

Abstracts

J.-L. KLEIN, J.-M. FONTAN and D.-G. TREMBLAY: “Social Entrepreneurs, Local Initiatives and Social Economy: Foundations for a Socially Innovative Strategy to Fight against Poverty and Exclusion”. This paper presents a synthetic analysis of local initiatives put in action by social entrepreneurs. On the basis of six case studies carried out in Quebec, the authors describe the context where local initiatives take place, the conditions of their success as well as a holistic model including their territorial effect. The paper shows that local initiatives can modify the factors provoking poverty and exclusion, and, therefore, devitalisation of local communities. The authors affirm that local initiatives can revitalise the community by implementing social entrepreneurship. However, they also show that the success of a local initiatives-based strategy requires the commitment of all stakeholders (private firms, public agencies and third sector organisations). Such a commitment should emerge within a context of a flexible and pluralistic model of governance.

F. MOULAERT: [« Le développement territorial intégré : le rôle des rapports sociaux ».] “Integrated Area Development: The Role of Social Relations”. This article explores the potential of Integrated Area Development, i.e., territorial development as guided by social innovation, for the development of deprived neighbourhoods in large cities. It gives an overview of the problems often caused by territorial development strategies applied by local authorities and explains how Integrated Area Development (IAD), because of its orientation toward social innovation (allowing the satisfaction of fundamental needs and promoting the innovation of social relations of governance) can offer a solution to these problems. It argues that IAD can reconstruct the socioeconomic and socio-political dynamics in localities and local neighbourhoods affected by economic restructuring and governmental failure, thus opening new opportunities for development.

D. WOLFE: “Social Dynamics of Innovation and Civic Engagement in City Regions”. Innovation and creative capacity are essential determinants of economic prosperity in a globalizing, knowledge-based economy. The interactive and social nature of the innovation process makes city-regions the appropriate scale at which social learning processes unfold. Growing recognition of this fact has led a

growing number of urban regions to take control of their own economic future through efforts aimed at the 'strategic management' of their own economies. Drawing on recent initiatives in several Ontario cities, which build on local civic engagement, this paper suggests that this new approach to economic development provides an important illustration of how social innovation at the urban scale can help chart new economic trajectories.

J.-L. LAVILLE : [« Services aux personnes et innovations ».] "Personal Services and Innovations". Personal services, such as childcare or elderly care, are among the main fields of development for new activities and jobs in the next decades. There is a dominant tendency in different countries, i.e. the commodification of these services. Cet article est consacré à une autre perspective : le développement d'innovations associatives. Celles-ci sont présentées dans le domaine de l'accueil des jeunes enfants, en France, en montrant le rôle attribué à la participation des parents puis des salariés. This article takes another perspective: the development of innovations in the associative sector. This innovative way is illustrated by participative childcare in France. This national path is promoted by new territorial public policies providing opportunities for local systems of services.

A. HAMDOUCH, O. AILENEI, B. LAFFORT and F. MOULAERT : [« Les organisations de l'économie sociale dans la métropole lilloise : Vers de nouvelles articulations spatiales ? »] "Social Economy Organizations in the Lille Metropolitan Area: Towards New Spatial Articulations?" The social economy sector has considerably developed and diversified in most European countries throughout the 20th Century, and especially after World War II with the profound transformation of the economic and social role of the State and of the regional and local governments. Focussing on the specific context of the Lille Metropolitan Area, this article shows how these evolutions engender today new opportunities, but also new constraints and challenges for the social economy organizations which tend, in turn, to diversify their domains of activity and to adapt their organizational and governance modes while reshaping their spatial positioning within a multiscale framework.

I. ANDRÉ and A. ABREU: "Social Creativity and Post-Rural Places: The Case of Montemor-O-Novo, Portugal." This article discusses a particularly successful example of arts-based social creativity in a rural setting: the case of Montemor-o-Novo, in Southern Portugal. The article is divided into three parts: the first one critically reviews the literature on the relationships between the arts, creativity and social change; the second provides a historical-geographical account of the trajectory of Montemor-o-Novo and highlights its social creative dimensions; and the third part puts forth a number of conclusions on post-rurality as a distinctive strategy of socially creative local development.

M. JAYO, M. POZZEBON and E. H. DINIZ: "Microcredit and Innovative Local Development in Fortaleza, Brazil: The Case of Banco Palmas." This article describes the history of Banco Palmas, a particular Brazilian microcredit undertaking initiated about ten years ago by a neighbourhood association representing 30,000 inhabitants located in a very poor district of North-Eastern Brazil. Combining three innovative mechanisms - social currency, professional training, and local consumption and production mapping - Banco Palmas has developed a local, home-grown methodology to scale down microcredit and foster social development.

E. RAUFFLET : [« La planification territoriale collaborative sous la loupe : l'expérience du plan municipal de développement de Tlalmanalco au Mexique (1997). »] "Local territory-based planning: the experience of the Municipal Development Plan in Tlalmanalco, Mexico (1997)." Over the last few decades, several countries have decentralized territorial planning processes at the regional level, thus providing local organizations the opportunity to participate in the formulation and implementation of new forms of planning. In Mexico, the 1983 Law for Municipal Decentralization has been enhancing territory-based collaborative planning as a novel mechanism for local development. This article examines the process of municipal planning of Tlalmanalco, Mexico in January-July 1997. This collaboration which was initiated following the arrival of a new municipal team represented a moment of opening and co-operation between the municipality and civil society organizations. However, after some tense months, the municipality withdrew from the process and denied its contribution. This analysis highlights that two simultaneous processes were unfolding and clashed. The first one is a minimalist and restricted approach close to political bargaining, while the second one is open, and aims to build a collective, integral vision for the territory.

