Workshop on Evidence Informed Social Policy Innovation: Redesigning European welfare systems through ICT-based dynamic modelling

27th November 2017 – 17h00 – 19h00 – Auditorium 3

Rationale
The great recession that followed the financial crisis and which has not entirely left us, has brought to the fore dire social problems as well as the need to find innovative ways to re-launch growth and make it in socially sustainable manner. Despite many initiatives have been launched, yet there is limited evidence of the results obtained, especially if we look at the comprehensive social and economic impact achieved. In this context, traditional policy evaluation approaches are ill suited to capture the complexity and the potential of social innovation, which is based on underlying principles such as user orientation, co-design, collaborative partnerships and production of public value.

Objectives
The workshop aims to discuss the challenges for evaluating social innovation policies, presenting alternative approaches to measure and assess social and economic impacts, including the proposal of a methodological framework for simulation modelling of impacts of policy interventions promoting social investment developed by the European Commission’s Joint Research Centre (JRC) as part of the research 'ICT-Enabled Social Innovation' (IESI) which will be presented to ignite the debate. This framework, in short i-FRAME, and which is rooted in complex systems theory and dynamic simulation modelling methodologies has been proposed to be used to support the implementation of reforms suggested under the Social Investment Package (SIP) which encourages Member States to prioritise social investment approaches and modernise welfare systems.

Approach
The workshop will be interactive, allowing participants to discuss possible applications of methodologies and tools for impact assessment of social innovation policies. After an overview of the theoretical and methodological debate at the global level, the rationale and design underpinning the proposed i-FRAME will be outlined, including a presentation of the 'mock-up' of the computer-based simulation model and web-platform for social policy innovation assessment being developed by JRC with the support of a research consortium led by Open Evidence, a spin-off of the Open University of Catalonia, in collaboration with EY and the Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies of Pisa, Italy. This interactive approach will serve to discuss the potential benefits of the approach proposed in the field of social innovation policy and will be used as a basis for suggesting recommendations for further development and use at practice and policy level.
Operational Agenda

The session is moderated by Gianluca Misuraca, Senior Scientist at JRC Seville and IESI Project Leader, and chaired by Antonella Noya, Head of the Unit on Social Economy and Innovation at the OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Local Development and Tourism. Erika Widegren, Chief Executive of Re-imagine Europa, will act as Rapporteur of the session.

Structured presentation session (60 minutes)

After introduction of the background and objectives of the Workshop by the Moderator, the Chair will welcome the participants and introduce the speakers of the first session (time 10 minutes):

1) Cristiano Codagnone, State University of Milan and Open University of Catalonia and Andrea Roventini, Sant’Anna School of Advanced Studies of Pisa, will make a joint presentation on Assessing impacts of social policy innovation fostering social investment: results from development and testing of the JRC i-FRAME 2.0:of the revised proposal of i-FRAME (V2.0) presenting the prototype of the operational components developed as part of the i-FRAME Web Platform, including results from simulation modelling experiments conducted with the module of the Macro-Agent based Model K+S developed ad hoc for the i-FRAME. Time for presentation & demo: 20 minutes

2) Brianna Smrke, Waterloo Institute for Social Innovation and Resilience (WISIR) and Ontario Public Service, Canada, will make a presentation on Modelling for Transformative Thinking: Lessons from Social innovation and resilience, the case of the New Solutions for Youth Employment Lab (NYSE). The presentation will discuss full-scale test of a novel process developed by WISIR and led by Dr. Frances Westley, which combines elements of whole systems approaches and design thinking. The presentation will outline the process followed to run the NSYE lab and explain the outcomes of the lab, with special emphasis on the role that simulation played in these outcomes. Time for presentation: 15 minutes

3) Riel Miller, Head of Anticipation and Foresight, Social and Human Sciences Sector, UNESCO, who will make a presentation on What’s next: implications of social policy innovation for the future of welfare systems. Time for presentation: 15 minutes
Informal Panel Discussion (30 minutes)

Following the structured presentations' session, an Informal panel discussion will take place. This will be moderated by Gianluca Misuraca and Chaired by Philippe Martin, DG RTD.

