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SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND CURRENT
CHALLENGES 2018: **SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN SCIENCE,
EDUCATION AND BUSINESS**
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CONCLUSIONS

OF THE 13TH IRDO CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Maribor, 27 September 2018

13. IRDO Conference on Social Responsibility attracted 34 contributions of more than 30 authors from 7 countries on 27 September 2018 in Maribor, Slovenia. We shortly present main conclusions of this conference:

1. **The civil society is (still) the main driver for the development of CSR National Action Plan in Slovenia**, reaching beyond the (unfortunately still not confirmed) Slovenian national CSR strategy, advised by EU in 2011. For the successful implementation of the Plan involvement of policy makers is essential.
2. **'Ten requirements for the use of social responsibility' in socially important areas can help policy makers address essential topics for a SR society.** So can more care for social responsibility in human resource development and in education, be it at home, in primary and/or high school, and/or in courses such as Model M Slovenia for unemployed B.S.-s and others, including sports and migrants. Social anthropology can help providing insight in human natural attributes supportive of SR. Learners should be invited to co-develop the future learning system e.g. in high schools. EU activities provide opportunities to execute activities that reach beyond the traditional learning systems. Education and learning provide significant impact for sustainable development as a crucial use of social responsibility; they are under-used.
3. **Systemic approach is crucial**, especially in relations between capital and labour, in the care for the elderly and their dignity. A new Statement of added value is proposed. Green social franchise, ownership transparency, the EFQM, identification of quality of CSR governance and business functions by SECGAN, a more appropriate legal regulation, SR care for business excellence, use of all available skills, including the fractal economic system, capital's and labor's equal rather than capital's monopolized participation in added value, public awareness about money laundering, more proactive approach to employees, etc. support the systemic, i.e. holistic approach to governance of society via CSR.
4. So do **practical experience**, e.g. the ones with the following highlights:
 - Resource efficiency can save energy, material and water costs. The knowledge base EREK is available online and it is especially suitable for SMEs.
 - Local agenda 21 and all the 17 Sustainable Development Goals with its targets and indicators can be communicated to people but for their inaction a stick and a carrot are needed.
 - Noise and emissions in e.g. ports should be monitored using e.g. Factor analysis and Structural Equation Modelling to prevent socially irresponsible behaviour.

- Normative and mimetic pressures positively influence the businesses' climate change sensitivity, their mitigation and adaptation strategies while coercive pressure does not.
- Differentiation between health system and health care system is needed together with health-to-wealth relationship using a system of all the 3 kinds of sustainability realization.
- Energy efficient refurbishment of older multifamily buildings can essentially reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions and improve their architectural aspects.
- Permaculture is based on the laws of nature and it is a sustainable business opportunity, which is commercially interesting as shown by case studies.
- The inequalities of women in science are still an issue; activities to communicate their implications help.

Hence, three basic SR concepts in (ISO 26000) must be practiced: responsibility for one's influence on society, interdependence and holistic approach for the SR efforts to work in synergy, i.e. effectively.

Thus, the identification and improving adequate skills is an important governmental goal regarding (C)SR. Social partners, especially employers and chambers should have important roles in these processes.

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