



TRANSITION TOGETHER:

GREEN. DIGITAL. JUST.



The Twin Transition: Why Justice Matters

The *twin transition* refers to the dual shift toward a **green** and **digital** economy—two essential transformations shaping the future of our societies. On one hand, the green transition aims to reduce environmental impact and build climate resilience. On the other, the digital transition introduces new technologies that can improve efficiency, connectivity, and access to services.

However, if not carefully guided, the twin transition risks reinforcing existing **social and economic inequalities**. Technological advancements may exclude those without access to infrastructure or digital skills. Green policies may overlook the needs of workers and communities dependent on traditional sectors. This is why the transition must be not only smart and sustainable—but also *just*.

A **Just Twin Transition** ensures that no one is left behind. It places people and communities at the center of innovation, addressing unequal access to opportunities and empowering local actors to drive change.

COSV Group advances a Just Twin Transition through two complementary approaches:

- ❑ **Directly**, by designing and implementing green and digital programmes rooted in a ***place-based innovation*** approach. This means engaging communities, institutions, and local ecosystems to co-create solutions that respond to specific local needs, values, and capacities. From climate-smart agriculture to digital training for youth and entrepreneurs, these programmes are shaped *with* the people they serve.
- ❑ **Indirectly**, by supporting **social entrepreneurship** and the **social economy**. These actors play a critical role in making the twin transition inclusive—creating jobs, offering essential services, and building economic models that prioritise social impact, equity, and environmental sustainability.

Through this dual strategy, COSV Group helps turn the twin transition into an opportunity for shared prosperity, community resilience, and sustainable development across diverse territories

