OECD 8th Rural Development Policy Conference "Innovation and Modernising the Rural Economy" 3-5 October 2012 Krasnoyarsk, Russia

Anabela Dinis

NECE Business Research Unit / Business and Economic Department
University of Beira Interior
Portugal

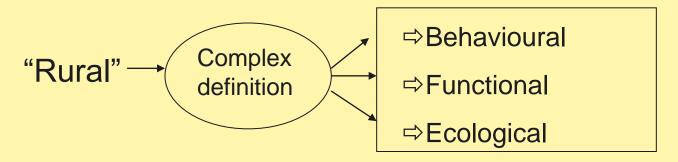


ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION IN RURAL AREAS

STRATEGIES AND PROCESSES



The rural context...



Diversity of Rural areas:



- •In the neighbourhood of urban areas
- Areas that face economic and social decline
- More distant and peripheral areas

Most part of rural zones in Portugal



Rural areas in Portugal

- Heavy height of agricultural/ florestal activities
- Traditionalism
- Aging population
- Lower levels of education
- Depopulation



Low densities Isolation



The several dimensions of low density and isolation/exclusion

Low densities

- Demographic
- Institucional

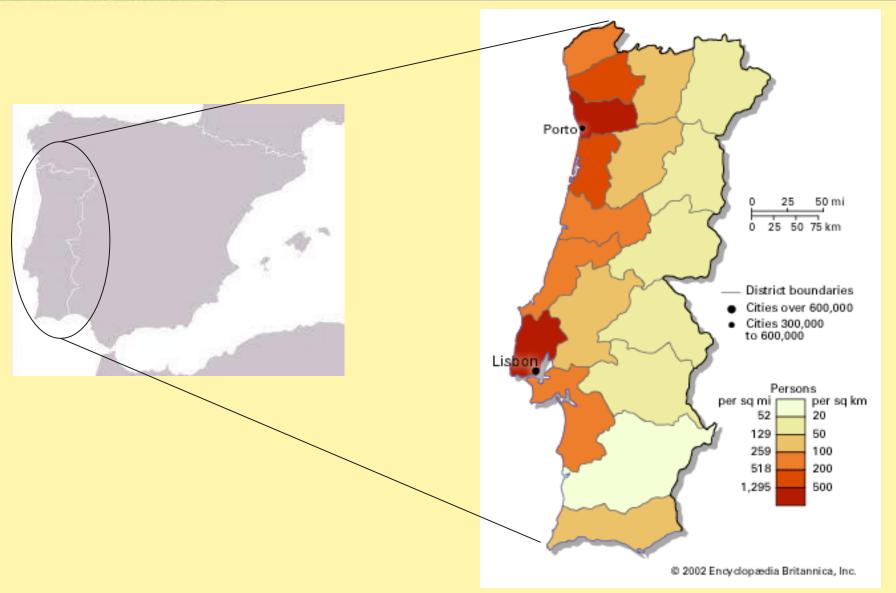
exclusion

- Relacional
- Ocupacional
- Economical

- physical
- Economical
- Social
- Psychological



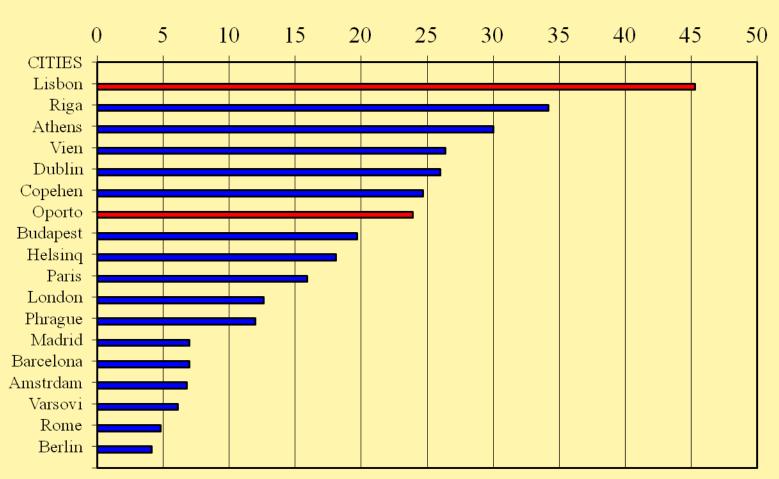
Population densities in Portugal





Rural areas in Portugal: a two fold periphery

Population Living in European Cities in 2015 (in % of the total population of each country)



