Sustainable development through social enterprise, co operative and voluntary action



7th EMES International Research Conference on Social Enterprise

EMES events

Conference report





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A word of appreciation from the Co-chairs and the Director

At a time of political, social and environmental convolution, communities offer a unique way to get through the challenges of sense-making. This conference confirmed the relevance and urgency of securing such a "safe" space for mutual learning, trust and admiration. Such space can only come about when hundreds of researchers from over 50 countries commit to participating and sharing their knowledge with the support of key sponsors and partners, and immense effort from a core team of people who make it happen. Moreover, with the passing of every conference, the involvement of stakeholders is becoming increasingly solid as we strive to make them feel welcome in a research community that aims to bring down borders that sometimes prevent people from exchanging and understanding each other.

Researchers working in the SE field are aware that what they study is called to play a key role in addressing the societal and sustainable development challenges we are currently facing. Welcoming researchers from peripheral countries and empowering the next generation of SE scholars is the overarching objective of the EMPOWER-SE COST Action, one of the co-organizers of this conference.

Each new iteration of the Transdisciplinary Forum (TDF) continues to be enriched by the input and participation of local, national and international stakeholders. Moreover, at this conference we included study visits hosted by local social enterprises to offer a unique first hand experience of Sheffield's local ecosystems. We particularly thank Gripple/Glide and the Sheffield Social Enterprise Network (SSEN) for opening their doors to our research community.

A special thank you goes to long-standing members of EMES for their continued membership as well as to our "new arrivals". PhD candidates who join EMES represent a unique category of researchers. They have proven once more that the EMES PhD community is a thriving group of scholars who care about each other both as future colleagues but also as human beings. The

conference enables them to share an important road they are travelling along together.

A total of 302 papers were presented divided into 61 parallel sessions, 10 panels and 4 semiplenaries covering specific research projects and themes (ICSEM, Sustainable Development Goals, EU mapping, social enterprise theory, solidarity and pluralism). In addition, 18 posters were presented during one of the most popular sessions. On each of the four days, there was also one full plenary session.

Our host was EMES institutional member Sheffield Hallam University (SHU), with local scientific committee members from the FairShares Institute for Cooperative Social Entrepreneurship (FSI) and the Centre for Regional Economic and Social Research (CRESR).

The TDF took place on the first day which attracted over 140 participants, primarily academics but also many local practitioners keen to exchange ideas with SE researchers - looking to see how to advance SE practice and policy based on research. This led to highly engaged sessions with much debate.

During four intense days, scholars explored synergies between different disciplines within SE research and catalysed critical debate between different research communities on the state of the art. Specifically, critical debates revolved around how to reassess the nature of and controversies surrounding definitions and conceptualisations of the field within research groups who focus on social entrepreneurship, cooperative development and voluntary action

We would like to close by inviting you to our next edition: Zaragoza 2021. Mark your calendars as planning has already begun with our newest member, the Research Group of Social and Economic Studies of the Third Sector (GESES) from the University of Zaragoza, Spain, who will be hosting the 8th EMES International Research Conference on Social Enterprise.

Thank you very much for reading and sharing this report and we look forward to seeing you in two years!

Marthe Nyssens
UCL Professor & EMES President

Rocío Nogales EMES Managing Director Rory Ridley-Duff

SHU Professor, Fairshares Association & EMES Member

RJR.16-DH

382 PARTICIPANTS

72 PHD STUDENTS

63 RESEARCHERS FUNDED THROUGH EMPOWER-SE

51 COUNTRIES REPRESENTED

Afghanistan, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, Vietnam.





302 PAPERS PRESENTED

10 PANEL SESSIONS

61 PARALLEL SESSIONS

18 POSTERS PRESENTED

11 TRANSDISCIPLINARY FORUM SESSIONS

THEMATIC LINES AND CONVENERS

What is the role of social enterprise, cooperative and voluntary action in addressing, undermining and transforming sustainable development? This includes but is not limited to: poverty and inequality; quality of life; environment and ecosystems and; managing sustainable economies.

Taking a worldwide interdisciplinary perspective, the conference gathered diverse scholarly communities to discuss and debate the challenges that arise from sustainable development. The conference brought together research communities from all over the world studying different aspects of the third sector through the perspectives of social innovation, entrepreneurship and solidarity action, institutional logics, commons transition and other theoretical frameworks.

To encourage academic debate across fields and disciplines, the conference was structured along 10 main thematic lines to build up an international corpus of theoretical and empirical knowledge, pluralistic in disciplines and methodologies, around "SE" concepts (social enterprise, social entrepreneurship, social economy and solidarity economy). They were:

- Concepts and models of social enterprise, cooperative and voluntary action (SE)
 Conveners: Jo Barraket, Marie Bouchard, Jacques Defourny, Rob Macmillan
- 2. Resourcing social, cooperative and voluntary action

 Conveners: Giulio Ecchia, Yu-Yuan Kuan, Peter Wells, David Wren
- 3. Social innovation and entrepreneurship

 Conveners: Danijel Baturina, Chris Dayson, Lars Hulgård, Mary O'Shaughnessy
- 4. SE as a site for radical forms of democracy, participation and action

 Conveners: Katherine Gibson, Kiri Langmead, Alex Nicholls, Sonja Novkovic
- Multi-Level governance and eco-systems for SE and sustainable development Conveners: <u>Tracey Coule</u>, <u>Giulia Galera</u>, <u>Benjamin Huybrechts</u>, <u>Francesca Petrella</u>
- Public policy and legal frameworks for SE
 Conveners: <u>Anna Ciepielewska-Kowalnik</u>, Kate Cooney, Mihaela Lambru, Jules O'Dor
- 7. The commons and collaborative economy through SE

 Conveners: Gabriela Avram, <u>Taco Brandsen</u>, <u>Marthe Nyssens</u>, <u>Rory Ridley-Duff</u>
- 8. Social solidarity and transformative movements

 Conveners: Swati Banerjee, <u>Jean-Louis Laville</u>, <u>Joanne McNeill</u>, Richard White
- 9. Substantive economy and Polanyian approaches to SE research and practice Conveners: Bernard Enjolras, Sílvia Ferreira, Christine Gilligan, Simon Teasdale
- 10. Epistemological, methodological and pedagogic innovations / advancements in SE Conveners: Jon Dean, Nicole Göler von Ravensburg, Melinda Mihály, Aristidis Protopsaltis



CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

The Conference had two co-chairs, <u>Rory Ridley-Duff</u> (Sheffield Hallam University) and <u>Marthe Nyssens</u> (Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium).

Two scientific committees (international and local) were set up to coordinate all the preparations for the conference. The international scientific committee included EMES members as well as other scholars interested in the field. The local scientific committee included EMES members from the host institution, SHU. They are listed below according to their main affiliation.

International Scientific Committee

Comprising EMES members and other international experts in the field. **Members in bold were present at the conference**.























- > Gabriela Avram (Limerick, Ireland)
- > Swati Banerjee (TISS, India)
- <u>Danijel Baturina</u> (University of Zagreb, Croatia)
- **Taco Brandsen** (RUN, The Netherlands)
- Marie Bouchard (University of Montreal, Canada)
- **Jo Barraket** (Swinburne University, Australia)
- Anna Ciepielewska-Kowalik (Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland)
- **Xate Cooney** (Yale University, United States)
- **Jacques Defourny** (HEC-ULg, Belgium)
- > Giulio Ecchia (UNIBO/AICCON, Italy)
- **Bernard Enjolras** (ISF, Norway)



- **Jennifer Eschweiler** (CSE, Roskilde University, Denmark)
- > <u>Sílvia Ferreira</u> (CES-UCoimbra, Portugal)
- **Luiz Inácio Gaiger** (UNISINOS, Brazil)
- > Giulia Galera (EURICSE, Italy)
- Katherine Gibson (Western Sydney University, Australia)
- Nicole Göler von Ravensburg (Frankfurt UAS, Germany)
- > <u>Carmen Guzmán Alfonso</u> (University of Seville, Spain)
- **Marek Hudon** (ULB, Belgium)
- **Lars Hulgård** (RUC, Denmark)
- **Benjamin Huybrechts** (EM-Lyon, Morocco)
- Yu-Yuan Kuan (National Chung Cheng University, Taiwan)
- > Mihaela Lambru (UNIBUC, Romania)
- > <u>Jean-Louis Laville</u> (CNAM/LISE, France)
- <u>Luciane Lucas dos Santos</u> (CES-UCoimbra, Portugal)
- Joanne McNeill (Western Sydney University, Australia)
- > Melinda Mihály (HAS, Hungary)
- **Sonja Novkovic** (Saint Mary's, Canada)
- **>** <u>Marthe Nyssens</u> (UCL, Belgium − Co-chair)
- > Mary O'Shaughnessy (UCC, Ireland)
- **Francesca Petrella** (AMU, France)
- Aristidis Protopsaltis (Frankfurt UAS, Germany)
- **Simon Teasdale** (GCU, United Kingdom)

Local Scientific Committee

- > Rory Ridley-Duff (FSI, SBS Co-chair)
- > Tracey Coule (FSI, SBS)
- > Christine Gilligan (FSI, SBS)
- **> Kiri Langmead** (NTU, formerly of CRESR)
- > Rob Macmillan (CRESR, SSH)
- > Jon Dean (CRESR, SSH)
- **Chris Dayson** (CRESR, SSH)
- > Peter Wells (CRESR, SSH)
- > Jules O'Dor (FSI, SBS)
- **David Wren** (FSI, SBS)
- > Richard White (CRESR, SSH)



























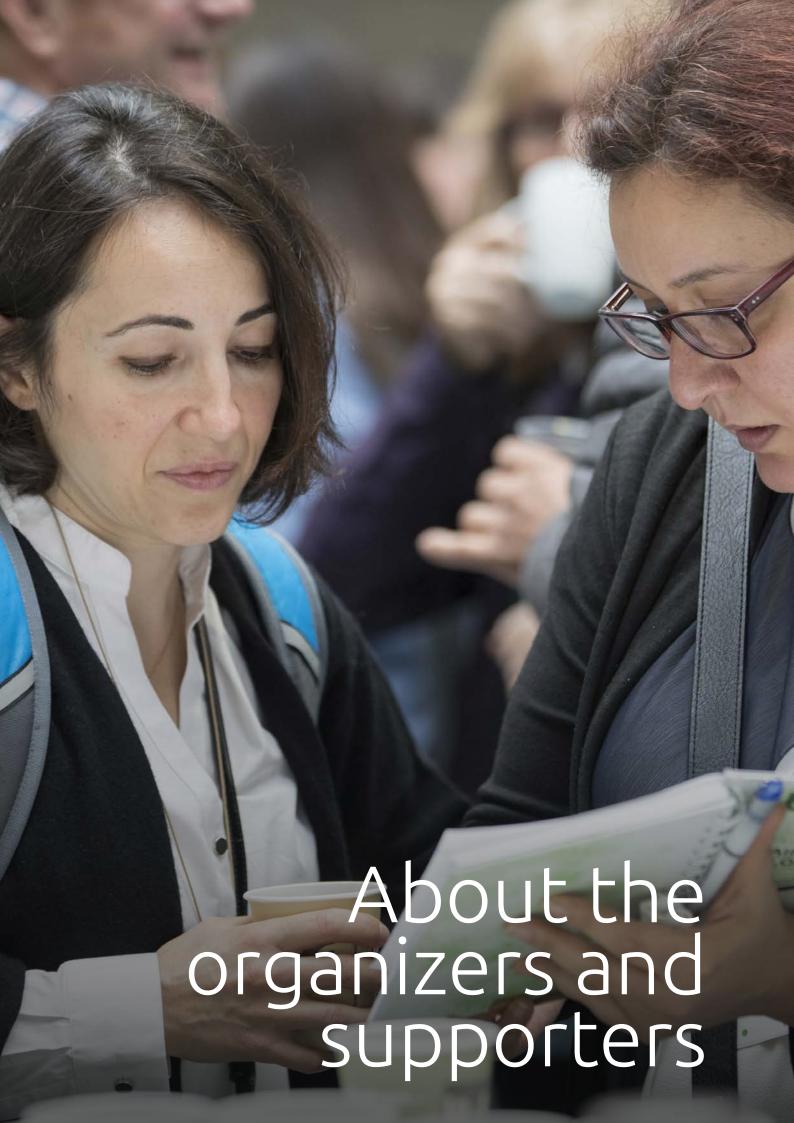






Organizing Committee

- > EMES Coordination Unit: Rocío Nogales, Kathleen Uyttewaa and Sabine Spada
- SHU: Malcolm Baggaley, Ellen Bennett, Nick Hague, Beth Pathmore, Tom Redfearn and David Wren