ADVANCING JUST TWIN TRANSITION THROUGH PLACE-BASED INNOVATION



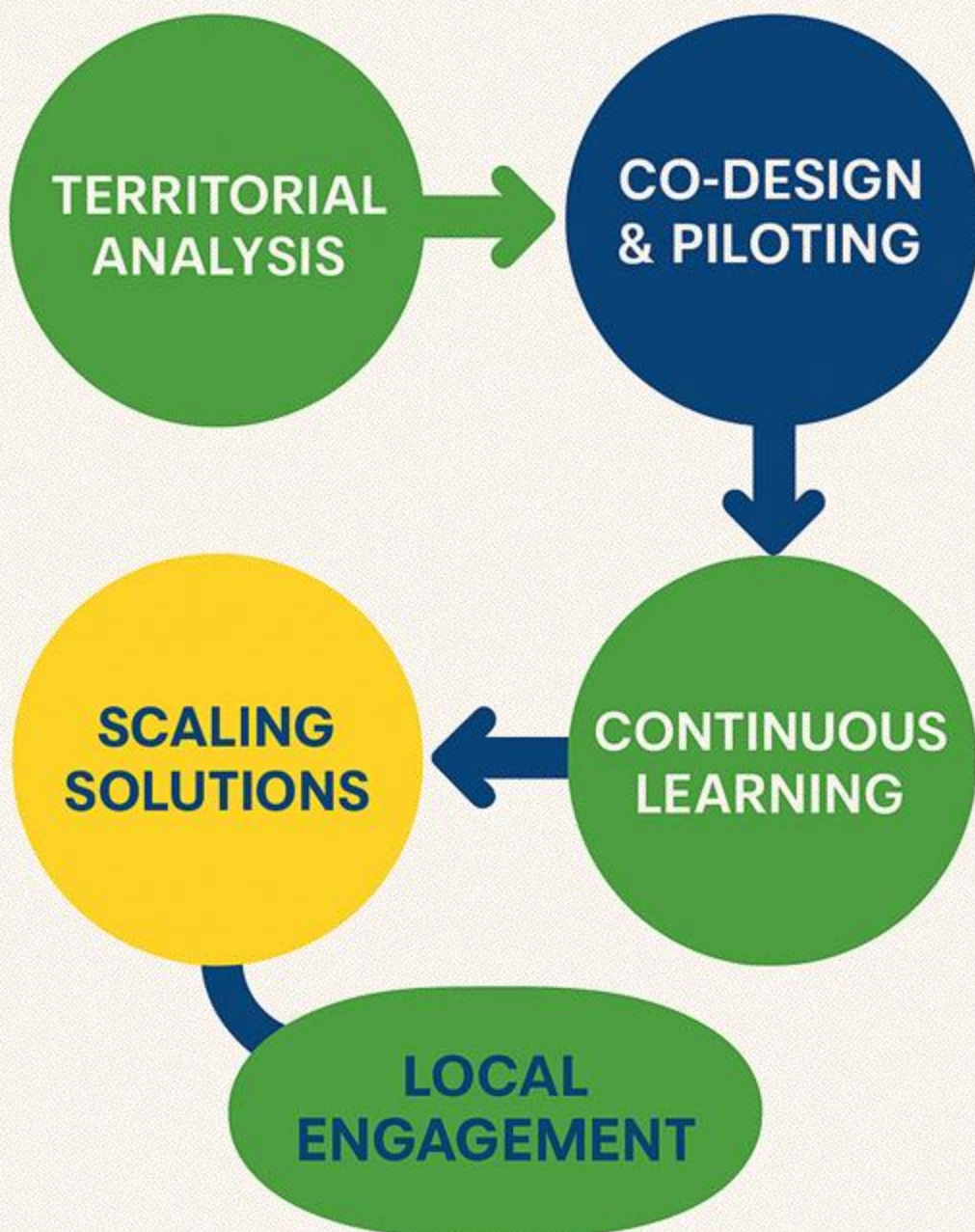
Place-based innovation

COSV Group drives green and digital transitions that are co-created, not imposed—anchored in local realities and built for long-term resilience. **We bridge the gap between expert knowledge and community experience by fostering place-based innovation,** where local actors co-design solutions alongside institutions, private sector, and technical experts. Through inclusive governance, territorial co-design, and the activation of community capital, we ensure that sustainability and technology go hand in hand with social equity, youth inclusion, and economic justice. Our mission: empower communities to lead transitions that are not only green and digital, but also just and locally owned.



PLACE-BASED INNOVATION

ITERATIVE METHODOLOGY



COSV's PLACE-BASED INNOVATION METHODOLOGY

Empowering communities to co-create green, digital, and just solutions



1. CONTEXT SENSING & ASSET MAPPING

- Community Capital Workshops
- Territorial diagnostics
- Mapping resources, risks, and networks



2. MULTI-ACTOR INNOVATION FORUMS

- Align local actors (public, private, civic)
- Define shared challenges and innovation goals
- Ensure youth and women participation



3. CO-DESIGN & PROTOTYPING

- Develop local solutions via participatory design
- Integrate appropriate digital & green tools
- Test and adapt small-scale models



4. INCUBATION & GOVERNANCE ANCHORING

- Support through local hubs or PMGs
- Build digital, business, and cooperative skills
- Embed solutions in community systems



5. SCALING & POLICY FEEDBACK

- Replicate successful models
- Feed insights into local & national policy
- Promote knowledge sharing and visibility

COSV's STRATEGIC ROLES

Facilitator | System Broker | ESG/PPP Advisor | Narrative builder | Innovation

GUIDING VALUES

People-centred · Context-driven · Equity focused · Locally owned · Systemically linked





Driving Inclusive Digital Transformation in Central Mozambique

Lead Applicant: COSV | **Programme:** *VaMoz Digital!* – AICS Mozambique
Duration: 2024-2027 | **Budget:** €2.5M (100% AICS grant)
Location: Quelimane, Zambezia Province
Partners: JEMBI, FAMOD, MOASIS, IDEÁRIO | **Institutional Anchor:** INEP (Ministry of Employment)

Vision

To bridge the digital divide in Central Mozambique by creating a regional Tech Hub that drives inclusive innovation, empowers youth and vulnerable groups, and supports job creation.

Strategic Objectives

- Foster an inclusive digital ecosystem
- Boost youth employment, innovation, and entrepreneurship

What We're Building

- **1 Tech Hub** with training, incubation, and co-creation spaces
- **3 Digital Platforms** (micro-jobs, procurement, R&D)
- **3 Hackathons** (agriculture, energy, mining)
- **5 Community Multimedia Centres** upgraded
- **20+ Digital Courses** (ICT, no-code, digital literacy, cybersecurity)

Who We Empower

- 3,000–5,000 students
- 500 jobseekers & 100+ ICT professionals
- 30–90 youth entrepreneurs & 20–40 MSMEs
- 100 teachers trained | 100+ people with disabilities included

How It Works

- **Public–Private Partnership** with INEP
- Inclusive & accessible learning with FAMOD
- Start-up support with IDEÁRIO & AfriLabs
- Solar-powered, open-source, community-driven

Systemic Impact

- Tackles digital exclusion in rural provinces
- Aligns with national strategies & SDGs (4, 8, 9, 10)
- Scalable across Mozambique and Southern Africa

“Inclusive innovation must be place-based. The Zambezi Tech Hub is not just a space—it’s a catalyst for transformation.”



