

CALL FOR SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS – Peer Exchange MENA & MED AREA

Deadline 15/03/2023

COSV is leading a social justice incubation program (SJIP) under the SEE CHANGE project (Social Enterprise Ecosystem Change in Lebanon) that is funded by EU Madad Trust Fund, and implemented in partnership with Oxfam and Beyond Group.

The SJIP plans for a peer exchange between the 21 new models of Lebanese social enterprises in Lebanon and peers from the MENA REGION and MEDITERRANEAN AREA. For that scope COSV is collaborating with Catalyst 2030 in order to succeed in the peer exchange and to capitalise on the production of the policy paper titled: ***“The Role of Social Enterprises in the Advancement of SDGS in Lebanon and in the Mediterranean Region”*** that will be published in August/September 2023.

To succeed in developing the paper, five working groups that will consist of 7-10 members from the Lebanese social economy initiatives supported by COSV and 7-10 peers from abroad will meet once per month to discuss their major activities, their best practices, the challenges they faced/face and the impact of their activities on policies. The working groups shall meet online three times between April and June of 2023. **At the end of the online sessions, 10-15 social entrepreneurs from the MENA and MED area will be selected and invited to attend the final event in Lebanon, in August or September 2023.**

The working group meetings will be organised online by a facilitator who will run the meetings with clear and pre-prepared discussion topics, and then report the major discussions and findings to COSV Social Economy-Unit research team. The COSV Social Economy-Unit research team with the policy specialist, who will identify the meeting topics, will then use the information received from the facilitators to develop the paper mentioned above.

WHAT WE ASK YOU:

- ⇒ Be a social entrepreneur/social enterprise active in one of the 5 SDGs selected and operating in one of the COUNTRIES of the MENA REGION and MEDETERRENIAN AREA. (SDG 2, 4, 8,11, 12)
- ⇒ Be committed to participating in 3 online sessions (1 per month).
- ⇒ Be committed in preparing any document that the facilitation team will ask you for.
- ⇒ Be accountable in collaborating in the different phases of the Exchange program.
- ⇒ Have a strong collaboration mindset.
- ⇒ Interested in advocating for social justice policies.

WHAT YOU CAN GET FROM THIS PROGRAM

- ♣ an opportunity for International Peer Exchange and peer Learning
- ♣ active contribution to the policy paper entitled ***“The Role of Social Enterprises in the Advancement of SDGS in Lebanon and in the Mediterranean Region”***.
- ♣ Access to networking and potential partnerships.
- ♣ Increase your visibility and your potential impact.

- ♣ Possibility to be selected at the end of the exchange program to participate in person during the final event in August or September 2023 in Lebanon.

Please find below the identified SDGs working groups and the needed information to apply.

The preliminary identified working groups (WG) for the peer exchange are clustered under SDGs and are provided in the following table:

WG	SDGs	SDG Description	Sub-grantees' focus
1	SDG2	Zero Hunger	Enhance food security by activating agricultural activities, food processing and dairy production
2	SDG4	Quality Education	Provide quality vocational education and extracurricular activities that promote partnerships between private and public sectors and that support job creation For the PEER EXCHANGE only TVET education sector is eligible.
3	SDG8	Decent Work and Economic Growth	Support the youth, women and disabled to generate income, find jobs, and establish their own businesses
4	SDG11	Sustainable Cities and Communities	Promote and sell locally produced products, enhance community engagement, and provide alternatives for clean and low-cost transportation
5	SDG12	Responsible Consumption and Production	Activate local resources and market heritage and culture, push for recycling, and utilise local and natural resources

CRITERIA TO APPLY

- ⇒ Be a representative of an established social enterprise for at least 3 years, start up or non-registered organisations are not admitted.
- ⇒ Any legal form is acceptable, but you need to provide enough information about social entrepreneurship dimensions in the application form (social mission, economic activity, governance, and partnership)
- ⇒ Your activity should be consistent with the selected SDGS working groups:

[SDG 2 Zero Hunger](#), [SDG4 Quality Education](#) (only TVET Technical Vocational Education and Training), [SDG8 Decent Work](#), [SDG10 Reduce Inequality](#), [SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities](#), [SDG12 Responsible Consumption and Production](#), [SDG16 Peace Justice and Strong Institution](#).

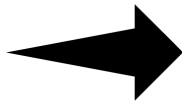
- ⇒ Fluent in English; all the sessions and activities will be conducted in English.
- ⇒ Be available to start on March 2023

Organisation matching with the following criteria are strongly encouraged to participate:

- ⇒ Be Public-Private partnership collaboration
- ⇒ Be a School-Enterprise in the TVET sector (a public or private Technical Institute running economic activities with companies and SMEs to support employability and curricula innovation.
- ⇒ Be a community enterprise model; a social enterprise with community members involved in the governance and co-production of goods and services targeting a specific neighbourhood or rural area.

- ⇒ Be an Entrepreneurial no profit, a not-for-profit entity running entrepreneurial activities.
- ⇒ Collaborative economy initiatives.

TIMELINE AND APPLICATION INFO



APPLY using this [link](#) by 15/03/2023

15/03-30/03 selection by COSV and Catalyst 2030 committee

March 15-30 , 2023 induction and preparation of SDGs working group

April 15-30, 2023 first online session

May 15-30, 2023 second online session

June 15-30, 2023 third online session

July 2030 Elaboration on the Policy Paper by the research team, additional contribution in terms of content and information might be requested from you.

August or September 2030 if you are selected after the participation in the online sessions, you will be invited to attend the final event in Lebanon.

For



any question, please contact mohammad.makki@cosv.org