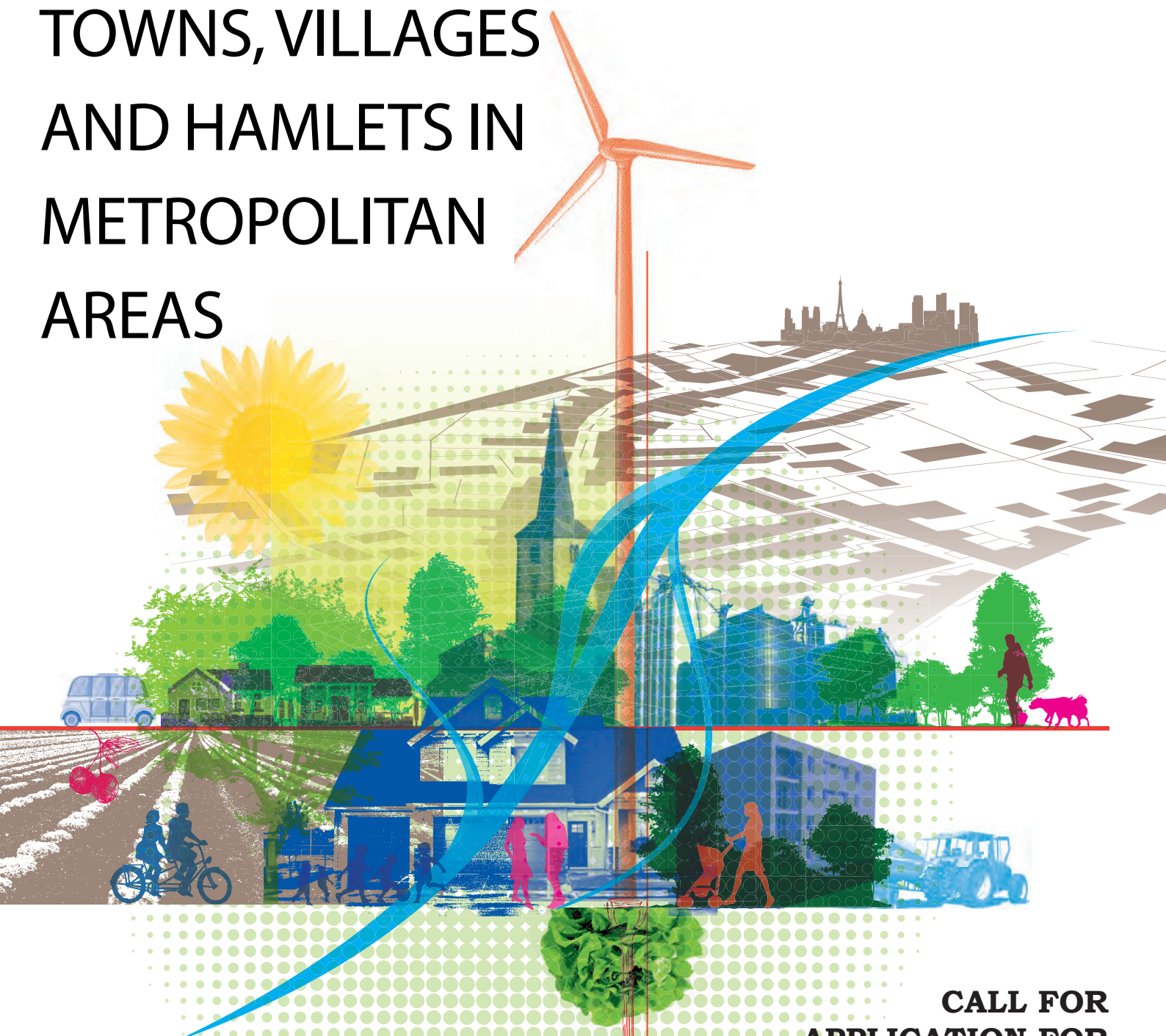


HAPPY FRINGE AREAS

TOWNS, VILLAGES
AND HAMLETS IN
METROPOLITAN
AREAS



**TOPIC
DOCUMENT**

**37TH INTERNATIONAL
WORKSHOP OF URBAN
PLANNING AND
DESIGN
SEPTEMBER 2019**

**CALL FOR
APPLICATION FOR
STUDENT AND YOUNG
PROFESSIONAL**

**APPLICATION
BEFORE JUNE 5**

les ateliers
maîtrise d'œuvre urbaine

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CALL FOR INTERNATIONAL
CANDIDATES

HAPPY FRINGE

AREAS

**TOWNS, VILLAGES AND
HAMLETS IN METROPOLITAN
AREAS**

37ÈME INTERNATIONAL
WORKSHOP OF URBAN PLANNING
AND DESIGN

from 2 to 20 september 2019

Beyond the limits of the central conurbation of Paris, urban countryside areas are expanding; and they are doing so under the influence of the city. These territories, on the fringes of the metropolitan area, now appear as a resource territory — an ideal of a life closer to nature, yet one still connected with the metropolis and its assets.

