

**Sustainable development through social
enterprise, co-operative and voluntary action**

CALL FOR PAPERS

24th - 27th June 2019

Sheffield Hallam University, United Kingdom

Organised by



Action 16206 "Empowering the next
generation of social enterprise scholars"
(EMPOWER-SE)

Hosted by

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The EMES International Research Network, in partnership with the FairShares Institute for Cooperative Social Entrepreneurship (FSI) and Centre for Regional Economic and Social Research (CRESR) at Sheffield Hallam University, are pleased to announce the 7th EMES International Research Conference on the theme "**Sustainable development through social enterprise, co-operative and voluntary action**". The conference will take place on June 24-27, 2019, at Sheffield Hallam University in the United Kingdom (UK) and it is co-organized with COST. The aim of this conference is to be a meeting place for scholars from across the globe who have developed contributions to scholarship on the social and solidarity economy, social entrepreneurship, social innovation, cooperative development and voluntary action.

On 24 June we will hold a Transdisciplinary Forum for which there will be a separate booking system for people who are only attending this day. Full conference delegates are welcome to attend the Transdisciplinary Day.

1. Conference rationale

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. We invite scholars to explore synergies between different disciplines within social enterprise research and catalyze critical debate between different research communities on the state of the art. Specifically, we invite contributors to reassess the nature of and controversies surrounding definitions and conceptualisations of the field.

Social enterprises interact with various actors (public, business, cooperatives, associations), resources (market, public procurement, grants, volunteering) and activity fields. Their social mission is usually linked to the activity field(s) in which they operate, ranging from more traditional fields such as access to social services and health and work integration to the emergence of innovative fields supported by platform cooperatives, eco-entrepreneurship, crowd-based social finance and radical civic action projects to bring about cultural change.

To what extent do government and civil society actors, social economy leaders and business practitioners work towards sustainable development? In this conference, there are opportunities to discover (or rediscover) the advancement of social and environmental aims, and rethink how models of social enterprise (including those discovered during the International Comparative Social Enterprise Models (ICSEM project) contribute to sustainable development.

Taking a worldwide interdisciplinary perspective, this conference invites diverse scholarly communities to discuss and debate the challenges that arise from sustainable development. The conference will bring 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 relevant frameworks.

2. Thematic lines and conveners

To encourage academic debate across fields and disciplines, the conference will be 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 are:

Line 1. Concepts and models of social enterprise, cooperative and voluntary action (SE)

Conveners: Jo Barraket, Marie J. Bouchard, Jacques Defourny, Rob Macmillan.

What do we think social enterprise is, and what could it be? For the last 20 years, different scholars have sought to define 'schools' and 'approaches' to SE. How much does the controversy surrounding 'hybrid' and 'pure' forms of SE matter? What are the boundaries and intersections between social enterprise, voluntary action and co-operative development? What kind of boundary work occurs and for what ends?

Line 2. Resourcing social, cooperative and voluntary action

Conveners: Giulio Ecchia, Yu-Yuan Kuan, Peter Wells, David Wren.

What impact does the changing landscape for funding, social finance and co-operative capital have on the field? Social enterprises have been creative in finding different streams and types of income alongside traditional sources of funding from state, charitable and private sources. What are the challenges associated with the management, development and recruitment of staff, volunteers, trustees and directors? How are resources organised, put to use and configured, and to what ends? What innovations in the field of social finance align with (or undermine) that value commitments of social, cooperative and voluntary organisations?

Line 3. Social innovation and entrepreneurship

Conveners: Danijel Baturina, Chris Dayson, Mary O'Shaughnessy, Simon Teasdale.

Do different research communities studying the third sector frame social innovation and entrepreneurship in different ways? In the last few years, there has been a growing consensus that social innovation pertains to changes in power relations and democratic accountability in organisations and ecosystems of management and governance. However, this framing of the concept sits alongside studies that examine the utility of SE products and services, and the social outcomes they catalyse for individuals and groups. How does social innovation differ from technical innovation? How do they envisage the life course of a social innovation? How do they assess the value, potential and limitations of disruptive social innovations and entrepreneurship? How does the current interest in co-production and the collaborative economy change the way that we theorise social entrepreneurship and innovation?

Line 4. SE as a site for radical forms of democracy, participation and action

Conveners: Katherine Gibson, Kiri Langmead, Alex Nicholls, Sonja Novkovic.

What role does SE have in providing sites for radical forms of democracy that challenge the capitalist system, market economies and political institutions? The impulse to engage in SE varies from region to region, nation to nation and continent to continent. How democratic are the different types of SEs and how do they compare to long-standing democratic practices in co-operative enterprises and voluntary organisations? How do they impact on equity, equality and inclusiveness? Can social innovations enfranchise people irrespective of gender, class, ethnicity and religion, and - if so - do they stimulate co-production that is sufficiently democratic to challenge established hierarchies?

