

ACCIÓ



RaiSE

Enhancing social enterprises competitiveness through improved business support policies

Seventh interregional meeting in Brussels

Project Meeting Report

17 – 18 June 2019

Delegation of the Government of Catalonia to the European Union
(Rue de la Loi 227, Brussels)

OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT MEETING IN BRUSSELS

BACKGROUND

The seventh interregional meeting of the RaiSE project took place in Brussels and integrated the internal management meeting (Monday 17th June 2019) and the interregional exchange final conference (Tuesday 18th June 2019), during which the six action plans of the project were presented.

Monday 17th June 2019: Internal management meeting (project partners only)

Clàudia Danesi, Juan Luis Aparicio and Paula Santarén (ACCIÓ) welcomed the RaiSE project partners in the Delegation of the Government of Catalonia to the European Union (Rue de la Loi 227, Brussels) and explained them in detail the current status of the project and the next steps:

Financial management and reporting

- Progress Report 4:
 - The ERDF transfer to partners will be made during the first week of July 2019.
- Progress Report 5 and closure of Phase 1:
 - PR5 Period 01/01/2019 – 30/06/2019 Submission to LP 02/09/2019.
 - 313,231 € (21% of total budget) to be reported according to the application form.
 - iOLF:
 - Excel file: to be sent to the LP just before submitting PR to the FLC, to solve possible errors.
 - Costs description: every item or expense has to be explained in detail, even staff costs.
- Mid-term review March 2019:
 - Phase 2 activities are pre-defined and already budgeted, shifting budget from phase 1 to phase 2 is usually not accepted, unless:
 - Financing of a pilot action.
 - Covering costs for activities of phase I that could not be paid by the end of phase I (Delayed payments).
 - Underspending: Possible deviations from the forecast of budget performance for Phase I sent to JS will imply a budget reduction proportional to the underspending.
- Delayed payments:

- For example: travel and accommodation costs of Brussels meeting, incurred in June 2019 but paid in July 2019.
- Inform LP on the exact amount of delayed payments from Semester 5 that will be reported on PR6 by 27/09/2019. LP will send a template to the partners to be fulfilled. LP with all the data will provide the information to JS.
- Pilot actions:
 - Deadline to submit to the JS 30/06/2019.
 - IFKA is the only partner that wants to present a pilot action (amount between 30,000 and 80,000 €). LP asks IFKA to send a copy of the pilot action sent to JS.
- Phase 2:
 - It is like a new project but with a small budget (13.7% RaiSE total budget). Budget change – 20% flexibility rule still applies.
 - Reporting Periods:
 - PR6 Period 01/07/2019 – 30/06/2020 Submission to LP 01/09/2020.
 - PR7 Period 01/07/2020 – 30/06/2021 Submission to LP 31/05/2021.

Project management

- Main outputs in Semester 5: 9 policy learning events organised, 3 good practices identified, 6 action plans developed and 8 appearances in media.
- Main activities for June-July:
 - Final Action Plans: the final versions have to be sent to ZSI/ACCIÓ before 28/06/2019. ACCIÓ will prepare a nice design & send it to the JS for revision at the beginning of July. The JS will send feedback during Summer and afterwards we should modify Action Plans accordingly.
 - Indicator “Increased Professional Capacity”: the template can be translated into the own languages and answers should be sent to ACCIÓ before 31/07/2019.
- Phase 2 context: monitoring the implementation of action plans & the policy changes resulting from this implementation.
- Phase 2 activities:

We will...	We won't...
<p>Monitor our AP pro-actively:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ensure regular contact with our stakeholders to follow-up the implementation of the actions. ✓ If relevant, contact the final beneficiaries of the actions to assess the effects of the implementation. ✓ Bilateral meetings LP-PP. 	<p>Celebrate stakeholder meetings (unless it is included in the Action Plan and it doesn't involve RaiSE budget).</p>
<p>Disseminate news and achievements of the project: articles, videos, pictures...</p>	<p>Exchange experiences "officially" (no study visits, no identification of good practices).</p>
<p>Participate in project meetings and Interreg Europe annual events.</p>	<p>Invite stakeholders to the project meetings (there is no budget for this in Phase 2).</p>

- The following round of Bilateral Skype meetings, which are useful to check on project's progress and facilitate the task of writing the reports, will take place in December 2019.
- The advisory partner ZSI will have the Phase 1 Analysis Reports ready by 28/06/2019.