Source: United Nations (2001) World Urbanization Prospects



the role of entrepreneurship

The key to sustainable development of rural regions is to develop an independent perspective and discovery of endogenous potential

ESDP, European Commisiion 1999

Endogenous Development of regions

Ability to generate their own business projects

New firms; New activities (Entrepreneurship)



Generate employment, wealth, development for regions

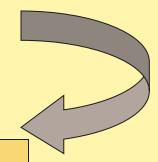


Successful empirical experiences of endogenous regional development

- •"Industrial districts"
- "Milieux inovateurs"
- "Learning regions"

Territorial and business dynamics are mutually dependent

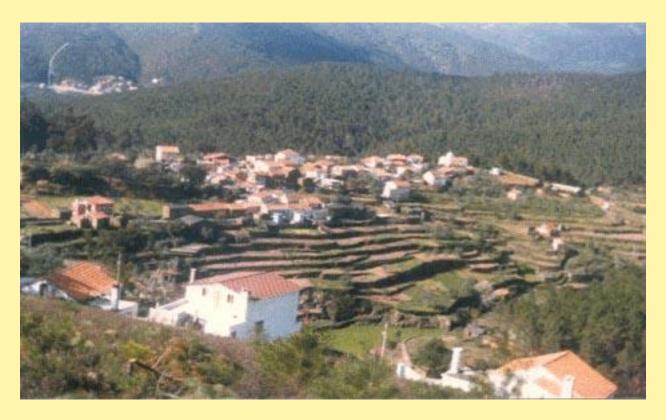
this mutual relationship can represent a problem for lagged rural regions where this relational dynamic does not exist.



How firms emerge in rural and peripheral regions and how do these firms managed to be successful even within an adverse local environment?



Quinta do Espinho/Bucha & Pinga: Barriosa



Fonte: http://www.barriosa.serradaestrela.com







Bucha Pinga

Vinagre

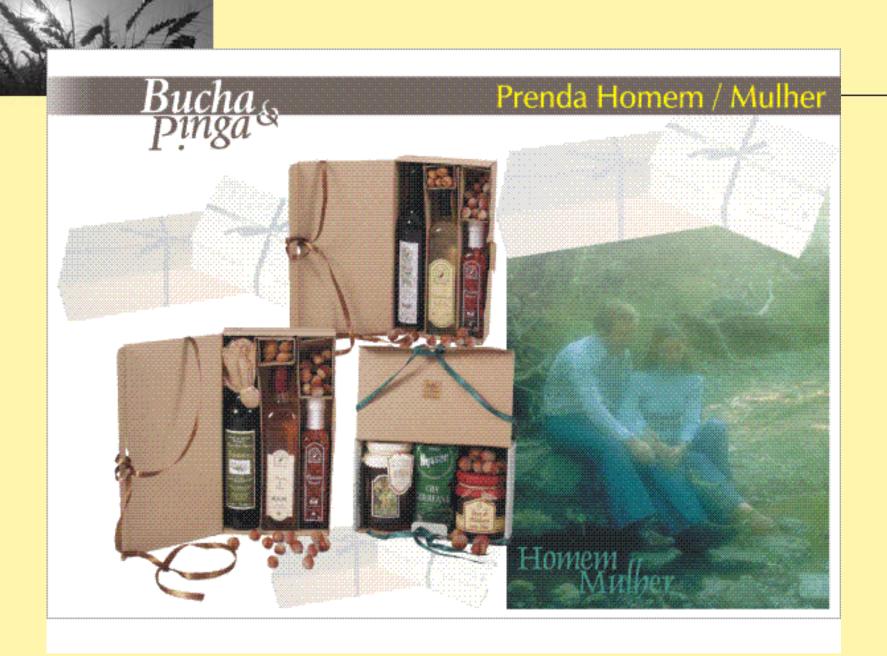
a pastir de france pel catalo em pagastra losações que cimundare e nome estate. Barriose.