Line 5. Multi-Level governance and ecosystems for SE and sustainable development

Conveners: Tracey Coule, Giulia Galera, Benjamin Huybrechts, Francesca Petrella.

How do people participate in SE governance? SE exists in networked, multi-level and polycentric ecosystems of organisational and administrative governance. Scholars of SE have examined the complex multi-faceted relationships between members and their organisations, organisations and their ecosystems and the implications for sustainable development from different forms of governance. What rights and responsibilities can be expected from members of SEs? How are SE ecosystems governed formally and

informally? What impact is sustainable development having on SE governance theory and practice?

Line 6. Public policy and legal frameworks for SE

Conveners: Anna Ciepielewska-Kowalnik, Kate Cooney, Mihaela Lambru, Jules O'Dor.

How do different countries and regions develop policy and legal frameworks for SE? Increasingly, governments around the world are making explicit commitments about the involvement of SE in public policy development and implementation. This has led to the creation of legal frameworks that have the potential to both enable and constrain SE, creating opportunities and challenges for policy and practice. How effective have these been and for who? How have SE actors influenced policy and legal frameworks in different jurisdictional contexts?

Line 7. The commons and collaborative economy through SE

Conveners: Gabriela Avram, Taco Brandsen, Marthe Nyssens, Rory Ridley-Duff.

What contribution can commons property and a collaborative economy make to civic regeneration? The concepts of the 'commons' and 'collaborative economy' have been receiving increased attention from SE scholars in recent years. These emergent concepts link collective action and co-operative development within a social solidarity economy. This challenge to the individualised and 'heroic' reification of social entrepreneurship foregrounds the need for a deeper understanding of the role of civic and voluntary action, and group property, within the field of SE. How can collective and collaborative entrepreneurship be represented in the literature on SE? Should the boundaries of the commons be drawn, and what impact would this have on its relationship to SE?

Line 8. Social solidarity and transformative movements

Conveners: Swati Banerjee, Sílvia Ferreira, Joanne McNeill, Richard White.

To what extent can solidaristic movements challenge neo-liberal hegemony? This track focuses on the relationship between social movements and activism, the role of SE in imagining solidaristic economies and societies, and the development of informal economies and organisational forms within radical grassroots movements. How do movements for social change come to be organised, how do they seek to achieve their ends, and what is most effective in building the solidarity needed to achieve specific goals? What counts as solidarity in C21? How do you cross gender/class/race boundaries? We are interested in papers that examine the extent to which solidarity models challenge capitalist models, and how they contribute to environmental and social sustainability. Given capitalism's ability to co-opt and integrate challenges, what problems do solidaristic movements face? How does the diversity of local experience of solidarity and social movements help us to share information across countries, regions and nationalities?

Line 9. Substantive economy and Polanyian approaches to SE research and practice

Conveners: Bernard Enjolras, Christine Gilligan, Lars Hulgård, Jean-Louis Laville.

What is a Polanyian approach to SE practice? A core part of this track is a focus on examining how SE scholars are increasingly exploring and applying Polanyian theory, critiquing and redesigning it for application to current systems and problems. Polanyi argued that the economy is embedded in, and not separate from, society and nature. How are Polanyi's theories applied in day-to-day settings and translated into organisational strategies and operations? Are they useful for practitioners delivering services? How do Polanyian frameworks compare with other lenses for understanding SE model(s)?

Line 10. Epistemological, methodological and pedagogic innovations/advancements in SE

Conveners: Jon Dean, Nicole Göler von Ravensburg, Melinda Mihály, Aristidis Protopsaltis.

What are the opportunities for critical scholarship and learning in a field dominated by influential advocates? This stream focuses on innovations, creativity and the use of technology in the research on, and teaching of social enterprise, social economy, social entrepreneurship and solidaristic social movements (SE). We are looking for papers that challenge existing research paradigms, make use of mixed method approaches and/or ask old questions in new ways. We encourage submissions in which authors ask reflexive questions about their own position as scholars, practitioners and citizens. Are our concepts around SE overloaded with positive and evaluative notions? How can we challenge the dominant discourses around SE? How can SE learning be better embedded in mainstream university education? What discipline(s) are a 'best fit' for SE education? What experiments and innovations have there been to bring SE knowledge to children? To what extent does community learning about SE come from informal peer-learning (and how can this best be showcased)?

