

Building capacities for bottom-up social innovation in regional development

Workshop

10th October 2017
at 14:00 h

at the
EKD premises
Rue Joseph II, 166
1000 Brussels



Social innovation is a source of growth and jobs in European regions, and has conquered policy and strategy papers as a buzzword. Often enough though, the potential and dynamics of social innovation initiatives evaporate. Regional efforts to strengthen the social innovation sector remain rootless and without a tangible frame if they are not aligned with the actual needs of the users.

But what happens when social innovation meets practice, when social innovation is framed by concrete project work? This workshop offers the opportunity to explore one specific aspect of social innovation introduced by SEMPRE, a project co-financed by the EU through the Interreg Baltic Sea Region Programme.

SEMPRE (Social Empowerment in Rural Areas of the Baltic Sea Region) applies an EMPOWERMENT and CO-DESIGN approach addressing the issue of user involvement in social service design, production and delivery. The project aims to develop, test and evaluate empowerment tools which benefit users and service providers. Furthermore, it intends to enter into a dialogue with policy makers about shaping the environment needed in order to implement innovative models of social service provision. Hear more and join our workshop and discussion with researchers, decision-makers and practitioners.

Please note that the workshop will be held in English. The workshop will start with a sandwich lunch. We are looking forward to your participation.

OKR'in Katrin Hatzinger
Büro der EKD in Brüssel

OKR' in Katharina Wegner
Diakonie Deutschland

Landespastor Heiko Naß
Diakonisches Werk Schleswig-Holstein

We kindly ask you to register by 29th September 2017 via e-mail to alessandra.haucke@ekd.eu

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Programme

- 14.00 – 14.30** **Sandwich lunch**
- 14.30 – 14.40** **Welcome**
[Katharina Wegner](#), Head of the EU-Office, Diakonie Deutschland
- 14.40 – 15.10** **Academic impulse**
Empowering institutions to empower people – Theoretical Reflections
[Ilse Vandenberckt](#), UC Leuven-Limburg
- 15.10 – 15.30** **SEMPRE – Empowerment for Social Innovation in Rural Areas**
[Doris Scheer](#), Lead Partner, Diakonie Schleswig-Holstein
- 15.30 – 16.00** **Micro projects make a Difference – Working with Empowerment**
[Cläre McDaniel](#), LEN Dithmarschen/ Germany, Diakonisches Werk Schleswig-Holstein
[Helen Nilsson](#), LEN Norrbotten/ Sweden, Coompanion
- 16.00 – 16.30** **Outlook**
Social Innovation in Regional Development – challenges and opportunities for policy makers and service providers
Interview with [Dr. Katharina Erdmenger](#), Head of Division, European Spatial Development Policy/Territorial Cohesion, Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure
- 16.30 – 17.00** **Q&A session with all speakers and audience**
- 17.00** **Workshop Wrap-up**
- Moderation [Ulrike Truderung](#), Policy Officer for EU Funds, Protestant Church in Germany (EKD), The Representative of the Council, Brussels Office