



SYMPOSIUM

INTERMEDIARIES IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

Social Enterprises as Drivers of Social
Innovation in Rural Europe

7-8 December 2017 |

Adam Mickiewicz University | Poznań | Poland



Social Innovations in Structurally Weak Rural Regions:
How Social Entrepreneurs Foster Innovative Solutions to Social Problems

rural-innovations.net

This project has received funding
from the European Union's
Horizon 2020 research and
innovation programme under the
Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant
agreement No. 691181



Coordinator:



Organisers:



Local Organiser:





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Please register for the RurInno symposium until **30 November 2017**

Follow this link:

> leibniz-irs.de/aktuelles/veranstaltungen/2017/12/intermediaries-in-the-countryside/registration

Regular symposium fee

35 EUR
(including catering and dinner)

Fee for students

0 EUR (including catering)

Venue

Adam Mickiewicz University
in Poznań
Faculty of Social Science
Szamarzewskiego 89/9160-568
Poznań, Poland

RurInno project

> rural-innovations.net

Contact person

Dr Ralph Richter
ralph.richter@leibniz-irs.de
Phone: +49-3362-793215

Please note that the registration for the RurInno symposium does not entitle to attend the RurAction conference (4-5 Dec 2017).

Please register separately for the RurAction conference under:
> leibniz-irs.de/aktuelles/veranstaltungen/2017/12/challenges-and-opportunities-of-structurally-weak-rural-regions-in-europe/registration-ruraction-conference

For two years the RurInno research and training project investigated how social enterprises in rural Europe foster social innovation and rural development. While policy makers and researchers direct high expectations towards social enterprises, little is known about how social enterprises operate in rural regions, how they generate and facilitate innovative solutions and contribute to rural development. It is said that social enterprises combine the innovative power of entrepreneurs with the mission to fight social challenges. They are regarded as players who operate in areas where the state and the market fail to satisfy social needs. This makes them promising actors in marginalised rural regions. Today many rural areas in Europe face problems like the brain drain of young and well skilled people, a lack of qualified jobs and shortages in the provision of public and private services like public transport, schooling and local supply.

The Symposium provides a participative forum to share and discuss the acquired knowledge and experiences with academics and practitioners who do research and operate in the field of social entrepreneurship, social innovation and rural development.

The goals of the symposium are:

- > To reflect jointly about questions like "How do rural social enterprises generate and foster innovation?" and "How do rural social enterprises contribute to rural development and change?"
- > To relate the results and experiences of the RurInno project to findings and experiences made in other research projects and this way to intensify the research-research exchange.
- > To foster the exchange between research and practice and to discuss opportunities to overcome barriers for research-practice transfer.
- > To identify research gaps and practical needs in order to pave the way for future research and to create enabling ecosystems for rural social enterprises.



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Thursday, 7 December 2017

Venue: Hyde Park room | Faculty of Social Science

16:30 Arrival

17:00 Welcome and Introduction

– Krzysztof Margol
NIDA Foundation, Nidzica/Poland

– Gabriela Christmann
Leibniz Institute for Research on Society and Space, Erkner/Germany

Aims of the symposium; Introduction of the RurInno project and team

**17:30 Presentation of the RurInno Practice Toolkit
about "Rural Social Entrepreneurship and Social Innovation"**

– Renata Debska | NIDA/Poland

– Catherine Smyth and Sadie Allen | Ballyhoura Dev./Ireland

– Martin Hollinetz | Otelo/Austria

– Stella Dampasi | Stevia Hellas/Greece

18:00 Story-Telling Café

Mix the guests (6-8 persons/table), one question, everybody tells her/his story

19:00 Dinner



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Friday, 8 December 2017

Venue: Room D | Faculty of Social Science

9.30 Results and Findings of the RurInno project

- Ralph Richter | Leibniz Institute for Research on Society and Space, Erkner, Germany
- Matthias Fink | Institute for Innovation Management, Johannes-Kepler University, Linz, Austria

10.30 Coffee break

10.45 **Session I: Social Enterprises as Drivers of Social Innovation**

Chair: Ballyhoura Development

Paper 1: Social Enterprises in Spain and Austria. Some results of the FAB-MOVE project

- Richard Pfeilstetter | Universidad de Sevilla, Spain

Paper 2: The Skovsgård Model – a holistic approach to socio-economic inclusion and rural development

- Jenny Eschweiler | Roskilde University, Denmark

12.00 Lunch

13.30 **Session II: Social Innovation and Rural Development**

Chair: Stevia Hellas

Paper 3: Rural marginalisation and the need for social innovation and nexogenous development

- Bettina Bock | Groningen University, Netherlands

Paper 4: Social Innovation in Marginalised Rural Areas. The SIMRA project

- Robert Lukesch | ÖAR Regionalberatung GmbH, Austria

14.45 **World Café, Moderation Otelo**

Mixed groups discuss controversial topics in a constructive manner.

16.15 **Wrap-up**

- Gabriela Christmann | Leibniz Institute for Research on Society and Space, Erkner, Germany



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Speakers

Richard Pfeilstetter is an assistant professor at the Department for Social Anthropology at the University of Seville. His research focuses on entrepreneurship and development, but he has also written on mental disability, intangible heritage and social theory. Currently he is working on a European Commission funded project exploring the evolution of social enterprises (fab-move.eu). His recent publications include *Heritage Entrepreneurship* (International Journal of Heritage Studies), *Anthropology and Social Work* (European Journal of Social Work), *Bourdieu y Luhmann* (Revista Internacional de Sociología) and *Mann der Tat*, *Enterprise Culture* and *Ethno-preneurs* (Sociologus).



Jenny Eschweiler is Post.doc researcher at Roskilde University in Denmark, currently mainly doing research related to EU-funded SOLIDUS project on expressions of solidarity across Europe. In her MA (Bonn, Germany) and PhD (Kent, UK & Roskilde, Denmark) she focused mostly on the democratic impact of civil society and social movements. She has also worked with the EMES network on research dissemination, and on communication for development with an NGO in the UK. She is running a small project on citizenship education in Berlin.



Bettina Bock is Professor for Population Decline and Quality of Life at Groningen University, Associate Professor for Rural Sociology at Wageningen University, and guest professor at Newcastle University, Centre for Rural Economy. Her areas of research include rural development and social innovation, governance, rural entrepreneurship and rural gender relations, social exclusion in rural areas, migration and sustainable agricultural development. She is the editor in chief of *Sociologia Ruralis*. She is a member of the executive committee of the European Society for Rural Sociology and the board of the International Rural Sociology Association.



Robert Lukesch has graduated the Vienna Soil University (Rural economy) and the Vienna University (Sociology), holds a PG degree in regional policy and is certified management consultant and communication trainer. Beside extensive work in development cooperation, his scope of activities includes shaping and evaluation of European Rural Development and Structural Funds programmes, policy advice, and leadership coaching. He has led or contributed to national and European evaluations for LEADER II, LEADER+ and Rural Development Programmes during the period 2007-2013 and for the current period (2014-2020); he is working for the European Rural Evaluation Helpdesk since 2008 and participates in the HORIZON 2020 project SIMRA (Social Innovation in Marginalised Rural Areas). His publications range from conceptual contributions to regional resilience and rural development to working papers on evaluation.



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