

SOCIAL INNOVATION IN RURAL AREAS
Zaragoza (Spain), 18-22 November 2019

PROGRAMME

1. Kick-off visit to innovative projects in Huesca province (Spain) (Monday 18) [D. Miller, B. Slee, R. Bryce, E. Górriz, V. Govigli, P. Sfeir, R. Da Re, M. Dijkshoorn]
2. Introduction to Social Innovation (SI) (3 hours) (D. Miller, B. Slee)
 - 2.1. What is SI?
 - 2.2. The momentum of SI: overview of current debates
 - 2.3. The role of SI in disadvantaged rural areas
 - 2.4. The EU SIMRA project approach to SI: development of methods, case studies, innovation actions, database, consultation with stakeholders and reporting
 - 2.5. Practical exercise on what is and what is not SI and why based on project examples (0.5 h) (D. Miller, B. Slee, M. Dijkshoorn)
 - 2.6. Discussion (0.5 h)
3. Characteristics of SI (2 hours) (R. Bryce)
 - 3.1. Diversity of SI in rural areas: topics, participation, aims, practices involved
 - 3.2. Diverging pathways of SI, outscaling and upscaling
 - 3.3. Practical exercise and discussion on investigating the diversity of SI (R. Bryce, M. Dijkshoorn)
4. SI in practice (6 hours)
 - 4.1. Viewpoint from SI case studies/innovation actions (3 h) (interviewer: E. Górriz)
 - 4.1.1. Olive grove recovery initiative in Teruel (Spain) (S. Plana)
 - 4.1.2. Economic empowerment of women in Deir El Ahmar (Lebanon) (P. Sfeir)
 - 4.1.3. Social cooperative in North Italy (R. Da Re)
 - 4.1.4. Community development trusts: Portsoy (boat festival, bunkhouse, etc.) (UK) (Portsoy Community)
 - 4.2. Smart Villages: the view from the European Network for Rural Development (1 h) (ENRD)
 - 4.3. Panel discussion and group work based on case studies and field visit (2 h) (E. Górriz, M. Dijkshoorn)
 - 4.3.1. Key actors
 - 4.3.2. Opportunities
 - 4.3.3. Challenges
 - 4.3.4. Lessons learned
5. Good practices and adaptive management in SI projects (E. Górriz, R. Da Re) (4 hours)
 - 5.1. Facilitation skills and participatory methods
 - 5.2. Mapping and engaging stakeholder
 - 5.3. Gap analysis, goal setting and project planning
 - 5.4. Conflict management and consensus building
 - 5.5. Finding funds
 - 5.6. Institutional design and governance
 - 5.7. Unforeseen project effects and trade-offs
 - 5.8. Communication
 - 5.9. Risk management
6. Methods to evaluate SI (3 hours + 2 hours working session + 1 hour presentation and discussion of results) (L. Secco, R. Da Re)
 - 6.1. Why evaluation is needed
 - 6.2. Evaluation frameworks
 - 6.3. Process evaluation and impact evaluation of SI initiatives
 - 6.4. Techniques for evaluation
 - 6.4.1. Self-evaluation

- 6.4.2. External evaluation
- 6.5. Practical exercise on indicators (L. Secco, R. Da Re, M. Dijkshoorn)
- 7. Policy needs and policies for supporting SI (3 hours) (A. Ludvig, R. Lukesch)
 - 7.1. Policy impacts on SI in rural areas
 - 7.2. Main policy targets for SI in rural areas: vulnerable social groups, societal challenges at large, participatory inclusion of civil society
 - 7.3. Practical exercise to identify policies based on case studies (A. Ludvig, R. Lukesch, M. Dijkshoorn)
- 8. Final reflections on the course (1 hour)
 - 8.1. What have been key lessons learned?
 - 8.2. How will participants use learning in their professional roles?
 - 8.3. How can SI be embedded in sectors/professions of participants?