

Call for paper

Guest Editor : Marie-France Vernier (Institute of Sustainable Business and Organization -
Confluence : Sciences et Humanités - UCLy, ESDES – mfvernier@univ-catholyon.fr)

Responsible Organizations and Changes in Territorial Productive Systems

The current uncertainty about the future of our economic, social and environmental system is leading to the collapse of many reference frameworks, whether managerial, technological, productive, organizational or institutional. This uncertainty is the result of the growing pollution that is causing climate change and the difficulties faced by some parts of the population in terms of access to income, employment and health. The aim of this call for papers is to explore alternative solutions, promoted by responsible organizations, capable of responding to (key) social and environmental emergencies at the local level. We particularly seek to explore the possibilities for transforming the current production system based on through the concepts of *innovative practices, territories and responsible organizations*. By production system, we mean the regularities and characteristics that govern modes of production (Guy et al., 2023). Under the term innovative practices, we group together initiatives that lead to innovations that may be technical in Schumpeter's sense – but also social, in which case they are responses to societal needs that cannot be met by the market or the state (Hillier et al., 2004), and which also aim to improve the well-being of individuals and communities (Cloutier, 2003). The *productive* system, the set of factors and players involved in the production of goods and services, is a key factor in the development of the economy. The *productive* system – the set of factors and actors involved in the production, circulation and consumption of wealth (Wilkinson, 1983; Carroué, 2013) – can be renewed with multiple practices, aimed at reducing negative environmental and social impacts (Goulet & Vinck, 2022). Here, we are particularly interested in small and medium-sized enterprises, as they make up the bulk of the economic fabric, and organizations such as associations and cooperatives, which can provide inspiration for changing the current production system at the local level. We describe organizations as responsible when their strategy shows robust willingness to create value and integrate responsibility: by repairing damages, preventing accidents and threats and to prevent the more uncertain dangers posed by climate change (Capron & Quairel-Lanoizelée, 2016).

We are proposing three lines of thought on the question of how responsible organizations can re-shape productive system at the local and regional level.

Firstly, innovative practices can be sources of social and environmental value. These are social innovations that meet social needs to which neither the market nor the State can provide solutions (Hillier et al., 2004; Duverger, 2017; van Wijk et al., 2019), and also innovations aimed at reducing environmental impact (Debref, 2018; Vernier, 2023). These innovations, thus, play a part in transforming the production system by reducing risks with new actions targeting negative impacts in the social and environmental fields. They are also based on the ability of organizations to capitalize on their practical experience, with a view to a change of scale, i.e. by developing their activities in their local area. They can be generated at *intra-* or *inter-*organizational level (Servajean-Hilst, Poissonnier, Pierangelini, 2018). Inter-

organizational innovations consist of partnerships between organizations such as SMEs, associations, cooperatives, local authorities or existing networks such as the PEPITE (French Student Entrepreneurship Network). Within the organization, these can be managerial innovations, defined as “*the introduction of new management practices, processes and structures that are significantly different from the usual norms*” (Birkinshaw & Mol, 2006, p. 81). New practices based on collective intelligence can also contribute to responsible organizing (Gréselle-Zaïbet, 2019).

Secondly, innovation is co-constructed in a territory where there are a variety of organizations (public, private and voluntary institutions). We are interested in *the territory* as a supplier of resources for responsible organizations. We are looking at the dynamics between organizations within partnerships to create social and environmental value, contributing meaningfully to economic and social change. Organizations draw on certain local resources to forge partnerships at the local level. Innovation then consists in going beyond the determinism of the territory (e.g., landlocked territory, marginalized territory, or the “zero unemployed territory” developed in some French territories). Thus, some territories invest more in entrepreneurship (smart cities), others in the circular economy (Maillefert & Robert, 2020; Gallaud & Laperche, 2016; Vernier, 2023). Entrepreneurs within organizations try to achieve a good life (Ricoeur, 1990) and contribute to social well-being (Laurent, 2020) given the resources and dependencies of the territory. We might also mention the notion of the “territory of subsistence” (Latour, 2017). Similarly, the social/solidarity-based economy is embedded in the territory to meet local needs and contribute to the development of original forms of organization in support of territorial cooperation (Raulet-Croset, 2016). It makes a major contribution to social innovation (Duverger, 2017; Celle, 2019).

Thirdly, we are interested in responsible organizations, which play a key role in meeting social needs in a context of increasing uncertainty. They are the locus of inter-organizational and intra-organizational innovations, and thus contribute to societal change. In addition to partnerships, which constitute inter-organizational innovations, intra-organizational innovations should also be mentioned. Thus, companies that rely on *error management* show that it is possible to move away from a negative vision based on control and conformity, to a standard towards a vision of error and vulnerability as a source-of-opportunity-and-innovation (Dyck et al., 2005; Cusin, 2011, Reason, 2013, van Steenberghe et al., 2020). In so doing, the organization becomes “a learning organization” and develops its adaptability. Similarly, considering the vulnerability of employees in its many forms (Lhuillier, 2017) makes it possible to move away from hierarchy and a top-down decision-making structure, also encouraging inter-culturality. Innovative practices consisting of managing error and considering vulnerability within the activity show that this are also responsible organizing in the face of risk. Practices such as tend to be, therefore, conducive to social innovation in local areas.

In a nutshell, in this call for papers, we want to invite scholars to analyze the many innovative practices between and within responsible organizations that aim to transform production systems in local and regional territories to improve environmental and social impacts.

Proposals may address the following themes

Characteristics of innovation processes in responsible organizations

1. How do innovative practices, whether environmental or social, contribute to the renewal of the production system?
2. How do partnerships between responsible organizations (companies, associations and local authorities) contribute to environmental innovations? to social innovations?
3. How can the responsible organization be a source of innovative practices at intra-organizational and inter-organizational levels?
4. How can error management contribute to innovative practices in the responsible company? How can a culture of error management be instilled in the responsible company?
5. To what extent is the vulnerability of employees a source of innovative practices in the responsible company?