Continuous in other frame (modernature, absorber, compas frame e al grant derivative, compas frame e al grant derivative, compas frame e al grant derivative, compassative, compassative

Carthappects here, atrembe in the sale to be sale to be sale to sale to be sa

Esto images content ana success moistada de propieto catasaja caiafeciles aco fectos estente estente a terres e tar prigode carina attala, que suprises da carina
carina attala, que suprises da
carina attala de la visaga, tas creace
subtrierdos importantes, visagantes asisubtrierdos importantes, visagantes agricasola rejuneira visagan con junta agricatin-deles, activitas propietas, Acides,
att. ... inde idu est delevas perturi
Especialmente.

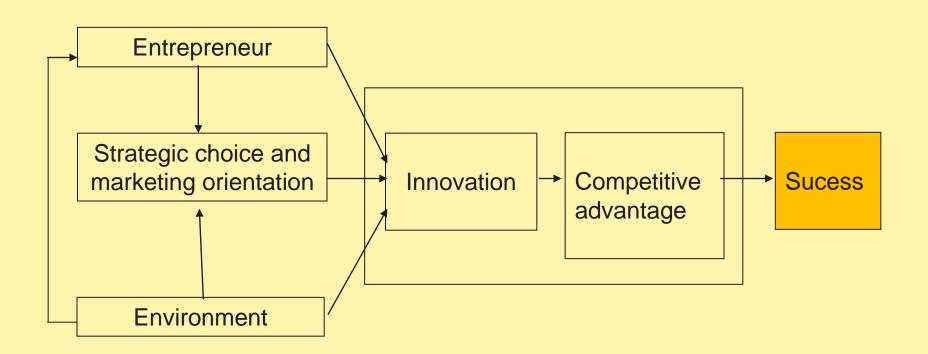






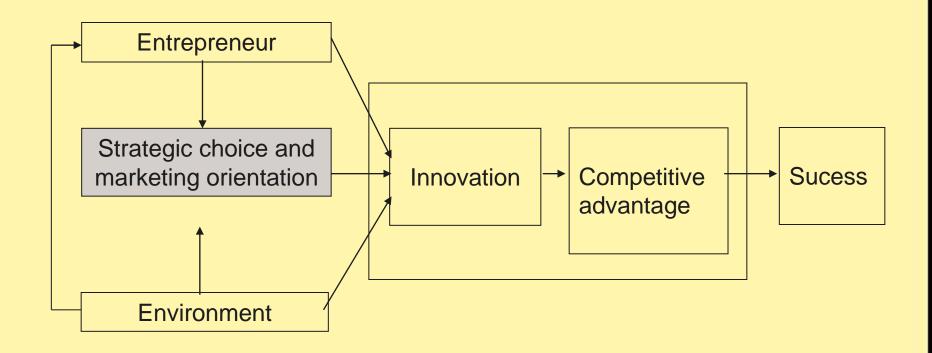
What theory says...

