

Better Incubation

By **LIAISE** | Linking Incubation Actors for Inclusive and Social Entrepreneurship

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Overview

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LIAISE objectives

Towards a more inclusive and impact driven approach to innovative entrepreneurship



WHY?

LIAISE aims to kickstart an “eco-systemic” change bringing incubation and business support services closer to the whole society to promote entrepreneurship and self-employment as means to create jobs, develop skills and give unemployed and vulnerable people an opportunity to fully participate in society and the economy.



WHY?

LIAISE will

- mobilise and empower business support organisations (BSOs, including EUBICs, IHUBs, investors for impact) to **grow their capacities and expand their outreach to inclusive and social entrepreneurship**, and
- **help social entrepreneurs and potential entrepreneurs from Under Represented Groups access the available financial tools** and increase the chances of survival and growth of their businesses.



WHY?

Objective 1. **Provide BSOs with adequate knowledge and tools** to pilot incubation programmes for social and inclusive enterprises/would be entrepreneurs

Objective 2. **Stimulate and enhance the diversity/inclusiveness** of business support organisations

Objective 3. **Improving the tracking/performance** of business support organisations

Objective 4. Institutionalize cooperation between EBN, IHUB and EVPA to **stimulate a change in the whole sector and favourite the scaling of impact driven entrepreneurship** across Europe



LIAISE team



WHO? our networks



EBN - European
Business Innovation
Centre Network

Mainstream incubation network



EVPA – European
Venture Philanthropy
Association

**Training and investment readiness’ support
with Social Impact Funds**



IHUB - Impact Hub

**Social entrepreneurship and social economy
incubation network**



WHO? our members

- Need for understanding **how to adapt current services** to better cater for **social/under-represented entrepreneurs**
- Need for **peer-learning and exchange of expertise**
- Need for larger and stronger **partnerships**
- Need for **sharing opportunities for growth** for social and inclusive entrepreneurs
- Need for **addressing societal challenges**

Country	Women	Migrants	Youth	Unemployed	Seniors	Disabled
Austria - 1 organisation(s)						
Belgium - 1 organisation(s)						
Bulgaria - 1 organisation(s)						
Croatia - 1 organisation(s)						
Czech Republic - 2 organisation(s)						
France - 2 organisation(s)						
Germany - 1 organisation(s)						
Greece - 1 organisation(s)						
Hungary - 2 organisation(s)						
Italy - 6 organisation(s)						
Lebanon - 1 organisation(s)						
Netherlands - 1 organisation(s)						
Poland - 1 organisation(s)						
Portugal - 2 organisation(s)						
Romania - 1 organisation(s)						
Serbia - 1 organisation(s)						
Slovakia - 1 organisation(s)						
Spain - 5 organisation(s)						
Sweden - 1 organisation(s)						
Turkey - 1 organisation(s)						
United Kingdom - 2 organisation(s)						

Info collected from 39 EoI received from EBN and IHUB members



WHO? LIAISE Advisory Board

LIAISE Advisory Board will contribute by giving advice to **ensure that the project activities and outputs are aligned to the real requirements and priorities of inclusive and social entrepreneurship support**, taking into consideration the needs of social and under-represented entrepreneurs but also the structures, funding schemes as well as the impact-orientation, value added and innovation component of incubators and other BSOs.

- European Network of Social Integration Enterprises (ENSIE), Patrizia Bussi, Director
- EMES – Research Network for Social Enterprises, Rocío Nogales, Managing Director
- Cooperatives Europe, Agnès Mathis, Director
- Caritas Europa*, Shannon Pfohma, Policy & Advocacy Director



LIAISE target audience(s)



FOR WHOM? incubators and BSOs

Mainstream BSOs and incubators can be excellent promoters of inclusive entrepreneurship if helped to adapt their organisations and services to better respond to the specific needs of entrepreneurs/would be entrepreneurs from under-represented groups.

- **In Y1 activities will be mainly developed with and for networks' members.**
- **In Y2, LIAISE will open its services and opportunities to these organisations. LIAISE received 20 Letters of Support from other BSOs in Europe**



FOR WHOM? social & under-represented entrepreneurs

LIAISE final goal is to prepare and equip BSOs to better serve social and under-represented entrepreneurs in Europe shaping and creating viable and sustainable businesses and accessing funding resources.

