

Innovation Management in Food System Transitions

Background/introduction/summary

In order to safeguard long-term food production, the world's food systems need to radically transform, and transition towards sustainability. My project seeks to understand how such a transformation could take place in a specific food value chain: studying farmers, food processors and retailers to understand the role of the firm in the transition process, in relation to innovation management.

My project is nested within the Center for Food Innovation for Sustainable System Transition, FINEST:
<https://www.ri.se/en/finest>,

FINEST is a collaboration between RISE, Chalmers, Uppsala University, and 16 other industry partners from the food sector.

Materials and Methods

Results

My research project commenced during the fall of 2021, when I initiated my first pre-study focusing on innovation management in food retail, and intra-firm collaborations. The purpose of the pre-study is to inform future studies in our chosen topic area, which at this point remains relatively unexplored, or largely overlooked.

To better understand how my research could contribute to the overall goals of our center, the pre-study is still ongoing, currently moving along with new actors across the value chain, both in primary production, and in food processing. Our ambition is to specify a clear direction in the coming months, but thus far, no results have yet become available.

While it is still very premature, we expect our research to contribute with new knowledge related to innovation, business- and collaboration models, with hopes of testing these together with stakeholders in and outside of the center.

I am interested in studying various forms of collaborative innovation, i.e., open innovation, co-creation processes between stakeholders in the food value chain (for example between farmers and food processors, farmer x retailers, or between processors and food retail).

If my research sounds interesting to you, or if you have any ideas concerning potential research problems or questions, please feel free to research out. I welcome any form of input. If you know of any researchers I should definitely meet, please do get in touch!

Conclusions

Reference

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