

Katarsis WP1.1

Labour market, employment strategies and social economy

In progress

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- Linking the general WP1 methodology and the WP1.1 workplan
- Conceptual discussion (from an essentialist perspective)
 - Main ideas with respect to ED/SCS in the EF1 (WP1.1)
 - Typologies of ED and SCS
- Orientations and ideologies in their contexts
- Roadmap for a holistic approach - identification of particular time-space foci in a multi-scalar perspective

STRUCTURE OF THE SURVEY PAPER	WP 1.1. - 18 SEP 2006
1 - Definition of existential field and of main mechanisms of exclusion and inclusion, with a major focus on creative, socially innovative strategies to overcome conditions of severe inequality	CONCEPTUAL DISCUSSION (MAIN IDEAS AND TYPOLOGIES) – ESSENTIALIST VIEW
2 - Identification of: particular foci per country (region, city); truly international approaches	ROADMAP FOR A HOLISTIC APPROACH – PARTICULAR TIME-SPACE FOCI IN A MULTI-SCALAR PERSPECTIVE
3 - Overview of theoretical dimensions, taking into account school of thought and communities of science and practice which developed them (contextual theory surveying, with a sociology of knowledge approach)	ORIENTATIONS AND IDEOLOGIES IN THEIR CONTEXTS - PRELIMINARY REMARKS
4 - Overview of main empirical information concerning 'good' and 'best' practice to overcome conditions of exclusion and deprivation	ILLUSTRATING THE RESULTS OF POINT 2
5 - Identification of relations to literature in other existential fields	INTEGRATED ROADMAP FOR A HOLISTIC APPROACH – PARTICULAR TIME-SPACE FOCI IN A MULTI-SCALAR PERSPECTIVE
6 - Identification of particular bottom-up creative and socially innovative initiatives (links to WP2 and WP4)	
7 - Identification of dimensions of multi-level governance (link to WP3)	
8 - Identification of methodological dimensions (links with WP5);	
9 - Identification of key-researchers in this and other fields, who could play a key role in the coordination of future research within and among fields	
10 - Executive abstract per existential field	

From the literature

MAIN IDEAS REGARDING THE
EMERGENCE OF SOCIALLY CREATIVE
STRATEGIES

Socially Creative Strategies in the EF1

Threats, opportunities and motivations

- Threats and opportunities are subjective concepts, which depend on the point of view – threats to whom? opportunities for whom? (e.g. labour migration from Africa to Europe may be regarded as an opportunity for the migrants themselves and a threat to unskilled indigenous workers)
- There are no one-size-fits-all responses – adequacy depends on the time horizon, on the social, cultural and institutional contexts, on the profile of the people (e.g. informal work)
- SCS may arise from previously inexistent opportunities in the institutional, financial and technological spheres (e.g. initiatives financed through micro-credit schemes, initiatives based on the use of the internet, initiatives that draw on public financial support to professional projects in the arts field, etc)
- Motivations less closely related with exclusion dynamics are especially important in the case of ideology-oriented initiatives (e.g. the Center for Alternative Technologies, Wales, UK)
- Vocational motivations (e.g. in the arts field) can have an important 'leverage' effect for SCS

Anyway, in general SCS are directly or indirectly related to Exclusion Dynamics

Socially Creative Strategies in the EF1

Exclusion dynamics and threats

(i) Structural dynamics

Economic restructuring

- Delocalization of companies/businesses
- New business cultures
- Technological change
- Changes in consumers' preferences
- Expansion of the informal/shadow economy
- Increasing role of finance
- Labour market flexibility and segmentation

State reorganisation

- Reorganisation of the central and local governments
- State deregulation and regulation of the economy
- Devolution of functions to local communities
- Erosion of public social protection systems

Broader political and institutional setting

- New corporatist or elitist arrangements
- Lack of democratic control and political accountability
- Crisis of political representation

Socially Creative Strategies in the EF1 Exclusion dynamics and threats

(ii) Individual/local community dynamics

Insufficient demand for certain skills profiles, i.e. in certain segments of the labour market (demand side)

- Unemployment
- Precariousness

Skills and competences (supply side)

- Lack/insufficiency of education and training
- Inadequacy of skills

Cultural and social disadvantages (conditions of access to the market)

- Social capital
- Access to information
- Discrimination
- Difficulties with reconciling work and family life
- Mobility
- Ageing/Ageism
- Physical or mental handicaps

From the literature

MAIN IDEAS REGARDING THE NATURE
OF SOCIALLY CREATIVE STRATEGIES

Socially Creative Strategies in the EF1

What and why?

