

Newsletter #2 - December 2019

Dear DelFin Community,

First of all, we wish you a happy and healthy New Year and we look forward to intensifying our cooperation with all those interested in social entrepreneurship in 2020. DelFin project has been pushing the development of the toolbox for promotion of Social Entrepreneurship in rural regions in recent months. Based on identified good practices in each region partners exchanged experiences in interregional workshops and started developing financing and funding tools for social entrepreneurs and enterprises and their business support structures. What has happened in the four regions can be read in our current newsletter.

More Information: www.interreg-central.eu/delfin

## Toolbox for promotion & support of social entrepreneurship

The toolbox for promotion of social entrepreneurship in rural regions focusses on business support structures (e.g. accelerators or incubators) and financing/funding of social enterprises and entrepreneurs. It will show possibilities of existing tools and newly developed or adapted tools for the special needs of social entrepreneurship. Main users will be local and regional public authorities, business support organizations, development agencies and financial institutions. In the spirit of a co-creation approach Stakeholders and other important actors of the regional ecosystem were closely involved in the toolbox development.

**Saxony-Anhalt, Germany:** At a transnational transfer workshop held on December 2, 2019 in Merseburg (Saxony-Anhalt) numerous stakeholders discussed funding for social enterprises in Saxony-Anhalt and developed concrete recommendations for action. To this end, financial and support instruments as well as advisory services were discussed, which are above all suitable for social entrepreneurs in the rural area of Saxony-Anhalt. Francesca Buonanno, representative of the Italian Giacomo Brodolini Foundation, presented a loan program which, in addition to financing, also includes services for social entrepreneurs. Further impetus was provided by presentations on the promotion of social innovation and support for social entrepreneurs in rural areas. The next step is to further develop the discussed approaches and to evolve modules for the toolbox.

**Duga Resa County, Croatia:** Transnational transfer workshop Croatia took place in Zagreb on November 26, 2019. The purpose of the workshop was to provide input for the development of tools and instruments for promoting social entrepreneurship and to discuss their applicability with local stakeholders. The workshop was attended by representatives of good practices from Croatia (ACT Group and Cooperative for Ethical Financing), Germany (Center of Excellence (CoE) social innovation Sachsen-Anhalt) and Italy (Grand Up!). They presented their projects and were engaged in a discussion with local stakeholders, representatives of local and national governments, business support institutions and local social enterprises - on how these tools can be used in the local context.







**Piedmont, Italy:** On December 9, 2019, the Italian partners Finpiemonte and Fondazione Brodolini met the Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Biella, LAG (local action group) of Biella and the social consortium Il filo da tessere to talk about Delfin project. The meeting was very fruitful and provided important hints for the further steps of the project. The stakeholder of Biella are very active in promoting social entrepreneurship in rural areas and they are creating a strong ecosystem supporting social economy. Special thanks to Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Biella, LAG Montagne Biellesi and social consortium Il filo da tessere.

**DelFin in a nutshell - project leaflet published** If you want to get an overview of the project, <u>take a look at our brand new leaflet</u>!



## Upcoming events and activities

- **Regional stakeholder meetings:** Saxony-Anhalt, Magdeburg on January 30, 2020 & Duga Resa County, Croatia in January 2020.
- DelFin Expert and Multiplier Workshop on February 26, 2020 in Debrecen, Hungary: Presentation of DelFin toolbox to relevant stakeholders, experts and multipliers from politics, economic and science from the four partner regions. If you are interested to join, contact Wibke Pörschke, DelFin Lead Partner.
- Impact Conference 2020 The third edition of a unique and first of a kind conference in South-East Europe, this time in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina on 4-6 March 2020. It will be focused on accelerating the effect of social impact the organizing organizations are creating together Brodoto, ACT Group & Mozaik Foundation.
- Impactwise 2020 A new value chain for social impact-An entire day dedicated to sharing and deepening a new vision of the world: building a new value chain for social impact. Turin, January 15, 2020.
- <u>CrowdFundMe Day</u> it is the first major event dedicated to equity crowdfunding, Milan, January 15, 2020.

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Photo 2: Transnational transfer workshop Italy (owner: Finpiemonte Spa)