

Newsletter #12 - April 2022



WHAT'S INSIDE

FINAL CONFERENCE: SUPPORTING THE ECONOMY OF POSITIVE CHANGE

JOINT TRANSNATIONAL STRATEGY



For the past few months, the DelFin team has been working hard on the final phase of our three-year project. Naturally, the most challenging period of the project had to switch to full time online communication and implementation, yet it was a time full of inspiring events, discussions, innovative ideas and challenges. More than a hundred people from all over Central Europe attended our closing conference in March 2022: Supporting the Economy of Positive Change. Find out more about it in the following pages of the last edition of our project newsletter.

We are also happy to announce that you can access our <u>Joint Transnational Strategy</u> on the <u>project website</u>. As we would love for the DelFin toolbox to keep growing even after the official end of the project, don't forget to keep an eye on it and <u>add more tools</u>. In this way, you can help local and regional authorities, business support organisations, development agencies and financial institutions to better support social entrepreneurship in your regions.

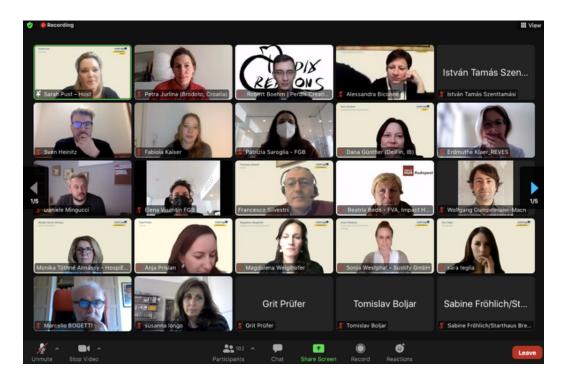
Last but not least, we invite you to learn more about the project and our successful results by watching the video <u>DelFin Project: Supporting Social Enterprises - The Ecosystem Perspective</u>. Share it with your ecosystems, and keep following us on our <u>web page</u> and the DelFin <u>Facebook page</u>.



FINAL CONFERENCE: SUPPORTING THE ECONOMY OF POSITIVE CHANGE

More than a hundred people from all over Central Europe attended the online Social Entrepreneurship Conference 2022 - Supporting the Economy of Positive Change, held on March 23rd 2022.

The conference was organized by two Interreg Central Europe teams, <u>CE RESPONSIBLE</u> and us at <u>DelFin</u> - both supporting social entrepreneurship in their regions and empowering social businesses for powerful collaborations.



Through three thematic sessions, the event has:

involved

- presented and promoted examples of support services for social entrepreneurship in Central Europe,
- presented the tools and models of enhancing policy support of social innovation and entrepreneurship,
- shared stories of successful social entrepreneurs and change makers who are bringing a positive impact to CE regions.



After introductory words by Anja Prislan, <u>E-Zavod</u>, lead partner <u>CE</u> <u>RESPONSIBLE</u>, and Dana Günther, <u>Development Bank of Saxony-Anhalt</u>, lead partner <u>DelFin</u>, and more than ten experts, speakers and social entrepreneurs shared their knowledge and experience in the keynote sessions.

During the first session, we learned about the development & support of responsible entrepreneurship from Sara Teglia, Impronta Etica; Beatrix Bedő, Impact HUB Budapest and Erdmuthe Klaer, Reves Network.

Sara Teglia gave us an insight into how to develop and support socially responsible businesses.

She clarifies the meaning of social responsibility through the example of Impronta Etica, the non-profit organisation she represented. The mission of Impronta Etica is to promote the process toward sustainability at the national Italian and regional European levels, encouraging its members to transform their efforts towards sustainable competitiveness. For Impronta Etica, a sustainable future is the only possible one, and companies must be protagonists of these changes.

"For us, sustainability is a business opportunity and we want to expand this concept through our network. Together with our members, we want to encourage companies to take the lead in understanding and analyzing the context in which we live and to create strategic collaborations.", Mrs Teglia explained.



In the following session, Francesco Silvestri <u>Economia e Ecologia s.r.l.</u>; Madgalena Weiglhofer, <u>Salzburg University of Applied Sciences</u>; Tamás István Szenttamási, <u>IFKA Public Benefit Non-Profit Ltd.</u> for the <u>Development of the Industry</u> and Dana Günther, <u>Development Bank of Saxony-Anhalt</u> shared their views on how tools and models of enhancing policy can support social innovation and entrepreneurship.

Tamas Istvan Szenttamási, international project manager and one of the partners in the DelFin project, presented social business tools in rural areas developed as part of the results of DelFin projects. The toolbox provides practical solutions for public and financial institutions for promoting and supporting social entrepreneurship.

The last session of the conference was dedicated to impacting stories from the perspective of social entrepreneurs and change creators, those that bring a positive impact to Central Europe.

Robert Boehm, CEO of PERDIX Creation, shared an inspiring story about his company, which is dedicated to developing software solutions for the social economy. In cooperation with the children's home in Saxony-Anhalt/Germany, they are developing applications to support the working life of social workers. The latest application they developed is called "EduxBot", robotic programming for the elderly. Their vision is to become THE COMPANY when it comes to digitalization in children-focused social work. To learn about their apps, visit their website.



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Another DelFin positive impact story was presented by Sven Heinitz, from Piemonte Box. The project combines culinary and touristic experiences. The idea is that tourists can have the products they have experienced on their travels delivered to their homes.



JOINT TRANSNATIONAL STRATEGY & LOCAL ACTION PLANS

"Thanks to all the acquired know-how, including the pilot actions and seminars, DelFin project partners have developed a <u>transnational strategy</u> and <u>four regional action plans</u> to generate the promotion of social entrepreneurship in rural areas even with the project officially ending. Both deliverables were recently published and are <u>accessible</u> via the <u>project website</u>.

The strategy was developed to promote social entrepreneurship in rural regions, define visions, and set objectives & priorities involving relevant stakeholders from different policy levels.

It forms the common guiding framework for improving the financial ecosystem and recommends to public authorities some key actions to improve the growth and development of Social Entrepreneurship.

https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/Delfin/DelFin-Transnational-Strategy-.pdf





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