



PROVINCIA
AUTONOMA DI TRENTO

CONCRETE AND SUSTAINABLE: TRAVELING WITH THE SOLIDARITY ECONOMY

The Trentino solidarity economy has promoted training meetings and study visits in Italy and abroad to understand the opportunities and challenges of solidarity economy at EU level.

This training ended in November 2023 with the last study visit in Friesland.

A delegation of 12 stakeholders from the Trentino solidarity economy made a study visit to the Province of Fryslan, Dutch partner of the INTERREG EUROPE GOCORE GOVERning COMMunity REsilience project.

The study visit allowed us to learn and deeper more about Fryslan's good practices within the ES.

In particular, the bottom up approach with which initiatives are promoted. In particular the collaboration method for the municipalities of Friesland, called DOM, which supports local development for the construction of "living happiness" was very strong. ". It is a cooperative system that supports villages and municipal administrations in the creation and diffusion of well-being in the territory. This operates according to a collaborative method between local authorities and citizens and is committed to the co-creation of initiatives to improve living conditions in the area.

The numerous entities visited were a strong stimulus for the Trentino stakeholders who drew new ideas for the development and re-discussion of the Trentino solidarity economy policy and for its improvement and evolution.



Local workshops with the Trentino for the definition of political priorities in the promotion of clusters - PPPs - of the social and solidarity economy

On 23 January and 6 February 2024, 2 days of workshops were held in Trento with the stakeholders of the Trentino solidarity economy.



The 2 workshops had the aim of defining the political priorities for the promotion of clusters - PPPs - of the social and solidarity economy.

In particular, the objectives to be achieved in the short, medium and long term on the models, values and ambitions for the promotion of a new PPP of the social and solidarity economy were defined. The participation of stakeholders was very fruitful and animated.

The following priorities emerged from the work:

1/ Collaboration between entities, even those of different legal forms, is important to pursue the common objective of creating a positive impact on one's community. The networks of Solidarity Economy Districts are an example of dialogue between the third sector and public administrations outside of public procurement. However, there is a lack of the presence of profit business, which must be more involved.

Promotion and marketing are the basis for enhancing the meaning of ES and for the ability to attract more subjects and create new districts, some of which perhaps already exist but are not actually aware of being so.

Need to create a logo that identifies and makes the districts recognisable, in order to be effective in marketing.

2/ Need to strengthen skills within the DES for its coordinated and more efficient management.

The need to have an institutional contact, periodic meetings, a DES regulation and to periodically convene meetings of members also to make the DES more visible for the community and more attractive for companies that are not familiar with the social and solidarity economy in Trentino. All DESs face similar obstacles/issues: it is important to share success stories and practical solutions for collective benefit.

3/ In the DES, the social dimension is very strong and the social inclusion of disadvantaged subjects is a central element in most cases (job placement also because it is expressly provided for by the l. p. 13/2007 and 13/2010). During the local workshops arose the need to extend the aim of DES not only to the social inclusion of disadvantaged people but also to extended it to other social areas and purposes such as sustainable tourism, healthy living, entrepreneurial development of rural areas, etc. For this reason it is important to pave the way for other sectors and policies in order to increase the social impact on a territory/community and have a greater impact on local policies.

4/ DES are often born in marginal economies or territories, for this reason the interaction between different sectors must be increased because the collaboration between entities and sectors of different nature increases the positive impact that each entity can have on the territory and guarantee economic sustainability. It is very important to increase the visibility of these projects which are often not known and their impacts remain underestimated.

