Newsletter #1 July 2020



EXECUTIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMME ON SOCIAL INNOVATION 2020 - 2021



The SIED project is a European Executive Education Programme on Social Innovation, co-funded by Erasmus+. The programme offers (junior) managers the opportunity to get to know different European welfare state frameworks and their relevance for new social solutions. The project consists of a specially developed curriculum taking place in four partner locations: Heidelberg, Bilbao, Trier and Oslo. Each of the locations will focus on a specific aspect - depending on the respective research background of the partner organisation and the regional context.

NEWS FROM PARTNERS

//Developing the Curriculum

In the well-rounded Learning, Teaching and Training Activities (LTTAs), the participants will visit four partner locations, each of which will focus on a specific aspect of social innovation. The project partners are currently developing and putting the final touches on the teaching contents that will equip participants to develop a prototype of social innovation up to market launch. Partnering with local social innovators and social entrepreneurs is a crucial element in this process. With a strong focus on practical implementation, valuable knowledge will be provided through theory, development process and exchange with practice partners. The first LTTA is presented by the *University of Heidelberg* in March 2021, and will welcome 10 participants from three different countries. They will be informed in detail about Europe's different welfare systems, as this sets the frame for conditions for social innovations.



//Regional Networks

Social innovation being successful depends to great parts on the regional context it is placed into. An important element of the SIED project is setting up regional networks of social innovators to accompany the LTTAs. All consortium partners are preparing for this by approaching social innovators from the field and inviting them to take part of the LTTA in their own location. This will provide an excellent opportunity to start building a network of social innovators and engage in mutual exchange on social innovation. It enables continued regional and national cooperation, but also strengthens the long-term impact of the curriculum for the participants.

//Database for Social Innovation

A database for European social innovations is being set up by the consortium partners. The included innovation projects cover a wide range, such as health care, social work and community development. An example of this is provided by project partner *VID Specialized University*. They have chosen cases that illustrate a collaborative approach to social services development, such as inclusion of dementia patients into the process of design of a dementia village (Carpe Diem Baerum). Another partner, *Agirre Lehendakaria Center* in Bilbao, are identifying social innovations in the Basque region. One of the innovations, "Etorkizuna Erakiz", was initiated by Gipuzkoa regional government to work alongside citizens in exploring ways to address pressing challenges in the region.

//Applications welcome!

A few places still remain in the Curriculum! Participants from the Eastern parts of Europe are particularly encouraged to present their application, but other applicants are also welcome. Please find more information on our <u>website</u>.

For further information about this project, please get in touch with the project coordinator at the University of Heidelberg or the dissemination partner Eurodiaconia:

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