- LIAISE will involve entrepreneurs in its activities to get their **“expert” perspective in the Communities of Practice**, so to confront BSOs with their real needs and expectations.
- The piloting dimension of the project aims at **involving 60 entrepreneurs in dedicated incubation and support programmes**.
- The **LIAISE Contest will focus on those companies looking for international scaling opportunities**.



FOR WHOM? policy makers, social actors, funders

LIAISE will involve in its activities other key stakeholders to promote and provoke an ecosystemic change, so that the work done with incubators is integrated in the wider picture and other actors can better understand how BSOs can leverage existing networks, resources and policies, and contribute to shape new ones.

- Policy dialogues at regional and European level are specifically aimed at engaging the wider ecosystem.



LIAISE Project Structure



HOW?

WP1 Capacity Building (M1-18), IHUB > Obj.1

To increase effectiveness of traditional incubators to deliver support programmes for social and URG entrepreneurs; to codify tools and processes to be piloted and implemented by LIAISE networks' members.

WP2 Cultural Paradigm Shift (M12-24), EBN > Obj.2 and 4

To release the Better Incubation Chart; to promote multi-stakeholders dialogues across Europe; to share learning outcomes and recommendations.

WP3 Monitoring Assessment Learning (M1-22), IHUB > Obj. 3

To develop a shared assessment framework to measure and assess impact of incubation programmes, to be further implemented.

WP4 Dissemination and Stakeholders Mobilisation (M1-24), EBN > Obj. 1, 2 ,4

Ensure smooth communication across the 3 networks; disseminate outcomes of LIAISE through practical and engaging materials; support transfer of good practices across Europe.

+WP5 Coordination (M1-24), EBN

To ensure that the results and processes of the project are delivered on time, on budget and with the quality stipulated by the EC.



WHAT? Actions

- **Identifying and collecting existing knowledge as well as building new one** on the barriers, needs and facilitating factors for the provision of business support services to social and under-represented entrepreneurs
- **Capacity building activities aimed to expand BSOs' outreach capacities** providing them with methodologies, practices and tools to first attract and then **provide specialised business development support to social and under-represented entrepreneurs..**
- **Pilot actions aimed at validating learnings** from the previous activities through incubation experiences, and **providing BSOs with clear assessment frameworks** for monitoring, managing and improving the impact of their programmes and services.
- **Enabling and fostering connections among inclusive and social entrepreneurship actors, including multi-stakeholders' dialogues** raising awareness about the potential of social and inclusive entrepreneurship for creating and scaling up sustainable business models, consolidating companies and promoting employment in the European regions.
- **Setting-up long-term collaborations** among the members of the consortium networks and the networks themselves to sustain the methods and tools created and tested under LIAISE.



WHAT? Outputs

- The creation of **5 international Communities of Practice**
- The development and implementation of **12 training sessions and training materials**
- The definition of a clear **impact monitoring and assessment framework** for incubation programmes.
- **60 social and under-represented entrepreneurs/would be entrepreneurs supported/incubated**
- **3 social entrepreneurs internationally scaled** thanks to the LIAISE Contest initiative
- The delivery of **15 regional policy dialogues and a European workshop**
- The creation of **engaging dissemination materials** (10 videos, 5 infographics) and **communication campaigns**.
- The organisation of a series of **8 online and 4 in person events**
- The organisation of the first **EBN Social and Inclusive Incubation Lab**
- The release of **LIAISE Better Incubation Chart**, outlining the principles and key assessment criteria on impact-driven and inclusive incubation.



WHEN?

