Learning From Innovation in Public Sector Environments

Dear colleagues, we are happy to share with you the **third newsletter** of the FP7 research project **LIPSE: Learning from Innovation in Public Sector Environments.** LIPSE is an EU-funded project advancing the research agenda on the drivers and barriers of successful social innovation in the public sector. With a budget of €2.5 Million—funded by the 7th Framework Programme of the European Union—it is one of the largest projects on social innovation in the public sector. The research is being conducted by EU researchers from 12 different universities in 11 countries. For more information on LIPSE, please visit our website www.lipse.org and follow us on **Facebook** and **Twitter** @eulipse.

EGPA 2014: The LIPSE team traveled to Speyer, Germany this year to make its second appearance at the annual conference of the European Group of Public Administration (EGPA). Many of the LIPSE researchers presented some initial results of their work within the project in the study group on **public sector innovation, technology and governance (PATI)**, chaired by **Rainer Kattel** (Tallinn).

Sophie Flemig (Edinburgh) kicked off the LIPSE research presentations with a lively discussion on the **governance of risk** in public service innovation, a subject often ignored in the literature. Maria Cuccinello (Bocconi) then presented a systematic review of the **determinants and barriers of adoption, diffusion and upscaling of ICT-driven social innovation in the public sector,** a paper co-authored with Greta Nasi, Valentina Mele, Giovanni Valotti, Raffaele Bazurli. Wout Frees then discussed **the sustainability of public sector innovations** and **the role of feedback, accountability and learning** based on a paper written with Geert Bouckaert and Wouter van Acker (KU Leuven)**.** Taco Brandsen (Radboud University Nijmegen) talked about **"distinguishing different types of co-production: renewing our understanding of the classics."**

Jenny Lewis (Melbourne) and Lykke Ricard (Roskilde) also presented the findings from their research on innovation in the Danish city of Copenhagen. Their paper "**Innovation capacity in the public sector: structures, networks and leadership"** presents a **social network analysis** of innovation in this municipality. Rainer Kattel updated us on the latest research in the critical issue of **measuring public innovation** in a paper co-authored with Veiko Lember, Piret Tõnurist, Aleksandrs Cepilovs (all from Tallinn) on **"indicators for Public Sector Innovations: Theoretical Frameworks and Practical Applications."**

Our LIPSE researchers in Romania, Ani Matei and Carmen Savulescu (SNSPA) shared their findings on **enhancing the capacity for innovation of public administration,** focusing on **e-Governance & ICT, knowledge management in Romania.** Our colleagues from Slovakia, Marta Orviska and Juraj Nemec (both from Matej Bel) discussed the **characteristics of innovation in the management of public sector organizations and its impact.** Juraj Nemec along with Beata Mikusova Merickova, Maria Svidronova, also presented part of their research for LIPSE on **social innovations at the municipal level in Slovakia.**
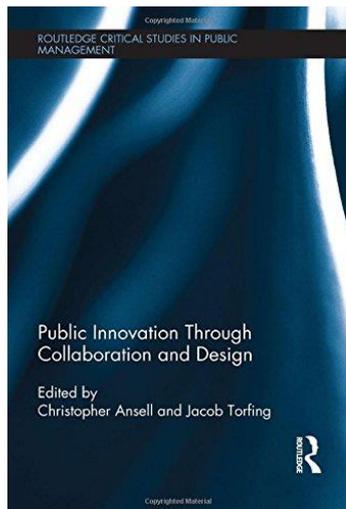
Last but not least, our own LIPSE coordinators from Erasmus University shared initial findings from their LIPSE research. Hanna de Vries presented **a systematic review and future research agenda on innovation in the public sector**, which she worked on with Victor Bekkers and Lars Tummers. William Voorberg also presented a paper co-authored with Bekkers and Tummers entitled "**The keys to successful co-creation: an explanation using causal processing tracing."** Lars also presented a comparative case study that was conducted under wp2 on "**co-creation and citizen involvement in social innovation**" to a focus group of experts, whose suggestions will be incorporated into the final study. **Find these papers here: www.lipse.org/downloads** or e-mail us to request a copy.

LIPSE mid-term conference: Join us in Brussels! The LIPSE team will present its latest findings on public & social innovation on **Feb. 3-4, 2015**, at the Royal Flemish Academy for Science and the Arts. The lineup includes Jenny Lewis, who will discuss social **innovation networks** in four European municipalities, Lars Tummers on the **drivers and barriers to co-creation in public services**, and Rainer Kattel on how to **measure innovation** (see page 2 for info. on their latest working paper). Contact Krista Timeus at timeus@hertie-school.com for more information on attending.

Book recommendation:

Ansell, Christopher, and Jacob Torfing, eds. *Public Innovation through Collaboration and Design*. Vol. 19. Routledge, 2014.

"One of the urgent needs addressed by this book is a better specification of the institutional and political requirements for sustaining a robust vision of public innovation, through the key dimensions of collaboration, creative problem-solving, and design. This book brings together empirical studies drawn from Europe, the USA and the antipodes to show how these dimensions are important features of public sector innovation in many Western democracies with different conditions and traditions. This volume provides insights for practitioners who are interested in developing an innovation strategy for their city, agency, or administration and will be essential reading for scholars, practitioners and students in the field of public policy and public administration."

