Andrzej Chodyński Networks in business concepts – social and ecological aspects

Summary

Inter-organizational networks (including business networks) are increasingly common form of network connections in a modern economy. The paper demonstrates

that networks are created basing on existing intellectual and social capital. Network creation is influenced by common values, declared by various organizations.

Realization of guidelines on CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) is an indication of those values. Being aware of impact of CSR on performance of companies, the author proposes network typology which is based on social and ecological (environmental) values. Ecological values (along with social ones) are embedded in the concept (adopted by international community) of sustainable development and on a business level – concept of sustainable business. The paper shows that modern business model assumes existence of partners networks. The author demonstrates findings of research among students which can be useful in answering the question about role of prosocial and proecological behavior in network

creation process (with entrepreneurial intentions taken into consideration). Research findings show that each of the stakeholders exerts approximately equal influence on realization of guidelines on CSR. Even though influence of nonprofit organizations on realization of those guidelines is rather smaller, they have dominant role when it comes to realization of ideas of ecological (environmental) responsibility. In case of networks that emphasize the role of ecological values the local community is especially significant (besides non-profit organizations). Research

findings confirm that modern, prosocial and proecological business models should take into greater consideration the needs of stakeholders, which yet have been treated as having less impact (power) on a company.