The EMES network

EMES is a research network of established university research centres and individual researchers, including PhD candidates, whose goal has been to gradually build up an international corpus of theoretical and empirical knowledge, pluralistic in disciplines and methodologies, around our "SE" concepts: social enterprise, social entrepreneurship, social economy, solidarity economy and social innovation. EMES has conducted over 15 international comparative research projects and organised international bi-annual conferences and PhD summer schools (the next one will take place in June 2020 in Cork). In addition, it collaborates with international organisations and governments at all levels to advance the understanding of social enterprise and support evidence-based policy-making in this field around the world. EMES has existed since 1996 and in 2013 its membership opened to researchers and PhD students from around the world: there are currently over 300 individual members and 14 institutional members from over 50 countries

EMES publishes regularly the results of its research projects in various formats, including the **EMES** Working Papers series and the EMES Selected Conference Papers series. In collaboration with the **EMES PhD** Students' Network, EMES maintains the EMES Junior Experts' Blog (EJEB) as a way to encourage PhD students to publish texts about their dissertation in connection with current issues in society.



COST

European Cooperation in Science and Technology is a pan-European intergovernmental framework. Its mission is to enable breakthrough scientific and technological developments leading to new concepts and products and thereby contribute to strengthening Europe's research and innovation capacities. The specific Action 16206 supporting this event is "Empowering the next generation of social enterprise scholars" (EMPOWER-SE).

www.empowerse.eu



Sheffield Business School



FairShares Institute for Cooperative Social Entrepreneurship (FSI)

The FairShares Institute is a PRME initiative that builds on 15 years of research and knowledge transfer activities. This community of academic and PhD/post-PhD early career researchers has built new knowledge on worker cooperation, employee-ownership, non-profit and charity governance, with a particular focus on sustainability, models of ownership, HRM, accounting, social innovation, public policy and the FairShares Model of social enterprise development

https://fsi.coop/



Centre for Regional Economic Hallam University and Social Research

CRESR

CRESR is a leading UK policy research centre, undertaking research into the impact of social and economic disadvantage on places and people. It has expertise in evaluating policies and interventions targeted at these issues. Clients include government departments and agencies, local authorities, charities and foundations, international organisations, and the private sector. It offers research expertise in the following eight areas: Welfare reform and labour markets; regeneration and economic development; housing; voluntary and community sector; community cohesion and migration; vulnerable groups; sustainability; and measuring outcomes and impact.

https://www4.shu.ac.uk/research/ cresr/





SEi (FairShares) Ltd

The headline sponsor for the 7th EMES International Research Conference is a well-established network of consultants, educators and researchers working with and through Social Enterprise International (SEi) on European, African and Asian projects.

SEi (FairShares) Ltd is a company formed by the members and associates of Social Enterprise International Ltd (SEi). It was established as a FairShares Company to democratically organise activities that support the international development of social enterprise. It promotes values and ethics-driven entrepreneurship, democratic and socialised working and the formulation of social objectives as best practice. Recently it has contributed to a new approach to social enterprise called the FairShares Model based on the principle that four primary stakeholder groups (founders, labour, users and financial investors) who share efforts to create wealth should each get a voice and fair share of the wealth they create (both individually and collectively).

They are known for their commitment to democratic approaches to social enterprise development. The Directors and Associates of Social Enterprise International Ltd decided to reconstitute an existing company (SEi FairShares Ltd) to raise money for the EMES conference.

The members are amongst the founders of the social enterprise movement, tracing their history back to projects in the UK from the mid-1980s to early 1990s. Over the years, they have been joined by directors from around the world (in Italy, Poland, France, China and Indonesia). All of them are leading activists, practitioners or academics who seek to work with other organisations and enterprises through Social Licence Agreements. This creates a global network of activists who develop social enterprises to change the world around us, for the better.

Managing Director, **Cliff Southcombe**, states:

"We have pioneered ways for people to manage and govern social enterprises by setting up models of social licensing, social auditing and entrepreneurial development (such as the FairShares Model).

We initiated the first UK social enterprise courses for teachers in 1999 (based on our co-publication with the Community Action Network (CAN) called 'Learning by Doing'). This was used to spread social enterprise through courses in Asia and Africa. We were amongst the first in the world to run accredited social enterprise courses at Hull University in 2002, and then delivered the ground breaking summer schools with Sheffield Hallam University (2009 – 2014) where participants decided to form the FairShares Association.





We have developed and supported innovations, pioneering new decision-making and development processes (e.g. Barrowcliff Model, Shared Growth, Social Enterprise Planning, OPERA) and are now active in applied research projects (funded by Erasmus+ and Horizon 20/20). Our Directors have published (award winning) academic papers and one of the world's leading textbooks ('Understanding Social Enterprise: Theory and Practice') was coauthored by our Director Professor Rory Ridley-Duff (working with Dr Mike Bull).

We have not let up. If anything we are doing more, changing more, harnessing the skills and energy of more and more people and bringing social enterprise to new countries. If you want to find out about our current training courses, international projects or want to use our skills to improve or develop your ideas, please contact us or one of our partners."

Two of their current projects (https://sei.coop/fairshares and https://sei.coop/education) have attracted the attention of cooperatives and divisions of global corporations committed to sustainable development.

SEi members have supported hundreds of social entrepreneurs to apply the FairShares Model in 18 countries on 5 continents.

https://sei.coop/

- > About SEi (EN)
- **>** About SEi (FR)
- > About SEi (ES)
- > About SEi (DE)
- > About SEi (PL)

- > About SEi (IT)
- > About SEi (PT)
- > About SEi (ZH)
- > About SEi (ID)









Transdisciplinary Forum

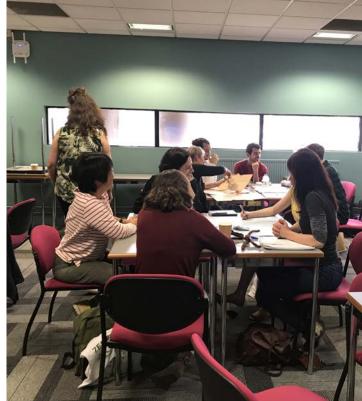
The purpose of the TDF is to facilitate dialogue and exchange between the academic community and SE practitioners typically from social enterprises in the local region. This was the fourth edition of the Forum, following on from Liege (2013), Helsinki (2015) and Louvain (2017) and it has continued to grow. This year's forum hosted eleven different sessions covering a variety of topics (see below). Speakers came from charities, non-profit and "for purpose" organisations as well as cooperative members and academics, from across the world. Organised through eleven sessions, the 140+ participants shared their reflective experiences and discussed challenges on multi-sectoral collaboration.

The TDF became a victim of its own success, whereby significantly more delegates attended than were registered. Next time there will be more food and drink available!

There were two main types of sessions, those aimed at local actors and those aimed at the international audience participating in the conference. All sessions were open to everyone participating.

The forum sessions are shown below along with their hosts. For further details see the forum program.





Applying the FairShares Model to SE Development

This workshop introduced delegates to the emerging ecosystem to support the application of the FairShares Model in social enterprise teaching, learning and entrepreneurship. With an introduction by Professor Rory Ridley-Duff, and a workshop led by leading practitioners, workshop participants were able to experience hands-on learning with materials created for FairShares Labs, then participate in discussions about the role of the FairShares Model in the future development of co-operative social entrepreneurship. This led to a lively discussion on the potential benefits and pitfalls of making clear the nature of a company as a public good, not as a property that can be owned by the investors; and on how to achieve this by structuring a company as a FairShares Commons.

(For more see https://fairshares.coop/fairshareslabs/).

Led by: **Georg Hoehne** (FairShares Labs) & **Graham Boyd** (Evolutesix, <u>www.evolutesix.com</u>).

NEMESIS – Social Innovation in Education – a Practical Briefing

NEMESIS (New Educational Model Enabling Social Innovation Skills) is a Horizon 2020 project which is designing and implementing a novel, interdisciplinary and collaborative way of developing social innovation education in primary and secondary schools. It is based on principles of collective relations and processes and has the practical focus of establishing links between teachers, students and social innovation practitioners so that they can develop real life social innovation projects in Cocreation Labs. The project was launched in October 2017, and Social Enterprise International is currently working on the teacher development aspect in the project. The workshop provided an opportunity for educators and those in education, to hear about how teachers from five European countries (France, Greece, Portugal, Spain and UK) are developing social innovation in primary and secondary schools along with practical insight and strategies for developing social innovation in education.

(For more see https:/nemesis-edu.eu).

Led by: Catherine Brentnall (Social Enterprise International Ltd, https://sei.coop and PhD student at SHU) & Dr Aristidis Protopsaltis (Senior Researcher, Institute for Innovation in Learning, Friedrich-Alexander-University, Furth).



An alternative to enterprise education as usual...

This session was aimed specifically at local teachers to provide an alternative to competitive forms (e.g. one day competitions or long term competitions) of social enterprise education in schools in England. The workshop introduced social innovation education and the NEMESIS project. A current case study was used to illustrate how to develop skills and confidence and inspire and empower learners, through co-creation, rather than competition.

(Horizon 2020 Project: New Enterprise Models Enabling Social Innovation Skills, https://nemesis-edu.eu).

Led by: **Catherine Brentnall** (Social Enterprise International Ltd, https://sei.coop/education/).

Is it Just Me? Let's Talk About PhD Student Mental Health - PhD Network

This session brought together the EMES PhD community to look at student mental health whilst undertaking the journey of their PhD. Around 20-25 students attended and the session was incredibly well received. Recent doctoral graduates spoke of their experience and this was supplemented by three supervisors who were able to give their particular perspective. There was a mixture of presentations, talks and open discussion, which provided participants with plenty of time and space to share their experiences. The sharing of stories at the start of the session set the tone for an open and 'safe' space, and this seemed to encourage a great deal of honest exchanges, with participants sharing their challenges, but also their strategies for coping. People seemed reassured by the commonality of

experiences, and the sense that they were 'not alone'. Learning from this session has already been utilised again at other establishments and will be used to influence EMES policy in the future.