Factors Affecting Innovation and Success of Small Firms





Factors Affecting Innovation and Success of Small Firms





Marketing Strategies and Innovation

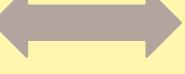
Resources

(Strenghs)



- Natural resources
- Tradition and culture
- Environment and life's quality





Competitive advantage



Speciality products

Niche Marketing Strategy



(oportunities)



Global market segment with available income, free time, information, knowledge and sensible to historical cultural and natural heritage





Segment Identification/knowledge



A Matrix of Niche Goods and Services in Rural Areas

	Rural Resources		
	Natural resources	Tradition and cultural	Environment and amenity
		heritage	resources
	-High quality vegetables and fruits	-Crafts such as ceramic and	-Attractive environments,
Goods	-Traditionally made cheeses	pottery	good climate, clean air
	-Organic production	-Jewellery	which may attract
	-Medical plants	-Embroidery	research centres and high-
	-Local Pickles	-Rugs	technology enterprises
	-Dried Flowers	-Wooden toys and bowls	- Goods produced using
	-Fish paste and dried fish	-Traditional costumes	local energy or scarce
	-Mineral waters	-Flax knits.	resources such as pure or
	-Dried fruits		mineral water
	Toolmakers, outlifters and guides	Historical monuments	Villages and rest -or
Services	for hunting, fishing, camping and	Traditional architectures	retirement homes
	skiing	Local museums	Health and fitness centres
	Hotels and inns	Local festival and folk	equipped with
	Restaurants serving local	dances	accommodation.
	specialities	Restaurants serving	
	farms	traditional cuisine	
	Ecological museums		
	Natural Parks.		

Source: Adapted from Lane e Yoshinaga (1994: 16),



Niche marketing Strategies and Innovation

INNOVATION

- Thecnological
- •Image, markets
- Organizational



Marketing-Mix

Product

 Preserve and make more atractive rural resources

Distribution

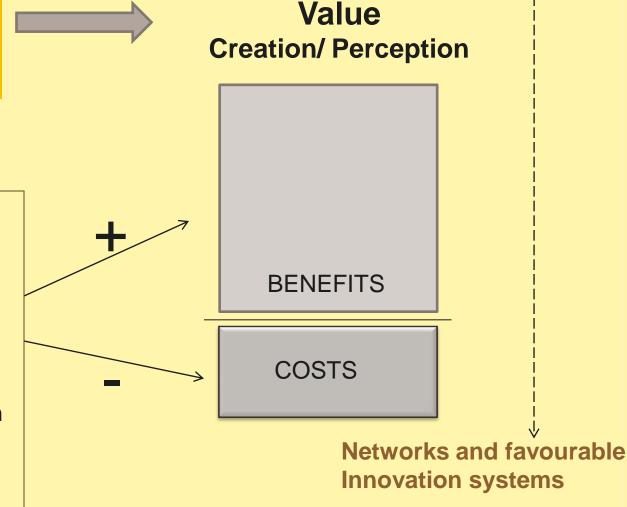
Facilitation of access

Price

Lower cost of production

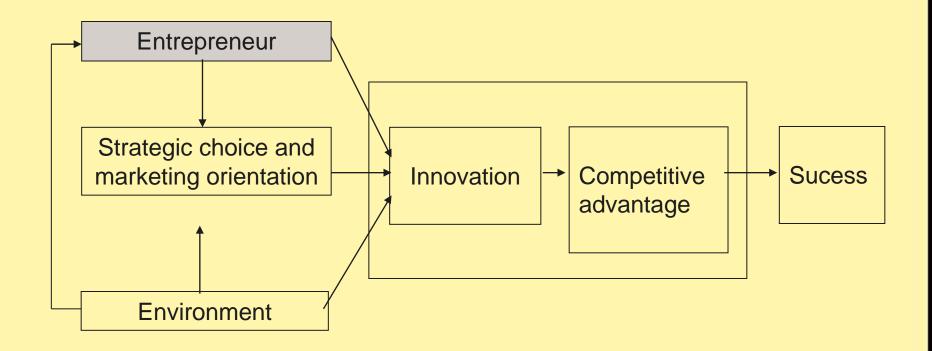
Promotion

More effective and directed communication





Factors Affecting Innovation and Success of Small Firms





Factors related with entrepreneurial vocation in rural and peripheral areas

FIRST ORDER FACTORS

SECOND ORDER FACTORS

TYPE OF ENTREPRENEUR

OWNER

Lack of alternatives

Previous experience in the sector:

