

Social Innovation Plus – Competence Centres (SI Plus) Network “Sustainable Development“: 2nd Meeting

Wednesday, 15 February 2023 (online)

Registration link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/joinMeeting/register/tZ0sceggqDwuEtdUSD7JTUeJQPUHmApl0G6u>

Social Innovation (SI) is a useful element of the new innovation framework necessary for sustainable development. SI increases the accountability of measures related to sustainable development and empowers different groups to take part in the green transformation. This is why sustainable development was made one of the thematic networks being implemented in the framework of the SI PLUS project, a project that aims at establishing National Competence Centres for Social Innovation in Austria, Bulgaria, Hungary and Slovakia and at fostering their transnational cooperation.

In the framework of this network, particular emphasis shall be put on the interrelation between **social innovation, green jobs and labour market policy**. Moreover, in the context of the ESF+, green transitions have a crucial role to play when it comes to promoting skills for the green economy and respective re- and upskilling. Education and training systems are at the heart of a greener Europe and sectors related to the environment, climate, energy and circular economy/bioeconomy need the upskilling of the labour force – a need that is already reflected in the major strategies of our time such as the Paris Agreement or the European Green Deal. With the invasion of Russia in Ukraine, energy transition and a related transformation of the labour market have become even more important. In the light of these developments and an ever-changing global socio-economic environment, the concept of social innovation becomes a social reality and at the same time an economic necessity.

With regard to these aspects, the targets of this meeting are the following

- Bring together stakeholders from different fields and start a discussion how the National Competence Centres for Social Innovation integrate sustainable development into their agenda;
- Enhance mutual learning and exchange of experience via examples of projects and initiatives;
- Discuss the opportunities that the green transition entails;
- Establish a discourse on sustainable development in the social innovation scene.

Draft Agenda

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Facilitation: Barbara Willsberger/Jörg Mirtl, L&R Social Research

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09.00	Welcome	Barbara Willsberger/Jörg Mirtl L&R Social Research
09.10	Introduction by the European Commission	Michael Grosse, DG Empl
09.20	Icebreaker	all
Project presentations (for each ~20 minutes presentation, ~10 minutes discussion)		
09.30	ZeroWave and Blagichka - ZERO WASTE	Blazhka Trepetanova BG
10.00	Energy efficiency training for nonprofit organizations and social enterprises	Zsuzsanna Pál HU
10.30	Coffee break	
10.40	Baukarussell	Sonja Zumpfe AT
11:10	Conclusions from the discussion/ questions and answers/	all
11.30	End of the Meeting	Barbara Willsberger/Jörg Mirtl L&R Social Research