

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

Name	Eifiona Thomas Lane*, Jane Ricketts Hein** and Rebecca Jones*
Position	Lecturer* , Consultant** and PhD candidate*
Institution/organisation and Postal address	*ADNODD, School of Environment, Natural Resources and Geography, Bangor University and **Cynidr Consulting
Email address	eifiona.thomaslane@bangor.ac.uk

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

Title: Upland entrepreneurs in post-European Wales
<p>Purpose of this paper (please also indicate whether empirical, conceptual or case study etc)</p> <p>Welsh farming, as with the rest of the UK agriculture industry, is used to coping with uncertainty. Changes occur continually in the physical, social, economic and political environments, and the extent to which further changes will occur after leaving the European Union have yet to be seen. Farmers and land managers have always done ‘what it takes’ to maintain their presence on the land, undertaking on- and off-farm diversification and additional enterprises, and it may be that new opportunities are offered post-‘Brexit’. Concentrating on Welsh upland farms, this paper explores the opportunities available to those farmers and land managers who are able to take advantage of them.</p> <p>In particular, devolution and the transfer of some legislative powers means that policies and laws could (and have been) developed at a more local level than was previously possible: important new laws include the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, both of which prioritise sustainable development more strongly than ever. Upland land owners also benefit from certain types of natural capital, often desirable scenery, wildlife and landscape features, which attract visitors, but which may interfere with other potential projects, such as the development of water management and carbon storage activities. Cultural heritage, vibrant communities and, crucially for most farmers, food production are equally important areas that must be addressed. More recently, the concept of re-wilding has been introduced as a possibility for upland land managers.</p> <p>Whether, and how, upland farmers are likely to take up these opportunities is explored, using responses from a recent conference where Welsh upland farmers were able to speak directly to policymakers.</p>
<p>Design/methodology/approach (including limitations if applicable)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus group • Action research • Empirical farm business case studies • Requires discussion and comparative analyses which this conference would facilitate

<p>Findings</p> <p>Range of stakeholder perspectives on future entrepreneurial possibilities within unknown policy framework. Family and community resilience debates presented.</p>
<p>Practical implications</p> <p>Substantial representational value of paper if published.</p>
<p>Policy Implications (if applicable)</p> <p>It has important policy implications, as it draws upon an event where Welsh upland farmers undertake a co-design process directly communicating with policymakers. It provides an opportunity for policy to be designed in conjunction with the people who will be most affected by it.</p>
<p>What is the originality/value of paper</p> <p>This paper presents important developments in a fast-moving, continually changing policy area, and provides a valuable discussion of where policy and practice can meet within an unique setting of devolved governance committed legally to sustainable development.</p>
<p>Please state if your paper is a:</p> <p>Refereed research paper Practitioner Paper X Presentation only</p>
<p>Please indicate the theme(s) that you consider most appropriate for your paper:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entrepreneurship, farming and the natural environment</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Digital Rural Entrepreneurship</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> International dimensions of rural entrepreneurship</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> New approaches in rural theory, method and measurement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Opportunities and challenges for rural development</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Rural Innovation, EU funding and the role of Universities</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Rural Social Entrepreneurship</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Rural Place Marketing</p>

Are you interested in the Early-Career researcher development seminar on the 14th June?

Yes 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).