Led by: **Beth Patmore** (SHU), **Ellen Bennett** (Centre for Regional Economic and Social Research) & **Eduardo Pereira** (Université catholique de Lille).

The landscape of social investment: lessons for social enterprise

CRESR co-organised a session on 'The Landscape of Social Investment' with Big Society Capital – the UK's social investment wholesale provider – and locally based Social Investor Key Fund. More than 40 participants from local social enterprises and the international academic community contributed to a lively interactive session about the possibilities and pitfalls of social investment for local social enterprises thinking about growing the scale and impact of their work.

Led by: **Chris Dayson** (Centre for Regional Economic and Social Research) & **Rebecca McCartney** (Big Society Capital, https://www.bigsocietycapital.com/).

Creating a values driven social and entrepreneurial organisation

This session looked at values driven organisations and three case studies of successful social enterprises were presented; two local to Sheffield (Gripple and Opus Independents - http://weareopus.org/?v=79cba1185463) and the Mondragon Corporation. In the second half of the session attendees debated the key values they would like to embed in the constitution of a potential business and then developed the values and attributes necessary for those businesses to become more sustainable, social and entrepreneurial.

Led by: **Gordon McCrae**, Special Projects Manager (Gripple Ltd, <u>www.gripple.com</u>) & **Mark Ellis**, Principal lecturer (SHU).

Community Economies Research and Practice

Members of the Community Economies Institute (www.communityeconomies.org) ran a Community Economies Research and Practice half-day workshop. The workshop introduced community economies concepts that situate social enterprise development

The session of Kathrine Gibson was very inspiring and with her rich expertise she contributed a lot to my overall satisfaction of the event. Thanks for bringing her to Sheffield!

within a diverse economy, and also involved activist researchers who are applying community

economies thinking in projects in Sheffield, Liverpool,

Leeds, Glasgow and Paris. Members of local Sheffield organisations shared their experiences of building more

Katherine Gibson's was excellent, it just needed a bigger room! But that's her popularity :-)
Thanks so much for the opportunity!

liveable economies, and there was discussion of various methods that have been useful in community economies action research interventions.

I found the community economies session interesting too, and thought that the variety of speakers was excellent. Over 60 people attended, and the workshop culminated with a session where participants worked together using arts-based research methods to build their utopian commoning spaces from gathered objects.

Led by: Prof Katherine Gibson

(Western Sydney University) & Joanne McNeill (Western Sydney University) with contributions from Dr Mike Foden, Aviv Kruglanski, Dr Kiri Langmead, Dr Heather McLean, Prof Pete North and Prof Doina Petrescu

Innovations in Community Led Housing (Social housing)

This workshop looked at community-led housing (CLH) facilitating a debate about the spectrum of financial, organisational and governance models available. Test cases were presented illustrating the different approaches, varying priorities, decision making processes, and activities of CLH groups. Drawing on the practical experience of activists, funders and specialist advisors, different approaches and tools for implementing CLH were discussed.

Led by: **Tom Archer** (Centre for Regional Economic and Social Research) & **Cristina Cerulli**, Reader in Community-led Architecture and Urban Design (SHU)

Forum on Education and Training in Social Enterprise (FETSE) Network

FETSE is an exciting initiative spearheaded by the EMES network and has been running since July 2011. The objective is to facilitate exchanges among high-quality and accessible (inter-) university educational

programs in the field of social enterprise / social entrepreneurship and social innovation.

The session heard from some of the graduate programs within the joint field of interest and ideas were debated as to how better to build cooperative

and participatory values among students and faculty.

Led by: **Prof Lars Hulgård** (EMES Board member)

Across the Academia and Practice Divide: A close look at Practitioner/ Academic Collaborations

This session explored a range of models of collaborations across academia and practice and their intricate synergies, introducing an emerging framework for describing such collaborations.

Using a number of case studies, the diverse range of possible models of practitioner/academic collaboration and tools and tactics available were discussed to enable and sustain such collaborations.

Led by: **Cristina Cerulli**, Reader in Community-led Architecture and Urban Design (SHU)

Building a Co-operative University

This session explained the vision of establishing a Co-operative University in the UK which will be a federated network of independent higher education co-operatives. Currently, these are: the RED Learning Co-op, Oxford, offering courses in trade union studies; Leicester Vaughan College,

Leicester (humanities and counselling); Centre for Human Ecology, Glasgow (environmental studies); the Feral College of Art, Hull (art and design) and the Co-operative College, Manchester (co-operative studies). The work is

"I particularly enjoyed the co-operative university session, the speaker was very enthusiastic and made an effort to involve the audience in the discussion."

being led by the Co-operative College, Manchester (https://www.co-op.ac.uk/Pages/Category/co-operative-university).

Led by: Mike Neary (Lincoln University).









Opening Plenary

Can SE be vehicle for sustainable development?

One of the Conference co-chairs, Rory Ridley-Duff from Sheffield Hallam University and FairShares delivered a presentation entitled "Sustainable development through social enterprise, co**operative and voluntary action**". He reflected on the core issue of "What is wealth?" And how should wealth be conceptualised, accounted for, allocated and distributed? According to Prof. Ridley-Duff, as work progresses in the fields of sustainable development and social enterprise (SE), this theoretical/empirical issue has become pressing. In this plenary, he laid some ground work by talking about a conception of wealth developed jointly with Maureen McCulloch, David Wren and Christine Gilligan. David started this debate by mapping concepts from a theory of SE developed at SHU (called the FairShares Model) against sustainable development goals. We came to see wealth as a much broader concept than 'profit' or 'capital' (irrespective of whether it is distributed or not). This has become even clearer during the supervision of Maureen's PhD on 'for-purpose accounting' and Janette Hurst's study of the influence of co operative values and principles on sustainable development choices.

The EMES triangle, which lies at the heart of so many discussions of social enterprise, co-operative and voluntary action, theorises that SE models emerge when public, mutual and capital interests are expressed in new hybrid forms of SE. Concurrently, the ICAEW's project on 'Rethinking Capital' has fed into an international project to define (and account for) six capitals: natural, human, social, intellectual, manufactured and financial. In our paper, we regard

some of those capitals as supportive of the general interest (natural, intellectual), some integral to mutual interests (human, social) and two (manufactured, financial) as a good fit with 'capital' interests.

The members of the FairShares Association, the steering group of the FairShares Institute for Cooperative Social Entrepreneurship and partners in the European FairShares Labs for Social and Blue Innovation have wrestled with the apparent paradox between the six capitals of sustainable development and conceptualisations of 'capital' used by SE scholars. This is triggered – in no small part – by engagement with Pauli's concept of the blue economy. We published a statement about 'Six forms of Wealth' to accompany a SE planning tool called the FairShares Canvass. Both are integral to V3.0 of the FairShares Model. The canvass prompts social entrepreneurs and auditors to work out which forms of wealth their enterprise creates and depletes. We do not assume forms of wealth are equal or interchangeable. Each is conceptualised as an emergent quality of other forms of wealth. This has implications for the concept of 'capital' in the EMES triangle and we welcome debate on whether 'capital interest' should be relabelled as 'financial' or 'private' interests.

Based on this work, we have come to assume that financial and manufactured wealth emerge when human, social and intellectual wealth are invested in the transformation of natural wealth. But all five emergent forms of wealth (financial, manufactured, human, social, intellectual) depend for their existence on natural wealth (from the atoms that make up coins, the bits and bytes in financial and ICT systems, to chemical processes in both manufacturing and human evolution, and even to the conditions for life itself).

According to the speaker, this reconceptualisation of wealth enables us to look afresh at the contributions of each SE model identified by the ICSEM project. For him, it crystallises how SE can be much more than a set of mechanisms or approaches to alleviating poverty and hardship. It can be much more than responsible financial management and income generation for people on lower incomes. It can also be designing SEs to generate and share wealth in all its forms by creating and managing what Ostrom calls 'Common Pool Resources'. It is these SEs that provide empirical and theoretical bridges into sustainable development, and it is these SEs – by drawing on and organising the co-operative and voluntary actions of their members - that will contribute most to sustainable development.

Luciane Lucas dos Santos from Coimbra Univeristy (Portugal) delivered a presentation entitled "Sustainable societies, (feminist) economic imageries and different rationalities". She discussed how a broader scope of sustainability requires a different look at the very concept of the economy as well as of Economics as a socially relevant field of knowledge. Social and Solidarity Economies have played pivotal roles in this resizing since they demonstrate hidden aspects that a mathematised and neoclassical economic approach has insistently ignored. Nonetheless, we should question: to what extent are our theories capable of depicting the changes brought by ordinary citizens and communities where organisations have become a hostage to the State and the (capitalist) market? Have we equally valued all Polanyian principles of economic integration or have we just bet on a version of less aggressive market? This speech has thus three main goals. The first one is connected with the very concept of sustainability on which we have grounded our discussions. The second goal is concerned with the need for better framing the ones who have contributed to the re-embeddedness of the economy and the revitalisation of principles of economic integration beyond the market. I argue that we should pay more attention to the epistemological and political challenges women have brought to the concepts and their limits. Departing from some non-Western sustainable solutions, I present my third goal: to evidence the connection between sustainable societies and economic democracy, having in mind that economic democracy requires from us milestones such as environmental justice and broadened economic imageries.

Lastly, **Nadia Johanisova** (Masaryk University, Czech Republic) delivered a thought-provoking lecture that began question the very title of the plenary:

Can SE be vehicles for sustainable development?

For Nadia, this question, like all questions, has its assumptions - something that is taken for granted by the enquirer, not questioned. The assumption that leaps to the eye with this one question is, to her, quite basic. It is the belief that "sustainable development" is a meaningful and useful concept. For her, it is not.

For one thing, it seems to have become an emptied phrase, which offends nobody but means nothing. Everybody is a fan of sustainable development from Greenpeace to McDonalds these days.

She moved on to discuss the meaning of "development" from a critical perspective (Arturo Escobar) emphasizing the Euroamerican-centric and linear dimension applied to this notion. A major point according to the speaker is the connection with growth, unlimited growth, despite the objective ecological limits. From an environmental perspective, despite some dazzling achievements of Western culture, its philosophy and economic practice, development understood in this way has lead us to the brink of environmental collapse which many now say cannot be averted. In this situation, it is perhaps just as well to admit that we may need other concepts, other paradigms, other ontologies, than the "business as usual" one which sustainable development seems to imply.

She moved on to illustrate the potential of SE initiatives to challenge the ecological crisis both because many of them have green aims(renewable energy co-operatives, community orchards or re-use centers) and because their very structure and ideology differ considerably from mainstream enterprises, especially joint stock companies, pressured to grow, produce profit and externalise their costs.

This plenary session was live streamed and is available to watch on the EMES YouTube channel.

Plenary

Journal Editors Debate

This plenary session of the EMES conference was organised to inform editors and delegates about the potential for bridge building between closely related academic communities.

