

JOURNAL OF
**Human Development
and Capabilities**

A Multi-Disciplinary Journal for People-Centred Development

CALL FOR PAPERS – SPECIAL ISSUE

SOCIAL INNOVATION FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Guest Editors: Rafael Ziegler (GETIDOS), Enrica Chiappero-Martinetti (University of Pavia), Ro Naastepad (Delft University of Technology)

Deadline for Submissions: October 15, 2015

Theme

Many innovations start at the margin with a new product or service that may initially seem utopian. Typically this “margin” is interpreted as the margin of a market, and the successful entrepreneur as the person who manages to spread her product or service across a market, in the process stimulating the dynamic of economic development up to initiating “gales of creative destruction” (Schumpeter).

This economic focus on innovation might be too narrow or even problematic for human development, because economic innovations are neither necessarily good for society, nor are all innovations necessarily aimed at offering new products or services for market exchange. There is also innovation in politics, civil society and across different spheres, not least when innovators aim to rethink and reconfigure how markets and economic systems work and come up with new ideas and cognitive frames of society and culture. Such innovation is potentially very important for individual and collective well-being, as it may contribute to empower people and to tackle societal challenges. Yet, we know much less about these other types of innovations, and what may foster or block them.

This gap in research, however, is increasingly noticed. There is growing attention to social innovation at municipal, national and regional (such as the European) levels. Social innovation here refers to new ideas (including products, services, models, markets, processes) that are able to change social relations, configurations and processes and to contribute towards reaching social ends. Thus, these innovations are social both in their means and in their ends – an interrelation that is noteworthy for human development, given the instrumental and constitutive role of human capabilities for such development. Via the category of capabilities, the CA offers a distinct perspective on “the social”, and what researchers and policy-makers should question, discuss and analyze when investigating social innovation and its role for society. So what is the role and potential of social innovation for promoting human development, for contributing to meet social needs, empowering people and creating new social relationships and more inclusive models of collaboration? And how can the CA be linked to sociological and economic accounts of society with a view to a deeper understanding of the role and potential of social innovation for people and the planet?

This special issue will explore the conceptual foundations of social innovation from a human development perspective, with a specific focus on those social innovations aimed to improve the capabilities of marginalized and disempowered groups.

Topics

Contributions are welcome on the following topics:

- How can the capabilities approach contribute to the descriptive and normative analysis of marginalization and inclusion processes that social innovations seek to address?
- What are the main drivers of, and barriers, to social innovation in various institutional settings?
- What is the role of public policy instruments in developing socio-economic structures and eco-systems to support the development and growth of social innovation?
- How can we track or even measure the impact of social innovations at individual, organizational and societal levels?
- How can social innovations affect the cognitive frames, formal and informal rules and institutional structures governing the access to, and the use of resources, as well as the networks within which innovators are located?
- What are the cognitive frames with which we approach social innovation, including with a view to institutional rules and action judgments?
- Reflections on case studies and practical experiences of social innovation with a conceptual linkage to the capabilities approach are also welcome.

Submission Procedure

Please submit papers online at: <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/cjhd>. According to the JHDC's guidelines for preparing manuscripts, please send the paper identified as "Main Document", with all information identifying the authors removed to allow it to be refereed anonymously. When submitting, please choose 'special issue article' as the manuscript type, and 'Special Issue on Social Innovation' as the special issue name.

The main document should include the following:

- The title of the paper.
- An abstract of approximately 150–200 words.
- Up to five key words.
- Numbered pages in sequence.
- All necessary material (e.g. figures and tables and their captions; appendices).

In addition to the main manuscript, a separate file should also be sent, identified as "Title Page", and must include all of the following information:

- The title of the paper
- The names of the authors
- The full postal and email addresses of all the authors
- Affiliation details for each author (job title, institution, city, country)
- A brief biographical note for each author (around 100 words)
- One author should be indicated as "Corresponding author". He/she will be notified of the selection outcome after submission of the manuscript to an anonymous peer review process, and if the paper is selected.

Complete instructions for authors can be found at the publisher's website:

<http://www.tandfonline.com/action/authorSubmission?journalCode=cjhd20&page=instructions>

The deadline for submissions is October 15, 2015. For inquiries, please contact Rafael Ziegler, email: rziegler@uni-greifswald.de.