



e - Newsletter

Exploiting Potentials of

Social Enterprises through Standardized

European Evaluation

and Development System

SOCIAL SEEDS

Interreg Europe



competitiveness



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

Welcome!

This e-newsletter is dedicated to sharing news, events and update from SOCIAL SEEDS project.

Enjoy reading and follow us today!



New SOCIAL SEEDS Interreg Europe brochures!



If you want to review the new brochure, please click [here](#).

SOCIAL SEEDS brochures has presented in 7 different languages (Czech, English, Estonian, Hungary, Italian, Polish, Slovenian) which are include the project's objectives partner's policy and list, nevertheless you can get an answer some important questions, such as „How to improve policy instruments?” and „How to improve policies in practice?” and so on.

Partner overview

IFKA Public Benefit Nonprofit Ltd. for the Development of the Industry (HU)

 Over 25 years, IFKA as an intermediary organization between policymakers and businesses has been active in Hungarian research, technological development and innovation. IFKA is a state-appointed innovation management and technology transfer institute. IFKA is actively involved in scientific and professional networks at an international and national level, representing a unique mixture of public and private interests as a whole for the overall development of Hungarian Industry.

Abruzzo Region (IT)

Over the last decade, the Abruzzo Region has increased its efforts in innovation & research policy, developing at a faster rate than other Southern regions due to its smart specialisations initiatives. The regional administration has elaborated homogeneous policy addressing the gradual integration of the research system and the business sector around key strategic areas. Abruzzo provides local institutions with assistance and active support to the enterprises operating in the tourism sector.



Regional Development Agency of South Bohemia RERA Inc. (CZ)

 Over 15 years, Regional Development Agency of South Bohemia is an essential regional player in the Czech Republic supporting and coordinating economic, social, cultural development within the South Bohemian Region. Due to its shareholders, RERA has strong connections with regional politicians and the representatives of the South Bohemian Region, responsible for regional economy and social affairs. RERA is active in preparing grant applications from the region in the area of social entrepreneurship.

BSC, Business Support Centre Ltd., Kranj (SI)

BSC is the Regional Development Agency for Gorenjska region, North West Slovenia being responsible for the Gorenjska regional development program 2014-2020. Since 1995, BSC has focused on innovative strategies for rural development to meet increasing problems of depopulation and sustainable business development in the countryside. BSC is presently working to develop social enterprise landscape in order to increase job and business opportunities in the areas.



Rzeszow Regional Development Agency (PL)



Rzeszow Regional Development Agency (RARR) was established in 1993 and has been awarded the European Commission's prestigious "Partners in Action" GRAND PRIX for its implementation of the PHARE programmes, as the only RDA in all the countries of CEE. It is a member of the National Service System for SME's (KSU) in Poland and the network of the Innovation Relay Centres in Europe. It has obtained accreditation with the Polish Agency for the Development of Enterprise.

EURADA – European Association of Development Agencies (BE)

The European Association of Development Agencies (EURADA) has a membership of 100 regional development agencies from across the EU. Agencies from almost all the Member States of the EU are EURADA members. EURADA lobbies and briefs the European Commission on behalf of members. EURADA has strong international links, particularly through the International Economic Development Council in the United States, but also with economic development networks in China, Japan, Australia and New Zealand. EURADA has been working in the impact of social economy for regional development. In particular, social innovation was selected as one of the working priorities of the European Association for the year 2016. In the last years, EURADA has contributed to the debate of new ways of economic development raising the concept of Proximology, which has a more comprehensive approach of economic development involving responses to local markets failures or the absence of a relevant public offer.



Estonian Advice Centre (EE)



EAC has been active in promoting the development of businesses in Estonia, and implemented several projects supported by the Ministry of Regional Affairs in the field of improving opportunities of unemployed and persons with special needs. Over 10 years, EAC has developed long-term cooperation with Ministry of Social Affairs and Ministry for Economy and Communication, the Foundation INNOVE and Estonian Unemployment Insurance Fund.

Interviews



Mária Baracsi

*Head of Unit of International Cooperation
IFKA Public Benefit Nonprofit Ltd. for the Development of the Industry*

Q: What is the main impact of social innovations related to SOCIAL SEEDS project?



