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EMPLOYMENT & SOCIAL **INNOVATION CALLS FOR PROPOSALS UNDER ESF+**

Cristina POJOGA, EaSI National Contact Point - Romania 27 March 2024



Funded by the European Union





DIRECT MANAGEMENT European Commission

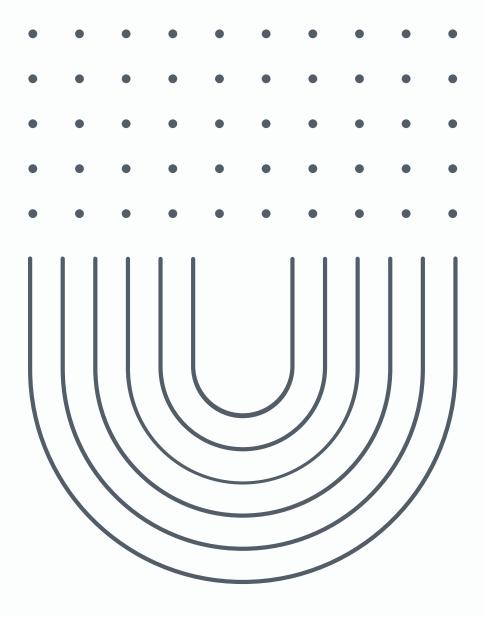
Employment and Social Innovation **(EaSI)** strand – € 762 million

SHARED MANAGEMENT EC + Member States

National ESF+ funded programmes – € 95.1 billion

INDIRECT MANAGEMENT ESFA as entrusted entity by EC

Social Innovation Plus **(SI+)** – €197 million



ABOUT ESF+



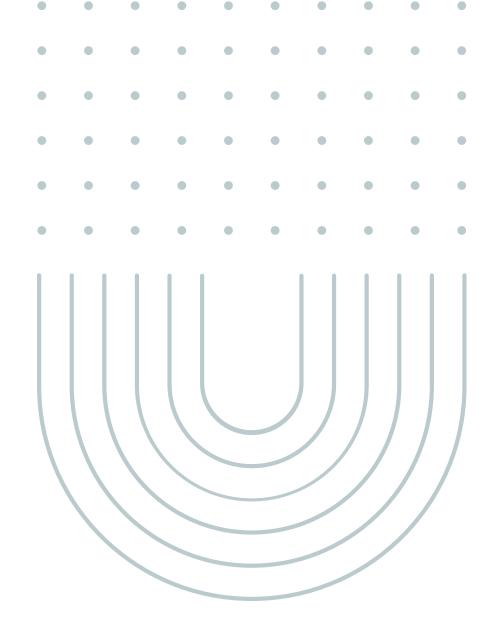
Employment

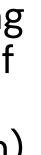
NEETs, long-term unemployment, mobility, migrants & refugees, upskilling and reskilling



Social innovation

Social finance & impact investing support, scaling-up & transfer of social innovations (ex. homelessness, social integration), support for social economy and microfinance institutions, capacity & knowledge building



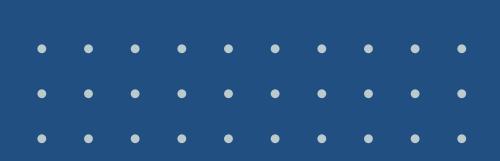


TOPICS

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Innovative Approaches to Mitigate the Societal Consequences of Russia's War of Aggression Against Ukraine within EU Countries

KEY ELEMENTS



CALL OBJECTIVES

To support **transnational projects** which aim at **transferring or scaling up of social innovations.**

Main focus:

- Integration and social inclusion of refugees fleeing Ukraine;
- Mitigation of the consequences of the crisis on Member States' societies and their public services





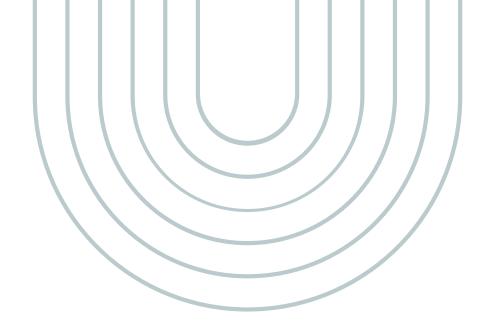
Using social innovations to transform the refugee situation into opportunity

a) Employment and skills

- An approach grounded in multi-stakeholder partnership;
- Multi-layered labour integration models/one-stop-shop approach;
- Recognition of the importance of socio-cultural environment for the adaptation to the local environment;
- Elimination of exclusion factors and catering for specific needs, including consideration of the socio-cultural background of a target group;
- Reinforcement of self-employment;
- Provision of customised employment counselling and mentoring.



