



The role of social financial intermediaries in deploying financial instruments under the European Social Fund in the 2014-2020 programming period

Brussels, Tuesday, 17 October 2017

Programme





Background

Social Financial Intermediaries (SFI) include social, ethical, alternative, civic and sustainable banks, microcredit providers and other financial intermediaries focusing on the social sector. SFI play an important role in the implementation of financial instruments under the European Social Fund (ESF) across the EU in the 2014-2020 programming period. These financial instruments can be an efficient and innovative delivery mechanism of Member States' investment priorities and thematic objectives outlined in the ESF Operational Programmes (OP).

SFI are therefore increasingly involved in deploying national or regional financial instruments under the ESF, providing loans, guarantees, equity or quasi-equity. Under the ESF, one of the relevant areas in which SFI may provide an added value is microfinance.

SFI's role in the implementation of ESF financial instruments will be the focus of this *fi-compass* event organised by the European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (DG EMPL) in partnership with the European Investment Bank Group (EIB Group). The opportunities of such instruments, as well as most common practical challenges for SFI in implementing them will be in the spotlight of this event. Furthermore, the event will present how the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) may support social projects, including in combination with the ESF. Practical examples from Member States will illustrate the thematic objectives and areas in which financial instruments under the ESF are more effective, fostering collaboration among SFI, managing authorities, and other stakeholders to increase the take-up of ESF financial instruments and to improve the effectiveness of existing ones.



Objectives

This full-day event aims at providing participants opportunities to:

- Enhance their awareness and knowledge about the key features of ESF financial instruments and the role/ contribution of SFI;
- Discuss the implementation of ESF financial instruments in practice from the perspective of banks acting as financial intermediaries;
- Learn from concrete examples in different Member States and regions implementing ESF financial instruments;
- Hear about the use of the EFSI in the social economy;
- Network with speakers and other participants and mutually exchange progress and experiences with such instruments so far;
- Raise their awareness on contributing to the implementation of ESF financial instruments in the 2014-2020 programming period and possible support from the European Commission and the EIB Group.

Costs

Registration is free. Participants are expected to finance their own travel and accommodation costs. In case of unforeseen circumstances such as force majeure or low participant numbers, the event might be moved to a different date or cancelled. In this case, registered participants will be informed immediately via email. The reimbursement of travel and accommodation expenses or work hours lost will not be possible.



Audience

The main target group are representatives from:

- Social, ethical, alternative, civic and sustainable banks and microfinance providers, acting or considering acting as financial intermediaries for ESF financial instruments;
- SFI associations, including microfinance networks;
- ESF managing authorities and stakeholders involved or potentially involved in the implementation of financial instruments;
- International Financial Institutions (IFI), National Promotional Banks and long-term investors.

Methodology

The event will consist of:

- Plenary sessions with presentations by experts from the European Commission, the EIB Group, IFIs, SFI associations and microfinance networks;
- Panel discussions with the speakers;
- Question and answer sessions;
- Opportunities to network with speakers and participants.

Venue

Hotel Sofitel Brussels Europe
Place Jourdan 1
1040 Brussels
Belgium

> [How to get there](#)

Language

The event language will be English.
Interpretation into other languages may be provided.

Registration

Please register online via www.fi-compass.eu.
The deadline for registration is **Friday, 13 October 2017**.
We advise registering as soon as possible.

[Click here to register to this event](#)

After registering online through the www.fi-compass.eu website, registrants will receive an automatic email acknowledging receipt of their registration. This message is not a confirmation of participation. Within two weeks after application, the registrants will be informed by a separate email whether or not they can attend the event. The decision will be based on available seats, targeted audience and balanced representation of Member States and organisations.