The main purpose of the session was to:

- learn about the breadth and depth of journals that contribute to our understanding of social enterprise, co-operative and voluntary action (SE);
- 2. explore the way each journal contributes to the study of sustainable development through SE.

The participants of the session were:



Janelle Kerlin, associate editor of the **Social Enterprise Journal**(published by Emerald Publishing Ltd.)



Jan Myers, editor of the

Journal of Co-operative

Studies (Published by UKSCS,

UK Society for Co-operative

Studies)



Tracey Coule, research-topractice editor of **Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly** (Sage Publications Ltd.)



Rob Macmillan, editor of **Voluntary Sector Review** (Published by Policy Press in association with the Voluntary Sector Studies Network, VSSN)



Jo Barraket, editor **Journal** of **Social Entrepreneurship** (Published by Taylor & Francis)



Carlo Borzaga, editor of the
Journal of Entrepreneurial
and Organizational
Diversity, JEOD (Published
by the European Research
Institute on Cooperative and
Social Enterprises, EURICSE)



Sonja Novkovic, editor and Roger Spear, board member of **Review of International Co-operation** (Published by the International Co-operative Alliance, ICA)



Taco Brandsen, editor of **Voluntas** (Published by Springer)

During the debate, each journal editor gave a three minute statement about their journal, particularly its relationship to other journals and academic communities present at the conference. After audience contributions each editor summarised what they felt would be an ideal submission to their journal.

To support the session, each editor prepared a <u>one-page statement</u> about their journal.



Results and SE models worldwide: Final results of the ICSEM project

Chairs: **Jacques Defourny** (University of Liege) and **Marthe Nyssens** (UCLouvain)

Presentations included:

- "Mapping and testing social enterprise models across the world", Jacques Defourny and Marthe Nyssens
- "Social enterprise in Latin America: Patterns and historical relevance", Luiz Inácio Gaiger
- "Main highlights about social enterprise in Asia", Eric Bidet

This plenary session was live streamed and is available to watch on the EMES YouTube channel.

Social enterprise and the UN Sustainability Development Goals (UN SDGs)

Chair: Yulia Aray (St. Petersburg University)

Presentations included:

- "The role of UN SDGs in developing sustainable models for social entrepreneurship in Russia", Yury E. Blagov and Yulia N. Aray
- "Institutional voids:Impediment to Social Enterprises in the Achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in South African Municipalities", Frederik Claeyé and Sokeibelemaye Nwauche
- "Assessing the Non-financial Outcomes of Social Enterprises in Luxembourg", Francesco Sarracino

Mapping of social enterprise and its ecosystem in Europe

Chair: Jacques Defourny (University of Liege)

This policy-oriented session presented the preliminary findings of the European Mapping of Social Enterprise to be completed at the end of 2019. Presenters included:

- Dr. Giulia Galera and Prof. Carlo Borzaga, scientific coordinators of the Mapping, EURICSE
- Mr. Risto Raivio, senior policy advisor at the DG Employment & Social Affairs, European Commission, in charge of the Mapping project.
- Dr. Nadia Johanisova, member of the Advisory Board of the Mapping, Masaryk University (Czech Republic)
- ➤ Dr. Bernard Enjolras, member of the Advisory Board of the Mapping, Institutt for samfunnsforskning, (Norway)

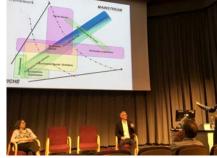
Theory of social enterprise solidarity and pluralism: A North-South dialogue

Chair: Lars Hulgård (Roskilde University) and Jean-Louis Laville (Cnam)

- "Introduction and overview", Philippe Eynaud
- "Feminism, emancipation and social enterprise in South America", Luciane Lucas dos Santos
- "Social enterprise and democratic solidarity: towards pluralism", Jean-Louis Laville
- "Social democracy and solidarity economy: a new role for social enterprise in Scandinavia", Lars Hulgård and Linda L. Andersen







Closing Plenary

Is social enterprise a vehicle for neoliberalism?

The closing plenary session of the conference was chaired by Lars Hulgård, professor of social entrepreneurship at Roskilde University in Denmark. The session was to explore the question: *Is social enterprise a vehicle for neoliberalism?*

We had the honour to count with the presence of three fundamental actors that have confronted this question head-on during their lives and who continue to both mold and challenge this field.

Jo Barraket: director and leading researcher of the Centre for Social Impact at Swineburn University in Australia. Professor Jo Barraket is Director of the Centre for Social Impact Swinburne, where she commenced in April 2014. Prior to this, she was Associate Professor of Social Enterprise at the Australian Centre for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Studies at Queensland University of Technology. She is a leading researcher in the areas of social enterprise, social innovation and relationships between governments and the third sector in social policy development. She has more than 55 publications in these areas, including her most recent book, Social Procurement and New Public Governance (Routledge 2016).

Professor Barraket has been the national expert adviser to the OECD on two projects related to the social economy and socio-economic participation. She has led more than \$8 million in grant-funded and commissioned research, including national competitive grants funded by the Australian Research Council and projects funded by corporate and private philanthropy, and state and local governments.

Julian Le Grand: professor of social policy at the London School of Economics and Political Science since 1993. He was awarded a knighthood in the 2015 New Year's Honour's list for services to social sciences and public service. He is an economist by training, with a PhD in economics from the University of Pennsylvania. He is a Fellow of the British Academy, a Founding Academician of the Academy of Social Sciences, and an Honorary Fellow of the Faculty of Public Health Medicine.

From 2003 to 2005 he was seconded to No 10
Downing St to serve as Senior Policy Adviser to the
Prime Minister. In 2007 he was Chairman of the
Social Work Practices Working Group for the UK
Department for Children, Families and Schools. From
2007 to 2009 he was Chair of Health England: the
National Reference Group for Health and Well Being
for the UK Department of Health. From 2011 to 2013
he was Chair of the UK Cabinet Office's Mutuals
TaskForce. In 2013 and 2014 he was the Chair of
the Panels reviewing Doncaster's and Birmingham's
Children's Services for the Department for Education
and wrote the Panels' reports.

As well as these positions, he has acted as an adviser to the President of the European Commission, the World Bank, the World Health Organisation, the OECD, HM Treasury, the UK Department of Work and Pensions and the BBC.

Álvaro Porro: Commissioner for Social Economy, Local Development and Consumption in the local city council of Barcelona, in Catalunya, Spain. The Commissioner's scope for action includes the Social and Solidarity Economy, Time and Care Economy policies and the area of Consumption which involves plans and strategies for promoting the Social and Solidarity Economy, plus the government measure for democratising care, and encouraging responsible consumption and food policies. He is also in charge of the Local Development area aiming to give a new impetus to local economic development policies in the neighbourhoods, linking them to consumption policies and promoting social and economic projects that help to transform the social and business reality by means of initiatives geared towards creating wealth and jobs. Before joining the local government, Mr Porro launched a collective entrepreneurship support program at the university called Starter that incubated entrepreneurial initiatives that continue to thrive today. He's a trained group facilitator and social and solidarity economy activist, particularly housing rights, food sovereignty and peasants' struggles and social ecology. He received a degree in economics from the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid and Universitat van Amsterdam with a focus on philosophy of economics.

PAPER AND PANEL PARALLEL SESSIONS

As indicated above, a total of 302 papers were presented in Sheffield divided via 61 parallel sessions and 10 panels. Capturing such knowledge and energy would be impossible using only words so we have made a selection of these parallel sessions.

Therefore, we encourage you to consult the program in the two formats available:

- > Single timetable format
- > Online version (available until July 2020)

There were a total of 10 panels organized:

- Social enterprise and the Welfare State in comparative perspective (I and II) [COST sessions]
- Exploring notions of 'commons' and 'collaborative economy' through social practices: A community economies lens
- Social enterprise and social economy (I) [COST session]
- **4.** Social Enterprises and Social Innovations in Structurally Weak Regions [RurAction]
- 5. What is the potential of SE initiatives to challenge the ecological crisis? (I)
- **6.** CSR, cooperatives, the commons movement.... reflecting on the institutional challenges of the eco-social transition with Karl Polanyi
- 7. Social entrepreneurship and innovation in rural europe
- 8. From solidarity movements towards the creation of social enterprises designed to empower migrants: main trends and challenges ahead [COST session]
- Social enterprise and the social economy (II) [COST session]
- **10.** Social enterprise and the Welfare State in comparative perspective (II) [COST session]

Given the space limitations, we have included the descripcion of one panel as a way to illustrate their complexity and the way in which this format is conceived within the EMES conference:

Social enterprise and the social economy

Chair: Sílvia Ferreira

In recent years, the concept of social enterprise left its original academic nest or marginal nameless organisation practices to achieve a wider diffusion. This takes place in the academic world, with the increased interest of diverse disciplines and a growing number of scholars and researchers studying social enterprises, and in governmental policy, organisational programmes and practices and in the public space. Partly this popularity can be interpreted as a piece of the broader trend for the increasing structuration and relevance of a third sector, call it social economy or non-profit sector or other, as consequence of broader social and political changes. Associated to this diffusion comes the explosion of different meanings, as new practices and organisations emerge and different types of actors from the public for-profit and third sectors become involved. The way the relation between social enterprises and the older social economy is perceived in different contexts varies widely, from understandings of complete overlap to complete separation. The virtue is possibly in between, to avoid the unproductive confusion of social enterprises with other types of organisations. Still, it is not clear whether we are looking at new types of organisations with old approaches or if we are using new analytical approaches to look at old types of organisations. This panel draws from the merits of comparative analysis allowed by the involvement of several researchers in the COST Action EMPOWER-SE, and the shared institutionalist analytical framework, to explore the conceptual and empirical relations between social enterprises and the social economy in different national contexts. The hypothesis is that concepts and realities of social economy, social entrepreneurship, social innovation and social enterprise vary according to different institutional arrangements and historical legacies and influence each other, contributing to the existence of different meanings of social enterprise amongst social actors. Therefore, with attention to historical legacies and existing institutional arrangements and ecosystems we explore the meanings of social enterprises in different contexts, the existing traditions related to other concepts such as social economy and the way social enterprises and the social economy are articulated in actors' meanings, practices and legal and political frameworks. Through comparative understanding of these relations we expect to contribute to strengthen the mutual understanding communication between the different actors involved, including researchers, practitioners and policymakers.

Papers included:

- "Strengthening the social economy in Malta through a social enterprise approach", Vincent Caruana
- "Towards the legal institutionalization of SE in Poland: With or without the social economy?", Anna Ciepielewska-Kowalik
- "Social enterprise contested boundaries in Portugal: inside and outside the social and solidarity economy", Sílvia Ferreira
- "Social enterprises in France and in Spain: between path dependence and institutional creation?", Francesca Petrella, Nadine Richez-Battesti and Marta Solórzano
- "The role of social entrepreneurs in social economy: a case of Lithuanian social enterprises", Egle Butkeviciene and Audrone Urmanaviciene

We also include the "Schedule at a glance" to provide a sense of the sessions what were held and you have a chance to see a selection of papers in the section EMES Selected Conference Papers below.











