

05 newsletter december 2019

> **SOCENT SPAs improves the** effectiveness of regional policies in sparsely populated areas to actively support social economy and social entrepreneurs as a driver to regional competitiveness and inclusive growth



European Regional Development Fund







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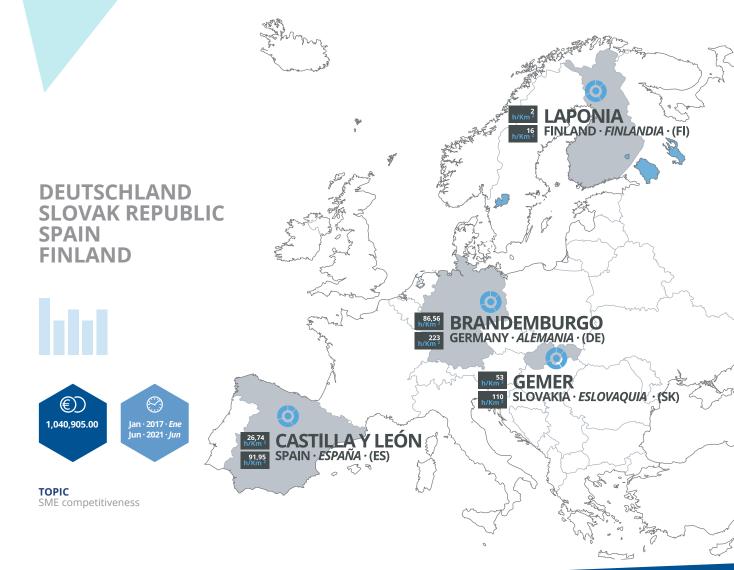
What SocentSPAs is?

SOCENT SPAs is fostering interregional cooperation among six public/private entities of Finland, Germany, Slovakia and Spain in a view to improve the effectiveness of regional policies in actively supporting the visibility, incubation and acceleration of social entrepreneurs in sparsely populated areas (SPAs) as a driver to regional competitiveness and inclusive growth.

A particular challenge

In SPAs, demographic trends are a particular challenge. As counter-measure, social innovation needs to be developed to promote employment and competitiveness as it can make a real difference as a source of innovative approaches for resolving societal challenges through mobilizing civil society to further inclusive socioeconomic development. Social Enterprises (SEs) directly benefit local development and correct major socioeconomic imbalances while benefiting local communities, a crucial asset to secure the population in SPAs. However, bespoke support for SEs is limited; policymakers can play a significant role by setting up the right legal framework.







We have reached the equator of the Project!





It has been two exciting years, in which we have learned many things, we have traveled thousands of kilometers and shared experiences.











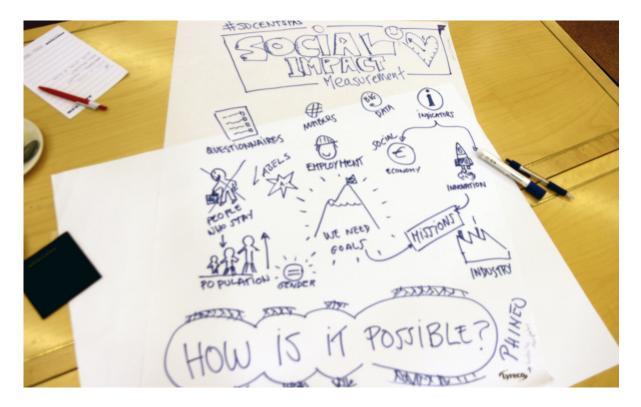








What have we done the last semester?

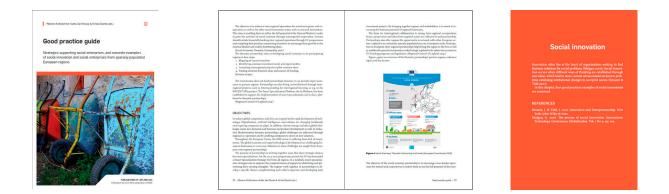




Some good exemples: 4 Actions Plans

In addition, the four action plans have been approved this December. These plans will be implemented in the target participating regkions for the introduction of a comprehensive social entrepeneur support scheme in sparsely populated areas.

These plans will be presented in the coming months in each of the regions





Some good exemples: Best practicies

1 compilation of best practicies to promote and support social entrepeneurship in sparcely populated areas of Finland, Germany, Slovakia and Spain

+ joint guideline on innovative strategies favoring the emergence of social partnership







Some good exemples: These are the results so far

1 study assessing the legal framework ans status of social entrepeneurship in each target sparsely populates area. 61 policy learning event organize





In the media







In the last two years, the Socent Spas project has appeared on numerous occasions in the media, becoming first page news.



4 I SORIA

Miércoles 10 de mayo de 2017 | Heraldo de Soria

El emprendimiento soriano, a examen por las zonas más despobladas de Europa

• Laponia, Gemer y Brandeburgo, socios del proyecto europeo Socent SPAs, visitan durante tres días la provincia Encuentran puntos comunes, como la marcha de los enes de los núcleos rurales y la dispersión poblacional



For instance, this is the first page and the information on inside pages of the newspaper 'Heraldo de Soria`. The first page headline is: 'European entrepreneurs from unpopulated areas are set at Soria'.





Project Partners

General Directorate for Social Économy and Self-Employed Persons - Regional Government of Castile and León (ES)

NGOD Cives Mundi (ES) Social Impact (DE) Lapland University of Applied Sciences (FI) Not-for-profit organization EPIC (SK) Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic (SK)



www.interregeurope.eu/socentspas

