Hosted by: *With the support of:*

CALL FOR PAPERS

"More than 20 years of Eco-innovation research: lessons learnt and new directions" – Workshop

S. Lucia Aula Magna, University of Ferrara (Via Ariosto, 35, Ferrara, Italy); 10-11 November 2022

More than 20 years have elapsed since the appearance of the term "eco-innovation" as "new products and processes which provide customer and business value but significantly decrease environmental impacts" (Fussler and James, 1996; James, 1997).[1] Since then, a novel field of research has emerged; eco-innovation research follows multiple lenses and multiple heterogeneous approaches have been put into practice (e.g. since Rennings, 2000). More recently, eco-innovation is deemed to be a central element for any transition to a circular economy (Del Rio, et. al. 2021).

The newly born Society for Eco-innovation Studies (in short, *EcoI Society*) is launching its first call for papers to connect people working on the above topics. One of the main ambitions of this first event is to try summarizing areas in which such research has achieved consensus along with the main lessons learnt and to understand which research directions are currently still open and worth being investigated. The event will also be an occasion to remember the seminal contributions of the late Dr Klaus Rennings (1963-2015), one of the pioneers of eco-innovation research.

The 2-days workshop will be hosted by the Department of Economics and Management of the University of Ferrara, the Inter-University Research Centre SEEDS and the Centre for Research on Circular Economy, Innovation and SMEs. The event is also supported by the Innovation for Sustainable Development Network and EIT Climate KIC's Transitions Hub.

The scientific committee welcomes papers explicitly focusing on eco-innovation. Manuscripts can use a mixture of qualitative and quantitative approaches and are encouraged to include multidisciplinary /transdisciplinary research covering, but not restricted to, the following topics:

- Eco-innovation in the transition to a circular economy.
- Eco-innovation research trajectories and dynamics.
- Eco-innovation definitions, classifications, complementarities and differences between 'regular' innovation and eco-innovation.
- Eco-innovation determinants, drivers, barriers and effects (e.g. organisational, technological, behavioural, economic and finance, market, environmental and community pressures, etc.).
- Eco-innovation and environmental technologies: complexity, maturity and diffusion.
- Eco-innovation measurement and monitoring (e.g. relative performance of countries, adoption, motivations, hampering factors at company level, framework conditions, market size, etc.).
- Eco-innovation strategy, management, development, transfer and implementation in companies, including sustainable and circular business models.
- Sustainability and eco-design aspects in eco-innovation (products, services, companies and value chains); including social effects.
- Eco-innovation actors along the knowledge chain and the role of green innovators and entrepreneurs.
- The role of intermediaries and business support organisations for the generation, transfer and implementation of eco-innovation as a service.
- Eco-innovation in the low carbon, green, blue and bio-economy.
- Eco-innovation for digital and green transformations for net zero and climate resilience.
- Eco-innovation and sustainable practices in low development countries (LDCs).

[1] Eco-innovation is very often used interchangeably with environmental innovation, green innovation, environmentally sustainable innovation, among other terms and associated concepts.

- Eco-innovation in green finance and signalling tools (e.g. ESG).
- System and territorial dynamics of eco-innovation (e.g. diffusion rates and framework conditions, clusters and innovation systems, and system-level transitions and transformations).
- Eco-innovation policies for the green transformation, policy mixes and systemic interventions.
- Other emerging topics: open eco-innovation, frugal eco-innovation, eco-innovation in co-operatives.

Abstract Submission and registrations.

Extended abstract (or full papers) can be submitted by the 17th of October 2022 to ecoinnovation@inno4sd.net. Notification of acceptance – for rigorous and relevant papers - will be communicated by the 24th of October 2022. The final agenda of the event will be published online prior to the event, and it will include a general session to discuss the future activities of the EcoI Society.

Modality of participation.

This first workshop of the EcoI Society has been designed as a face-to-face event. However, the organising committee continuously monitor the situation with the Covid-19 pandemic to assess the possibility to become a hybrid event. More information will be provided in due time.

Special issues

Selected papers of the workshop will be invited to submit full revised papers to two special issues in peer-reviewed Journals. More information will be communicated shortly.

Scientific Committee (in alphabetical order)

***Alan Brent**, Victoria University Wellington; **Carlos Montalvo**, TNO; **Christoph Kieffer**, Fraunhofer ISI; **Claudia Ghisetti**, University of Milan – Bicocca; **Daniel Villavicencio**, UAM-Xochimilco; **Emy Zecca**, University of Ferrara & SEEDS; **Fernando J. Diaz Lopez**, EIT Climate KIC and Stellenbosch University; **Graciela Carrillo**, UAM-Xochimilco; **Imke de Kock**, Stellenbosch University; **Javier Carrillo Hermosilla**, Universidad de Alcala; **Jens Horbach**, University of Applied Sciences Augsburg; **Mahamadou Biga-Diambeidou**, UCLovain and ICN Business School, Lorraine Universiy-CEREFIGE; **Massimiliano Mazzanti**, University of Ferrara & SEEDS; **Nicolo Barbieri**, University of Ferrara & SEEDS; **Pablo del Rio**, Spanish National Research Council; **Raimund Bleischwitz**, Leibniz Institute Tropical Research; **Rene Kemp**, UM-MERIT; **Roberto Zoboli**, Catholic University of Milan & SEEDS; **Serdar Turkeli**, UM-MERIT; **Totti Konnola**, International Foresight Institute; **Valery Christov**, Deusto Business School.*