



European School of
Social Innovation

ESSI WEBINAR

Social Innovation and Higher Education Institutions


11th September 2023

ESSI webinars

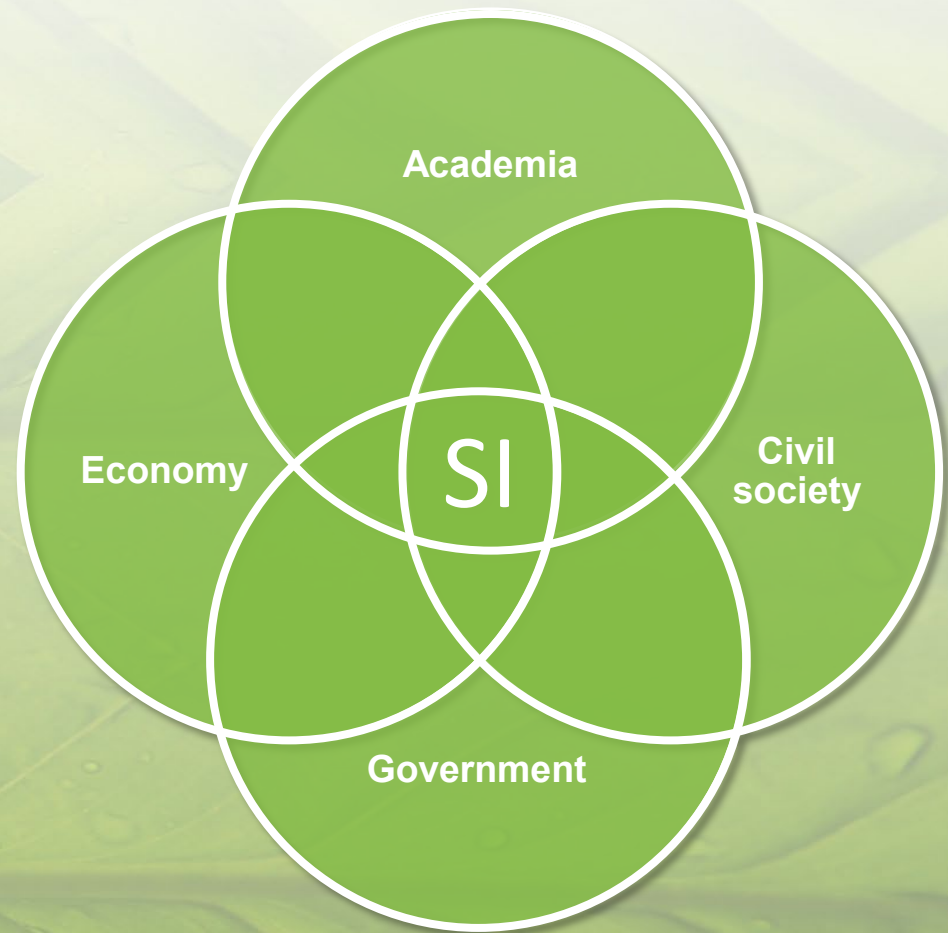
Organised by ESSI members, open for everyone

April 2022	Quo vadis? A research agenda for social innovation	Graziela Dias Alperstedt, Carolina Andion, Jürgen Howaldt, Jeremy Millard, Bonno Pel, Antonius Schröder, Klaus Schuch, Cornelius Schubert, Julia Wittmayer, Rafael Ziegler
June 2022	Social Innovation Measurement: How to capture the impact of social innovation?	Georg Mildenerberger, Judith Terstriep
October 2022	Marrying social and technological innovation: Towards the triple social, green and digital transformation	Toni Caro, Antonius Schröder
11th September 2023	Social Innovation and Higher Education Institutions	Mark Anderson, Kevser Çinar, Ali Güney, Daniel Krüger, Marthe Zirngiebl
19 th October 2023	Harnessing the Benefits of AI, Industry 5.0 and Other Digital Innovations – More Opportunities but also More Challenges for Social Innovation?	Mikkel Barslund, Monica Edwards-Schachter, Ursula Holtgrewe, Karolien Lenaerts, Antonius Schröder

