



GOOD PRACTICES - CASE IDENTIFICATION /1<sup>ST</sup> LEVEL ANALYSIS

GOOD PRACTICE NO. 6

1. Good Practice title:

Microcredit Funds – ESF operational programme Region Sardinia 2007-2013

2. Territory of implementation/application (country/region/...)]

Region Sardinia , Italy

3. Timeframe:

year of introduction:

year of termination:

*(leave 0000 if ongoing)*

4. Brief description of the promoting organization:

SFIRS SpA, (Società Finanziaria Regione Sardegna SpA), the regionally owned financial institution with over 45 years of experience in supporting local enterprises. The main objective of SFIRS SpA is to contribute to the realisation of strategic regional plans and policy orientations in order to boost social and economic development in the island. The company is managed by a Board of Directors appointed by the Sardinia Region, pursuant to Article 2449 of the Civil Code.

Autonomous Region of Sardinia – Labour Department

5. Main objective of the initiative:

The fund had as main objective to reduce the gap between the supply and demand of credit access and microfinance in Sardinia. The initiative aimed at reducing the problem of difficulties incurred in accessing credits for micro and SMEs, non profit organizations, independent workers, cooperatives and social enterprises. Furthermore the fund aimed at: fostering entrepreneurial competences (also for independent workers); support micro, small and medium enterprises that play a strategic role in the economic framework of the region Sardinia; reduce the unemployment rate and face the effects of the economic crisis; promote the access to labour market for persons facing risks of social exclusion and unemployed; support non bankable subjects



**6. Brief explanation of the initiative:**

Microcredit fund is a revolving fund, allowing to re-allocate return funds for new financing schemes.

The technical characteristics of the fund are:

- Free interest rate:
- Reimbursement through periodic monthly rate;
- Grantable fund between € 5.000 and € 25.000;
- Maximun duration in months: 60

Grants are considered as State Aids, regulated by Regulation (CE) 1407/2013.

The priority sectors of interventions are: tourism, social services, environmental protection, ICT, energy saving and renewable energies, cultural services, services for enterprises, manufacturing, trade and craft

**7. Target group and measures to involve the target group:**

micro and SMEs, non profit organizations, independent workers, cooperatives and social enterprises, new entrepreneurs, disadvantaged workers (immigrants, persons with disabilities, ex prisoners and ex drug addicted), persons at exclusion risk (over 50, unemployed etc); families, women and young

**8. Innovativeness:**

**9. Outcomes:**

Financial allocation through ESF operational Programme Region Sardinia: 65,5 million euro (6 extra million added in 2015) with the aim of providing loans up to 25.000 € interest free rate to non bankable subjects, for allowing them the start of new entrepreneurial initiatives. 2252 beneficiaries had a contract with SFIRS.

From 2010 till 2015 4 call for tenders have been published; in 2016 two call for textile sector and NEET. From 2009 until now 3600 beneficiaries have been financed (49% of enterprises owned by women, 56% start-up), 11.300 demands have been presented.