Empowering Women and Youth Through Fintech-Driven Agribusiness in Zambezia

Programme: WFP Mozambique – Food Systems for Youth and Women Employment

Lead Applicant: COSV | **Location:** Quelimane, Mocuba, Gurue, Alto Molocue, Nicoadala, Namacurra

Duration: 2024-2025 | **Target:** 30,000 women and youth

Vision

To transform rural livelihoods by combining financial inclusion, agri-entrepreneurship, and digital innovation—enabling youth and women in Zambezia to access capital, skills, and markets through scalable, tech-enabled solutions.

Strategic Objectives

- Drive rural financial inclusion through fintech
- Equip youth and women with digital business skills
- Connect producers with structured markets using tech

What We're Building

- **1,200 digitalized Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLAs)** powered by **SAVIX MIS**, a mobile-based financial monitoring platform
- **Integration with M-Pesa/Xitique** mobile wallets for secure savings and microloans
- **30,000 beneficiaries** trained using tablet-based curricula and mobile-friendly content
- **1,500 M/SMEs** supported through digitized business services and CRM systems
- Use of **QR-coded traceability and geo-localisation tools** for producer groups

Who We Empower

- Financially excluded rural women and youth (18–35)
- Micro and informal entrepreneurs
- Farmer associations transitioning to digital platforms

How It Works

- Learning-by-doing with **digital literacy and fintech tools embedded**
- Community-based Field Officers trained on data collection via tablets
- Tech-supported monitoring via SAVIX MIS and mobile dashboards
- Public-private ecosystem including **Vodacom, Access Bank, Mpesa, and local supermarkets**

Systemic Impact

- Bridges the digital and financial divide
- Creates a digital footprint for credit scoring and market access
- Anchored in Mozambique's digital financial inclusion roadmap

“Fintech is not a luxury—it's the foundation for rural resilience and entrepreneurial growth”

Lead Applicant: COSV

Partners: Universidade Licungo (Unilicungo), University of Rome La Sapienza, INGD, Provincial Government, FAO, WFP, World Bank

Duration: 2024-2026

Funding: €136,480 (Fondazione Cariplo)

Vision

To embed digital climate intelligence into rural agronomy—enabling data-informed decision-making, climate resilience, and risk reduction across agro-ecosystems in Zambezia.

Strategic Objectives

- Establish a digital agro-meteorological network in the heart of Zambezia
- Enable actionable, historical agro-meteo data for planning and risk mitigation
- Pioneer micro-insurance solutions by correlating weather patterns and crop outputs via localized data

What We're Building

- A **meteorological data hub** housed at Unilicungo, equipped with weather stations, monitoring infrastructure, and a digital maintenance protocol
- A **distributed data-collection system** across key Zambezia districts for real-time agro-meteo insights
- **Dissemination tools**, including a peer-reviewed research paper, three local workshops, and an international panel during the FAO Summer School in Rome

Who We Empower

- Unilicungo as a **local data hub** and capacity-building center for climate-agriculture analytics
- Policymakers, research institutions, and extension services accessing actionable climate data
- Local farmers gaining from **risk-mitigated, data-informed agricultural planning**

How It Works

- **Automated weather station networks** generating granular climate data
- **Data convergence** connecting meteorological inputs to crop trends and historical yields
- **Knowledge transfer** through academic and institutional collaboration and training
- **Digital outputs** utilized for real-time decision-making and insurance product design

Systemic Impact

- Grounds rural agriculture in evidence-based resilience
- Enables affordable insurance for smallholder farmers via data-driven underwriting
- Strengthens Mozambique's capacity for climate-smart agriculture, aligning with SDGs and national climate adaptation strategies

“Driving rural resilience with data: Agrometeo turns weather into wisdom for Zambezia's farmers”

Lead Applicant: COSV

Location: Namanjavira & Alto Benfica, Mocuba District, Zambézia Province (Mozambique)

Duration & Funding: 2025-2026; financed via the Italian “Fame nel Mondo” mechanism — approximately €267,488 allocated

Vision

To revitalize rural agro-food systems by integrating renewable energy and climate-smart farming—enhancing food security, poverty resilience, and economic inclusion among vulnerable farming communities.