Agenda

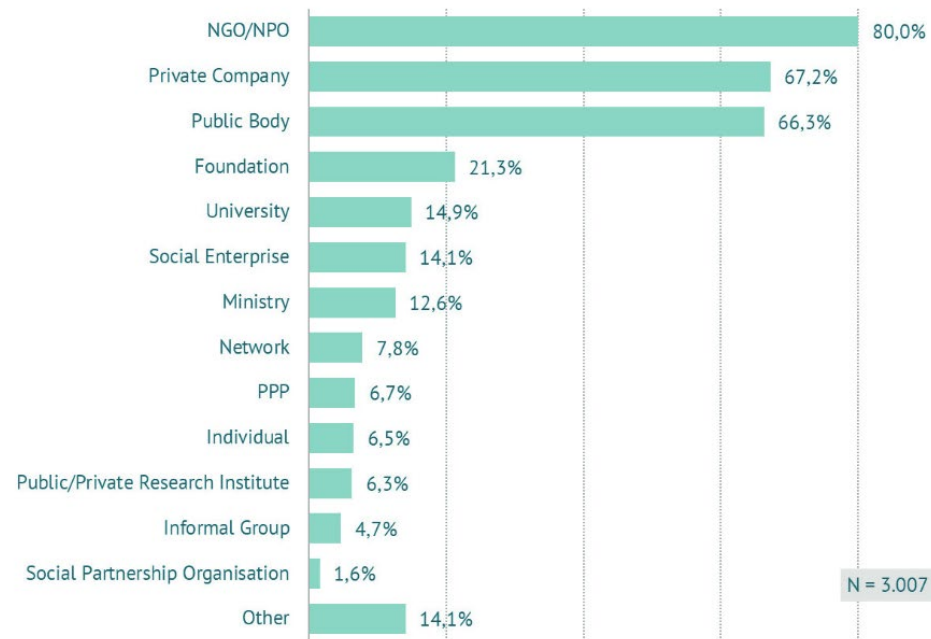
Time (CEST)	Item	Speakers
14.00-14.15	Welcome and presentation: Social Innovation in Higher Education Institutions	Marthe Zirngiebl & Daniel Krüger (TU Dortmund University)
14.15-14.45	Presentation: Embedding Social Innovation in higher education institutions <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Case studies from different regions and countries in Latin America, South-East Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa- Social Innovation in university strategies	Mark Anderson (Glasgow Caledonian University)
14.45-15.00	Questions and discussion	
15.00-15.05	 Short break	
15.05-15.25	Presentation: Youth-led social innovation: Social innovation practices in Konya and Türkiye through collaboration of universities and municipalities	Kevser Çınar (Necmettin Erbakan University)
15.25-15.45	Presentation: Public Social Innovation Agency and youth-led Social Innovation	Ali Güney (Social Innovation Agency Konya)
15.45-16.00	Questions and discussion	
16.00	Farewell	

What is the role of academia in Social Innovation ecosystems?



Social Innovation: A Challenge for HEIs

Partners involved in the Initiative by Type
(multiple responses, % of all engaged partners)



The academic sector » *plays a relatively small role compared to other societal sectors when it comes to developing and diffusing social innovations* «

(Anderson, Domanski & Howaldt 2018)

» *Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and research institutes represent important platforms to promote intensive exchange between different disciplines, business sectors and cultures.* «

(ibid.)

The results of SI-DRIVE's global mapping show a low participation rate of academia in social innovation initiatives.

