

NEW METROPOLITAN PERSPECTIVES 2018

THEMATIC SESSIONS - TS

TS-08

INCLUSIVE KNOWLEDGE AND INNOVATION NETWORKS IN RURAL AREAS

Keywords: Smart Specialisation; Rural Innovation; Regional Development; Social Interaction; Cross-Sectoral Cooperation.

Over the past decade, there has been a shift in the understanding of innovation, no longer referring merely to technology, products or processes, but likewise to social, organisational and governance aspects, including horizontal and vertical cooperation and communication.

In rural context, this strategic innovation approach provides new ways to solve the problems of rural people and to create new opportunities for entrepreneurship development. Through interaction and exchange of diverse information, actors are supposed to become more innovative, and new inventions can be better adjusted to the actual needs of potential users. Networks appear to be an appropriate form to support learning and interaction among actors relevant to an innovation process.

This approach shall contribute to improving regional competitiveness in an increasingly challenging economic environment dealing with the sustainable use of resources, the provision of eco-system services, social and human capital.

The session aims to advance international knowledge transfer and scientific debate on rural development and agriculture, as well as to share methodological, theoretical and empirical experiences and achievements.

CHAIR

Livia Madureira - Centro de Estudos Transdisciplinares para o Desenvolvimento – CETRAD