Next project meetings

- RaiSE project proposal defines 3 different meetings: 1 project meeting in S7, 1 high-level political dissemination event in S8 and 1 project meeting in S9.
- The LP proposes to celebrate 2 meetings instead of 3: 1 project meeting in Barcelona in S7, and the high-level political dissemination event + project meeting in Barcelona in S9. The LP will submit this proposal to the JS.
- Participation of stakeholders: LP will ask on the possibility of participation of stakeholders during the Phase 2 meetings under RaiSE budget.

Communication

- RaiSE website: we had 1.074 sessions in Semester 4, so we reached our goal of 1.000 sessions per reporting period and are among the "Top 10" most visited Interreg Europe website. The most read sections are: News (Project Slam's Victory, Library (Studies), Good practices (Clann Credo). 12 news were published in Semester 4 and 12 have been published in Semester 5. Project partners were asked to send more news during Phase 2, showing results & achievements.

- RaiSE Twitter: 472 tweets (+61) and 372 followers (+45) until June 2019. It is working very well.
- RaiSE YouTube: 1.396 views (+199) in total. Our promotional video and project meetings videos have lots of followers.
- Dissemination events that took place during Semester 5: Interview at Claremorris Community Radio (Ireland) during the study visit in Westport in January, Participation in “Europe, Let’s Cooperate!” in Brussels in April and Interreg Europe’s film crew in Örebro in June.

NEXT STEPS

In the short and mid term, the following activities have to be undertaken:

WHAT	WHO	WHEN
PROJECT MANAGEMENT		
Submit the final version of the Action Plan to ZSI/ACCIÓ.	IFKA, WESTBIC, SCOTTISH ENTERPRISE, ART-ER, ÖREBRO, ACCIÓ	28/06/2019
Prepare the six Phase 1 Analysis Reports.	ZSI	28/06/2019
Prepare a nice design for the Action Plans & submit them to the Joint Secretariat.	ACCIÓ	19/07/2019
Indicator “Increased Professional Capacity”: make sure that everyone involved in the RaiSE project completes the survey & submit all the surveys to the LP.	IFKA, WESTBIC, SCOTTISH ENTERPRISE, ART-ER, ÖREBRO, ACCIÓ	31/07/2019
COMMUNICATION & DISSEMINATION		
Prepare fifth e-news flash	ACCIÓ	31/07/2019
Send news for the website	ALL PARTNERS	31/12/2019
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT & REPORTING		
Organise the next round of bilateral Skype meetings (corresponding to July-December 2019)	ACCIÓ	31/12/2019
Submission of the fifth report to the LP (already validated by the FLC).	ALL PARTNERS	02/09/2019
Submission of the relation of delayed payments of semester 5 to be reported in PR6	ALL PARTNERS	27/09/2019
Submission of the Joint Progress Report to the Joint Secretariat	ACCIÓ	01/10/2019

Organise the next round of bilateral Skype meetings (corresponding to July-December 2019)	ACCIÓ	31/12/2019
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Tuesday 18th June 2019: interregional exchange final conference of RaiSE in Brussels

The conference took place in the Delegation of the Government of Catalonia to the European Union (Rue de la Loi 227, Brussels) and was attended by 35 people. It included an opening speech about the importance of social enterprises in the European Union by a European Commission expert, conclusions of the interregional exchange of experiences by the advisory partner and, for each region, presentations of the policy context for social enterprises by a representative of the stakeholder group and presentations of the Action Plan by a project partner representative.