- SCS are most commonly associated with the **local level** - the most vulnerable and less powerful spatial level in the context of globalisation
- Vulnerability includes both local communities and local authorities (considering the autonomy of the local state vis à vis the national/supranational state)
- A triple dimension of **proximity** lies at the core of SCS: geographical proximity, relational proximity and time proximity (in the sense of daily life)
- As economic activities, SCS favour **cooperation**, and solidarity in particular, as opposed to competition (within the ambit of market relations, there may be cooperation but not solidarity)
- SCS are **innovative** and **creative** because:
 - they are **new responses** to essential human needs of various social-cultural groups, which the state and the market cannot, will not or do not know how to meet
 - they give **new roles to new actors** (which had been given secondary and/or marginal roles by the state and/or the market)
 - they may promote the mobilisation-participation-decision of/by traditionally weak agents, i.e. **new forms of governance**
 - they favour (and/or are the result of) **new points of view** based on experimentation, intuition and creativity

Socially Creative Strategies in the EF1

The protagonists

Considering that the exclusion dynamics in the labour market and economy are the result of the (lack of) articulation between the market and the state, SCS are mainly to be found within the ambit of the **3rd sector**

Agents' profile

- the civil society as the agent of SCS *par excellence*, either in isolation or in partnership with the public and/or private sector.
 - Top-down organisations (churches, political parties, trade unions ...)
 - Third sector
 - Individuals
 - Informal networks of Individuals

Interaction among agents

- The importance of social capital
Namely networks made up of weak, non-hegemonic agents/actors, enabling them to develop alternative responses by their own means
- Social capital formation is enhanced by the fundamental role of the solidarity and reciprocity principles that drive interaction among agents

Typology of socially creative strategies

Local level/regional/national/European/global	SCALE
Geographical proximity/social proximity/cultural proximity	COHESION/PROXIMITY
Solidarity, cooperation , public aid, charity, philanthropy	INTERACTION
New responses, new roles to new actors, new forms of governance, new points of view	INNOVATION
Top-down organisations (churches, political parties, trade unions ...) /grassroots organizations	AGENCY
3rd sector/public sector/enterprises/individuals/families/networks	

Orientations and ideologies in their contexts

Preliminary remarks

+ ideological-oriented

+ practice-oriented

Grand visions

- Bourgeois philanthropy
- Liberal justice
- Anarchist liberty
- Socialist solidarity

Socially creative strategies

Exclusion dynamics

General formats

European welfare regimes

- » Social democratic (e.g. Scandinavia)
- » Corporatist (e.g. Germany, Austria, France)
- » Neo-liberal (e.g. UK)
- » Rudimentary (e.g. Southern Europe)
- » Transitional (e.g. Eastern Europe)

Specific formats – particular contexts

Roadmap for a holistic approach

Identification of particular time-space foci in a multi-scalar perspective

Multi-scalar perspective

Global



National



Regional



Local



Neighbourhood



Where is the SCS?

Global

National

Regional

Local

Neighbourhood

How are scales connected?



Socially creative strategy

Roadmap for a holistic approach -- identification of particular time-space foci in a multi-scalar perspective (WP1.1)

- A response to what...? A threat? An opportunity?
- What type of initiatives? What is/was their trajectory and outcome (including the issues of resource mobilisation and sustainability)?
- Which protagonists: individuals? Social groups? Formal organisations?
- Which institutional characteristics (including degree of formality, ...)?
- Where do/did they fall with respect to the “practice-oriented”-“ideology-oriented” continuum?
- How do/did they seek to articulate supply and demand?

Roadmap for a holistic approach -- identification of particular time-space foci in a multi-scalar perspective (WP1.1-1.5)

- A response to what...? A threat? An opportunity?
- What type of initiatives? What is/was their trajectory and outcome (including the issues of resource mobilisation and sustainability)?
- Are they integrated initiatives? (e.g. employment, housing, health) What kind of integration?
- Which protagonists: individuals? Social groups? Formal organisations?
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- Where do/did they fall with respect to the "practice-oriented"- "ideology-oriented" continuum?
- How do/did they seek to articulate supply and demand?

Roadmap for a holistic approach -- identification of particular time-space foci in a multi-scalar perspective (WP1-WP4)

- A response to what...? A threat? An opportunity?
- What type of initiatives? What is/was their trajectory and outcome (including the issues of resource mobilisation and sustainability)?
- Are they integrated initiatives? (e.g. employment, housing, health) What kind of integration?
- What evidences of creativity/innovation is/was there?
- Which protagonists: individuals? Social groups? Formal organisations?
- Which institutional characteristics (including degree of formality, ...)?
- How are/were gender and family issues affected and/or addressed?
- Where do/did they fall with respect to the "practice-oriented" - "ideology-oriented" continuum?
- How do/did they seek to articulate supply and demand?
- Which governance processes are/were carried out?

Roadmap for a holistic approach -- identification of particular time-space foci in a multi-scalar

1. A response to what...? A threat? An opportunity?
2. What type of initiatives? What is/was their trajectory and outcome (including the issues of resource mobilisation and sustainability)?
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7. How are/were gender and family issues affected and/or addressed?
8. Where do/did they fall with respect to the "practice-oriented" - "ideology-oriented" continuum?
9. How do/did they seek to articulate supply and demand?
10. Which governance processes are/were carried out?