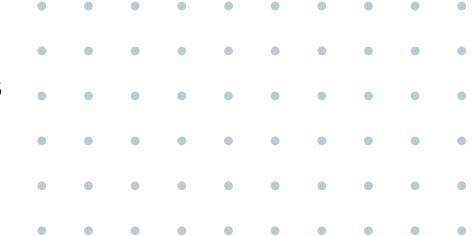


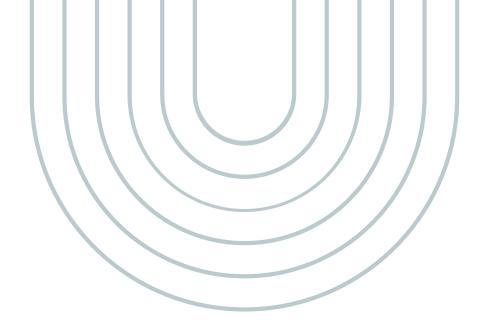


Using social innovations to transform the refugee situation into opportunity

b.1) Social inclusion – Housing

- Exploration of alternative housing approaches that overcome the limitations of ownership and for-profit renting.
- Transitory or intermediary housing options, such as transitional and community housing.
- 'Housing First' strategies that provide permanent housing solutions as a foundation upon which other support services can be built.
- Implementation of co-operative and community-based housing solutions.
- Establishing multi-functional reception and neighbourhood centres for refugees to mitigate the risk of social isolation.



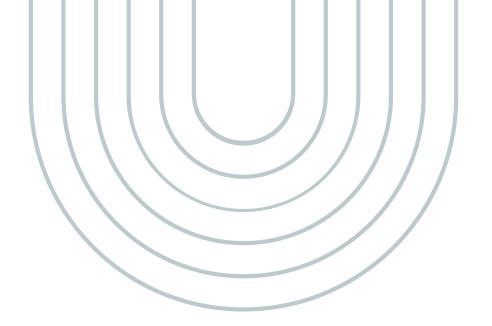


Using social innovations to transform the refugee situation into opportunity

b.2) Social inclusion – Access to social services

- Administrative simplification, through the introduction or further development of 'one-stop-shops' for social services or the introduction of case management instruments.
- Review and adaptation of social service structures at local, regional, national and international levels.
- Facilitation of access to healthcare, including specialised mental health services.
- Enhancement of support for family and childcare, with an on inclusive education for refugee children.

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Using social innovations to transform the refugee situation into opportunity

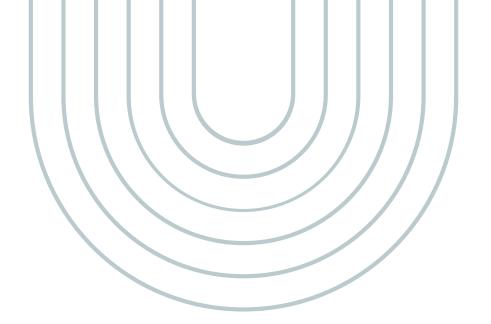
b.3) Social inclusion - Support mechanisms

- Facilitation of access to digital resources.
- Adjustable and adaptive support mechanisms. An adjustable support system could offer customised aid packages.

b.4) Social inclusion – Encouraging the commitment of the local population

- Active involvement from refugees and local communities.
- Promotion of cultural and linguistic understanding.
- Engaging diaspora-led initiatives to further enhance support and integration efforts.

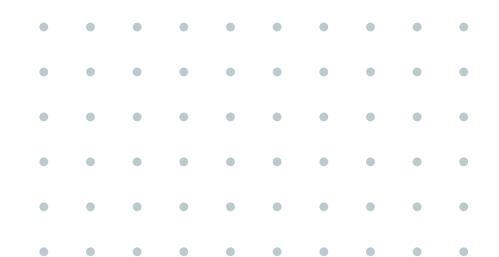


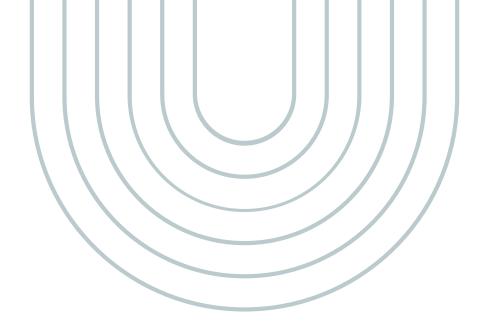


Using social innovations to mitigate the effects of the crisis

a) Tackling energy poverty

- Creation of energy communities and cooperatives.
- Promotion of renewable energy projects.
- Promotion of circular economy practices in energy production and consumption.
- Support for the social economy sector in expanding energy resilience initiatives

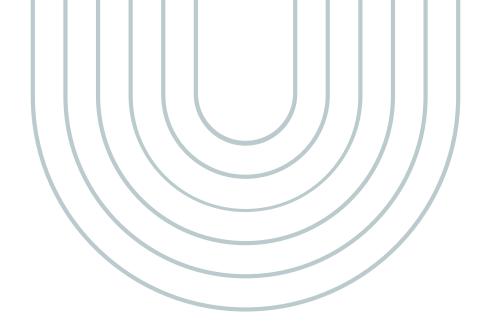




Using social innovations to mitigate the effects of the crisis

b) Tackling the purchasing power crisis

- Promotion of urban and community farming initiatives to enhance local food security.
- Promotion of sharing economy models in communities.
- Creation of digital platforms that connect small producers directly to consumers.
- Developing and promoting supply chain models that reduce waste, ensure fair compensation for producers, and provide affordable prices for consumers.