Agenda

Brussels, 17 October 2017 (Tuesday)

Venue: Hotel Sofitel Brussels Europe, Place Jourdan 1, 1040 Brussels, Belgium

Moderation: Mr Bruno Robino, Head of *fi-compass*, European Investment Bank

8.30 – 9.30 *Registration and coffee*

9.30 – 10.15 **Welcome and opening remarks**

Mr Baudouin Baudru, Cabinet expert, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission

Ms Silvia Costa, Member of the European Parliament

Mr Brando Benifei, Member of the European Parliament

10.15 – 10.45 **Social economy – global overview and role of IFIs**

Mr Nicolas Tritaris, Principal Banker, EU Funds Co-financing, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

Ms Monica Brezzi, Director for Assessment and Monitoring, Council of Europe Development Bank

Followed by Q&A

10.45 – 11.15 *Coffee and networking opportunity*

11.15 – 12.15 **Investment needs in social economy, microfinance and other related ESF areas – the role of social financial intermediaries**

Mr Loris di Pietrantonio, Head of Unit F.1 - ESF and FEAD, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission

Mr Helmut von Glasenapp, Secretary-General, European Association of Long-Term Investors (ELTI)

Mr Pedro Manuel Sasia Santos, President, European Federation of Ethical and Alternative Banks and Financiers (FEBEA)

Mr Marc Schublin, Microlux Volunteers Coordinator, Microlux, Luxembourg

Followed by Q&A

12.15 – 12.45 **EIB Group in supporting the social economy and role of EFSI**

Mr Frank Lee, Head of Financial Instruments Advisory, European Investment Bank

Mr Ulrich Grabenwarter, Deputy Director, Equity Investment, European Investment Fund

Followed by Q&A

12.45 – 14.15 *Networking lunch*

14.15 – 15.15 **Implementing ESF financial instruments supporting the social economy**

Mr Alessandro Messina, CEO, Banca Popolare Etica, Italy

Mr Michał Radziwiłł, President of the Board, Towarzystwo Inicjatyw Społeczno-Ekonomicznych SA (TISE), Poland

Ms Guadalupe de la Mata, Resident Representative for Spain and Portugal, European Investment Fund

Followed by Q&A

15.15 – 16.00 *Coffee break and networking*

16.00 – 16.45 **ESF and microfinance in Europe: best practices and perspectives for a stronger financial inclusion**

Mr Jorge Ramirez Puerto, General Manager, European Microfinance Network, (EMN)

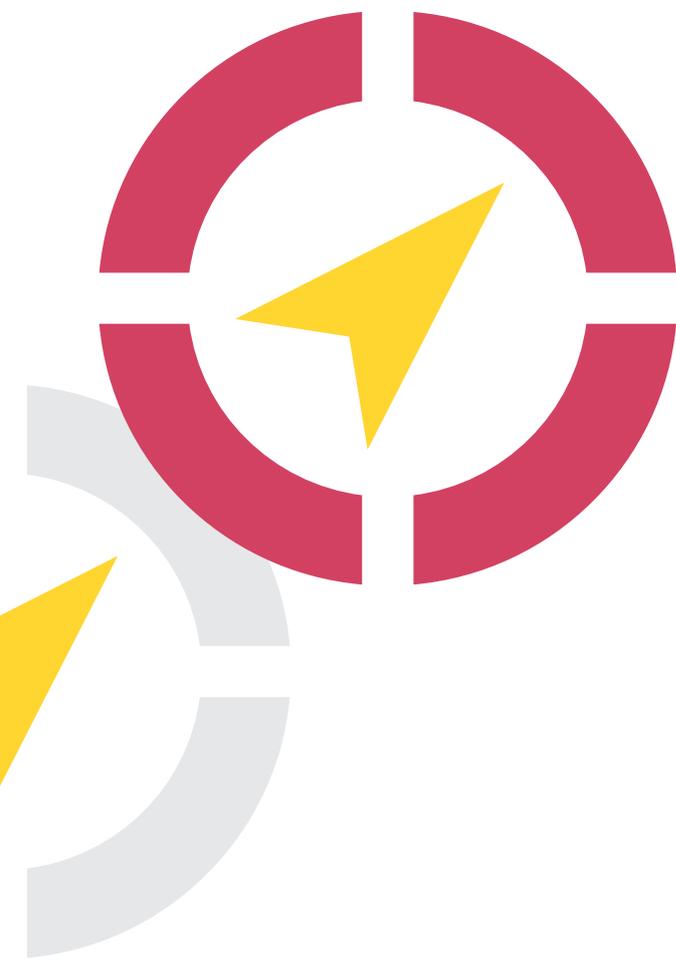
Mr Giampietro Pizzo, President, RITMI (Italian Microfinance Network)

Followed by Q&A

16.45 – 17.00 **Final conclusions**

Ms Andriana Sukova-Tosheva, Director, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission

17.00 *End of the event*



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