Strategic Objectives

- Empower farming households—especially women—with **climate-resilient farming techniques**
- Upgrade local agricultural infrastructure using **solar energy** to reduce post-harvest losses
- Strengthen local farmers’ access to markets through improved production and processing capacity

What We’re Building

- Solar-powered irrigation** systems, upgrading **20 existing units** for efficient crop watering
- 5 solar-energy processing/storage units**, reducing spoilage and extending product shelf life
- Hands-on training in Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA)**—covering drought-resistant techniques, diversification, and efficient water use
- Who We Empower**
- 700 smallholder farmers**, including **385 women**, across 25 local farmer associations
- Communities with limited market access and pervasive food insecurity

How It Works

- Builds on **existing COSV-supported infrastructure and community networks**
- Integrates **renewable energy** and **CSA methods** to boost productivity, sustainability, and local ownership
- Focuses on **gender inclusion**, ensuring equitable participation of women farmers

Systemic Impact

- Addresses climate vulnerability with low-carbon, resilient farming systems
- Enables local agro-processing, promoting value addition and market competitiveness
- Enhances food security, income generation, and women’s empowerment — aligned with national and global development goals

Cultivating Green & Digital Employment Opportunities in Zambezia

Programme: *Germogli di Futuro – Coltivare Opportunità di Lavoro Verde e Digitale in Mozambico*

Lead Applicant: COSV | **Location:** Quelimane & Morrumbala, Zambezia Province

Duration: 2025 - 2028 | **Budget:** €2.1 M, funded by AICS

Vision

To ignite a new wave of sustainable youth employment across Zambezia by merging green innovation with digital empowerment—creating pathways to green and tech-savvy futures for the next generation.

Strategic Objectives

- Modernize public vocational training in agriculture with green and digital skills
- Launch a Green Incubator that nurtures youth-led micro and small enterprises (MSEs)
- Foster inclusive economic participation, with a strong focus on gender equity

What We're Building

- Certification programs for provincial trainers**, plus digital and mobile short-courses to ensure training aligns with market needs
- 100 scholarships** to boost access to career-ready technical education
- A **Green Incubator** at IFPELAC-IP in Quelimane, offering entrepreneurship training, access to credit, and incubation specifically in green and digital sectors
- Acceleration for the top 100 business ideas**, featuring MeuKitMeuEmprego kits, supplemented with digital tools to scale enterprise readiness
- Gender equity measures** including a policy roll-out at INEP-IP and IFPELAC-IP, 400 girls benefiting from targeted support, and community sensitization activities reaching 1,800 people

Who We Empower

- 700 youth** (ages 15–24), with **57% women**, across two districts
- Emerging green and digital entrepreneurs ready to launch or scale sustainable micro-enterprises
- Public institutions (INEP-IP, IFPELAC-IP) building inclusive training ecosystems

How It Works

- Strengthens linkages between **training and employment**, integrating agile, market-led curricula
- Leverages **public institutions and local partners** (Develhope, Enaip net, AMUDZA) to ensure sustainability and impact
- Embeds **gender parity** throughout—from strategic policy to grassroots mobilization

Systemic Impact

- Opens viable, future-proof economic pathways in green and digital domains
- Enhances inclusive access to quality vocational education and finance for youth and women
- Sets the foundation for sustained structural transformation in Zambezia's training and employment landscape

Healthcare Open and Inclusive for All in North Macedonia

Programme: Interreg VI-A IPA CBC “Greece–North Macedonia 2021–2027”

Lead Applicant: ESAMEA – National Confederation of Disabled People (Greece)

Location: Cross-border areas of Prespes (Greece) and Resen (North Macedonia)

Duration: 24 months | **Budget:** €978,482

Partners: 3rd Regional Health Authority (Greece), Municipalities of Prespes & Resen, COSV – Prilep Branch

Vision

To improve access to **inclusive, universal, and community-based healthcare** for vulnerable populations in cross-border areas, through a joint territorial model that integrates **innovation, accessibility, and cooperation**.