Schedule at a glance

| 09:00 - 17:30 | TRANSDISCIPLINARY FORUM |
|---------------|-------------------------|
| 17:30 - 19:00 | OPENING PLENARY SESSION |

| 08:30 - 10:00 | PS1.1 | Challenging false distinctions and erroneous assumptions in the SE field |
|---------------|---------------------|---|
| 08:30 - 10:00 | PS1.2 | Exploring the contested boundaries of SE |
| 08:30 - 10:00 | PS1.3 | The socio-economic performance of social enterprises |
| 08:30 - 10:00 | PS1.4 | Process views of social innovation |
| 08:30 - 10:00 | PS1.5 | Participatory governance and ownership (I) |
| 08:30 - 10:00 | PS1.7 | Theorising collaboration and the commons in social enterprises |
| 08:30 - 10:00 | PS1.8 | Political activism and Polanyian conceptions of social value creation |
| 08:30 - 10:00 | Panel 1 | Social Enterprise and the Welfare State in comparative perspective (I) $ $ |
| 08:30 - 10:00 | Panel 2 | Exploring notions of 'commons' and 'collaborative economy' through social practices: A community economies lens |
| 10:30 - 12:00 | Semi- penary 1.1 | Results and SE models worldwide: Final results of the ICSEM project 🗘 |
| 10:30 - 12:00 | Semi- penary 1.2 | Social enterprise and the UN Sustainability Development Goals (UN SDGs) |
| 13:30 - 15:00 | Panel 3 (PS2.1) | Social enterprise and social economy (I) 😂 |
| 13:30 - 15:00 | PS2.2 | SE, international development and change |
| 13:30 - 15:00 | PS2.3 | Impact funds and social impacting Investing |
| 13:30 - 15:00 | PS2.4 | Social enterprise and (dis)ability |
| 13:30 - 15:00 | PS2.5 | Digital innovation and SE ecosystems |
| 13:30 - 15:00 | PS2.6 | Critical theoretical perspectives on democracy and self-determination |
| 13:30 - 15:00 | PS2.7 | Multi-level governance and ecosystems for SE and sustainable development |
| 13:30 - 15:00 | PS2.8 | Commons as the ecology of social transformation |
| 13:30 - 15:00 | PS2.9 | Growth/degrowth in social solidarity and social movement communities |
| 15:00 - 16:30 | PS3.1 | Ecological, social and spiritual discourses |
| 15:00 - 16:30 | PS3.2 | Mutual social enterprises |
| 15:00 - 16:30 | PS3.3 | Scaling, failure and their link to resourcing Impediments |
| 15:00 - 16:30 | PS3.4 | SE and social environmental sustainability |
| 15:00 - 16:30 | PS3.5 | Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship |
| 15:00 - 16:30 | PS3.6 | Worker cooperatives as actors in radical change |
| 15:00 - 16:30 | PS3.7 | Transitions and change |
| 15:00 - 16:30 | PS3.8 | Country perspectives on social enterprises and public policy (II) |
| 15:00 - 16:30 | PS3.9 | The infrastructure of the commons |
| 15:00 - 16:30 | PS3.10 | Methodological advancements in SE |
| 16:30 - 17:30 | BOOK SIGN | ING + special session: SE journals - bridging or dividing the field? |

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| 17:30 - 19:00 | PS4.1 | Organisational forms and ideal types |
|---|---|---|
| 17:30 - 19:00 | PS4.2 | Making value visible in valuations of SE |
| 17:30 - 19:00 | Panel 4 | Social Enterprises and Social Innovations in Structurally Weak Regions [RurAction] |
| 17:30 - 19:00 | PS4.4 | Social and economic empowerment and inclusion |
| 17:30 - 19:00 | PS4.5 | Co-production and community democracy |
| 17:30 - 19:00 | PS4.6 | Stakeholder approaches to SE governance |
| 17:30 - 19:00 | PS4.7 | Legal frameworks and organizational forms |
| 17:30 - 19:00 | PS4.8 | Rural commons and platforms |
| 17:30 - 19:00 | Panel 5 | What is the potential of SE initiatives to challenge the ecological crisis? (I) |
| 17:30 - 19:00 | Panel 6 | CSR, cooperatives, the commons movement reflecting on the institutional challenges of the eco-social transition with Karl Polanyi |
| | | |
| 09:30 - 11:00 | PS5.1 | Collaboration and partnership in SE |
| 09:30 - 11:00 | PS5.2 | Managing Resources in social enterprises |
| 09:30 - 11:00 | PS5.3 | Social innovation and entrepreneurship in health, wellbeing and ageing |
| 09:30 - 11:00 | PS5.4 | Policy, welfare states and social innovation |
| 09:30 - 11:00 | PS5.5 | Ecosystems for social enterprise 🗘 |
| 09:30 - 11:00 | PS5.6 | Institutional analyses in international perspective |
| 09:30 - 11:00 | PS5.7 | Solidarity and sustainable development |
| 09:30 - 11:00 | PS5.8 | Beyond the economics of SE |
| 09:30 - 11:00 | PS5.9 | SE identity |
| 09:30 - 11:00 | Panel 7 | Social entrepreneurship and innovation in rural europe |
| 11:30 - 12:30 | Semi- penary 2.1 | Mapping of social enterprise and its ecosystem in Europe 😊 |
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| 11:30 - 12:30 | Semi- penary 2.2 | Theory of social enterprise solidarity and pluralism: A North-South dialogue |
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POSTER SESSIONS

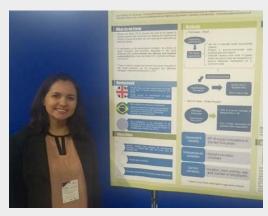
A total of 18 posters were presented during the conference which are listed below. The authors and abstracts are listed in the Conference program.

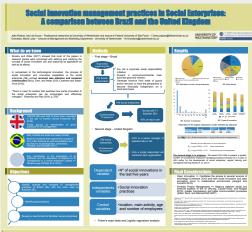
THE POSTERS PRESENTED ARE LISTED BELOW:

- "Measuring the impact of a SE. The socioeconomic impact of the social enterprise CONCORDIA Bakery, Romania", Irina Sinziana Opincaru
- "Understanding organizational change of consumer co-operatives: The case of iCOOP Korea", Bo Young OH
- "Matching the dual goals of a hybrid social enterprise model. Is it possible?", Audrone Urmanaviciene
- 4. "Embeddedness of social enterprises in business relationships", Irma Agardi
- 5. "Cultural Commons and New Organizational Models", Laura Aufrère
- **6.** "Social Innovation and entrepreneurship: Case study in Armenia", **Mary Boghosian**
- "What concept of social enterprise European Union (EU) is using in its legal framework?", Maira Fajardo



8. "Social Innovation management practices in social enterprises: A comparison between Brazil and the United Kingdom", Iraci Joao-Roland





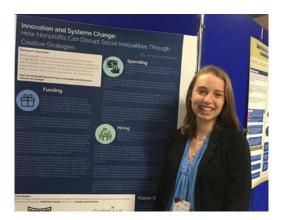
- "Finding a niche: Social Enterprises and the public service reform in Finland", Harri Kostilainen
- "From legitimacy flows benefits": how social enterprises legitimate in institutional complexity", Kerryn Krige
- 11. "A social business model for the organic food market in Brazil – An approach from science and technology studies", Lucca Lopes

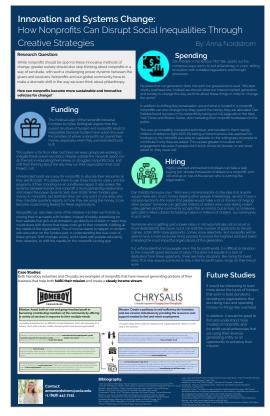






- **12.** "Social impact assessment in the social enterprise sector: A primer and review of the literature", **Cheng LU**
- 13. "Innovation and systems change: How nonprofits can disrupt social inequalities through creative strategies", Anna Nordstrom

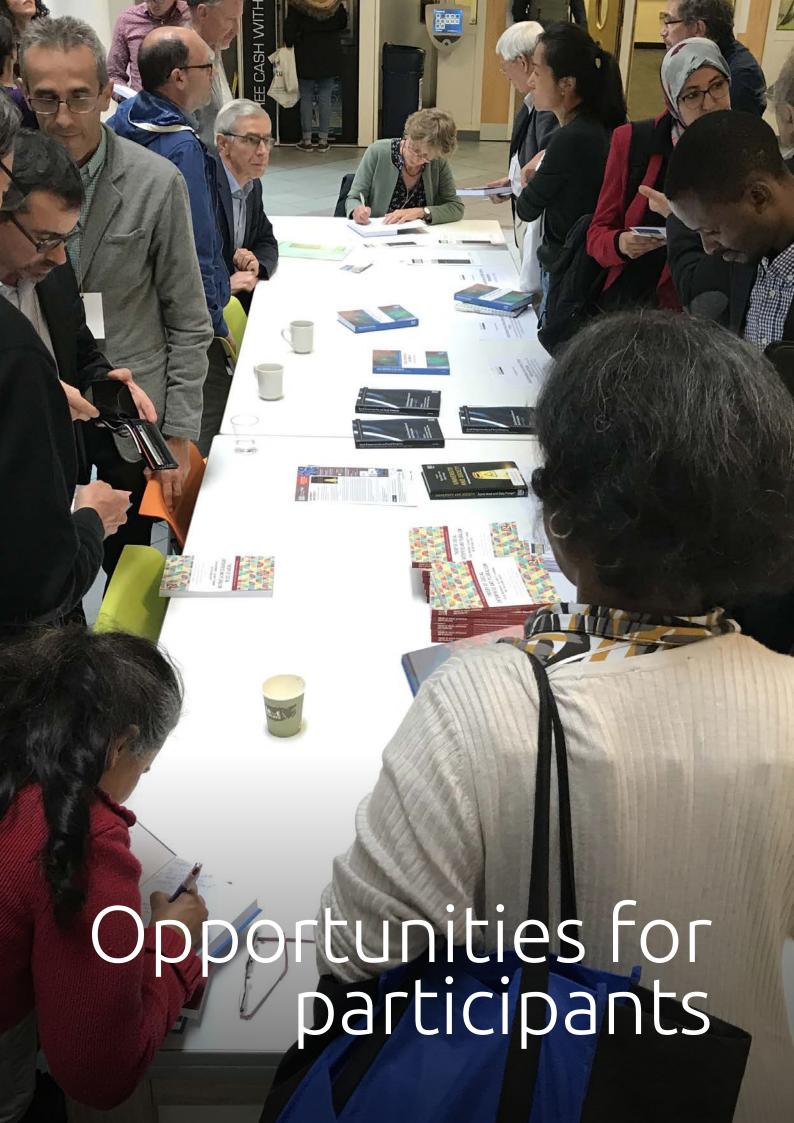




14. "Managing resources in social enterprise partnerships", **Nerkan Nuzhet**



- **15.** "Using social business to address food waste: a comparative approach", **Samantha Sandilands**
- **16.** "Assessing the social impact of a Southeast Asian social enterprise through the lenses of Theory of Change and Social Return on Investment, **Albert Teo**
- 17. "Economic models of family agriculture cooperatives and sectoral governance: sustainable development at stake in the dismantlement of federal rural development programs in Espirito Santo, Brazil", Armindo Teodósio
- **18.** "Using Weaver's social enterprise directory to teach and engage students in social enterprise research", **Rasheda Weaver**



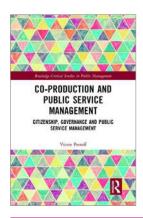






BOOK SIGNING EVENT

A total of seven books recently published were presented during the conference. The event was very popular and drew lots of attention from participants, who were able to exchange directly with the authors and get their copies signed. The list below includes the seven books presented with the author(s) present at the event as well as a link where complete information can be found.