- Professional training
- Previous job
- •Family business/activity
- Development of an hobby

Life experiences

- Studied in a different place
- Worked abroad
- •Native of urban centres/other countries
- Frequent visits to other places
- Access to more developed social networks

Other demographic characteristics:

- •Some level of literacy (not necessarily university degrees)
- •Relatively young persons

Financial resources

Mental frames of reference:

•Global/enlarged vision of reality

Attitudes/behaviours

- Innovative and adventurous
- Pro-active attitude
- Active search of information
- Dynamism
- Achievement orientated
- Ambition

ENTREPRENEUR

Criteria to evaluate success:

- Self-employment
- •Supplementary income
- •Make good use of endogenous resources
- •Preservation of a traditional "know-how"

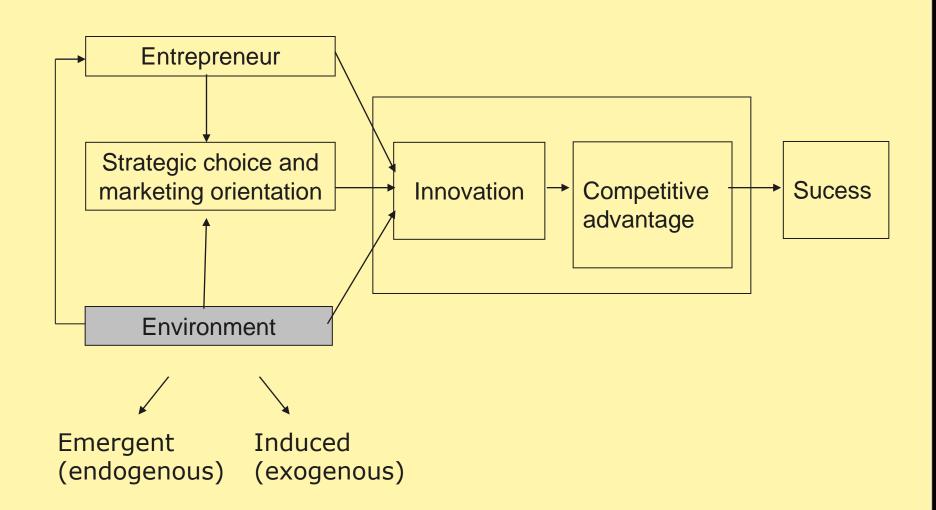
ENTREPRENEURIAL ENTREPRENEUR

Criteria to evaluate success:

- •Creation of new employment opportunities
- •Creation of wealth in the region
- Both preservation of a traditional
- "know-how" and innovation
 •Link endogenous resources with
- exogenous marketsQuality of the product
- •Business growth



Factors Affecting Innovation and **Success of Small Firms**





The role of institutional support

Barriers to rural entrepreneurship/development

Measures to overcome Barriers

Scarce or inadequate financing

Poor infrastructure

Difficult accessibility

Shortage of managerial skills

Lack of entrepreneurial culture

Difficulty in accessing or understanding information

Shortage of qualified human resources

Fragmentation of supply

Lack of self-confidence

>Financial support

➤ Creation of infrastructure and improvement of accessibility

➤ Promote information and training

Networks

➤ Promoting a collective development strategy



The importance of networks

Success of some economies based on SME networking and access to information

"the key problem for small firms appears not to be that of being small, but of being isolated""

Pyke e Senberger (1990:4)