While highly diverse, these fringe areas concentrate significant problems linked to urban sprawl: longer commuting distances and transportation times, social-geographical dispersion, land artificialization, urban sickness, etc.

How can these territories be turned into happy fringe areas?

What kind of new utopia could they represent?

Metropolitan fringes: New urban ecosystems

Topic Presentation

Today, the centre of Paris, a global city, is struggling to face both the challenge of an ecological transition and the aspirations of its inhabitants for a better quality of life. Faced with this situation, the countryside now appears to be a resource territory — an ideal of a life closer to nature, yet one still connected to the metropolis and its assets.

The new towns created in the years before and after 1975, which followed the ZUPs of the 1960s, already aimed to bring the city and the countryside closer together. Nonetheless, the Île-de-France's urban countryside concentrates significant problems linked to urban sprawl: longer commuting distances, longer transportation times, social-geographical dispersion, land

artificialization¹ urban sickness, rising insecurity, etc..

Similar to findings by various other surveys, a recent survey reported that 70% of Île-de-France residents wish to leave the region. A multitude of reasons were given, yet all had the same ultimate objective: to live in a less stressful, less polluted, cheaper and safer environment.

This reality is not consistent from one region and one département to another, but it does reflect a trend by many of our fellow citizens to distance themselves from the heart of urban areas.

¹ Land development for human activity, excluding agriculture and silviculture

Therefore:

How can these territories be developed as a sustainable alternative to living in the heart of the urban area?

How can the value of the urban countryside be promoted through its relationship with the metropolitan area and the history of its territories?

How can contextual urban planning accompany these new demands for contemporary uses and quality living environments?

Limitations of hyper-density and urban sprawl models

New economic geography studies have highlighted the capacities of large metropolitan areas, and all the more so of global cities, to promote rapid development through the concentration of populations. The trend towards creating metropolitan areas is therefore an important component of public planning policies. Nevertheless, this model now presents certain limitations: congestion, pollution, housing prices, etc.

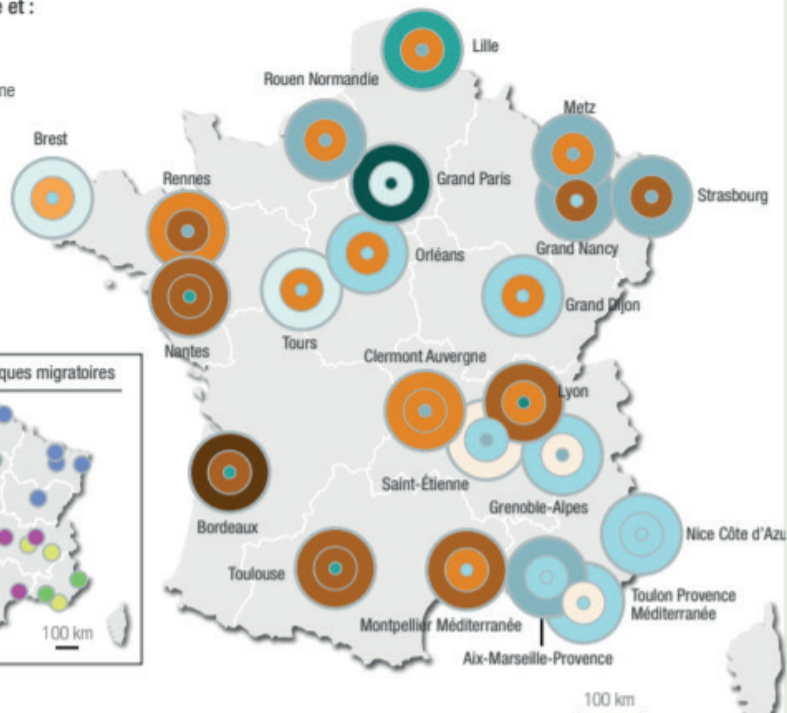
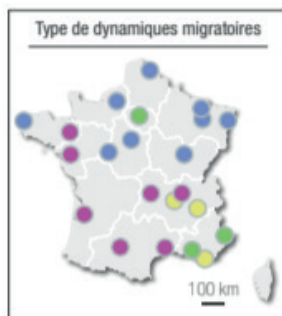
The conclusions from the 2018 Paris Region Workshop — The Inclusive City — highlighted this.

