

WG2 Meeting

Higher Education Institutions (HEI), Social change and transformation

University of Iceland

Reykjavik

The 26th – 27th of May 2023

Agenda

- WG2 Deliverables
- WG2 Key achievements
- Workshop format
- Future actions

Participants

Muhammet BERİGEL (Turkey)

Daniel GABALDÓN-ESTEVEAN (Spain)

Steinunn HRAFNSDÓTTIR (Iceland)

Vladislav KAPUTA (Slovakia)

Katri-Liis LEPIK (Estonia)

Mary MCDONNELL-NAUGHTON
(Ireland)

David PARKS (UK)

Carmen PĂUNESCU (Romania)

Yulia STUKALINA (Latvia)

Fernando TEJERINA GAITE (Spain)

Davorka VIDOVIC (Croatia)

Deliverables and timeframe

Review the existing **higher education institutions policy labs** and relevant input for the Pan-European Public Sector Innovation (ePSI) Lab (month 35)

Review the components of the **social entrepreneurship eco-system** and how it relates to higher education institutions (month 35)

Analyze of **innovative approaches** adopted by the **voluntary and community sector** in supporting social change, transformation and impact (month 35)

Review of access to **financial models** including social finance, social investment bonds, corporate volunteering, social philanthropy, and micro-finance (month 35)

Analyze the innovative contribution of **higher education institutions' partnerships** in supporting social change, transformation and impact (month 35)

Policy recommendations

Key achievements

- Collection of country reports on social innovation policies, support structures, education and social innovation hubs and labs:
<https://socialchangelab.eu/an-international-policy-review-identifying-the-nature-of-multi-disciplinary-innovation-social-entrepreneurship-and-social-innovation/>
- Springer book “Social Innovation in Higher Education. *Landscape, Practices, and Opportunities*”: <https://www.springer.com/gp/book/9783030840433>
- Special issue of Management & Marketing. Challenges for the Knowledge Society:
<https://sciendo.com/issue/MMCKS/17/s1>
- More: <https://socialchangelab.eu/outcomes/>

Workshop format

- Introduction of cases: 5-7 min/ participant *(11:15-13:00)*

- Small group discussion and work: *(14:00-15:30)*
 - What impact innovations are we seeing in HEIs?
 - What financing mechanisms/ instruments for impact innovations are we seeing/using in HEIs?
 - What evidence of impact (educational, social, environmental) are we aware of in HEIs?
 - What non-monetary support and networks for the dissemination of impact innovations exist there for HEIs?

Workshop format

- Small group presentations: *(15:30-16:00)*
 - Review the results of your group work and report back to the larger audience
- Small group discussion and work: *(16:15-17:30)*
 - Formulate recommendations to structure an impact investment strategy in HEIs
- Reflection point: *(17:30-18:00)*
 - Each participant introduces an action/ component of the impact investment strategy in HEIs

First article proposal

Research theme: **Impact investment and higher education**

Main investigator: Carmen Păunescu

Problem: Urge for universities to invest in impact-driven initiatives and become more environmentally and socially responsible

Aim: To understand how HEIs can effectively catalyse key stakeholders and new sources of funding to develop and implement impact innovations

Questions:

How does impact investment relate to higher education?

- teaching approaches focusing on developing skills that help individuals rebuild their society
- research and innovation funding focusing on delivering economic growth, social and cultural impact and environmental sustainability.

How can HEIs clearly showcase the impact of their skills development and knowledge exchange activities?

Second article proposal

Title: **Community engagement and higher education**

Main investigator: Mary McDonnell-Naughton

Aim: What and how can HEIs learn from voluntary and community sector in supporting social change, transformation and impact

Publication opportunities

Journal of Social Policy (a Scopus Journal):

<http://www.rsp.hr/ojs2/index.php/rsp/about/editorialPolicies>

Management and Marketing. Challenges for Knowledge Society (a Scopus and WoS Journal):

https://content.sciendo.com/view/journals/mmcks/mmcks-overview.xml?language=en&tab_body=overview

Others? What kind?

Further thoughts and future actions

- Compile the case studies collected on **Mapping higher education programmes supported by social finance and community engagement** in a report.
- Develop policy recommendations.