Social Innovation: A Challenge for HEIs



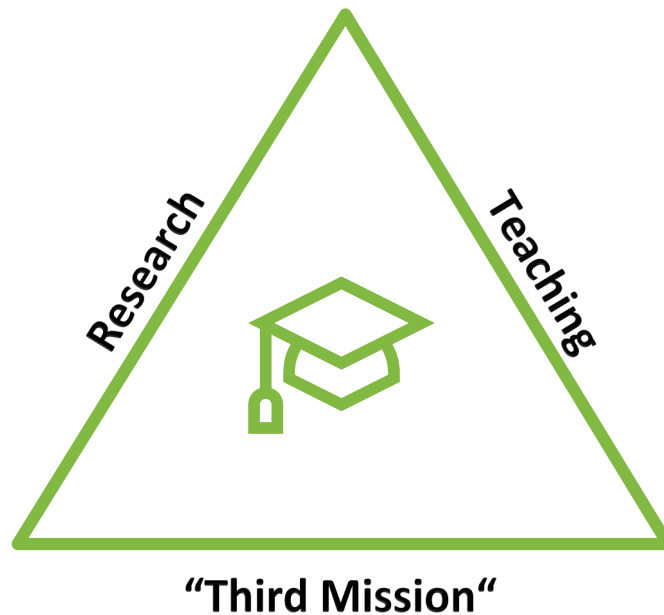
HEIs and research institutions are confronted with the challenge to further develop their potential in researching, developing and disseminating social innovations.

- Integration of the topic of social innovation in class and teaching
- Research social innovation and giving impulses to processes of societal change
- Including societal actors at an early stage in research and transfer and increasing the potential of innovation for SI in society

» HEIs have to learn how to work with target groups on equal footing and how to integrate their own perspective with the latter's perspective. «

(Anderson, Domanski & Howaldt 2018)

Social Innovation and HEIs: Third Mission

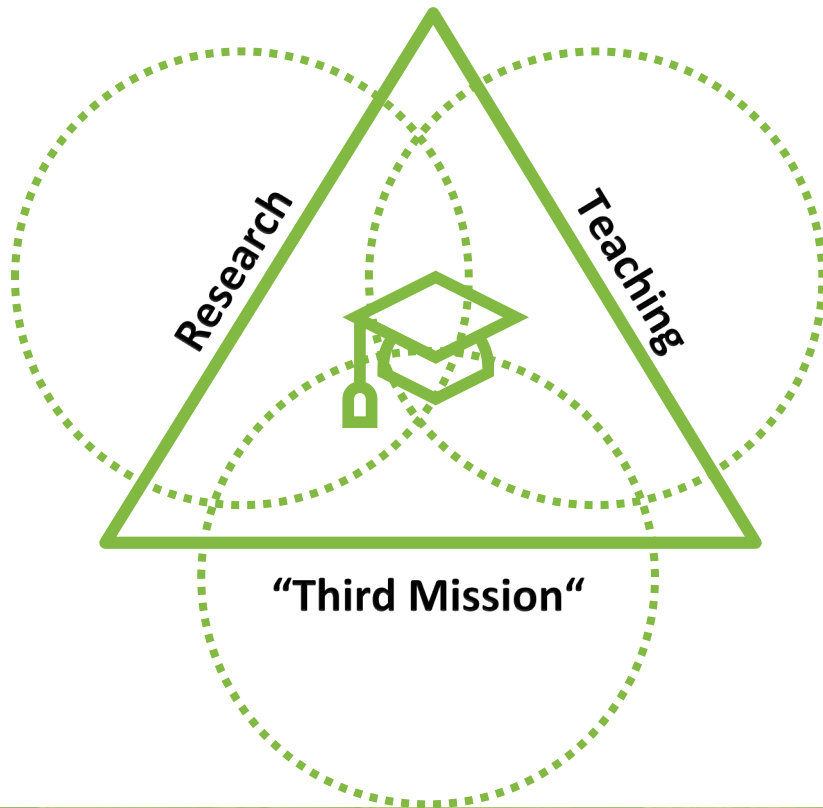


» 'Third Mission' is the term that has emerged [...] for activities that cannot be exclusively assigned to the areas of teaching and research. Over time, these activities have been able [...] to become a separate 'mission' alongside research and teaching. This third mission is the **interconnection of higher education institutions with their environment** - society, communities, the economy. It is a **collective term for activities in which attention to social trends and needs is expressed.**«