Strategic Objectives

- Advance **health and digital literacy** for underserved groups
- Strengthen **community-based health systems**
- Promote **inclusive design** in healthcare infrastructure and services
- Build **joint local capacity** for crisis response and continuity of care

What We’re Building

- **Electric vehicles** for home-care and community outreach
- **Telemedicine and telecare systems** for remote access to services
- **Universal accessibility upgrades:** ramps, elevators, adaptive equipment
- A shared **digital health platform** for data management and service coordination

Who We Empower

- Elderly persons in remote communities
- People with disabilities and chronic conditions
- Local healthcare professionals and caregivers
- Over **5,000 annual users** of upgraded health services
- **3,000 individuals/year** benefiting from improved facilities
- **15+ local organisations** engaged in co-delivery of care

How It Works

- Community-driven design of services rooted in **universal access principles**
- Cross-border cooperation through **joint planning and shared investment**
- Participatory assessments, simulations, and training for **crisis preparedness**
- Promotion of **social inclusion, equity, and regional integration**

Systemic Impact

- Reduces geographic and structural inequalities in healthcare access
- Strengthens **cross-border collaboration** on health and social inclusion
- Aligns with the **UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**, the **EU Disability Strategy**, and **SDG 3 (Health)** and **SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities)**

iCARE redefines access to healthcare by making it local, inclusive, and resilient—through digital cooperation beyond borders

Lead Implementer: COSV –

Programme: UNDP | Digital Innovation Center – Damascus & Rural Damascus **Duration:** 2024 | **Budget:** \$150,000 **Donor:** JSB 2022

Location: Damascus, Rural Damascus

Vision

To foster **youth-driven economic recovery and digital innovation** in Syria by establishing an inclusive **Digital Innovation Center** that supports freelancers, start-ups, and entrepreneurs—especially women and people with disabilities—through tailored training, incubation, and mentoring services.

Strategic Objectives

- Enable **youth and vulnerable groups** to access the digital economy
- Build a **sustainable pipeline of digital start-ups and freelancers**
- Create local **employment and innovation ecosystems**
- Position digital entrepreneurship as a tool for **resilience and recovery**

What We're Building

- 1 **Digital Innovation Center** offering workspaces, D:Lab access, and legal & business support
- 1 **Hackathon** on Digital SDGs to co-design inclusive tech solutions
- 1 **Digital Bootcamp** with advanced training for 50 participants
- 4-Month **Incubation and Mentorship Cycle** for 30 youth
- **Seed Funding** (up to \$4,000 per start-up) to 10 selected digital businesses
- **Company Registration Support** and **Investor Matchmaking Event**

Who We Empower

- 30 young entrepreneurs (aged 18–45) supported to establish tech-based start-ups
- 50 youth trained in digital entrepreneurship and innovation
- 20 short-term jobs created in the digital economy
- Prioritisation of: Youth-led teams with early-stage MVP, Women and persons with disabilities Locally owned, impact-driven solutions.

How It Works

- Co-managed **Digital Innovation Center** with full technical, legal, and mentoring services
- Hands-on incubation with real market exposure and investor feedback
- Collaboration with UNDP for joint selection, implementation, and exit strategy
- COSV provides day-to-day operations, local facilitation, and sustainability planning

Systemic Impact

- Bridges the gap between **humanitarian aid and tech-enabled recovery**
- Promotes **inclusive, locally led innovation** in fragile contexts
- Supports **SDGs 1, 5, 8, 9, and 10**
- Lays groundwork for long-term **public-private innovation partnerships** in Syria

“Digital Eye is not just a start-up incubator—it’s a catalyst for inclusive digital recovery in Syria, turning youth innovation into systemic resilience.”



Advancing a Just Twin Transition through Social Economy



Why the Social Economy Matters for a Just Twin Transition?

The Twin Transition—green and digital—is not just a technological shift; it is a societal transformation. The **Social Economy**, rooted in solidarity, inclusion, and sustainability, ensures this transformation is **just**, meaning it benefits people and planet alike.

Social enterprises, cooperatives, and community-based organisations play a vital role in:

- ⊕ **Bridging innovation with inclusion**, making green and digital tools accessible to all;
- ⊕ **Empowering local economies**, especially in rural and marginalised areas;
- ⊕ **Promoting participatory governance**, where communities co-create their future.

However, to fully lead this change, the Social Economy faces key challenges:

- ✱ **Limited access to green and digital finance** tailored to hybrid, mission-driven models;
- ✱ **Low visibility and weak integration** in national transition strategies;
- ✱ **Lack of enabling policies and legal recognition** in many countries;
- ✱ **Insufficient digital infrastructure and upskilling pathways**, especially for youth and women.