The role of networks

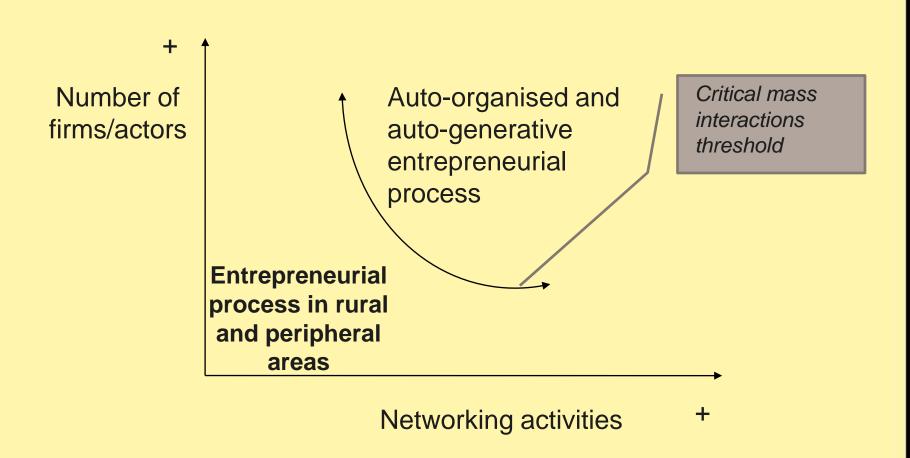
Networks = set of connections/relationships between actors



- Sources of information and learning
- Sources of new opportunities and potential creators of new ideas and projects (innovation)
- Allows access to various resources
- Build and maintain confidence and willpower promoting action
- Vehicle influence on the environment by promoting sociopolitical legitimacy and identification with the results

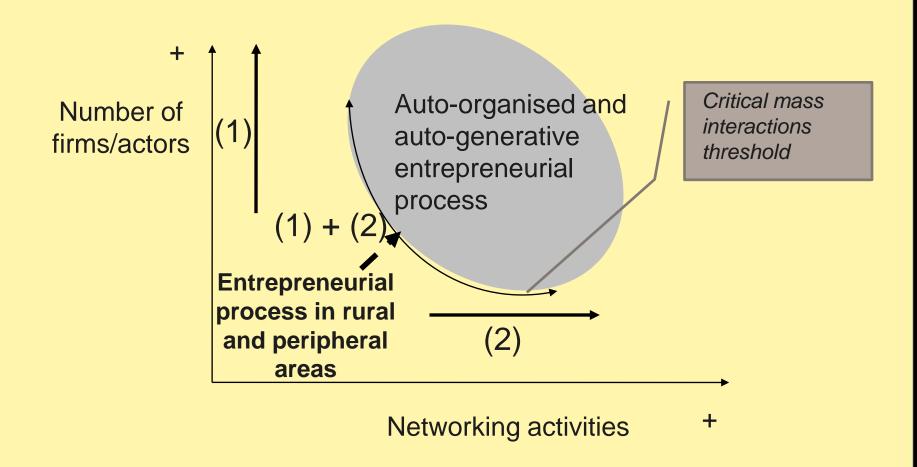


The threshold of interactions critical mass as a threshold between underdevelopment and economic development





From ineffective to effective networks





Promotion of *local and* global networks

Local networks = spatially concentrated networks

Clusters Social Capital



Global networks = links with individuals / institutions in more central and cosmopolitan regions



Territorial marketing



From swot analysis to individual and collective strategy

Strengths

- Natural resources
- Tradition and cultural heritage
- •Environment and resources related with quality of life
- •The importance of community ties.

