

Call for Papers and Panels

12th International Social Innovation Research Conference 2020,
Sheffield University Management School, Centre for Regional Economic and Enterprise
Development

1st – 3rd September 2020

Theme: 'Social innovation and enterprise for more prosperous, fair and sustainable
societies'

Conference website: <https://isirconference2020.com/>

Regional and Geographical Aspects of Social Innovation

Stream chairs: Michael Leyshon, Catherine Leyshon, Timothy Walker and Micaela Mazzei

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Stream description: This conference stream is focused on the intersections between social innovation and matters of geography. Thinking geographically about social innovation means taking seriously questions of space, place, and scale. Different types of social innovation can be realised at different scales – from an individual working on a singular concern, through to social movements working on issues of profound significance for whole societies. Thinking geographically also draws attention to the nature of the 'social' in social innovation. In particular the ways in which social connections, places and activities are brought into being through processes of innovation. There are also wider topological implications of these different kinds of social innovation as each is stimulated, created and operationalised by various configurations of people and organisations, in different geographical contexts, sometimes through trans-spatial connections. Thinking geographically, therefore, calls attention to the genus, scale and limits of social innovations and questions the extent to which they can be transferred into other places, as well as the potential that specific places offer to social innovations to flourish and implement change. This stream, therefore, invites papers that: 1) Explore the specificity of the 'social' in social innovation; 2) Critically examine the role that place plays in social innovation; and 3) Assess the potential for social innovations to be replicated across wider geographical contexts.

This stream calls for contributions on the following themes:

- What is the geography of social innovation?
- What do we mean by the social in social innovation?
- How do the politics, culture and society of a locality, region or country impact social innovation?
- How can social innovation be scaled up or scaled down? How is social innovation incubated in place?
- At what scale can social innovations operate most successfully?
- Is it possible to imagine a global social innovation?

- What critical tools and concepts does the discipline of geography bring to enhance our understanding of social innovation?

Submission Guidelines

Paper abstracts must be a maximum of 300 words, excluding references. They should articulate: the research questions or objectives being addressed; the conceptual or theoretical perspectives informing the work; where appropriate, the methodology utilised; and the contribution of the paper to knowledge in light of the conference theme.

A maximum of two abstracts may be submitted per presenter (joint papers to be presented by co-authors will also be considered).

Paper abstracts should be submitted to isirc2020conference@sheffield.ac.uk

On abstract submission please ensure you **advise of the conference stream**.

Optional full paper submission for consideration in best paper awards is due no later than **31st July 2020**. Submit full papers to: isirc2020conference@sheffield.ac.uk

Guidelines for full paper submissions:

Papers must be written in English and should be sent in Microsoft Word or PDF format.

Papers should be between 5000 and 8000 words in length including tables, figures and references. Tables and figures should be incorporated into the paper. Each table and figure should be given a title.

Please include an abstract and four to six key words.

To enable anonymity, the authors' names should not appear. Instead, a cover page giving the title of the paper and full identifying information of the author(s) (name, address, telephone and e-mail address) should be included as a separate Word or PDF document.

Harvard is the preferred referencing style.

Panel proposals must be a maximum 400 words, excluding references. They should include: the panel purpose and its relationship to the nominated conference stream; details of (minimum) three and (maximum) four papers and paper presenters to be included in the panel; and the expected contribution of the panel.

Panel proposals abstracts should be submitted to isirc2020conference@sheffield.ac.uk

On panel proposal submission please ensure you **advise of the conference stream**.

Enquiries about conference administration and technical issues related to submission should be directed to the conference administration team:
isirc2020conference@sheffield.ac.uk

Deadlines

Abstract and panel proposals submission closes: **7th April 2020**

Decision on submissions notification: **30th April 2020**

Full papers submitted for consideration in best paper awards due: **31st July 2020**