The fringes of the metropolitan area, a string of towns, villages and hamlets can be an attractive alternative, a refuge outside of the city or a compelling alternative for populations who do not have the means to live in the heart of the metropolis.

Solde migratoire entre chaque métropole et :



Solde migratoire en 2014
En nombre d'habitants, par EPCI



Source : Insee, RP 2014 • Traitement : Observatoire des territoires • Réalisation : CGET 2018

@CGET

Relegated territories or countryside ideal?



Diverse situations in the fringes

The fringes share a high degree of interdependence with the dense central conurbation as well as with historical urban centres (primarily in terms of access to employment); but life in these fringes also represents a heavy mix of realities. Some areas are perceived as places of relegation for populations who can only afford to live in the Outer Ring and who are thereby penalized in terms of access to transportation infrastructure.

On the other hand, there are also villages or small towns which garner great appeal and therefore seek to contain the number of new arrivals in order to maintain their standard of living. As such, the problems of urban sprawl vs. environmental preservation appear to arise in very different ways.

From agricultural rurality to urban countryside

The fringes of the metropolitan area share similar trajectories. Urban sprawl has gradually spread to the most rural areas of the Île-de-France, which are now included in the Paris urban area. Villages, small towns and hamlets are increasingly integrated into metropolitan and even inter-regional dynamics, which explains their revitalization.

The functions of these territories have also changed considerably, owing to the decline in agricultural

activity. This transformation has been accompanied by a socio-demographic evolution with the arrival of new populations as well as the changing backgrounds and political profiles of town leaders.

In addition, the changes in these fringe territories in terms of daily life, in conjunction with the multi-scale lives of their inhabitants, contributes to the hybridization of lifestyles.

@Les incroyables comestibles



@IAU



@carfrec



@Orgerus.fr



Living differently in the fringes



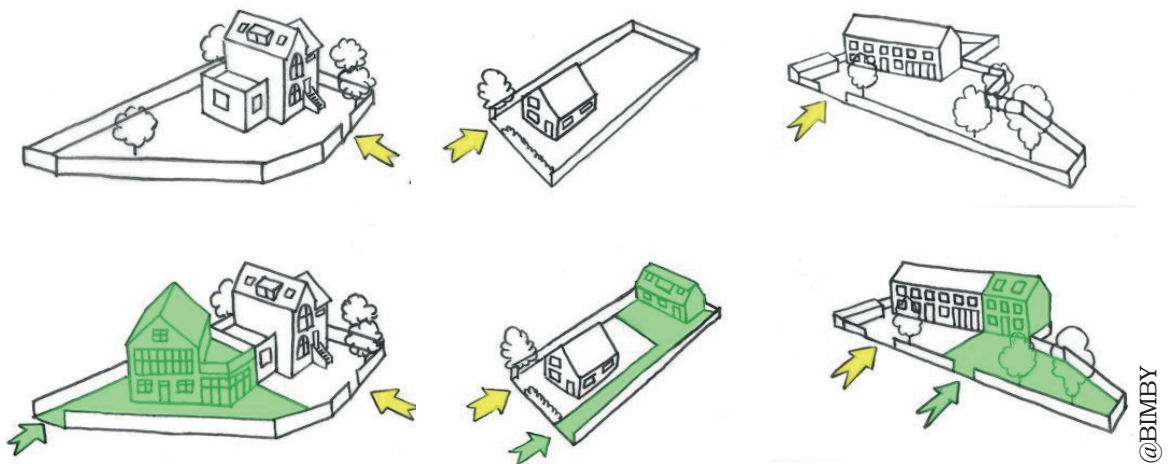
Houdan (78)

They make it difficult to maintain public services. Far from public transportation infrastructure, their inhabitants use individual cars on a massive scale. The urban forms of these territories (single-family homes, large plots) are poorly adapted to eco-sufficiency and intergenerational mixing (Adaptations for ageing populations? Offers for young people and couples without children?).

The most rural territories, while they can respond to a strong desire by the French to return to nature, are not without criticism.

Sparsely populated, they contribute to the dispersion and diminishment of agricultural and natural areas.

The choice to live in these fringe areas can also express a refusal of the city: its potential insecurity, its excessive density and its diversity of populations.