Unlocking the potential of the Social Economy is essential to ensure the Twin Transition is not only smart and sustainable—but also **fair, inclusive, and community-driven**.

THE THREEFOLD PATH METHODOLOGY

Combining Social Entrepreneurship
& Development Cooperation

Rather than imposing fixed models, COSV supports social economy actors through **a plural, cross-cultural**, and ecosystemic framework, enabling inclusive innovation and systemic change



BE PLURAL

Adaptability
in Diversity

No context is the same. COSV rejects prescriptive models, promoting tailored solutions fitting green and digital innovation.



BE CROSS-CULTURAL

Rooted in Local
Realities

We ground every initiative in local knowledge, values, and traditions, bridging community identities and international expertise,



BE AGENT

Transformative
Action Through
Synergy

COSV supports ecosystems of change, linking entrepreneurs with public institutions, academia, private actors, communities

- We assess culture and readiness before acting.
- We enable co-investment models, combining public and private resources
- We support different social enterprise types (PSE-Public Social Enterprise, SC-Social Cooperative, ENP-Entrepreneurial No Profit, SB Social Business) based on local missions and policy priorities

Social Economy Stories: Agricultural Revival Program (Lebanon)



1 Contracting Farmers

Farmers are contracted with a win-win strategy to become part of the program.



2 Integrated Agricultural Program

- Pulse & Grains
- Poultry
- Animal natural Feed
- Seasonal Vegetables & Fruits
- Dairy Products and Veterinary Services
- Fish: Marine and Pond

3



Local Value Chain Hot Spots

Organizing a value chain, within each area, from the farmers to producers via a strong and inclusive partnership.



Sustainable and Green farming



Free Cage Poultry



Organic Fertilizer



Fishponds

4

The "Model Farm" and the Quality Provision of the Integrated Agriculture Model

Model farm is created; farmer are trained on site under the support of Nebras Vocational Institute. Quality control is conducted on a regular basis.

5



Food Security and Sustainable Development

Domestic production of high yield and quality variety is expanded with continuous testing and support of the Lebanese Research Institute, to maintain quality and secure home-grown strategic reserves.

6



Networks and Platforms

Local networks and digital platforms are utilized for technical knowledge sharing & for accessing regional markets.



Social Economy Stories : Green Circle Partnership (Lebanon)



Social Economy Stories : Cezar's Community Farm (Lebanon)





COSV GROUP is a strategic platform that integrates field experience, vision, and applied tools to accelerate social transformation in fragile and emerging contexts.

Rooted in the legacy of COSV, an international NGO active since 1968, COSV GROUP brings together the power of **non-profit action**, **social entrepreneurship**, and **profit-with-purpose** into a unified ecosystem for change.



OUR VALUE PROPOSITION



“A Holistic approach toward market transformation & social justice”

COSV Group leverages the complementary strengths of COSV NGO and CoProfit Benefit Corporation to implement a **holistic approach to systemic change**, combining deep-rooted experience in international cooperation with cutting-edge tools for sustainable entrepreneurship and policy innovation.

We catalyze **market transformation** through the promotion of social entrepreneurship, integration of ESG principles, development of inclusive value chains, and facilitation of public-private partnerships that drive the twin and just transition.

At the same time, we work **to advance social justice** by promoting human rights, co-designing welfare reform strategies, and strengthening the social economy as a lever for inclusive growth.

Through this integrated approach, **COSV Group builds bridges between civil society, private sector, and public institutions, generating context-specific solutions** that are both impactful and replicable across fragile and frontier contexts.