A number of selected experts have been invited as discussants to ignite the debate with a round of short statements of approx. 5 minutes each (30 minutes in total), based on the previous presentation session and their expertise. Invited experts are:

**Bruce Edmonds**, Professor of Social Simulation and Director of the Centre for Policy Modelling, Manchester Metropolitan University, [http://bruce.edmonds.name](http://bruce.edmonds.name)

**Davoud Taghawi-Nejad**, Researcher at the Institute for New Economic Thinking, Oxford University, [https://www.inet.ox.ac.uk/people/view/147](https://www.inet.ox.ac.uk/people/view/147)

**Hans Jochen Scholl**, Professor at the Information School, University of Washington, Seattle, USA [http://faculty.washington.edu/jscholl](http://faculty.washington.edu/jscholl)

**Marta Soler**, Professor of Sociology and Director of CREA Research Centre at the University of Barcelona, [http://impact-ev.eu/research-team/marta-soler](http://impact-ev.eu/research-team/marta-soler)

**Liz Varga**, Professor of Complex Infrastructure Systems at Cranfield School of Management [https://www.cranfield.ac.uk/som/people/professor-liz-varga-841315](https://www.cranfield.ac.uk/som/people/professor-liz-varga-841315) and member of the Centre for Evaluation of Complexity Across the Nexus (CECAN) - [https://www.cecan.ac.uk](https://www.cecan.ac.uk)


Open Discussion and closing (30 minutes)

Following the invited statements discussion, questions will be gathered via SLI.DO and the 3 most voted questions will be debated among speakers and discussants. **Giulio Pasi** and **Cesira Urzi Brancati**, Scientific Officers at JRC Seville will ensure support during the workshop and manage the SLI.DO questions. For info on SLI.DO see [https://www.sli.do](https://www.sli.do)
Speakers' Bios

**Chair:** Antonella Noya has been working for 20 years at the OECD where she is the Head of the Unit on Social Economy and Innovation in the Center for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Local Development and Tourism. She designs and coordinates the Directorate’s work in a number of policy areas, including social economy, social entrepreneurship, social innovation and local social inclusion. She authors, co-authors, edits and co-edits OECD publications in these and other fields. Antonella is currently coordinating a programme of work with the European Commission on social entrepreneurship. 

http://www.oecd.org/cfe/leed/social-entrepreneurship-oecd-ec.htm Antonella sits in various international advisory boards, scientific and steering committees. She represents OECD at the United Nations Taskforce on Social and Solidarity economy, at the GECES (Group of Experts on Social Entrepreneurship) coordinated by the EC, and at the French National Advisory Board on Social Impact Investing.

**Moderator:** Gianluca Misuraca is Senior Scientist at the European Commission’s Joint Research Centre in Seville, where, since 2009, is conducting research in the area of ICTs for governance and social inclusion. He is currently leading the research on ICT-Enabled Social Innovation to support the Social Investment Package (IESI) in collaboration with DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/iesi). Before joining the European Commission, Gianluca was the Scientific Coordinator and Managing Director of the Executive Master in eGovernance at the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL). During his career he held several positions as policy advisor for different International Organisations, cooperation agencies and consulting in the area of eGovernment, regional development, research and innovation. Gianluca’s background is economics with focus on the interface between ICTs and public sector innovation. He holds a Diploma of Specialisation in EU Economics and Law, a diploma in Security Management, an Executive Master in eGovernance and a Ph. D in Management of Technology. Gianluca is a recognised scholar with many publications in the field of public sector innovation, governance and Information Society development. He is a member of the committees of several journals and is regularly invited as speaker to scientific and policy events worldwide.

**Rapporteur:** Erika Widegren is Chief Executive of Re-Imagine Europa (RIE), the first incubator for new political ideas for Europe co-founded together with President Valéry Giscard d’Estaing. The aim of RIE is to redefine how long-term policy and vision is developed through the use of new technologies to foster a dynamic public discourse, collective intelligence and realistic solutions for the benefit of a stronger, fairer and more competitive Europe. Erika has been working in the field of connecting science, society and policy for over a decade. She is a member of the committee supporting the work of Luc Van den Brande, Special Adviser to President Jean-Claude Juncker, for the Report on the “Outreach towards Citizen” Strategy. Until September 2016, she was Chairman of the Advisory Board of REIssearch, an innovative non-profit European platform co-funded by the European Commission to help policy makers to make better use of knowledge to make better decisions, based on evidence. From 2010 to 2015 she was the Executive Director of Atomium – European Institute for Science, Media and Democracy working on issues like Science in Society, Responsible Research and Innovation, Digital Science, Evidence-based Policy Making and Citizen Engagement.
Cristiano Codagnone graduated in economics from Bocconi University (Milan) in 1988, holds a Ph.D. (1995) in sociology from New York University, and was post-doctoral fellow at Utrecht University (1996-1997) supported by the Marie-Curie Human Capital and Mobility Fellowship. Currently he holds a double academic affiliation, as aggregate professor at at Milan State University (Department of Social and Political Sciences) and at the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC, Department of Communication Studies); in Barcelona he is the Director of the UOC spin-off research company Open Evidence SL and of the Research Group Applied Social Science and Behavioural Economics (ASSBE). Cristiano mixed throughout his professional career an interest for high-level social and economic theory, empirical research, and for their practical and concrete applications and he directed dozens of consulting work and policy applied research engagements.