Co-production and Public Service Management

with Victor Pestoff

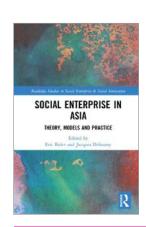
Routledge link

This volume compiles a dozen essays, by one of the most prolific proponents of co-production as a solution for many of the challenges facing public services and democratic governance at the outset of the 21st Century. Co-production is considered a partnership between citizens and public service providers that is essential for meeting a growing number of social challenges, since neither the government nor citizens can solve them on their own.

These challenges include, among other things, improving the efficiency and effectiveness of public services in times of financial strain; increasing the legitimacy of the public sector after decades of questioning its ability with the spread of New Public Management; promoting social integration and

cultural pluralism in increasingly diverse societies when millions of refugees and immigrants are on the move; tackling the threat of burgeoning populism following the rise of anti-immigrant and anti-global parties in many countries in recent years; and finally, finding viable solutions for meeting the growing needs of aging populations in many parts of the world.

This volume addresses issues related to the successful development and implementation of a policy shift toward greater citizen participation in the design and delivery of the services they depend on in their daily lives and greater citizen involvement in resolving these tenacious problems, facilitated by the active support of governments across the globe. Moreover, it explores participatory public service management that empowers the front-line staff providing public services. Together with users/citizens they can insure the democratic governance of public service provision.



Social Enterprise in Asia. Theory, Models and Practice

with Jacques Defourny, Yu-Yuan Kuan, Marthe Nyssens, Xiaomin Yu, Anirudh Agrawal, Prapin Nuchpiam (tbc), Khare Prajakta (tbc), Eric Bidet et Jieun Ryu

Routledge link

In the absence of a widely accepted and common definition of social enterprise (SE), a large research project, the "International Comparative Social Enterprise Models" (ICSEM) Project, was carried out over a five-year period; it involved more than 200 researchers from 55 countries and relied on bottom-up approaches to capture the SE phenomenon. This strategy made it possible to take into account and give legitimacy to locally embedded approaches, thus resulting in an analysis encompassing a wide diversity of social enterprises, while simultaneously allowing



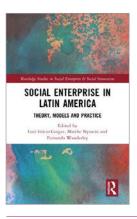




for the identification of major SE models to delineate the field on common grounds at the international level.

These SE models reveal or confirm an overall trend towards new ways of sharing the responsibility for the common good in today's economies and societies. We tend to consider as good news the fact that social enterprises actually stem from all parts of the economy. Indeed, societies are facing many complex challenges at all levels, from the local to the global level. The diversity and internal variety of SE models are a sign of a broadly shared willingness to develop appropriate although sometimes embryonic responses to these challenges, on the basis of innovative economic/business models driven by a social mission. In spite of their weaknesses, social enterprises may be seen as advocates for and vehicles of the general interest across the whole economy. Of course, the debate about privatisation, deregulation and globalised market competition—all factors that may hinder efforts in the search for the common good–has to be addressed as well.

The first of a series of four ICSEM books, Social Enterprise in Asia will serve as a key reference and resource for teachers, researchers, students, experts, policy makers, journalists and other categories of people who want to acquire a broad understanding of the phenomena of social enterprise and social entrepreneurship as they emerge and develop across the world.



Social Enterprise in Latin America. Theory, Models and Practice

with Luiz Inácio Gaiger, Marthe Nyssens, Carola Conde Bonfil, Jacques Defourny, Philippe Eynaud, Michela Giovannini, Sergio Páramo-Ortiz, Marília Veríssimo Veronese et María José Ruiz Rivera

Routledge link

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People Centered Social Innovation. Global Perspectives on an Emerging Paradigm

with Linda Lundgaard Andersen, Lars Hulgård, Luise Li Langergaard, Roger Spear

Routledge link

Social Innovation is emerging as an alternate interdisciplinary development

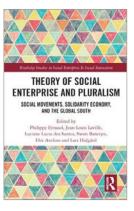






pathway of knowledge and practice that aims to understand and address contemporary complexities and multi – dimensional social realities. BEPA (2011) defines social innovation as, 'innovations that are social in both their ends and means'. However, though Social Innovation is a widely-used term; its conceptual understanding and the specific relation to social change remains under explored.

People Centered Social Innovation: Global perspectives on an Emerging Paradigm attempts to revisit and extend the existing understanding of Social Innovation in practice by focusing upon the lived realities of marginalized groups and communities. The emerging field of people-centered development is placed in dialogue with theory and concepts from the more established field of social innovation to create a new approach; one that adopts a global perspective, engaging with very different experiences of marginality across the global north and south. Theoretically, 'People Centered Social Innovation: Global Perspectives on an Emerging Paradigm' draws upon 'northern' understandings of change and improvement as well as 'southern' theory concerns for epistemological diversity and meaning making. The result is an experiment aimed at reimagining research and practice that seriously needs to center the actor in processes of social transformation.



Theory of Social Enterprise and Pluralism. Social Movements, Solidarity Economy, and Global South

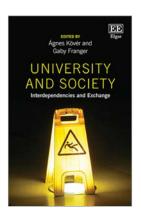
with Linda L. Andersen, Philippe Eynaud, Lars Hulgård, Jean-Louis Laville, Luciane Lucas dos Santos

Routledge link

In the past decades, social enterprise has been an emerging field of research. Its main frameworks have been provided by Occidental approaches. Mainly based on an organizational vision, they give little or no room to questions such as gender, race, colonialism, class, power relations and intertwined forms of inequality. However, a wide range of worldwide hidden, popular initiatives can be considered as another form of social enterprises based on solidarity, reembedding the economy as well as broadening the political scope. This has been shown in a previous book: Civil Society, the Third Sector, and Social Enterprise: Governance and Democracy.

Thus, to be more than a fashion or a fictitious panacea, the concept of social enterprise needs to be debated. Southern realities cannot be only understood through imported categories and outside modeled guidelines. This book engages a multicontinental and pluridisciplinary discussion in order to provide a pluralist theory of social enterprise. The book will be of interest to researchers, academics and students in the fields

of social entrepreneurship, social innovation, development studies, management studies and social work.



University and society. Interdependencies and Exchange with Nicolae Bibu and Mihai Lisetchi

Edward Elgar link

Edited by Ágnes Kövér and Gaby Franger What role can the university play in the broader community or society in which it is embedded? Must it remain segregated in the halls of science and knowledge, which tower above the community? This book examines the growing number of questions and concerns around university-community relations by exploring widely accepted theories and practices and placing them under new light.

VISITS TO LOCAL SOCIAL ENTERPRISES

Visit to Sheffield Social Enterprise Network (SSEN)



Delegates were invited to visit two local social enterprises in Sheffield on Tuesday evening. Around 50 delegates booked the visit to Blend Kitchen, a social enterprise with "a vision to use cuisine and hospitality to enhance people's lives". Alongside fabulous food, delegates met local staff and listened to short talks by the Sheffield Social Enterprise

Network (SSEN), the Social Enterprise Exchange (the city incubator), Key Fund (a local social enterprise funder) and veteran social entrepreneur, Mark Powell. Taken together, delegates were able to piece together the puzzle of how a city can create for itself a vibrant network of institutions to support social enterprise development.



Growth Led Innovation Driven Employee Company Limited

Visit to Glide house

21 people signed up to take a 10 minute bus ride to Glide house, a democratically controlled organisation that oversees a group of six employee-owned businesses around Sheffield. Food was presented and then a talk given by Glide and Gripple employees (owners) on their values and success building an international business with branches in France, USA, Poland and (more recently) Japan.

GALA DINNER

The gala dinner was held at <u>Cutler's Hall</u>. Originally built in 1832, this magnificent landmark lies in the heart of the city. It was built to recognise and celebrate the contribution of the steel industry to the growth of the city. Nearly 200 delegates came for the meal. They witnessed the presentation of the EMES best paper awards. After the acceptance speeches, a local act, selected and coordinated by the social enterprise Opus Independents provided the music. Playing well known pop songs in a jazz style, The Swinging Cats managed to get every delegate left standing on the dance floor.















PHD SOCIAL

Around 70 PhD students attended a highly enjoyable social event at a local Sheffield microbrewery - Triple Point Brewery (https://triplepointbrewing.co.uk/) where the conversations carried on until closing time. The students were shown around the brewery and able to sample its produce.







EMES 2019 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The 2019 annual General Assembly (GA) was held in the course of this Conference and it gathered 65 EMES members. The GA constitutes a unique moment for EMES members to meet face to face to learn about activities and plans from the Board of Directors and the Coordination Unit and to interact as members of a unique community.

The agenda for the day included ordinary items like approving documents but also some exciting actions such as welcoming new institutional members. Malin Gawell from Södertörn University in Sweden and Millán Díaz from the University of Zaragoza in Spain introduced themselves and their centre's main reasons for joining EMES. Next the treasurer of EMES, Jacques Defourny presented the annual accounts 2018 which were unanimously approved by the GA. A large part of the session was devoted to sharing the process and the contents of the Strategic Plan 2019-2021 and the 2018 Annual Report. Later on, the second open election process 2019 beginning in September was explained in detail by the president, Marthe Nyssens. A round of exchanges and announcements ensued despite the shortness of available time including: the presentation of a proposal by Taco Brandsen for developing thematic and regional affinity groups; the possibility of launching a joint Masters programme, etc.

BEST PAPER AWARD & BEST PHD PRESENTATION



Best Conference Paper

For the fourth edition of this Award, the winners of the "Best Conference Paper" are Luigi Corvo, Lavinia Pastore and Emanuele Doronzo who coauthored "Does collaborative orientation boost the performance of social enterprises?" This study assesses whether the capacity of social enterprises to create close relationships with different organisations improves both the economic performance and social performance of such organisations. The authors consider a particular

collaboration oriented strategy (the multiple helix approach) that is characterised by a specific close link between universities and public and private organisations. Based on the empirical data collected from 612 Italian social enterprises, the results included in this paper show that a collaborative orientation improves both social performance and economic performance simultaneously. An additional finding is that such relationships are positively influenced by their readiness for innovation and their propensity for accountability.

The two authors who presented the paper at the conference explained that in their view, the relationship between collaboration strategy and performance can be mediated by other factors as well. In this case, they have studied the mediation function of readiness for innovation. According to them, "to win the EMES best paper it has been an immense recognition of the research work that we carry out every day. It was the first time that we attended the conference and we really did not expect this prize. Aside from being awarded, the conference has been interesting challenging and inspiring, a place where different perspectives of academia and society meet."