WHAT WE DO



Social Solidarity Economy & Social Entrepreneurship



Governance Protection & Social Cohesion



Rural Economies, Agriculture & Cultural Heritage



Digital Innovation & Tech4Good



Impact Research & Innovative Finance



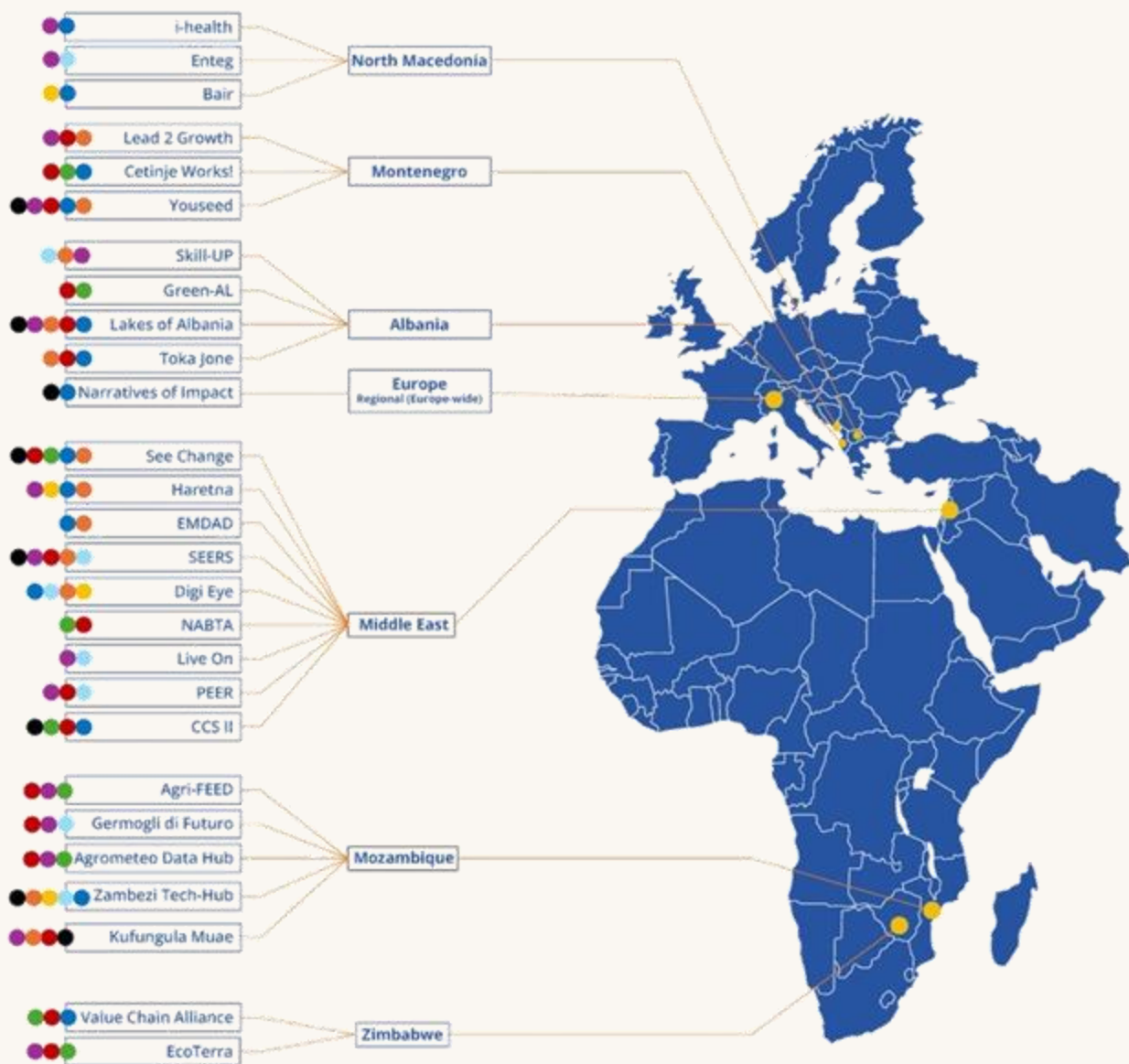
Gender-Sensitive Transformation



Education, Youth Employment & TVET.



Green Economy, Climate Resilience & Energy



COSV GROUP PILLARS



The Foundations

COSV – Established in Milan in 1968, COSV is a **non-governmental organization** committed to human-centred international cooperation. COSV designs and implements **inclusive socio-economic development** programmes across the Balkans, Middle East and North Africa, and Sub-Saharan Africa.



The Business Arm

CO-PROFIT srl is a benefit corporation co-founded by COSV in 2021, acting as the platform's operational and consulting partner. It specialises in: **ESG strategies, Public-private partnerships Context and market analysis, Sustainable internationalisation** for purpose-driven enterprises and institutions.



Stories & Strategies

Social2Square is the research and storytelling tool of COSV GROUP. It curates: **Community narratives and territorial mapping** Networks of young local entrepreneurs Market intelligence and trend analysis Publications and policy notes **that drive dialogue and knowledge exchange.**

www.Cosv.group



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