

# Social Entrepreneurship & Sustainable Development

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Social entrepreneurship and the social/solidarity economy are growing areas of interest and activity with varying interpretations across partner countries. The European Commission has identified this sector as a key area of growth that has the potential to solve many of the challenges faced across Europe and particularly youth unemployment. To enable young people to engage in the social and solidarity sector we need more organisations supporting young people to obtain the necessary skills and competences to deliver entrepreneurial training/activities.

Recently we conducted a number of consultations with young people who have participated in our previous projects looking at youth entrepreneurship and social entrepreneurship, including planning meetings and surveys. The main findings were that:

Young people felt they lacked fundamental business skills, often this was linked to a lack of self-confidence;

There was a poor awareness of how business could be used to tackle social and environmental problems;

Young people were unlikely to consider themselves as having entrepreneurial qualities or skills and entrepreneurship is one of the eight key competences for lifelong learning.

## AIMS:

- To help youth workers/youth leaders to raise awareness in young people about the entrepreneurial potential of their Erasmus+ projects (in particular youth initiatives).
- To support young people to develop their understanding and competences in the field of entrepreneurial learning.

## OBJECTIVES:

- To clarify the meaning of youth entrepreneurship in different cultures and countries;
- To identify potential benefits of entrepreneurial learning in the Erasmus+ Programme;
- To present case studies with entrepreneurial follow-up measures in Erasmus+ projects;
- To share tools and methods to encourage and prepare young people to undertake entrepreneurial activities as a follow-up of their “Erasmus+” project;

## ACTIVITIES PROGRAMME