

S10 Formal and informal institutions in regional entrepreneurial processes

Convenor(s) Michael Wyrwich; Michael Fritsch; Marcus Dejardin

Based on the seminal contributions by North (1990, 1994) and Williamson (2000), a vast literature in economics examines the interrelationship between formal and informal institutions and economic performance. The mechanisms linking institutions with entrepreneurial activity (Henrekson and Elert 2017) but also between informal institutions like entrepreneurship culture and start-up activity gained increasing attention in recent years (e.g., Thurik and Dejardin 2012; Fritsch and Wyrwich, 2014). However, the mechanisms and relations that are at work in different spatial contexts are not yet well-understood. Therefore, we need to know more about the interplay of regional formal and informal institutions, entrepreneurship culture, and entrepreneurial activity.

The special session(s) will accommodate papers related to entrepreneurship in which the formal and informal institutions in regional entrepreneurial processes are explicitly taken into account. Expected contributions may be both theoretical and empirical.

The following emphases would be particularly welcome:

- (1) The role of formal and informal institutions in determining entrepreneurship and regional development
- (2) Sources of a regional culture of entrepreneurship
- (3) Entrepreneurs as actors changing local institutions
- (4) The interplay of formal institutions and entrepreneurship culture
- (5) Spatial variation in entrepreneurship-facilitating institutions and economic performance

References

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- North, D. (1990), *Institutions, Institutional Change and Economic Performance*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
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