Best PhD Paper

Given the commitment of EMES to emerging scholars, this Award specifically distinguishes a PhD category but it also aims to emphasise the work of researchers who are in the initial phases of their careers. The winner this year of "Best PhD Paper Award" is Irina Sinziana Opincaru who is currently pursuing her PhD in the Doctoral School of Sociology at the University of Bucharest. The title of her paper is "Elements of the institutionalization process of

the forest and pasture commons in Romania as particular forms of social economy" and it is available to download here.

This paper aims to identify and define the contemporary Romanian commons by reference to the general characteristics of social economy organisations. In order to achieve this and obtain a clearer view of the place of the commons in Romania's organisational environment, the author aims to grasp some elements of the commons' institutionalisation process after the fall of the communist regime. These two objectives are to be achieved by analysing a database comprising 328 questionnaires applied to the presidents or other board members of commons all over Romania and various legal documents such as official legal texts, bylaws etc. Whenever the case is to illustrate some specific situations, Irina uses examples of the commons from counties studied in depth. According to the author, the restitution process that lead to the reestablishment of the Romanian commons, a process that was marked by hardships, conflicts, misunderstandings or faults, deepened the scarce knowledge of the political actors, general public and other stakeholders in regard to these organisations and perpetuated their unclear position in the organisational field.

After receiving the award, she shared with us: "This award came a like a huge surprise for me, both professionally and personally. I am personally invested in the subject of the commons, since my mother's family is part of the village's common and my childhood was marked by observing and discussing the common's organisation, problems and relations with its members. Having brought this subject in the world, in a new light and from a different perspective, in such a beautiful academic community, was both a pride and tribute to all those that helped me shape my understanding of these kind of associative form either relatives, friends and mentors or teachers. As an early stage researcher, working to complete my PhD, this award comes as powerful new motivation to keep up the work on the subject."

7TH EMES SELECTED CONFERENCE PAPERS

Following the Conference, a series of papers were selected based on the evaluation of the session chairs and published on the conference page. They are <u>available to download</u> to all visitors to the EMES network website.

Please note that these papers were reviewed for their potential, and not with a view to publication. They may be at different stages of development within the overall research process. For more information about the papers, we encourage you to contact the author(s) directly. The list below includes a first selection of 20 papers but others will be added in the future.

- Andrea Bassi and Alessandro Fabbri (2019) "Crowdfunding: Threat or Opportunity for Social Economy? Third sector organisations and social enterprises facing the challenge of ICT funding strategies"
- Luigi Corvo, Lavinia Pastore and Emanuele Doronzo (2019) "Does collaborative orientation boost the performance of social enterprises?"
- Timothy Peter Curtis (2019) "Locally Identified Solutions and Practices: a critical realist investigation into the geographies of social innovation in the context of neighbourhood policing"
- Jez Hall and Matthew MacDonald (2019) "Participatory local governance and social enterprise: exploring the links between social entrepreneurial behaviour and democratic resource allocation through participatory budgeting"
- Maarten Hogenstijn (2019) "Developing dialogue bottom-up: social enterprises and local government in the Netherlands"
- Esben Hulgaard and Elof Nellemann Nielsen (2019) "Network and partnerships in a local ecosystem for Social Enterprise"
- Jimin Jeon (2019) "Text network analysis on impact investment to promote social economy in developing countries"
- Nadia Johanisova (2019) "What assumptions behind social enterprise definitions and discourses?"
- Irene Kalemaki, Ioanna Garefi, Sofia Kantsiou, Ivan Diego, Aristidis Protopsaltis and Jenifer Clare Wall (2019) "Towards a learning framework for social innovation education"
- Laura Kumpuniemi (2019) "Political practice and dimensions of solidarity economy: a case study from Cochabamba, Bolivia"
- Jacques Liouville, Guillaume Martin and Jean-Paul Méreaux (2019) "Optimisation of resources,

- skills and organisational capabilities in the BOP environment. Application of the "entrepreneurial bricolage" concept to the social enterprise 1001fontaines in Cambodia"
- Hellen López-Valladares (2019) "How social innovation can challenge the degree of empowerment? The case of the first social enterprise empowering artisanal fishermen in Perú"
- Maureen McCulloch and Rory Ridley-Duff (2019) "To profit or not to profit? That is the wrong question"
- Jules O'dor (2019) "Kite-marks, standards and privileged legal structures; artefacts of constraint disciplining structure choices"
- Irina Sinziana Opincaru (2019) "Elements of the institutionalization process of the forest and pasture commons in Romania as particular forms of social economy"
- Victor Pestoff (2019) "Work Environment, Governance and Service Quality in Japanese Healthcare"
- Masanari Sakurai (2019) ""Why did the new NPO corporations diffuse? Reason for the increasing social economy organizations in Japan"
- Lauren Tuckerman, Julie Thomson and Geoffrey Whittam (2019) "Open Social Innovation: Knowledge commons and the openness spectrum in Scottish social enterprise"
- ➤ Ela Callorda Fossati, Florence Degavre and Benoît Lévesque (2019) "Innovation and transition. For a dialogue between the strong conception of social innovation and the multilevel perspective of the transition toward sustainability"
- Vander Luiz Aguiar, Armindo dos Santos de Sousa Teodósio and Walter Mswaka (2019) "Social enterprises of urban agriculture and the resilience in cities: Belo-horizontinos and Londoners popular movements that defy the hegemony neoliberal"



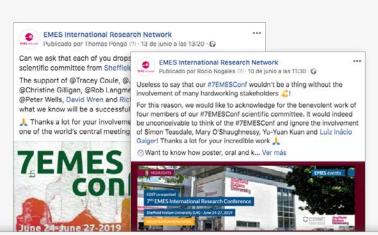




PROMOTIONAL POSTERS

Following the experience of previous years, a conference poster and a Forum poster were produced in electronic and paper version. They were distributed via email to interested members and stakeholders to promote the event in their respective institutions.





CONFERENCE UPDATES

News about the conference was included regularly in the EMES News Alert, which is distributed to over **1,440 subscribers**.

Moreover, this event being co-organized by the COST Action Empower-SE, news were also regularly sent to subscribers for this distribution list composed of **265 people**.

The news alerts archive can be accessed clicking on the following links: <u>EMES news alert</u> and <u>Empower-SE news alert</u>.

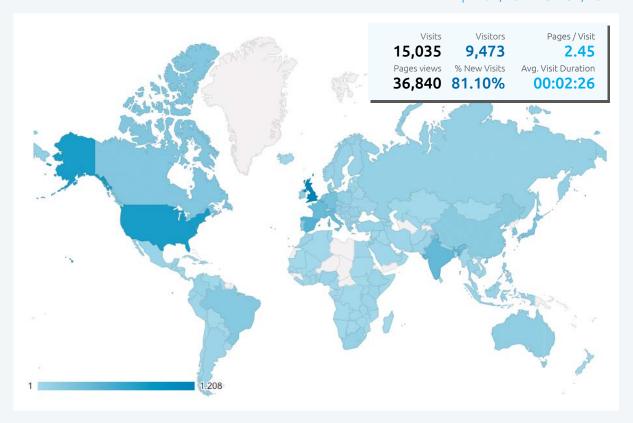
In addition, they were also posted on the social media, mainly Twitter and Facebook.

Our headline sponsor also circulated regular information about the conference to over 3,000 contacts using the FairShares Association's contact lists.

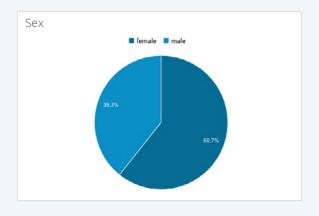
SOCIAL NETWORK

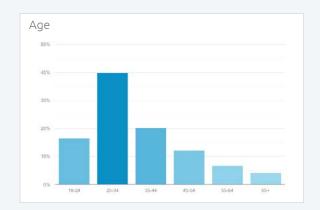
Map Overlay | 159 countries

www.emes.net April 01, 2019 - Jul 31, 2019



Demographic data





Visits by County Main 9 countries

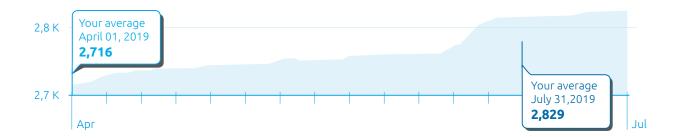
| United Kingdom | 1,208 | Belgium | 452 | Italy | 362 |
|----------------|-------|---------|-----|---------|-----|
| United States | 801 | India | 394 | Germany | 295 |
| Spain | 493 | France | 369 | Japan | 253 |

SOCIAL NETWORK

Total Page "Likes" April 01, 2019 - Jul 31, 2019

Facebook page | Likes

2,9 K



Twitter overwiew

Topics, Hashtags & Mentions

Topics

The topics section shows the overall words usage on Twitter in form of a tag cloud. The more a certain word is used, the larger it is in the cloud.

WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT

pleasure slempre todo stage por response technique people live work looking university kevin non session urgent policy plenaria free organizado Conference enterprise SOCial forward joined international help valore programme soon plenary tema innovations community para l'esearch dear cochair los workshop energy key 7th best paper education del welcoming Support unique opening climate local emes seeing meeting present available event national sociale

Hover a topic to see how many times it has recently been used.

Hashtags

POPULAR HASHTAGS

Tagging is not essential to Twitter, but can definitely grow your reach.

#7emesconf #socent #sdgs #socialeconomy #sevillephdseminar #sheffield #cooperatives #emessolidarityfund #blockchain #emescommunity #wis19 #eser2019 #enterprise #rescoops #nadi #community #renewableenergy #doneraileac #emes #roryridleyduff

@ Mentions

This section shows the user profiles that @emesnetwork has interacted with.

MENTIONS AND @REPLIES MEANS INTERACTIONS



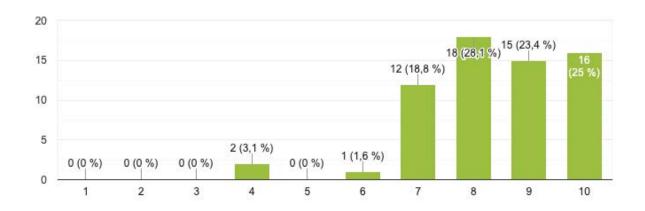
Source foller.me

TIP Clicking on a user, will take you to their Foller.me profile. Use Ctrl+Click (or Cmd+Click for Mac users) to open in a new tab.



We conducted two different surveys, one for the Transdisciplinary Forum and a second for the conference itself. The goal of the survey is to learn from things we are doing well and things that could be improved for future editions.

Overall quality of the conference 64 answers



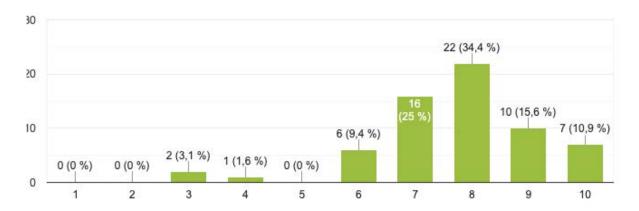






Overall quality of the paper/panel sessions

64 answers



For the TDF, unfortunately there was only a very small number of responses (seven in total from 111 registered attendees - 6%). Of these there was positive feedback for the sessions, in particular "Community Economies Research and Practice" and "Building a cooperative university. Negative feedback related to the provision of food and size/quality of the rooms due to the unexpected number of delegates.

