# ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Abstracts are invited for papers from anyone with an interest in rural entrepreneurship; we encourage contributions from academics and practitioners alike. Please indicate which of the conference themes you think is/are most appropriate and limit your abstract to 400 words.

### **Your Details**

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## Please use the following headings: (boxes will expand as you type)

**Title:** Animal Farm: A Cautionary Tale of Community Landownership?

#### Purpose of this paper (please also indicate whether empirical, conceptual or case study etc)

This paper considers Animal Farm as a cautionary tale of community landownership, presenting key themes and considering their relevance to contemporary debates on the pros and cons of community landownership in Scotland today.

#### Design/methodology/approach (including limitations if applicable)

The paper utilises a metaphorical analysis to identify key themes within the story of *Animal Farm* and considers them with regard to empirical studies on the effects of community landownership in Scotland.

#### **Findings**

The conclusions which can be drawn from this metaphorical analysis are subtle, yet important. Context is the main difference between considerations of community landownership and those of Stalinist Russia, and context is also the reason for the varying support, priorities and successes of community-owned estates in Scotland. The acknowledgement of community heterogeneity in this regard is key to considering the relative successes of community landownership. Secondly, it is clear that the mere assumption of control and ownership of land and assets is not the end of the story and may simply represent a point in time where the nature of the debates around land use and income distribution change, but certainly do not cease.

## **Practical implications**

It is hoped that this paper will encourage debate and critical consideration of the ramifications of community landownership and will, at all costs, prevent this cautionary tale from becoming a reality in rural Scotland.

#### Policy Implications (if applicable)

## What is the originality/value of paper

Nobody has previously used this method or this subject to consider in regard to community landownership.

Please state if your paper is a:
Presentation only
Please indicate the theme(s) that you consider most appropriate for your paper:
□ Entrepreneurship, farming and the natural environment
□ Digital Rural Entrepreneurship
□ International dimensions of rural entrepreneurship
□ New approaches in rural theory, method and measurement
X Opportunities and challenges for rural development
□ Rural Innovation, EU funding and the role of Universities
□ Rural Social Entrepreneurship
□ Rural Place Marketing

 $\square$  Yes  $\square$  No

To apply to participate in the Early-Career research development seminar, PhD applicants must submit a short project description (max 4 pages) with name, project title, affiliation, outline of methodology(ies) and a letter of recommendation from their supervisor. Post-doctoral researchers should submit a short description of their current research interest (max 1 page).