Weaknesses

- •Lack of human resources and necessary skills
- Lack of services and physical, social and economic infrastructure
- Higher operating costs
- Difficulties in financing and accessing information
- Seasonality
- Lack of self-confidence

Firms/ Entrepreneurs

Niche Marketing Strategies

TERRITORIAL STRATEGIC VISION

Territorial Marketing Strategies

Governments and other collective stakeholders

Opportunities

- •Global trends in demand
- Increased capacity of specialization and flexibility
- •Lower capital requirements

Threats

- Desertification and land abandonment
- •Disinvestment in the region due to lack of critical mass



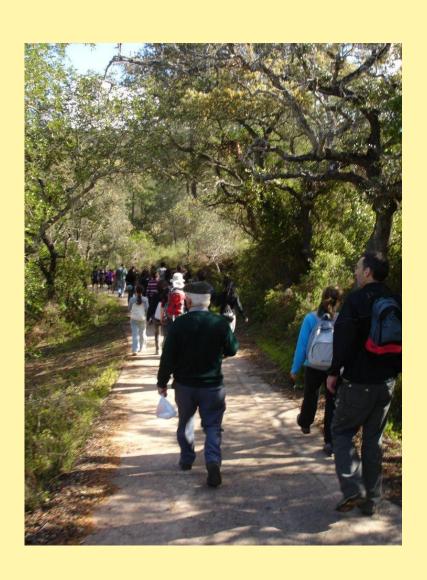
"Querença" project



- Aim: territorial rescue
- Target: rural territories in risk of abandonment
- Instruments: young graduates available to live in those territories, expert voluntiers, public polices, partnerships between public and private organizations (1st, 2nd and 3th sector)



"Querença" project



Objectives:

- Develop social and simbolic interation
- Promote endogenous businesses

Process:

Three phases

- Project phase (9 months)
- Pós-project phase (3-6 months)



Querença activities







//WORKSHOP PINTURA EM TECIDO

SINÓPSE

Inspire-se na temática do Mercado de Querença, as flores, e aprenda a pintar tecidos como o linho. Cada participante será responsável por embelezar uma parcela de tecido, e poderá levar para casa o seu trabalho e aplicá-lo em quadro ou adaptando a peças decorativas interiores.

INSCRIÇÕES

marketing@projectoquerenca.com | 289 422 607 INICIO 10h30 FIM 12h00 PONTO DE ENCONTRO L^{#90} Igreja Matriz - Querença PREÇO 5€

MINIMO DE INSCRIÇÕES 5

MÁXIMO DE INSCRIÇÕES 10

DATA LIMITE PARA INSCRIÇÕES 26 MAIO FORMADORES Maria de Deus Alho







//FLORA PROCURA-SE! EDUCAÇÃO AMBIENTAL

SINOPSE

De árvore em árvore, de flor em flor, de erva em erva, com a ajuda de uma caderneta é pedido que se procurem árvores, flores e ervas de forma a completar a caderneta fornecida. Com esta atividade terão oportunidade de conhecer várias espécies e ter contacto direto com a natureza. A caderneta depois de completa com flores, ervas e folhas de árvores apanhadas no campo será entregue para levarem para casa.

INSCRIÇÕES

ecoturismo@projectoquerenca.com | 289 422 607

INICIO 11h00 FIM 12h00

PÚBLICO-ALVO crianças dos 5 aos 12 anos

ронто DE ENCONTRO L 1900 Igreja Matriz - Querença

PRECO 3€

MÁXIMO DE INSCRIÇÕES 20

DATA LIMITE PARA INSCRIÇÕES 26 maio

FORMADORES Cátia Guerreiro e Joana Alho





"Querença project" is a case where we can found simultaneously:

- Social innovation
- Governnance innovation
- Business innovation



6. Conclusions

- Sustainable entrepreneurship has a strong potential for the survival of rural areas.
- Most recent societal trends of society are favourable to the development of this sector.
- Still, rural areas have weaknesses and threats from its own status as periphery.
- Major challenges are to develop (endogenous) innovation capabilities and to integrate local economies in global economies.
- The development of effective local and global networks emerges as a central and facilitator issue in the process.



6. Conclusions (Cont.)

 It is important to develop a professional marketing approach together with sustainability concerns.

 The promotion of a successful strategy is dependent of individuals' (entrepreneurs') but also collective (represented by the government and other institutions concerned with the development of these territories) choices.



Thank you!

Anabela Dinis

Contact: adinis@ubi.pt