



European Social Innovation Review (ESIR) 2016

CALL FOR PAPERS

Measuring Social Innovation, Social Impact, and Social Value: Approaches, Methodologies, and Indicators

Deadline: 31st March 2016

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The ESIR invites you to submit papers that address the application of different approaches, perspectives and indicators to measure the Social and Economic Impact and Social Value inside Social Innovations. The multidimensional nature of social innovation and the diverse and multi-sectorial scope of its impact at the institutional, organizational, political, regional or national levels open a wide theoretical and methodological framework to approach its measurement.

The construction of common indicators to measure SI's impact is still a pending task where there has not been a predominant perspective. Also, one of the main features of social innovation is its marked local nature. Social innovations are always integrated at a local level and are rooted in local and specific wellbeing and culture. This local aspect is not at odds however with scalability and transfer when the majority of the current social problems are global and therefore require global-scale solutions.

Social innovation seeks, above all, to respond to unfulfilled social demands and that is why it should be focused on both the development of actions and on obtaining results. From this conceptual point of view social Innovation covers different areas which explain its complex nature. It can be said that it is still lacking a consolidated, shared approach. That is why the construction of indicators constitutes the most fruitful path in this necessary task of clarification and consolidation. Today more integral measuring methods are required to place the social and environmental issues at the same level as the economic issues. When building a system of indicators we are not only limiting the concept, we are also making it more recognisable, as the absence of indicators makes it difficult to consolidate a concept. Furthermore, these indicators are used to build, recognise and establish the concepts, yet they are also measurement instruments and therefore instruments for evaluation.

The purpose of this call is to fill this gap, acknowledging the challenge of SI measurement in different domains: Conceptual perspectives to measure social innovation dynamics and social impact (regional, organisational and collective dimensions), methodological perspectives or problems like factors of social innovation, levels of analysis (national, regional / organisational), and policy implications to measure social innovation activities.

Topics of the special issue focus on (but are not limited to) the interdisciplinary approaches to social innovation in the following areas:

- Measuring impact of social innovation
- Monitoring SI initiatives and their social value (indicators)
- Social vs. economic investment: a driver or a barrier to assess social innovation impact
- Social wellbeing indicators and SI
- Methods, tools and conceptual approaches to measure SI
- Measuring social innovation scaling-up impact
- Measuring social innovation and policy design
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All papers for the ESIR must be submitted via the ESIR website where you will find specific instructions concerning the format and typography of the proposals:
<http://pub.sinnergiak.org/index.php/esir/about/submissions#onlineSubmissions>

Should there be any queries please contact:

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