As for the conference participants, the evaluation survey was delivered via email to 281 and it reached a response rate of over 23% (66 responses).

When asked about what they liked most about the conference, the vast majority of respondents stated that **the opportunities to network** were unique. Indeed, the events are always designed to combine highly academic moments with informal moments where the human dimension of this community comes forward. This year we introduced an innovation as a way to increase the possibilities to network among participants. We used the following identifiers on the delegates name tags for delegates to identify who is who before approaching new people:

7th EMES International Research Conference on Social Enterprise 24 - 27 June 2019

JOHN CALLAGHAN
(Imperial College Business School)

Red dot: member of EMES Blue dot: PhD student Green dot: new at an EMES conference

As conference organizers, we are thrilled to see that the effort to make other non-academic

stakeholders part of these events is perceived and appreciated by participants. Specifically, the **local practitioner involvement** was highlighted as a great characteristic of the event and something to continue nurturing.

"This was my first EMES conference, and was struck by the sense of community and warmth of spirit."

"Welcoming atmosphere, mixture of approaches, disciplines, perspectives and nationalities represented and accepted. Wonderful to also see a range in the level of seniority - especially so many PhD students involved."







Another relevant recurring reflection relates to the wide range of practitioner and academics represented and the variety of paradigms co-existing peacefully. One of the participants specifically highlighted the openness of the organisers to new ideas" while other praised "the focus on substantive rationalities over and above instrumental rationalities."

The venue, the organization and the pre-conference communication also received numerous positive comments. We thank our colleagues at SHU for making it such a pleasure to work together! We know that there is always wide room for improvement and we will continue to strive for excellence.

Lastly, there is always something about the social spaces that the EMES conferences create. Indeed "the vibrancy of the event and the atmosphere among participants" were mentioned together with the friendliness and the human dimension of the EMES community gathered in Sheffield.

"The conference was overall evaluated very good - the best in years! This is due to the following: a very diversified scientific and high quality both in paper presentations - higher that in recent years, in plenary panels with a good eye for different scholars positioned differently in paradigms and traditions - that worked very well and many skilled women in plenaries - very good! Consequently, the conference conveyed a scientific community in which differences and disagreements thrives and qualify each other - also the large group of PhD students and early stage researchers are very important and represents a very uplifting future for SE."



Yulia Aray | Russian Federation

EMES conferences are always the events where I gain a unique learning experience and opportunities to meet researchers from around the world. The great value of the conference is that it unites academics from different disciplines, which enhances

cross-disciplinary collaboration in social enterprises and solidarity economy research. The 7th EMES conference in Sheffield this year was again a place to build a network of people who come from different parts of the world with the aim of achieving shared objectives. The atmosphere within the EMES community is very open, friendly and supportive.

After each EMES conference I bring back many new insights and ideas, constructive feedback on my papers, fresh contacts, new opportunities for publications and research. All these things help me to develop my academic career and to feel confidence along this challenging research journey.



Hellen del Rocío López Valladares | Peru

"The EMES conference was the perfect space to connect to ideas, projects and discussion with people who have the most advanced insights around social enterprise, social solidarity, voluntary action, among others. It helped to

question the current theoretical frameworks in the academia and practices in the organizational area such as evaluating scaling social enterprises and consider the danger of mainstreaming, the need to incorporate ecofeminist insights and radical organizations for sustainable development, the path-dependency of the funding of social enterprises and the return of more cooperativedemocracy models to the ecosystem. The conference gave me space to rethink new ways to conceive the models of creating social, environmental and economic value with a unique identity, that is to say, to embrace different development models beyond capitalism and embrace pluralism, culture, feminism, cooperation and forms of governance more democratic. I believe that the outputs of the EMES conference should reach every corner of the social ecosystems around the world and have more presence in other regions such as Latin America, Africa or Asia where the ecosystems have a new opportunity to make things different, the way EMES comprehend hybrid organizations and its environment".



Meryem Kabbaj | Morocco

"It was a great pleasure to participate in the 7th EMES conference, it was actually my first experience within the EMES community and I really enjoyed each single moment, workshops, discussions as well as the plenaries.

The conference was an occasion to be surrounded by well known scholars in the field of social enterprise and to build connections with researchers from all over the world.

I took home so many things from the conference, to sum up the experience, I can say:

- The conference allowed me to break my loneliness as a researcher in the field of social enterprise and to get to know an enriching EMES community.
- The social entrepreneurial ecosystems are similar in most of the countries and actors are facing similar challenges whether in Europe, the United states or Africa.

I came back to Morocco full of enthusiasm and energy and to collaborate with scholars from different regions in the world in order to learn from each other and to boost research in the field of social enterprise."



Angela Eikenberry | United States

"I was so pleased to have the opportunity to attend and participate in the EMES conference in Sheffield. It was a great opportunity to connect with others doing work on social enterprises of various kinds, including cooperatives and grassroots organizing. As someone researching nonprofit and civil society organizations, I was especially happy to find other researchers drawing on critical perspectives to consider questions about these organizations and their impact on society and governance. As the Board President of ARNOVA, I also enjoyed the opportunity to connect with colleagues from various disciplines and talk with EMES leaders, President Marthe Nyssens, and Managing director, Rocío Nogales, about ways our respective membership organizations can collaborate to strengthen the field of nongovernmental organization research."

A PERSONAL MEMBER'S ACCOUNT



Learning About Social Enterprises Across Geographic Contexts at the 7th EMES Conference in Sheffield, United Kingdom

By Rasheda L. Weaver, Hynes Institute for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, Iona College (United States)

Serving as a United States delegate at the EMES International Research Conference on Social Enterprise in Sheffield, England this June gave me the amazing opportunity to learn more about social enterprises in other geographic contexts. My own research focuses on how social enterprises are addressing social problems, how they generate revenue, and the legal structure they operate under in the United States. Thus, while this conference was not my first engagement in EMES, the conference presentations and visits gave me a wealth of knowledge and connections with social enterprise scholars from all over the world. Here are some things that I have learned from the experience:

The future of social enterprises and the social enterprise ecosystem are optimistic. Countries around the world are doing a diversity of work in this burgeoning field. It was exciting to meet scholars from England, South Africa, Ireland, Lithuania, Korea, and more countries. These scholars are developing academic programs, serving on social enterprise advisory boards, using their research to foster national policy and more. It was intriguing to see that while we share a common focus on social enterprise, the way that we go about doing our work is different and thus has different implications for our national and local communities.

> Mapping initiatives aimed at tracking the growth of social enterprises at the national level are growing. Countries such as Australia, Canada, and Scotland all have benefited from capturing the growth of their social enterprise sectors. Benefits include the establishment of government-social enterprise procurement relationships (government commitments to purchase social enterprise supplies), the development of new research studies, and the creation of entrepreneurial support organisations that provide operational and leadership training opportunities for social entrepreneurs. On a personal level, this helped me to better understand the reach and impact

that I could have with Weaver's Social Enterprise Directory, a social enterprise directory that I created in 2018 to help track the growth of social enterprises in the United States. The more our social enterprise sector grows, the better it is to capture that growth. In doing so, we can identify, support, and make use of the diversity of opportunities that stem from it.

➤ On a similar note, the United States has one of the highest rates of social enterprises in the world. However, we lack a unified governmental commitment to advancing the sector. The Social Innovation Fund was created by the Obama Administration in 2009 to fund projects that find new solutions to solving social problems (which may or may not include social enterprises). However, the fund has recently been dissolved. At the state-level, various states have enacted legal structures (e.g. Benefit Corporation) that aid social enterprises in achieving their social and economic goals. Some states (e.g. New Jersey)

even have funding programs for kickstarting social ventures. However, without a national commitment to financially back competitive research, new ventures, and new supports for the field, the United States social enterprise sector is not making the best use of its potential. Seeing the commitment that other nations have made to their social enterprise sectors inspires me to be a driving force for change in this area in the United States.

Overall, I left the conference feeling like there is an abundance of undiscovered and underemployed opportunities in this growing field. As such, I am enthusiastic about the future of social enterprise around the world. In regard to my own contribution to the field, the EMES International Research Conference on Social Enterprise left me motivated to take my work to the next level. In both my teaching and in my research, I see a variety of ways that I can help shape the field in the United States and beyond.















The team

On-site team:

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Teresa Bolaños - EMES/Elastic

Nick Hague - SHU events, sales manager

Tom Redfearn - SHU events coordinator

Kathleen Uyttewaal - EMES

Student team:

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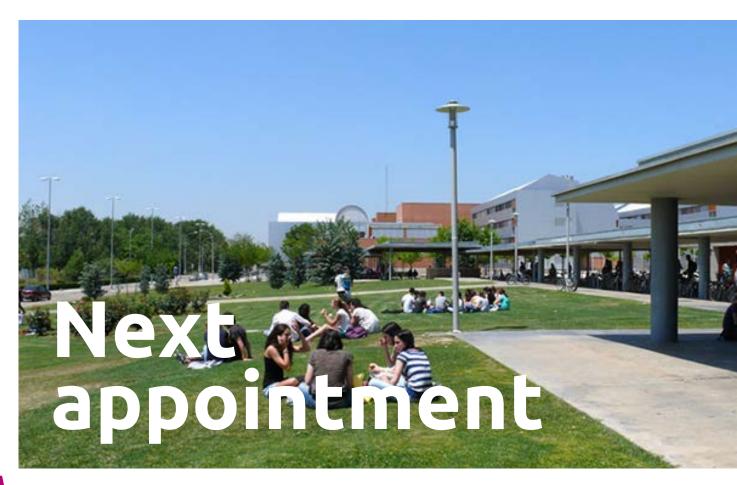
























The University of Zaragoza (Spain), through the GESES Research Group, EMES' newest institutional member, will host the 8th EMES International Research Conference in 2021.

From GESES we are thrilled to assume this challenge as an opportunity to make visible the reality of social enterprise, the social economy and solidarity and other related concepts within the University and our territory. Moreover, the Conference constitutes a milestone that brings together and consolidates teaching, research and transfer activities carried out to date in the various networks in which we participate as research group.

The EMES International Research Conference will allow us to emphasize the effort made by the sector itself to forge alliances internally and to recognize the weight achieved in society and the economy, particularly with regard to employment. Spain is a country with a long tradition in the field of the social and solidarity economy, with internationally renowned cooperative experiences, with business groups dedicated to social and disability integration, as well as an active social humus

capable of spearheading increasingly innovative social projects. This is also the case at the regional level. In Aragon, the region where the University of Zaragoza is located, the social economy represents 10% of companies, 4.2% of paid employment and its turnover reaches 7% of GDP. It will be a great pride to show all this to the EMES community of researchers who visit us in Zaragoza in 2021.

We take on the challenge of organizing the Conference with the heartfelt feeling of putting the resources of the University of Zaragoza and our know-how at the service of advancing research in a field with a positive economic, social and environmental impact that is so relevant to the future of our societies.



If you have ideas or suggestions that you would like us to consider when preparing this major event, please let us know by writing to us at 8emesconf@emes.net















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