LIPSE working papers:

Public & social innovation research is constantly evolving. For the latest insights, visit our website and check out our **working paper series**. The first paper provides an integrative framework for understanding social innovation in the public sector (Bekkers et al.) You will also find a literature review of the current research on measuring public sector innovation, a difficult but critical issue for academics & practitioners by Kattel et al. The most recent paper by Lewis & Ricard presents a framework for the comparative analysis of the "innovativeness" of four municipalities— Copenhagen, Barcelona, Rotterdam & West Lothian—and creates a link between their "innovation environment" (governance structures, social networks and leadership qualities) and their innovation capacity and innovativeness. Read these papers here:

http://lipse.org/userfiles/uploads/Working%20paper%201%20Bekkers%20et%20al.pdf

http://lipse.org/userfiles/uploads/Working%20paper%202%20Kattel%20et%20al.pdf

http://lipse.org/userfiles/uploads/LIPSE%20WP1%20working%20paper..pdf

Upcoming events:

On November 4th, Juraj Nemec from Matej Bel Univiersity is hosting the international scientific conference "The EU budget, innovation and economic growth", which is a continuation of regular conferences that have traditionally been organized by the Faculty of Economics Matej Bel University Banska Bystrica and the European Commission Representation in Slovakia in cooperation with other partners. The conference's goal is to support professional and academic debate on the topics of public finance in the EU and facilitate a creative environment for innovation in the public and private sectors. The following working group sessions will take place: 1) Theory, Policy and Practice of Finance, 2) Innovation and Innovation Policy, and 3) Education and Research in Finance. For more information, contact Ivan Sedliacik (ivan.sedliacik@umb.sk).

Call for Papers

Social Innovation Research Conference (SIRC):

Innovations in public and social policy and in public services delivery - policy and management perspectives on reforming the delivery of public services

The SIRC will be hosted by the School of **International Affairs and Public Affairs, Fudan University**, Shanghai, China on *21st – 22nd May 2015.*

Abstracts should be submitted by **1st November 2014**. For the complete call for papers, contact lipse@hertie-school.org.

Progress update on the LIPSE research agenda.

The LIPSE team's work is organized into seven work packages. Below you will find a summary of all the work currently under way. For more information on all work packages, visit http://lipse.org/work-packages.

WP1: Innovation environments and innovation capacity. WP1 on innovation capacity is now coming to a conclusion, with the final report due at the end of November 2014. The framework presented in September at EGPA in Speyer (see working papers, pg. 2) is being used to compare innovation networks in four municipalities. The analysis of the relationships between innovation capacity and governance structures, social networks and leadership qualities will be used to generate policy recommendations to the European Commission. For more information on the WP1 research, contact Jenny Lewis (jmlewis@unimelb.edu.au).

WP 2: Co-creation and co-production during social innovation: The WP2 researchers have conducted case studies in seven countries on the role of co-creation in welfare service provision and urban/rural regeneration. The results of these case studies have been presented and thoroughly discussed at the EGPA conference, first in the Permanent Study Group "Public Governance of Societal Sectors" and then with an international expert panel of professionals and practitioners specialized in co-production and co-creation. Moreover, the first article for this work package, "A Systematic Review of Co-creation and Co-production: Embarking on the Social Innovation Journey" (Voorberg, Bekkers & Tummers) is now in "Early View" in the Public Management Review. For more information, please contact Lars Tummers (Tummers@fsw.eur.nl).

WP 3: Mapping and analyzing the recommendations of ombudsmen & audit offices: WP3 is currently conducting surveys to measure feedback, learning and accountability in public organizations. All surveys are either active or have been completed. This means that we have also started with the first analysis of the results. Secondly, interviews with ombudsmen, audit-organizations & audited organizations are in progress. For more information contact Wouter Van Acker (Wouter.VanAcker@ggs.kuleuven.be).

WP 4: Risk-definition and risk governance in social innovation processes. The WP4 team has collected first exploratory survey results of approaches to risk and social innovation across four national research sites. After discussing our emerging findings at EGPA 2014, we are now starting to conduct case studies across mental health and environmental sustainability organizations. The results of the broader analysis of the overall WP4 will be presented at the next LIPSE conference in February in Leuven. A conceptual paper will be released as a LIPSE working paper soon. For more information on WP4, contact Sophie Flemig (sophie.flemig@ed.ac.uk).

WP5: Adoption, Diffusion and Upscaling of ICT-driven Innovation. The WP5 partners are currently selecting public agencies to study in a qualitative analysis to verify - through semi-structured interviews - if the influential factors proposed in the WP5 Theoretical Framework are empirically supported in the cases of e-procurement and telework. The results will be used to complement an upcoming quantitative survey. For more information on WP5, please contact Greta Nasi (greta.nasi@unibocconi.it).

WP6: Public sector innovation indicators: During the summer of 2014, the WP6 team finished conducting interviews with academic and practitioners involved in prior public sector innovation measurement efforts around the world. The final report based on these is being completed. The team will continue testing different measurement strategies in cases of public sector innovation in the city of Tallinn. In parallel, work has started with the international survey of public sector innovation labs, which also includes the measurement of their activities and successes. For more information on WP6, contact Rainer Kattel (rainer.kattel@ttu.ee).