(www.che.de; translated)

- ▶ A **cross-cutting theme** of higher education institutions (public and private) (Henke & Pasternack 2020)

Social Innovation and HEIs: Third Mission



- ▶ Social innovation in teaching
- ▶ Social innovation as a research field
- ▶ Social innovation in the third mission

Social innovation links the missions

e.g. transformative research/transition research
e.g. SI education & social entrepreneurship education

Frameworks, Concepts, Methods and Tools Cross-cutting the Three Missions

Science as a driver and stakeholder of social innovation processes

Participatory approaches for research and development:

- Participatory action research and citizen science
- Design-thinking
- Co-creation

Frameworks:

- New mode of knowledge production
- Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI)

Spaces:

- Social Innovation Centres
- Labs
- Incubators



Social Innovation as a Research Field

»SSH have been precursors of interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research for decades and should be encouraged to pursue their efforts.«

»They have created interdisciplinary fields (urban and regional studies, human ecology and geography, governance studies, policy studies, [...]) in which interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary cooperation has been conceived and implemented.«

(Moulaert et al. 2017: 43f, 51)



Engagement of HEIs in Social Innovation Initiatives

Projects require the **cooperation with other ecosystem actors**, especially in regard to initiating and implementing a social innovation.

The role higher education institutions take on in social innovation processes go **beyond actual research activities**, for instance (Hachmeister & Roessler 2021):

- Administration, quality assurance
- Provision of resources (rectorate)
- Driver (management level of organisational units, e.g. rectorate, dean)
- Multipliers (e.g. public relations office)
- Enabling interaction between stakeholders, partners
- Creation and provision of knowledge

Soziale Innovationen aus Hochschulen Das Zusammenspiel mit Gesellschaft, Wirtschaft und Politik

Eine Analyse von Cort-Denis Hachmeister und Isabel Roessler

CHE Impulse Nr. 7



Situation in Germany

Examples of new and active roles of higher education institutions:

Provision of **SI-infrastructures**

- Social innovation labs
- Science shops
- Existing structures of transfer centres opening up for Social Innovation

Cooperation between universities and other societal sectors:

- social welfare sector to support the development of new social innovations
- public administration involved in the development of social innovation labs

Participation in **social innovation initiatives**, supported by new public funding schemes and supported by a new public agency:

- German Agency for Transfer of Innovation (DATI)
- Society of Ideas / Society of Innovation



The European
Social Innovation
Alliance



Kompetenzzentrum
für Soziale Innovationen
Deutschland

Insights into the German Social Innovation Ecosystem:
Status Quo and Recent Trends

What's next? Germany's Platform for Social Innovation

Part of the measures of the upcoming national strategy for social enterprise and social innovation

Approach of the platform:

- **Digital one-stop-shop**
with information about social innovation for innovators, funding bodies, public administration and academia
- **Capacity building and networking events**
oriented towards the needs of stakeholders from all societal sectors
- **A network for higher education institutions,**
incl. a conference, workshops and working groups



The screenshot shows the homepage of the 'Plattform für Soziale Innovationen'. At the top left is the logo and name, and at the top right is a 'Menü' button with a hamburger icon. Below the header is a large illustration featuring a sun, clouds, trees, a person holding a leaf, a flower, and a map. The main heading is 'Soziale Innovationen', followed by a paragraph explaining that social innovations address current challenges and create new solutions. Below this is a section titled 'DEFINITION, WIRKUNG, ZIELE' with a sub-heading 'Soziale Innovationen kennenlernen'. Two expandable sections are visible: 'Was sind Soziale Innovationen?' and 'Was bewirken Soziale Innovationen?'. At the bottom left, it states 'GEFÖRDERT VOM' followed by the logo and name of the 'Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung'.