

# Social SME Academy



[View this email in your browser](#)



## JOIN OUR SOCIAL CHANNELS!



On 9th and 10th September partners of the project Erasmus+ Social SME met for the last time in Catania. During those 2 days, partners discussed about issues that are still pending, such as the promotion of the 10 video tutorials, that was developed by partnership. Moreover, there was time devoted to share experiences from the training that were conducted in March/April in the partner countries. What is more, Partners expressed their interested in continuation the idea of the Social SME project proposing the possible development of the project concerning social entrepreneurship. So stay tuned!

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

### Good practices for social enterprises Joint Commission and OECD Report

Do not miss the report '**Boosting social enterprise development – Good Practice compendium**' published by the European Commission Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

This compendium derives policy lessons for boosting social enterprises from the analysis of 20 initiatives in several EU member-countries, covering a range of policy areas from legal frameworks, finance, market access, and support structures, to education and skills.

The report, which contains a rich collection of initiatives aimed at **boosting social enterprise developments**, also identifies key lessons, from how to raise awareness and visibility of what social enterprises are and the value they provide, to how to unlock and attract funding better suited to their specific needs.

The Compendium is available to download at this [LINK](#).

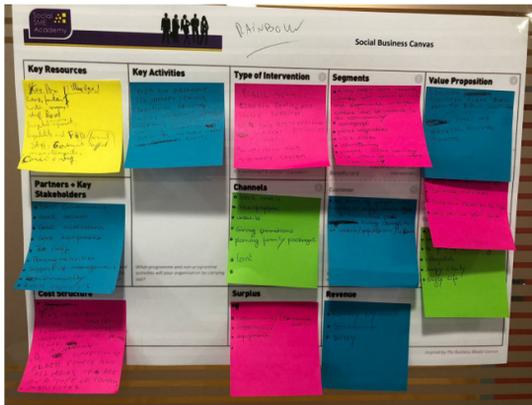


**If you are an aspiring SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS, don't miss the 10 short VIDEO TUTORIALS created by Social SME Academy partners!!**

**It's a set of useful advices and tools explained by our mentor concerning interesting topics about entrepreneurship, social economy and sustainable business.**

**So, what're you waiting for?  
Watch the video and put like ;)**

[WATCH THE VIDEO](#)



### What's happened after the training sessions?

A follow up exercise to the coaching that was completed in each partner's countries with 10 international participants, **skype meetings** were completed with several of the participants to further enhance their **knowledge of social business**, and to answer any outstanding questions that they had regarding the discussions that took place in Birmingham, Lisbon, Catania, Murcia and Lodz.

For example, the **training in Birmingham** consisted of a three day programme, with one of the days spent visiting a student led social enterprise. During the remaining days, the sessions focused on business planning and the **key qualities of a social entrepreneur**, along with discussion on how to maintain a successful social business. Participants then returned home to use their newfound knowledge in their daily lives, knowing that the opportunity of further coaching will be available at a later date.

Several months after the coaching in the UK, offers were sent to the participants whom travelled to Birmingham, containing a feedback form of the training and an offer of a **private coaching session** to further the participant's knowledge, and help with any business planning that they had been doing, or thinking of doing.

Over half of the participants completed the feedback form, explaining that they thoroughly enjoyed the training, with the sessions having a **positive effect** on their daily lives. However, only a small number of the participants accepted the offer of further coaching. With the few who did accept the offer, a private skype meeting was scheduled, and an **agenda** was discussed and agreed beforehand. The private coaching sessions provided a platform whereby participants could ask any **outstanding questions**, and obtain **advice with the planning of their business**, or help with their already created business.

Upon receiving such positive feedback, Bridging to the Future decided that further coaching should be carried out with four more UK participants, ensuring that the training in Birmingham would not be wasted, and instead shared with more aspiring entrepreneurs. Bridging to the future invited four students from Aston University to partake in a short coaching session, containing a mix of the original sessions content, and some of the content from the private sessions. The selected participants had differing levels of knowledge on the subject of social enterprise, with two of the participants already being influential members in respective **student enterprise** activities. Participants explained that they **thoroughly enjoyed** the coaching session, albeit that the session was only **two hours**. All four participants stated that they will use some of the **material shared**, and would partake in a similar session in the future.



This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This communication (newsletter) reflects the views only of the author and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

Project n.:2017-2-UK01-KA205-037097

You can change how you receive these emails?  
You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list.