@BIMBY



Bouray-sur-Juine



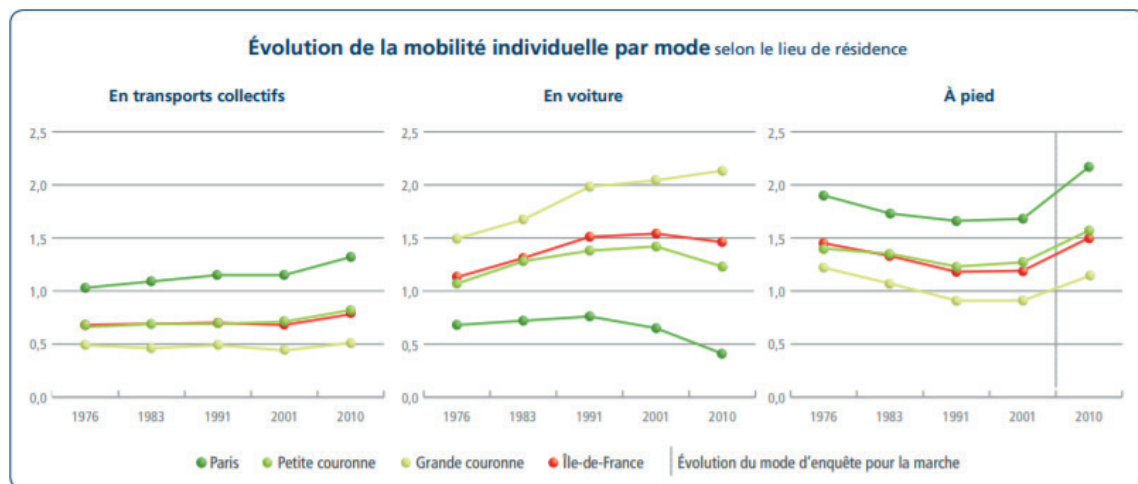
Olville @département Yvelines

Moving differently: Mobility at the heart of the environmental and digital transition

Although many families with modest incomes are moving away from the urban conurbation for economic reasons, mobility still represents a major constraint: the time devoted to travel is substantial, the extra cost is significant and sometimes unaffordable for families, the impact on daily health is real, the carbon footprint is worsening from one year to the next.



@RezoPouce



@CGEET

How can travel times be transformed from one that is endured into one that represents a happy journey?

How can recent changes be used to transform mobility and spatial planning in these areas: on-demand services and new types of mobility, improvement in the level of service for everyday public transportation, station restructuring, promotion of active mobility and micro-mobility, sharing of these services and their appropriation by residents, etc.

Beginning with their very design, how can the development of urban countryside areas integrate, in both public and private spaces, these aspects of the transition of uses and the economic optimization of travel?

Designing the diffusion and enhancing proximity

The low density profile of the fringes makes it necessary to operate in a network, particularly for maintaining public services such as schools or facilities.



How can micro-centralities be organized and should spaces be prioritized?

Fringe territories can be the home to a renewed relationship with the environment and agriculture.



To make this ideal of returning to nature a reality, what development policy should be adopted?

Faced with the risk of introversion, how can the diversity of functions, of generations and of socio-professional categories be maintained?



How can the “right to the city” be reinvented for the countryside?

The revitalization of the countryside must not be accompanied by an intensification of social-geographical dispersion and urban sprawl.



Which of the urbanization and public works policies supporting the countryside’s dynamism also leads to greater land artificialization?

The small and medium urban scales make it easier to innovate and implement.



How can the potential of pioneer territories be maximized?

How to Apply?

The workshop is open to young professionals of all nationalities and disciplines and to students at a minimum of a Masters level. Urban planners, designers, architects, geographers, engineers, photographers, landscape architects, artists, journalists... We especially insist on the opening of our workshop to candidates specialising in economics, sociology, and/or ecology...

Place and Dates

The workshop will be held in Cergy-Pontoise from 2-20 September 2019. Conditions: Proficiency in English (must be able to work as part of an international team), full availability for the workshop dates, and an age limit of 30 years old.

Requests for information and/or documentation

franges@ateliers.org

Preparing your application

Selection of the eighteen international participants, who will work in 3 groups assisted by professionals, will be based on the candidate's application, which must be submitted no later than 5 June 2019 at 11pm Paris time, compiled in the following order:

- » 1. Completed application form, available on the website <https://ateliers.org/en/workshops/219/>
- » 2. A CV/Resume of one to two pages maximum
- » 3. A short personal essay on the workshop's topic: this document takes the workshop's topic and applies it to another site, preferably one in the candidate's country of origin. This document aims to engage candidates in a personal reflection prior to the workshop on the themes being addressed. This work is to be completed individually (3-4 pages in A4 format or 2 pages in A3 format).

Candidates should submit a single application comprised of the elements listed above and titled LAST NAME_First name_FRA

Applications are for individuals only and cannot be submitted in teams.

Candidate applications should be sent to franges@ateliers.org

Selection results will be announced approximately one month after the close of the application period.

Registration Conditions

For successful applicants, the registration fee is 200 euros, which includes lodging in Cergy-Pontoise at the university housing site of Linandes, certain communal meals, tours, conferences, and design materials.