Gantt Chart LIAISE Project		2021												2022											
		jan	feb	mar	apr	may	jun	jul	aug	sep	oct	nov	dec	jan	feb	mar	apr	may	jun	jul	aug	sep	oct	nov	dec
		M1	M2	M3	M4	M5	M6	M7	M8	M9	M10	M11	M12	M13	M14	M15	M16	M17	M18	M19	M20	M21	M22	M23	M24
WP1	T1.1 LIAISE Communities of Practice			M1.1*	Δ*	D1.1* M1.2	D1.2	D1.3						D1.4		D1.5			Δ	D1.6	D1.7				
	T1.2 LIAISE Capacity Building				Δ		Δ		Δ		Δ		Δ	Δ D1.8 M1.3	Δ	Δ D1.9	Δ	Δ	Δ	Δ	D1.10				
WP2	T2.1 LIAISE Exploitation Plan																		Δ*		M2.1			D2.1	
	T2.2 Regional Policy Workshops													Δ	Δ	Δ	Δ	Δ	Δ	Δ	Δ	Δ	Δ	Δ	D2.2
	T2.3 EU Policy Workshop																						M2.2		Δ D.2.3
WP3	T3.1 Development of a data collection framework		Δ*	Δ M3.1		D3.1																			
	T3.2 Implementing data collection & analysis						D3.2							M3.2										D3.3	
WP4	T4.1 Development of LIAISE CDM Strategy		D4.1	M4.1																					
	T4.2 Implementation of LIAISE CDM Strategy			M4.2												D4.2								M4.3	D4.3
	T4.3 LIAISE Online Inspirational Programme													Δ*	Δ	Δ	Δ*	Δ	Δ	Δ			Δ	D4.4	
	T4.4 LIAISE Contest																				M4.4				D4.5
	T4.5 LIAISE Final Conference																						M4.5		Δ
WP5	T5.1 Project Management	Δ				Δ*				Δ*				Δ*	D5.1				Δ						D5.2
	T5.2 Quality Assurance		D5.3																						
	T5.3 Project Monitoring				D5.4	M5.2*				M5.2*									M5.2						

Δ = in person events

Δ = online events

D = deliverable

M = milestone



LIAISE OPPORTUNITIES FOR EBN MEMBERS (ZOOM IN)



LIAISE CoPs > EBN memebtrs, Experts, UREs

LIAISE offers **experiential learning opportunities** to European BSOs, which will have the possibility to engage and work with peers, social actors, entrepreneurs from vulnerable groups and experts in thematic Communities of Practices(CoPs).

The CoPs represent a unique opportunity today in Europe to **exchange practical knowledge on how to best support entrepreneurs and would-be entrepreneurs from Under Represented Groups (URG).**

Animated by LIAISE partners, the CoPs aim at connecting “unusual partners” to dive in into different dimensions of inclusive entrepreneurship:

- ★ 5 thematic CoPs targeting 5 vulnerable groups: **women, migrants/refugees, people with disabilities, youth and senior.**
- ★ Formed by **7 individuals**: 4 representing members of IHUB and EBN, 1 representing Caritas Europa, and 2 external participants (entrepreneurs from the underrepresented group the CoP is working on, or experts on the subject more broadly).
- ★ Participants will be selected either because of their **direct expertise - built through their past or current work with the group - or because of their clear commitment to engage in the future with the thematic group.**



LIAISE CoPs > EBN memebtrs, Experts, UREs

Expected commitment: Monthly 1,5 hours long calls from May 2021 until May 2022 (excluding summer break: July and August 2021) + preparation and knowledge sharing in between according to the phase of the CoPs

Additional requirement: attending 2 Bootcamps:

First bootcamp virtually at the beginning of the CoPs in April 2021 (1 day), second bootcamp in June 2022 in person (2-3 days).

The deadline for applications is the March 21 EOD CET. Please make sure that you will be available on April 16 for the full day (online), to participate in the Bootcamp.

Member of the EBN Network

•[Call for Application](#) - [you can also find the full document below](#)

•[Application Form](#)

Expert

•[Call for Application](#) - [you can also find the full document below](#)

•[Application Form](#)

Entrepreneur from an under-represented group (URG)

•[Call for Application](#) - [you can also find the full document below](#)

•[Application Form](#)



LIAISE Foundational Course on Social Entrepreneurship

- Foundational course of 5 on-line modules on Social Entrepreneurship (M4-6-9-10-11)
 - 10 days of one to one coaching for EBN network
 - One in-depth training on impact measurement by EVPA (M12)
1. Social Entrepreneurship: Forms, Definitions and Business Models
 2. Programme Design and Delivery
 3. Impact Measurement and Management
 4. Communicating Impact
 5. Funding Instruments



The Social Economy Action Plan

The EC has launched the open consultation for the Social Economy Action Plan 2021

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12743>



Open Call - EIC Women Leadership Programme: call for mentors

The European Innovation Council (EIC) is launching a full-fledged impactful Women Leadership Programme (WLP) for women entrepreneurs and researchers supported by the EIC (Accelerator & Pathfinder), as well as Women TechEU beneficiaries. To this end, the EIC is looking for motivated and experienced entrepreneurs, investors, innovators and senior managers to join the programme as mentors.

<https://community-smei.easme-web.eu/articles/open-call-eic-women-leadership-programme-call-mentors>





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