3. Conference committees

Local Scientific Committee

- Rory Ridley-Duff (FSI, SBS - Co-ordinator)
- 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)
- Prof Peter Wells (CRESR, SSH)
- Jules O'Dor (FSI, SBS)
- David Wren (FSI, SBS)
- Richard White (CRESR, SSH)

International Scientific Committee

- Gabriela Avram (University of Limerick, Ireland)
- Swati Banerjee (Tata Institute of Social Sciences, India)
- Danijel Baturina (University of Zagreb, Croatia)
- Taco Brandsen (Radboud University, The Netherlands)
- Marie J. Bouchard (Université du Québec à Montréal, Canada)

- Jo Barraket (Swinburne University, Australia)
- Anna Ciepielewska-Kowalik (Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland)
- Kate Cooney (Yale University, United States)
- Jacques Defourny (HEC-ULg, Belgium)
- Giulio Ecchia (UNIBO/AICCON, Italy)
- Bernard Enjolras (ISF, Norway)
- Sílvia Ferreira (CES-UCoimbra, Portugal)
- Luiz Inacio Gaiger (UNISINOS, Brazil)
- Giulia Galera (EURICSE, Italy)
- Katherine Gibson (Western Sydney University, Australia)
- Nicole Göler von Ravensburg (Frankfurt UAS, Germany)
- Lars Hulgård (Roskilde University, Denmark)
- Benjamin Huybrechts (EM-Lyon, Morocco)
- Yu-Yuan Kuan (National Chung Cheng University, Taiwan)
- Mihaela Lambrou (UNIBUC, Romania)
- Jean-Louis Laville (CNAM/LISE, France)
- Joanne McNeill (Western Sydney University, Australia)
- Melinda Mihály (HAS, Hungary)
- Alex Nicholls (Oxford University, UK)
- Sonja Novkovic (Saint Mary's, Canada)
- Marthe Nyssens (UCL, Belgium)
- Mary O'Shaughnessy (UCC, Ireland)
- Francesca Petrella (AMU, France)
- Aristidis Protopsaltis (Frankfurt UAS, Germany)
- Simon Teasdale (GCU, United Kingdom)

Organizing Committee

- EMES Coordination Unit: Rocío Nogales, Sabine Spada and Thomas Pongo
- Sheffield Hallam University: Danielle Allen, Ellen Bennett, Mark Greene, Nick Hague, Beth Pathmore and Tom Redfearn

4. Conference organisers

EMES (EMES International Research Network) has held major international conferences since 2001 and gathers 14 established university research centres and nearly 400 individual researchers from over 50 countries to work on international research projects.

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 conference is "Empowering the next generation of social enterprise scholars" (EMPOWER-SE).

FSI (FairShares Institute for Cooperative Social Entrepreneurship) is a Sheffield Business School PRME initiative that builds on 15 years of research and knowledge transfer activities.

This community of academic and PhD/ post-PhD early career researchers have 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.

CRESR (Centre for Regional Economic and Social Research) is a well-established research centre focusing on housing, economic development and social policy formed 30 years ago. It is one of the most active centres of third sector scholarship in the UK, undertaking a range of policy-relevant academic and evaluation research for research councils, government departments, local authorities, charities, associations and foundations.

5. Abstract submission

Paper, poster, and panel proposals can be submitted in English, French, Portuguese or Spanish, but the language for presentations at the conference will be English. A maximum of two proposals (abstract of paper, poster or panel) per author as main author will be accepted (three if s/he is a second author).

A **panel submission** is a proposal for a coordinated set of papers (usually 3 or 4) on a particular topic or issue. Please note that panel proposals require an abstract identifying and justifying the theme of the panel as well as a full abstract for each panel paper.

A **poster proposal** is an alternative to presenting a full research paper. New researchers/PhD students in particular are invited to share work-in-progress by means of a poster. Posters will be displayed throughout the conference and a designated session will be scheduled in which participants will be offered the opportunity to meet with authors to discuss their work.

Abstract submission

Abstracts should not exceed 800 words (including references) and they should include:

- A title.
- The conference's thematic line addressed.
- A statement of the empirical or theoretical question locating it within the scientific literature.
- A concise account of the empirical or theoretical methodological approach.
- The main argument of the paper.
- A statement of the main conclusions and their relevance to an international audience.
- Main references.

Authors should submit their abstracts via the online submission system set up for the conference. **To submit your abstract**, go to <https://7emesconf.exordo.com/login> and follow the instructions (you will be required to set up an account first). Please note that submissions will be accepted ONLY via the online system: email submissions will not be accepted.

To submit a panel please prepare a *panel proposal* that includes the following elements: rationale of the panel, complete information of the panel coordinator and presenting authors,

one full abstract per participating author, and the preferred thematic line. Panel proposals that do not include full abstracts and author information for each paper will not be considered. The person submitting the panel proposal will be considered as the panel coordinator and s/he will be responsible for ensuring that all proposed papers' presenters commit to attending the conference.

Conveners will review the abstracts associated to their thematic line. They will undergo a blind evaluation process based on a set of criteria available on the conference page. The conveners will make the final decision as to whether a paper is accepted and in which type of session it is to be presented.

