



**SOCIAL
INNOVATION
COMMUNITY**



Using social innovation policy approaches to help cities and regions realise the potential of the European Pillar of Social Rights

16 April 2018

Committee of the Regions, Rue Belliard 101 (room JDE52), B-1040 Brussels

Background

At the recent New Era of Social Innovation conference in Lisbon, President Juncker noted that social innovation is essential to the future of a more resilient, social Europe. Following the official proclamation of the European Pillar of Social Rights, the time is ripe to explore how the goals and aspirations it sets out can be translated into real impact on the ground.

Cities and regions are among the most fertile contexts for social innovation and experimentation. Many important themes such as collaborative citizenship and collaborative institutions, smart and participatory planning and budgeting have all converged at the city and regional level. Furthermore, cities and regions in Europe have been actively looking for new ways to engage and work with citizens, entrepreneurs, social economy and SI actors to tackle goals as diverse as widening social inclusion, improving employment opportunities for young people, and creating better supports for disadvantaged communities.

In this one-day interactive event, key city and regional public representatives - together with civil society, social economy organizations, universities and other players - will have the occasion to:

- **INSPIRE/LEARN:** Build on and learn from the experiences of cities/regions that have used experimental social innovation policy approaches to tackle a range of issues relevant to the Pillar such as fairer and more inclusive employment, access to services for different parts of the population, equal opportunities...
- **TRANSLATING THE PILLAR INTO PRIORITY ACTION AREAS:** Identify a range of topics where social innovation approaches could have the greatest impact in supporting the Pillar
- **CREATING AN ENABLING PLATFORM:** Identifying the kinds of partnerships, supports, resources and buy-in needed to effectively launch an SI Action Plan in a city or region

The conference will also be the occasion to launch the SIC Pool of practice on social innovation in public policies of cities and regions aimed at supporting Cities and Regions across the EU to pursue practical actions - building on social innovation principles and experimental approaches - that can help achieve the goals of the Pillar.

Draft Programme

9.30 Welcome and introductory remarks

Moderator: Jan Olsson, REVES

- Marcelle Hendrickx, member of the Committee of the Regions (tbc)
- Marie-Christine Vergiat, MEP (tbc)
- Lambert van Nistelrooij, MEP

Innovation in/through design, experimentation and implementation of strategies, action plans and policies

10.00 Employment/Fair working conditions

Moderator: Marie Zvólska, EESC (tbc)

- ⇒ France, Lille Métropole: Territoires Zéro Chômeur de Longue Durée – Zero Long-Term Unemployed Zones
- ⇒ Spain, Navarra region: Social Innovation Unit/Strategy for social enterprise
- ⇒ Croatia: City of Zagreb (tbc)

Q&A

10.45 h Coffee break

11.00 Social Protection and Inclusion

Moderator: Francesca Rizzo, University of Bologna

- ⇒ Italy, City of Brescia: Alternative to public procurement
- ⇒ Poland, City of Gdynia: Development of Territorial Quality Standards for Social Services

Q&A

11.45 Equal Opportunities

Moderator: Yoomi Renström, member of the Committee of the Regions (tbc)

- ⇒ Belgium, Brussels-Capital Region: Community Land Trust
- ⇒ Spain, Barcelona: Decidim Barcelona/FabCity (tbc)

Q&A

12.30 Lunch

13.30 -15.15 World Café Discussions (with the participation of the presenters of the morning session)

15.15 Coffee break

15.45 Restitution of the results of world café discussions

16.15 Panel discussion: Experimentation as a way to reconnect bottom-up solutions and top-down policy making

Moderator: Anders Bro, Örebro county region (SE)

- Stevie Lavery, City of Belfast (IR) (tbc)
- Manuela Geleng, Acting Director (Directorate C), DG Employment (tbc)
- Wallis Goelen-Vandebroek, Head of Unit, Competence Centre, Inclusive Growth, Urban and Territorial Development, DG REGIO (tbc)
- Emmanuel Moulin, URBACT Secretariat (tbc)
- Kélig Puyet, Director, Social Platform (tbc)

17.00 Conclusions by SIC partners, including launch of the SIC pool of practices on social innovation in public policies of cities and regions

Interpretation from/into English and French

Hosted by



**European Committee
of the Regions**



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme.