Title of BIP: Social enterprise - Cultivating Tomorrow's Change Makers Through Collaborative Innovation

General information

Objectives and Description:

The social enterprise-focused BIP is structured around:

1. **Understanding the fundamentals of social enterprise**

2. **Developing practical skills for creating and managing social enterprises**

3. **Developing a Real-world application through a collaborative project**

In this respect, the primary objective is to equip students with theoretical knowledge and practical skills to develop sustainable social enterprises that address community challenges.

Secondary objectives:

- o **Foster intercultural collaboration among participants from diverse backgrounds**

- o **Develop critical thinking skills for identifying social needs and innovative solutions**

- o **Build project management and business planning skills specific to social enterprises (including NGOs).**

- o **Create a network of future social entrepreneurs across participating institutions to disseminate best practices among students**

Methods and outcomes:

- ● **Methods:**
  - o **Problem-based learning approach**
  - o **Collaborative case studies analysis**
  - o **Expert-led workshops and discussions**
  - o **Team-based social enterprise project development**
  - o **Mentoring from established social entrepreneurs**
  - o **Peer feedback sessions**

- ● **Expected outcomes:**
  - o **Several completed business model canvas for a social enterprise (including NGOs)**
  - o **Developed practical skills for creating and managing social enterprises**
  - o **Enhanced intercultural competencies of students**
  - o **Development of pitching skills and communication skills of students**
  - o **A network of peers and mentors in the social enterprise sector**

Field of Education: Management and Entrepreneurship

Target audience / Participants profile: all categories of students from all backgrounds, fields of study and cycles

No of ECTS issued: The award of 3 ECTS credits is conditional upon participation in the distance learning course and the intensive week, and the achievement of a final average of 5/10 or more.

Language of instruction and requirements: English

Dates for physical activity:

From 1-5 June 2026 (arrival on May 29th or 30st and departure on the June 6th 2026).

Location of physical activity: Timisoara

Dates for virtual component:

2 online sessions to be developed in May 2026 and 1 in June, after the physical activity, based on an agreed schedule with the working group.

Virtual Component Description:

A 4-week online preparation phase allowing students to establish foundational knowledge, form international teams, and begin preliminary work on their social enterprise projects. The virtual learning modules, live discussions, and collaborative workspaces will take place online.

Planned Activities During Virtual Component:

- **Session 1: Fundamentals of Social Enterprise**
  - **Self-paced modules on social enterprise models and case studies**
  - **Forum discussions on regional social challenges**
  - **Live webinar with successful social entrepreneurs**
  - **Team formation and initial project brainstorming**
- **Session 2: Market Research and Impact Assessment**
  - **Tutorials on stakeholder mapping and needs assessment**
  - **Virtual field research methods workshop**
  - **Team meetings to identify target social issues**
  - **Expert consultations on impact measurement frameworks**
- **Session 3: Preparing for Implementation**
  - **Financial planning and resource acquisition workshops**
  - **Peer review session on project viability**

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o **Post physical component reflection and goal setting**

Organizing Board

Receiving/Host university:

Universitatea de Vest din Timişoara, Romania (Bibu Nicolae, nicolae.bibu@e-uvt.ro)

Sending/Partner universities:

- *P1. .... UNIZAR_Universidad de Zaragoza, Spain (Millán Díaz Foncea, millan@unizar.es)*
- *P2. …. Università di Bologna, Italy (Andrea Bassi, andrea.bassi7@unibo.it)*

Detailed programme

1st day: Introduction and Team Building

- Morning: Welcome session, icebreakers, and establishing group dynamics
- Mid-day: Presentations of initial project ideas developed during the virtual phase
- Afternoon: Expert panel discussion on current trends in social entrepreneurship
- Evening: Cultural exchange activities and networking dinner to build relationships

2nd day: Problem and Solution Refinement

- Morning: Field visits to local social enterprises to observe real-world operations
- Mid-day: Workshop on stakeholder analysis and needs validation
- Afternoon: Team work sessions to refine problem statements and value propositions
- Evening: Informal mentoring sessions with established social entrepreneurs

3rd day: Business Model Development

- Morning: Interactive workshop on sustainable business models for social impact
- Mid-day: Financial planning and resource acquisition strategies
- Afternoon: Intensive team work with rotating mentor consultations
- Evening: Social enterprise simulation exercise to test business concepts

4th day: : Implementation Planning and Impact Measurement

- Morning: Workshop on scaling strategies and organizational structures
- Mid-day: Impact measurement frameworks and evaluation methodologies
- Afternoon: Team work on finalizing implementation plans and impact metrics
- Evening: Peer review sessions and cross-team collaborations

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5<u>th</u> day: Pitching and Future Planning

- Morning: Pitch preparation and communication skills workshop

- Mid-day: Final pitch competition with external judges from the social enterprise sector

- Afternoon: Feedback session, reflection on learning outcomes, and action planning for post-program implementation

- Evening: Closing ceremony, certificate presentation, and celebration of achievements

Application procedure

7-8 students per university will be selected based on their interest in taking part in the programme and their English knowledge level.

Deadline: April 6th, 2026