Responsible innovation, responsible organizations and territorial embedding

6. In what ways is the territory a resource for innovative practices in the environmental and social fields?
7. In what ways does is the territory a resource that shape or can shape new forms of responsible organizations?

Timetable for submission and acceptance of papers:

- 15/01/2024: Submission of paper proposals in the form of a 1,500-word abstract accompanied by three to five keywords
- 15/03/2024: Feedback from reviewers
- 01/06/2024: Deadline for complete manuscripts
- 30/09/2024: Notification by reviewers
- 31/01/2025: Submission of revised papers
- 1st semester 2026: publication of the special issue

References

- BIRKINSHAW J et MOL M.J., 2006, How Management innovation happens, *MIT Sloan Management Review*, 47: 4, p. 81-88.
- CAPRON, M., et QUAIREL-LANOIZELEE F., 2016. *La responsabilité sociale d'entreprise*, Vol. 3e éd. Repères. Paris: La Découverte.
- CARROUE L., 2013, *La France : les mutations des systèmes productifs*, sous la direction de Carroué L, Armand Colin, « Collection U », Paris.
- CELLE S., 2019, Les innovations sociales autour du travail dans les entreprises de l'ESS – un éclairage historique à partir d'études de cas en Picardie, *Marché et organisations*, vol, 3 (n° 36), p. 39-60
- CLOUTIER, J., 2003, Qu'est-ce que l'innovation sociale?, 1-46, Crises, Montréal.
- CUSIN, J., 2011, Vers l'instauration d'une culture du « droit à l'erreur » dans les entreprises innovantes. *Annales des Mines - Gérer et comprendre*, 104, p.36-47.
- DEBREF, R., 2018, *Innovation environnementale et écoconception: certitudes et controverses*, vol. 14. ISTE Group, <https://www.istegroup.com/fr/produit/innovation-environnementale-et-ecoconception/>

- DUVERGER, T., 2017, Redécouvrir la source autogestionnaire de l'innovation sociale, *REICMA*, 346(4), p. 101–108.
- Dyck, C.V., Baer, M., Frese, M., & Sonnentag, S. 2005. Organizational Error Management Culture and Its Impact on Performance: A Two-Study Replication. *Journal of Applied Psychology* 90 (6): 1228–40. <https://doi.org/10.1037/0021-9010.90.6.1228>.
- GALLAUD, D.; LAPERCHE, B. Économie Circulaire et Développement Durable: Écologie Industrielle et Circuits Courts; ISTE Group, 2016; Vol. 5. <https://www.istegroup.com/fr/produit/economie-circulaire-et-developpement-durable/>
- GOULET, F., & VINCK, D., 2022, Faire sans, faire avec moins : Les nouveaux horizons de l'innovation. Presses des Mines, Paris.
- GRESELLE-ZAÏBET, O., 2019, Mobiliser l'intelligence collective des équipes au travail : un levier d'innovation agile pour transformer durablement les organisations, *Innovations*, vol. 58, no. 1, 2019, p. 219-241.
- GUY, Y., HENNEGUELLE, A., & PUISSANT, E., 2023, *Grand manuel d'économie politique*, DUNOD, Paris.
- HILLIER J., MOULAERT F. et NUSSBAUMER J., 2004, Trois essais sur le rôle de l'innovation sociale dans le développement territorial, *Géographie, économie, société*, Vol. 6, 2, p. 129-152.
- LATOUB B., 2017, *Où atterrir ? Comment s'orienter en politique*, La Découverte.
- LAURENT, É., 2020, Un État social-écologique pour la transition du bien-être. *Regards croisés sur l'économie*, 26(1), p. 123-132.
- LHUILIER D., 2017, Quelle reconnaissance des vulnérabilités au travail ?, *Perspectives interdisciplinaires sur le travail et la santé*, 19/1
- MAILLEFERT, M. et ROBERT I., 2020, Nouveaux modèles économiques et construction de la durabilité territoriale. Illustrations à partir d'une analyse de l'action collective, *Natures Sciences Sociétés*, vol. 28, no. 2, p. 131-144.
- RAULET-CROSET N., 2016, De la coopération à l'organisation territoriale émergente : à la jonction des situations, des espaces, et des activités, Thèse de doctorat. Université Paris 1-Panthéon Sorbonne.
- REASON, J., 2013, *L'erreur Humaine*. Paris: Presse des Mines.
- RICÉUR, P., 1990, *Soi-même comme un autre*, Seuil, Paris.
- SERVAJEAN-HILST R., POISSONNIER H. , PIERANGELINI G. ,2018, *Collaborer pour innover - Le management stratégique des ressources externes*; De Boeck Supérieur
- van STEENBERGEN, E; van DIJK, D., CHRISTENSEN, C., COFFENG T. and ELLEMERS N., 2020, Learn to Build an Error Management Culture, *Journal of Financial Regulation and Compliance* 28 (1), p.57–73.
- van WIJK, J.; ZIETSMA, C.; DORADO, S.; DE BAKKER, F. G. A.; MARTÍ, I. Social Innovation: Integrating Micro, Meso, and Macro Level Insights From Institutional Theory. *Business & Society* 2019, 58 (5), 887–918. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0007650318789104>.
- VERNIER, M.-F., 2023, Eco-Conception et Transition Écologique: Le Modèle Économique En Question; ISTE Group. <https://www.istegroup.com/fr/produit/eco-conception-et-transition-ecologique/>
- WILKINSON, F. Productive Systems. *Cambridge Journal of Economics* 1983, 7 (3–4), 413–429.