If you want to review the interview, please click [here](#).

MB: So SOCIAL SEEDS project is essentially the policy learning initiative, so in the frame of SOCIAL SEEDS we are looking for social entrepreneurs' good practices and social innovations delivered by them at the end. Social innovations will be transform into actual policy improvement, call for proposals to in reach the regions social innovation landscape.

SOCIAL SEEDS work in process

SOCIAL SEEDS online consultation to policy makers

Our group composed a questionnaire for policy makers whose are supporting social enterprises. The SOCIAL SEEDS consortium collect data on how local and regional authorities are supporting social enterprises and the available funding tools. All feedbacks help the SOCIAL SEEDS consortium to establish a policy diagnostics tool that will increase the effectiveness of local and regional policies stimulating growth of and employment in social enterprises in Europe.

Click [here](#) for more information about the questionnaire for policy makers.

SOCIAL SEEDS online consultation to social enterprises

Our group composed another questionnaire for social entrepreneurs to collect all views and experiences of those company, thus enabling policy-makers to reinforce support to social enterprises through improved support measures. This survey's principal aims to improve policy instruments for social enterprises and their ecosystems in Europe.

Click [here](#) for more information about the questionnaire for social entrepreneurs.

SOCIAL SEEDS at CEE Steering Group in Warsaw

We are happy to announce IFKA, SOCIAL SEEDS coordinator, Mária Baracsi joined to the CEE Social Investment Task Force Steering Group in Warsaw on the 27-28 March 2017. Established as a joint initiative by EVPA, NESsT, Yunus Social Business Initiative, the European Commission and GSEN, the Steering Group have facilitated common solutions address key challenges regard social enterprise development in CEE and Western Balkan countries, namely start-up social enterprise development as well as investment readiness support.

Click [here](#) for more information about CEE Social Investment Taskforce.

SOCIAL SEEDS at SEFORİS Closing Conference

SOCIAL SEEDS joined the SEFORİS final conference 'Social Entrepreneurship: Inclusion and Innovation in Society' as well as Poster Session, which took place on 16 & 17 March in Brussels. The conference is addressed to introduce the SEFORİS research executed by various European, Chinese and Russian research teams and social entrepreneurs support organisations. Additionally the conference focused on key policy recommendations drawn for years of research on the workings and dynamics of social enterprises in Europe and beyond.

Click [here](#) for more information about SEFORİS final conference.

SOCIAL SEEDS at AGORADA+ 2016

SOCIAL SEEDS presented its first results and good practices at AGORADA+ 2016 Conference in Bologna on the 22-23 of November 2016. The event's participants could visit several workshops at difference topics such as "Shared value and corporate responsibility" to support of private companies and initiatives and so on.

Click [here](#) for more information about AGORADA+.

SOCIAL SEEDS at EVPA's Annual Conference

SOCIAL SEEDS coordinator, Mária Baracsi granted by EVPA European Venture Philanthropy Association's scholarship to take part in the EVPA Annual Conference in Paris on the 3-4th of November 2016. The event's principal aim to brings together 500 of the leading players from VP and social investment funds, foundations, NGOs, governments, corporations, banks and universities.

Click [here](#) for more information about EVPA.

SOCIAL SEEDS events

Second Regional Stakeholder Meeting in Budapest

In 23rd of March 2017, LP – IFKA Public Benefit Nonprofit Ltd. for the Development of the Industry organised the second regional stakeholder meeting in Budapest, Hungary to discuss current and future policies connected to social enterprises with the local stakeholders. The diverse composition of the participants' different experiences helped broadening our point of view regarding the policy instruments of EDIOP.

Click [here](#) to visit our website for more information.

About SOCIAL SEEDS Interreg Europe project



Recent years have seen a burgeoning interest in social enterprises (SEs) across Europe, strongly driven by a growing recognition of the role social enterprises can play in tackling emerging challenges.

SOCIAL SEEDS brings together regional and national policymakers committed to drive social change in their respective regions and countries, by improving policy instruments (within the Operational Programmes they own as Managing Authorities).

For more information, please contact the SOCIAL SEEDS Coordinator!

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