The Potential of Social Innovation to create Resilience Capacity in Urban Communities

PHD PROGRAM IN ENGINEERING AND MANAGEMENT

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AIM
Investigate how Social Innovation (SI) can be a tool to build resilience in urban communities

Research Objectives
- RO1: Contribute to a broader understanding of the concepts of urban community resilience and of social innovation (SI)
- RO2: Explore the potential of SI in the creation of resilient urban communities
- RO3: Develop a model that may enhance the potential of SI transformative capacity, increasing resilience in urban communities

Research Gaps
- RG1: Unexplored concept of URBAN COMMUNITY RESILIENCE
- RG2: Lack of common understanding about SOCIAL INNOVATION
- RG3: Lack of understanding of the SI regarding INDIVIDUALS AND SOCIETY TRANSFORMATIVE CAPACITY
- RG4: Unexplored LINKAGE BETWEEN URBAN RESILIENCE AND SI

Research Questions
- RQ1: Can we increase the resilience of urban communities?
- RQ2: What is the contribution of social innovation (SI) to the increase of resilience capacity in urban communities?
- RQ3: How can we enable the potential of SI transformative capacity?

PHASES AND RESPECTIVE TASKS

1. RESEARCH DESIGN
2. IDENTIFY THE SI ELEMENTS BASED ON LITERATURE REVIEW
   - Explore literature and scientific knowledge
   - Explore concepts and their linkages
   - Identify methodologies and methods
   - Identify case studies examples
   - Identify the SI elements
3. CHARACTERIZE AND ANALYSE THE SI ELEMENTS BASED ON PUBLISHED CASE STUDIES
   - Characterize the SI elements
   - Analyze and compare published cases
   - Develop interviews with practitioners / experts
   - Revise the SI elements
   - Gather more information
4. DEVELOP AND APPLY THE MODEL
   - Develop the model
   - Apply to two or more case studies – urban communities in Lisbon Metropolitan Area with different characteristics
   - Test and readjust the model
5. FINAL RESEARCH ARGUMENT AND CONCLUSION
   - Contribution to the advance of the scientific knowledge of these fields
   - Conclusions