Milestones towards the future: Pathbreaking examples of cooperation, mutualisation and solidarity in urban and rural areas, promoted jointly by cities/regions and the social economy

6 June 2019

Committee of the Regions of the European Union
Rue Van Maerlant 2, Room VM1, Brussels

Europe needs its cities and regions and the social and solidarity economy to reach out to its citizens, detect their real needs and make them part of creating solutions to a number of challenges, such as unemployment or precarious work, social exclusion, discrimination and racism, climate change or increasing instrumentalisation of fears and isolation by extremist forces.

REVES aisbl, the European Network of Cities and Regions for the Social Economy, is promoting co-construction of public policies driven by partnerships between policymakers, public administration and the social and solidarity economy. We support cities and regions, that - based on the principles of participation, citizen empowerment and solidarity - experiment new forms of community welfare and an economy being at the service of society.

The REVES Award is an important means to reward and make these initiatives and their potential visible at EU level, stimulate exchange and suggest new lines of action for policy-making.

Join us to listen to, discuss and network with applicants for the REVES Excellence Award 2019 and other initiatives from different EU Member States. Take the unique opportunity to connect and exchange with our jury members from different European and international organisations, civil society networks and European institutions - they will share their impressions on the applications, but also their thoughts on how to give (values of) partnerships between cities/regions and the social and solidarity economy the place they deserve on the (future) European policy agenda.
Draft programme

09.30 Welcome
- Olga Zrihen, Committee of the Regions (tbc)
- Jan Olsson, REVES Co-President

10.00 Rethinking Europe through stronger multi-stakeholder partnerships and participatory governance

Leda Stott, Expert, ESF Transnational Network on Partnership, will give an insight into efforts to improve the European Code of Conduct for Partnership (ECCP) and push for its application in EU Cohesion Policy 2021-2027.

Juan Antonio Pedreno, President, Social Economy Europe, will sketch out proposals for future EU policies strengthening the social economy and partnerships around it.

10.15 Applicants present themselves/Part 1

- Green and social innovation through energy transition at schools: Wind of Renewal (GR)
- Taxi service and general interest: Samarcand (IT) (tbc)
- Re-orienting the collaborative economy towards the commons: La Comunificadora/Barcelona Activa

11.15 Europe after the elections: Which place for social economy polices pursuing the general interest?

Marie-Christine Vergiat, former MEP and co-president of the European Parliament intergroup on social economy, and Ulla Engelmann, Head of Unit at DG Grow/European Commission, will share their thoughts on opportunities and needs for action with a new European Parliament and a new European Commission.

11.30 Coffee Break
12.00 Applicants present themselves/Part 2

- Use of public space, social re-animation of a neighbourhood and integration of refugees: Liberi Nantes (IT)
- Reviving (unused) spaces through community involvement: POLIS initiative, City of Athens (GR) (tbc)
- Temporary use of empty buildings to strengthen local social capital: Communa (BE)
- Communities creating accessible housing: Community Land Trust Brussels (BE)

13.00 Lunch Break

14.15 Policy-making to support the social economy: A change-making approach

Antonella Noya, OECD LEED programme, will provide participants with a taste of a recently developed online tool which aims to help assess and develop public policies promoting the social economy.
- A representative of the EESC
- Roberto Di Meglio, ILO (tbc)

14.45 Applicants present themselves/Part 3

- Region Örebro county (SE): Policy on civil society and social economy 2018-2021
- Małopolska region/Regional Centre for Social Policy (PL): Małopolska Social Economy Week
- Region Östergötland/Coompanion (SE): Strengthening work integration enterprises (WISE) in the region

15.45 A short overview of those applications that could not be presented by their promoters

16.15 Coffee break
16.45 Announcement of the Winners of the REVES Excellence Award 2019 and Conclusions by Sabrina Nisen, Coopcity (Winner of the REVES Excellence Award 2017), and REVES Co-President Felice Scalvini

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