

# the Social Newsletter



**Digi-Lance4SE**

Learning Centers for Social Entrepreneurs  
in the digital era

Issue No. 8 • June 2024

## C2 Training Overview



### Participants on Active Learning in Trieste

As part of the Digilance-4-SE project, the trainees/learners who completed the training programme and pilot had the opportunity to engage in transnational learning activities (C2) to further enhance their training experience and widen their knowledge, understanding and expertise in the social entrepreneurship sector. During summer 2024, three blended mobility activities will be held in Italy (Trieste), Ireland (Dublin) and Greece (Athens) hosted by the respective country partners. The international visits, will include active learning, visits to best practice projects, knowledge exchange opportunities, language development and cultural engagement. This will enhance the project objectives of delivering inclusion and promotion of equality of opportunity for our target groups of people from disadvantaged backgrounds with fewer opportunities.

## Project Learners Mobility to Trieste



Group Lunch, Trieste, Italy

### BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

A key outcome of the C2 training is to develop relationships between the countries, partner organisations, staff and participants. Our hosts arranged a number of group meals and activities at the end of the training days, to build relationships. Day 2 included a 'Fab-Lab' digital activity, learning how social enterprise can provide quality digital solutions including 3-d printing.



Group Visit & Experience Event in Fab-Lab Trieste

### CULTURAL OPPORTUNITIES



Collective Cooking Activity – Afghan Cuisine

We encourage participants to take time to get to know each other, practice language skills and learn more about the partnership organisations, taste new foods, and explore places of local interest and of historical and cultural significance. During day 3, we visited an Asylum Welcome Centre, operated by a social enterprise, and we cooked a traditional Afghan meal together.

#### Partners





## BEST PRACTICE VISITS



A number of successful social enterprises are based in the former mental health facility park in Trieste. The vision of local artists and creators who realised the opportunity to repurpose locally available obsolete textiles into quality products such as backpacks and pencil cases. These beautifully constructed products not only provide products with a purpose, they deliver on social value, sustainability and the circular economy whilst providing employment and training support for people from vulnerable groups. A testament to the quality of the product is their most recent commercial contract to supply 2200 bags from recycled textiles including jeans for the upcoming visit of Pope Francis to Trieste. A wonderful project receiving a huge endorsement from the Vatican.

## PRACTICAL ACTIVITY



### FAB LAB TRIESTE

A key feature of the itinerary was practical sessions where participants could have hand-on experiences in a social enterprise. This included creating 3-D printing in a cooperative and group cooking in the migrant centre, supporting the social enterprise which provides wrap around support for unaccompanied minors arriving in Italy seeking asylum.

## PRESENTING the BUSINESS PLANS



A key element of the training programme was the support for participants to nurture the social business idea, working the concept up into a business plan, outlining the legal context and financial planning, to turn the idea into reality. Participants presented their ideas, which included innovative, unique and visionary concepts, with huge potential not only as a business opportunity, but to deliver social value impact and outcomes, supporting disadvantaged groups. The business ideas embraced sustainability, creativity and inclusion. We look forward to updates from the partnership in future months as the ideas move from concept to incubation and ultimately business realisation and trading.

## SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP and SUSTAINABILITY



Visit to Social Enterprise – Repurposing, Recycling & Reusing Textiles and the Social Farm



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Co-funded by  
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