Andrea Roventini is associate professor at the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Pisa (Italy). His main research interests include complex system analysis, agent-based computational economics, business cycles, economic growth and the study of the effects of monetary, fiscal, technology and climate policies. He is currently involved in the projects IMPRESSIONS, DOLFINS, and ISI-Growth financed by the European Commission (FP7 and Horizon 2020). His works have been published in Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Economic Modeling, Ecological Economics, Journal of Evolutionary Economics, Journal of Applied Econometrics, Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control, Environmental Modeling and Software, Macroeconomic Dynamics. He is advisory editor of the Journal of Evolutionary Economics.

Brianna Smrke began collaborating with Social Innovation Generation (SiG) Simulation and Modeling team at the University of Waterloo in 2012. She later founded the McMaster University Social Innovation Lab, a student run-space where peers could collaborate and apply their academic learnings to community issues, before being selected as a Founding Fellow at the Studio [Y] program run from the MaRS Discovery District, where she deepened her knowledge of systems change, foresight and social innovation processes. Currently, Brianna works in the Ontario Public Service on the application of design thinking and behavioral insights to problems such as climate change.

Riel Miller is one of the world’s leading authorities on the theory and practice of using the future to change what people see and do. He is recognized as an innovative and globally experienced project initiator, designer and manager. He is widely published in academic journals and other media on a range of topics, from the future of the Internet to transforming strategic processes. He is an accomplished keynote speaker and facilitator. He has worked as a senior manager in the Ontario public service (Ministries of Finance; Universities; Industry) and at the OECD in Paris (Economics; Science & Technology; Education; Territorial Development; Development Centre; International Futures Programme). In 2005 he founded xperidox to advise clients on how to use the future more effectively. In 2012 he was appointed Head of Foresight at UNESCO. Forthcoming 2018: Transforming the Future: Anticipation in the 21st Century (video).
Philippe Martin works at the European Commission DG Research & Innovation. Among his many achievements during his career, he created new financial instruments to attract investments from EIB and private investors to research and innovation and to eco-innovation; co-authored the EU Action Plan on nanotechnologies, facilitated the identification of viable EU GHG emission reductions for the Kyoto negotiations; and co-authored the first report on climate change and US water resources, contributing to the IPCC from its creation. He earned an MBA from ESSEC in Paris in decision and negotiation analysis, a DEA in Energy Economics from the University of Paris/the French Nuclear Commission, and, as a Fulbright Scholar, an MS and a PhD in Energy & Resources from UC Berkeley and the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, CO.

Bruce Edmonds is a Research Professor at the Manchester Metropolitan University Business School and Director of the Centre for Policy Modelling at the Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU), UK. He holds a BA (Hons) in Mathematics from the University of Oxford (1983) and a PhD in Philosophy from MMU (1999). Professor Edmonds is a reference author and editor of many relevant volumes in Social Simulation, Complexity, Agent-Based Modeling and Simulation, to name but few areas of his impressive expertise. He is a founding member of ESSA and also a founding member of the EPAM Research Group.

Davoud Taghawi-Nejad holds a PhD in Economics of Complexity and Innovation. He published on business cycles, network effects of central bank policy, the use of artificial intelligence and computational methods in economics. At MIT and the University of Sao Paulo Davoud applied this research to create policy simulators to improve policy making.

Hans Jochen Scholl is Full Professor with tenure in the Information School at the University of Washington, Seattle, WA. He earned a Ph.D. in Information Science from the University of Albany, NY/SUNY and he also hold a Master’s degree in Business Administration from the GSBA Zurich, Switzerland. His research interests are focused on modeling human-originated complex systems, in particular, by means of system dynamics.

Marta Soler is Professor of Sociology and Director of the CREA Research Centre at the University of Barcelona. She holds a PhD from Harvard University. She is the Coordinator of the IMPACT-EV Knowledge Management Committee and main researcher of the Solidus Project: Solidarity in European Societies? Empowerment, social justice and citizenship, funded by the H2020 Programme. Previously, she was the KMC Coordinator of the FP6 project INCLUD-ED.

Liz Varga is Professor of Complex Infrastructure Systems at Cranfield School of Management where she won University Research Award in 2014 and 2016. She leads the design of computational agent-based models which represent the dynamics of inter-connected systems. She has experience of system transitions, modelling the effects of policy, technology and innovation under different future scenarios, and analysing computational results representing economic, environmental and societal effects. She is also a member of CECAN.

Andries Brandsma started working at the European Commission on enlargement issues as a deputy head of unit, until joining the JRC in 2001. He holds a PhD in economics from the Erasmus University Rotterdam, and a Master’s degree in econometrics from the University of Groningen. He has been involved in the development RHOMOLO model since its conception in 2010 and accompanied it from being an abstract idea to a concrete project. Andries has also been a member of the Scientific Committee of the Joint Research Centre.