

Towards Collaborative Practice 2016

Forum on Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship

28 Nov - 2 Dec 2016

Lecce - Italy

Call for Participants

A **cross-sector event** exploring the potential of youth work and “Erasmus+” to foster social innovation and entrepreneurship among young people in Europe



This event is funded by the “Erasmus+” EU programme.

Co-organised by the Italian “Erasmus+” National Agency and the SALTO-YOUTH Participation Resource Centre, in collaboration with the Bulgarian, Danish, Hungarian, Maltese, Spanish and UK “Erasmus+” National Agencies.



Erasmus+ is the European Union programme for education, training, youth and sport. The Erasmus+ UK National Agency is a partnership between the British Council and Ecorys UK.



Ministry of Higher Education and Science

Danish Agency for Higher Education

Background of #TCP2016 Forum

The #TCP2016 Forum builds upon the outcomes of the “Towards collaborative practice 2015. European conference on youth work, social innovation and entrepreneurship”¹, organised in Malmö Sweden in November 2015. The conference aimed to explore the potential of youth work to support social innovation and entrepreneurship and to advance collaborative practice. It created a platform to discuss social innovation, entrepreneurship and young people and to map support structures, initiatives, programmes and financial schemes at the national and European levels. The event also aimed to initiate or reinforce cross-sector cooperation and facilitate the sharing of practices and methods useful for social entrepreneurship creation and support. In order to support and enhance cross-sector cooperation, we collaborated with the “Forum for Social Innovation”, Sweden (MSI) and organized the conference jointly and simultaneously with the “Social Innovation Summit”².

One of the most important conclusions of the conference was that cross-sector collaborative practice was indeed the key to successful, sustainable and innovative entrepreneurial projects. The conference also reinforced our belief that the youth work sector needed more examples of social innovation and entrepreneurship practice, projects, success stories/failures, methods and tools to familiarize itself with these concepts, learn from

previous experiences and improve the quality of its projects.

With this in mind, we have decided to take the next step and design the #TCP2016 Forum, an eminently dynamic and interactive event, where participants will be given the floor to give and receive information and inspiration.

The #TCP2016 Forum will be a laboratory of ideas, methods and tools where experienced people, who work in the field of entrepreneurial learning/entrepreneurship/social innovation, will interact with participants on how to make their innovative projects sustainable. Participants will be able to network and initiate international cooperation projects within the youth sector and beyond.

The wider aim of the event is to build a European network of projects, ideas and experiences of social innovation and entrepreneurship, with a particular focus on Erasmus+/Youth in Action opportunities. The forum will be an opportunity to discuss future pathways for social innovation and entrepreneurship, explore new opportunities and build a platform for cooperation on innovative projects and initiatives.

¹ <http://www.collaborativepractice15.com/>

² <http://sisummit.se/>

Objectives

- Create a common understanding of social entrepreneurship and social innovation, and impact creation;
- Facilitate networking and collaboration among participants;
- Offer an opportunity for sharing ideas, tools, methods, challenges and good practices;
- Provide information on Erasmus+ funding opportunities to promote project building to foster social innovation and entrepreneurship.

Target public

We are looking for 100 participants with the following professional backgrounds: associations of cooperatives; employment, entrepreneurship and social innovation support services (Chambers of Commerce, incubators, accelerators, banks, social venture capitalists etc.); formal education representatives; foundations; local and regional administration representatives; policy-makers; researchers; social entrepreneurs; youth workers.

Participation costs will be covered by your Erasmus+ National Agency.

When and where?

The event will take place in Lecce Italy from 28 November to 2 December 2016 (including arrival and departure days).

