

Green Economy & Future Technology – the Small Business lens

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This lecture considers the green economy and future technology through a small business lens. Drawing on the UNEP (2011) definition of a green economy¹, we contemplate the challenges and opportunities offered for sustainable business through the SDG lens. We propose means through which to integrate current and future technology in a resource constrained environment. We will discuss how to engage small businesses in the green economy, in order to develop untapped socio-economic resources and facilitate sustainable small business development. Finally, we will offer opportunities for discussion.

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Dr Felicity Kelliher is a Professor of Management Practice and Academic Lead of the RIKON Research Centre at the School of Business, South East Technology University Ireland. She is past-Chair of the Irish Academy of Management and a member of Our Rural Future HEI Network, Government of Ireland Department of Rural and Community Development. Felicity specialises in management skill development and studies innovation capability development in small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs). A Fulbright Alum, Felicity regularly publishes in top tier international journals and has co-authored three books, including *Green Innovation and Future Technology*, documenting a community of practice project involving SMEs, micro and mini student projects and regional stakeholders.

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¹ A green economy is *'an economy that results in improved human well-being and reduced inequalities over the long term, while not exposing future generations to significant environmental risks and ecological scarcities'* (UNEP, 2011: 9).

Dr Leana Reinl is a Lecturer in Management and Academy Lead of Tourism and Rural Development, RIKON Research Centre, School of Business, South East Technology University Ireland. A former Irish Research Council Marie Curie Fellow, Leana has a keen interest in entrepreneurial and small business management and development. Her research focuses on learning and knowledge exchange networks and sustainable learning communities. She has contributed to the design and delivery of several National and EU research-led projects, including 'Grass Ceiling' Horizon project supporting rural women-led innovation. Published in Internationally reviewed journals including Tourism Management and the Journal of Entrepreneurship and Innovation.