All the presentations can be found in the folder “Presentations – RaiSE Conference 18 June 2019) in the website’s Library section:

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/raise/library/#folder=1786>

AGENDA

Moderated by Ana Coelho, Director of ACCIÓ’s delegation in Brussels

09:00 Welcome coffee

09:30 Opening speech “The importance of social enterprises in the European Union”

Ulla Engelmann, Head of Unit Advanced Technologies, Clusters and Social Economy at the European Commission

09:40 Conclusions of the interregional exchange of experiences

Stefan Philipp, Research Associate & Project Manager, Centre for Social Innovation

09:55 Policy context for social enterprises in Catalonia

Josep Vidal, Director General for Social Economy, Third Sector, Cooperatives and Self-employment, Government of Catalonia

Jordi Vergés, representative of the Ministry of Presidency, Government of Catalonia

10:05 Action Plan for Catalonia

Paula Santarén, International Cooperation Project Manager, ACCIÓ

10:15 Policy context for social enterprises in Emilia-Romagna

Gabriele Marzano, Senior Executive, Emilia-Romagna Region

10:25 Action Plan for Emilia-Romagna

Claudia Ferrigno, Project Manager, ART-ER

10:35 Policy context for social enterprises in Hungary

Áron Jakab, Head of Development of Social Enterprise Unit, IFKA

10:45 Action Plan for Hungary

Anna Mészáros, Financial Expert, IFKA

10:55 Coffee break

11:15 Policy context for social enterprises in Örebro

Bengt Storbacka, Lindesbergs municipality, Örebro

11:25 Action Plan for Örebro

Anders Bro, Development Manager, Region Örebro County

11:35 Policy context for social enterprises in Ireland

Alan Curtis, Employment & Activation Team Leader, Pobal

11:45 Action Plan for Northern & Western Ireland

Joan Fahey, Project Manager, WestBIC

11:55 Policy context for social enterprises in Scotland

Laura Worku, Social Enterprise Policy Manager, Scottish Government

12:05 Action Plan for Scotland

Darah Zahran, Social Economy Manager, Scottish Enterprise

12:15 Closing remarks

*Clàudia Danesi, Deputy Director International Trade & Public Procurement Desk,
ACCIÓ*

12:30 Networking lunch



PARTICIPANTS LIST (Project partners + stakeholders)**LP – Catalan Agency for Business Competitiveness (ACCIÓ)**

1. Clàudia Danesi (ACCIÓ)
2. Juan Luis Aparicio (ACCIÓ)
3. Paula Santarén (ACCIÓ)
4. Josep Vidal (Stakeholder)
5. Jordi Vergés (Stakeholder)

P2 – IFKA Public Benefit Non-Profit Ltd for the Development of the Industry

1. Aron Jakab (IFKA)
2. Boglarka Barko (IFKA)
3. Anna Meszaros (IFKA)

P3 – Innovation & Management Centre Limited (WestBIC)

1. Seamus McCormack (WestBIC)
2. Joan Fahey (WestBIC)
3. Alan Curtis (Stakeholder)

P4 – Scottish Enterprise

1. Darah Zahran (Scottish Enterprise)
2. Suzanne Orchard (Scottish Enterprise)
3. Gillian Kirton (Scottish Enterprise)
4. Laura Worku (Stakeholder)
5. Chris Raftery (Stakeholder)

P5 – ART-ER

1. Claudia Ferrigno (ART-ER)
2. Gabriele Marzano (Stakeholder)

P6 – Region Örebro County

1. Anders Bro (Region Örebro County)
2. Anneli Baier (Region Örebro County)
3. Bengt Storbacka (Stakeholder)
4. Josefin Eklund (Stakeholder)
5. Micael Björk (Stakeholder)

P7 – Centre for Social Innovation (ZSI)

1. Stefan Philipp (ZSI)