6. Conference registration

There are eight different types of registration available, depending on whether or not participants are members of EMES. Members, including PhD students and regular researchers, enjoy a reduced registration fee. In addition, the organisers offer an **early-bird registration** fee for those participants who register by 1st April 2019. The registration fee covers all conference materials, three lunches, one evening gala reception and one dinner event.

	EMES member		Non-EMES member	
	Early bird	Regular	Early bird	Regular
Student registration	325€	400€	375€	475€
Full registration	375€	475€	550€	650€

**THE REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR PRESENTERS IS 3rd MAY 2019;
FOR NON-PRESENTERS, IT IS 17th JUNE 2019.**

If you wish to become an EMES member, please visit our [Membership and networking page](#). Note that in order to register with a member rate, your membership needs to be activated as you need to provide your username.

There is a special 300€ registration fee for professionals interested in participating in the conference (in addition to the Transdisciplinary Forum).

No participant will be accepted without having registered in the event and no day registration is available (except for the Transdisciplinary Forum).

Cancellation policy: Refunds will be possible for cancellations notified by written notice before **24th May 2019**. A 50 € administrative fee will be charged. **There will be no refunds for cancellations made after 24th May 2019.**

7. Available support

This conference is part of the EMPOWER-SE COST Action which means that some financial support is available upon reimbursement for accepted presenters. Authors with an accepted abstract from COST Full Countries (CFC), Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITC) and associated Near Neighbour Countries (NNC)¹ included in the Action may be eligible to apply for funding to cover their travel and accommodation expenses up to a certain established amount, which will be communicated to the selected authors. Priority will be given to young researchers and researchers coming from ITC and NNC. COST reimbursements are made upon submission of a claiming form by the participant after the event has taken place.

Thanks to the support of our sponsors¹, the organisers are able to offer a reduced fee of 300€ to some participants with an accepted paper coming from non-OECD countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Interest in this non-OECD country fee will have to be expressed in the dedicated check box when registering. They will be assigned on the basis of scientific quality as per the evaluation score.

In addition, the organisers have set up a crowdfunding campaign aiming to collect donations for an EMES Bursaries Fund. The goal of this Fund is to be able to offset some of the travel and accommodation costs for researchers with an accepted paper coming from peripheral countries with less advantageous living standards.

8. Getting there and accommodation

Getting to Sheffield

Sheffield Hallam University (City Campus) is situated 5 minutes from Sheffield train station and Sheffield Interchange (for buses, including National Express). Travel tickets without additional booking fees can be purchased from Northern Rail or East Midlands at:

<https://www.northernrailway.co.uk/>

<https://www.buytickets.eastmidlandstrains.co.uk/>

If coming by air, the airport that serves the most airlines is Manchester. There is a direct train from Manchester airport to Sheffield that takes about 75 minutes. Alternatively, and particularly if you are coming from Eastern Europe, it is worth checking if there are flights direct to Sheffield/Doncaster (Robin Hood Airport). This is served by busses that take you to Sheffield Interchange (about 45 minutes).

If you prefer (or need to) fly into London, there are fast trains every half hour to Sheffield direct from London St Pancras and indirectly (with 1 change at Doncaster) from London Kings Cross. The travel time is usually a little over 2 hrs if direct, and under 3 hrs if indirect.

¹ CFC are Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, FYR Macedonia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom.

ITC are Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Croatia, Hungary, Lithuania, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Republic of Serbia and Turkey.

The six NNC countries currently associated to the Action are Albania, Armenia, Georgia, Lebanon, Morocco, and Russia.

Car parking is expensive in the Sheffield City Centre, but there are Park & Ride services from Halfway, Middlewood, Meadowhall Shopping Centre and Nunnery Square. The closest tram stop is Castle Square or Sheffield Station. If you do want to park close to the venue, there is a Q-Park directly opposite Sheffield Business School and NCP car park opposite the Crucible Theatre. We can arrange for discounted parking in NCP car parks.

Accommodation in Sheffield

You can download the document "Accommodation in Sheffield" on emes.net and empowerse.eu for information on accommodation options. You can use the dedicated portal that we will create to assist you with your booking process.

9. Important dates

Opening of abstract submission – 8th October 2018

Submission of abstracts deadline – 8th January 2019

Notification to authors – 28th February 2019

Deadline for early-bird registration – 1st April 2019

Deadline for conference registration for presenters – 3rd May 2019

Full paper submission (for awards) – 24th May 2019

Programme publication – 31th May 2019

Deadline for registration for non-presenters - 17th June 2019

Conference opening – 24th June 2019

Follow updates on the conference and sign up
for the EMES (www.emes.net) and EMPOWER-SE (www.empowerse.eu) News Alerts

For any questions about this conference, please write to 7emesconf@emes.net

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