

Newsletter 1

October 2020

The project

SMEs (especially social enterprises), Start-Ups or young entrepreneurs are very often low budgeted and therefore do not have the financial means to develop and install tools and trainings to further develop their business and the competencies of their teams. It is usually impossible for them to hire an external counsellor to support them in their strategical plan. In times of the current COVID 19 pandemic businesses need to become even more flexible and competitive through talent and innovation. The project SOCS, which started in November 2019 and will last until October 2021, aims to provide support for this need by improving learning provisions tailored to the specific needs of organisations or people who have HR and organizational development tasks.

"Overall, demand is growing for non-routine analytical skills and strategies involving creativity, problem-solving, communication, teamwork and entrepreneurship - all skills that help workers to maintain their employability and enterprises their resilience in the face of change." ("A Skilled Workforce for Strong, Sustainable and Balanced Growth", A G20 Training Strategy, INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE, GENEVA, NOVEMBER 2010) Therefore, the project partners aim at proposing innovative and effective tools for face to face and online business counselling and strategical development. Building up on the effective method of Symbol-work for visualization of specific challenges and resources, the tools of SOCS project will lead to empowerment of the targets, to selfactivation, taking self-responsible decision for their business, build their capacities in problem identification and developing effective action plans to solve problems, thus improving entrepreneurial practice.

For this purpose, partners will develop the following results and tools:

- IO1 Symbol Toolset for Strategical Organizational Development
- IO2 Symbol Toolset for Team Development
- IO3 Symbol Toolset for efficient Communication and Conflict Interventions
- IO4 Symbol Toolset for Work Place Quality Check and



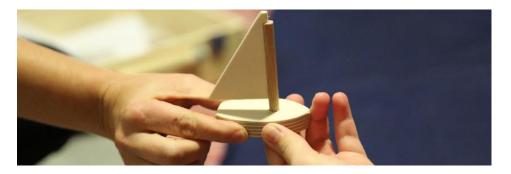
Pilot the tools with us!

Partners spent the last months developing the online tools. Those tools will be then tested with the support of one of our consultants between the months November 2020 until June 2021. If you are interested in participating in these pilotings don't hesitate to contact the partner in your country.

The consortium includes 5 partner entities:

- Asociación Caminos Asociación para el intercambio educación y desarrollo social, Spain office@asoccaminos.org
- Hafelekar Unternehmensberatung Schober GmbH (Hafelekar Business Consultancy Ltd), Austria paul.schober@hafelekar.at
- Bimec Ltd., Bulgaria; <u>bimec@bimec-bg.eu</u>
- Center for Social Innovation (CSI), Cyprus georgia.nicolaou@csicy.com
- INSTITUTO POLITECNICO DO PORTO, Portugal
- Evaluation of Staff Satisfaction

At the end of the project funding period, by October 31st 2021 all these tools will be available in all partner languages as online solutions on the website for free.



vivianameirinhos@iscap.ipp.pt

Find us on the Web

We are very excited to announce the launch of our newly designed website. Visit <u>https://socs-project.eu/</u> to find out more about our project, to get informed about our news and activities, and stay tuned to get informed about the trainings and the online tools that will be developed in the context of this project.



The European Commission's support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents, which reflect the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein. [Project number: 2019-1-UK01-KA204-062004]