Using social innovations to mitigate the effects of the crisis

c) Experimenting more inclusive social services

- Establishment of single-entry points to access a range of social services.
- Use of 'simple language' in administrative documents and public visual communication.
- Creation of multi-disciplinary teams that offer a range of services, from healthcare to psychological support, all under one roof.



ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- 1) Assessment of the existing evidence and building foundation of a new approach/model
- 2) Mapping, engaging and empowering stakeholders
- 3) Piloting and monitoring
- 4) Dissemination and continuity
- 5) Participation in mutual learning events





ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS

- Only Consortia can apply
- The consortium must include an applicant (the coordinator) and at least one co-applicant
- The members of the consortium shall represent at least two different EU Member States.
- An entity may participate as the coordinator only in one consortium under this call



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Legal entities established and registered in the EU Member States are eligible as applicants or co-applicants and associated partners:

O1. NON-GOVERNMENTAL AND NON-FOR-PROFIT ENTITIES

- **02.** NATIONAL, LOCAL, AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES
- **O3**. PUBLIC ENTITIES



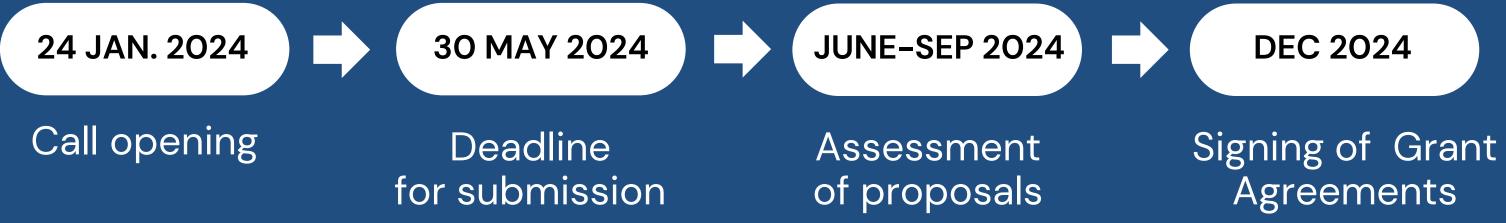
PRIVATE COMPANIES (INCLUDING 05. CONSULTANCY AND SERVICE **PROVIDERS)**.

Natural persons - not eligible.

International organisations and EU-wide networks only as associated partners

ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS

TIMELINE



Agreements

SIZE OF GRANT

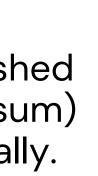
Between 200,000 Eur and 700,000 Eur per project, constituting not more than 80% of the project's total budget

At least 20% of project's budget. It is allowed that only one beneficiary contributes to the project. Also, co-financing may be distributed between all beneficiaries.

FORM OF GRANT

Lump sum grant. Amounts of lump sums to be established for the whole project (the total lump sum) and per each work package individually.

CO-FINANCING



AVAILABLE BUDGET 01. 22 mil. EUR 02. **GRANTING AUTHORITY** ESFA – esf.lt 03. **ELIGIBLE COSTS**

- Direct personnel costs Employees (or equivalent)
- Travel and subsistence per travel or day
- Other goods, works and services
- Indirect costs a flat rate of 7% of the total eligible direct costs.

 $\mathbf{04}$ SUBMISSION

Online via <u>eSINNIS</u>

 $\mathbf{05}$ **OFFICIAL CALL PAGE** Click <u>here</u>



OTHER INFO



CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Actions to develop impact performance intelligence services for the social impact investing market actors

SHORT OVERVIEW





Aim: Promote informed and better investment decisions, greater market transparency, and performance benchmarking, with the objective to promote investments in social purpose entities (social enterprises, social start-up, impact firms, etc.) through **enhanced data capabilities services, and impact management tools and practices**

Submission: 27 March 2024 – 04 July 2024

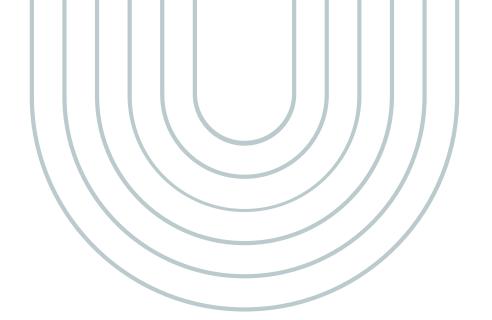
Eligible participants: Consortiums of at least 2 applicants (beneficiaries; not affiliated entities):

- At least one applicant a research centre or entity affiliated with a University;
- At least one applicant a private or public investor or a support organisation
- The consortium must be made up of applicants based in at least two different eligible countries



See details on Funding & Tenders Portal

affiliated with a University; r a support organisation ed in at least two different eligible



INSPIRATION & RESOURCES

- <u>Scaling-up Social Innovation</u> (publication, EC, 2022)
- <u>Social Experimentation</u> (publication, EC, 2022)
- Social Innovation Match (case studies database, EC/ESFA)

* The publications are also available in RO on fonduri-easi.ro.



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