

Dr. Marie Taylor  
Sustainable  
Development  
Research Institute  
Marie.taylor@tus.ie



**TUS**

Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta na Sionainne:  
Lár Tíre, An tIarthar Láir  
Technological University of the Shannon:  
Midlands Midwest



[www.tus.ie](http://www.tus.ie)

# Sustainable Development Research Institute

- dedicated to achieve **social, economic and environmental changes** through applying its expertise in a **collaborative manner**. (extensive networks and connections with community, enterprise, industry and public sectors)
- To engage in research and project development activities in the fields of Sustainable Development and to align this activity with the UN SDGs
- funding from an array of EU programmes (Horizon, LIFE, Erasmus+, etc.) both as coordinators and as partners/co-beneficiaries.

## ➤ Post Graduates – SDRI Bursaries for Masters and PhD Research

- 40+ projects. Number of focus areas:

- ❖ Climate Action
- ❖ Agriculture & Environment
- ❖ Rural Development
- ❖ Social Enterprise
- ❖ Digitalization
- ❖ Technology
- ❖ Renewable Energy
- ❖ Construction Skills
- ❖ Embodied Carbon
- ❖ Circular Economy



Climate Action



Energy



Rural Development



Social Enterprise



Sustainable Development



Technology for Education

# GreenHive

<https://www.greenhiveproject.eu/en>



**GreenHive**

Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union



funded by Erasmus + Cooperation  
partnerships in vocational  
education and training.

- Prepare Vocational Education and Training (VET) learners for the green transition
- provide the tools to build local multi-stakeholder hubs to activate co-creation processes for sustainable development.
- Online platform to facilitate the transfer of knowledge and experience across sectors and countries
- new educational resources with transnational, cross-sectoral and multi-disciplinary teams
- Partners from Ireland, Greece, Italy, Spain, Romania



# AGRETAIN

Regenerative Sustainable Food Chains  
Through Market Gardening

Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union



The main **aim** of AGRETAIN is to combine the efforts of universities and enterprises (VET providers, farmer consultants), research institutes and social actors to develop **new teaching methods and learning material** in the field of **market gardening** focusing to open up new learning opportunities for the embedding of more resilient, sustainable/ environmentally friendly, soil regenerative practices in small scale farming.

# SocialB- Social Business Educational Ecosystem for Sustainability & Growth



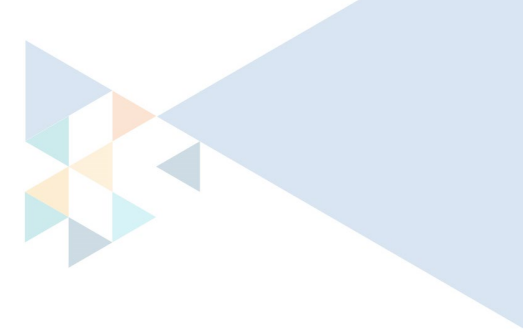
collaboration between 8 partners from social enterprise, training and Higher Education sectors in 4 countries – Ireland, Greece, Italy and Slovenia.



Univerza v Ljubljani  
*Filozofska* fakulteta



# SocialB



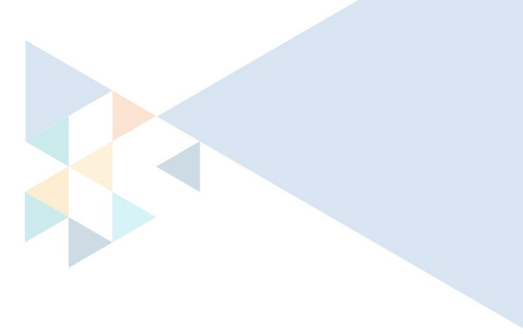
SocialB explored and addressed the skills gaps and training needs in current educational/training programs in Social Enterprise by designing, developing and piloting an accessible suite of learning resources to support individual and organisational learning in the field of social enterprise.

Learning resources are presented in the framework of blended learning materials in 24 Learning Units (6 modules) and focus on the development, sustainability and expansion of the Social Enterprise sector by integrating a learner-centred approach oriented to real, problem-based learning and skills acquisition in the field of social entrepreneurship.

Toolkits were developed for Social Enterprises, Educators/Trainers, VETs, HEIs, students



# Needs Analysis



- survey responses - range of priority training and learning needs which were common across all of the SEs which responded to the survey, irrespective of their geography.
- common challenges of **insufficient resources** and **over-reliance** on government or other third-party funding were recognized by SEs, by Advisors and by Collaborators and Partners as being significant barriers to the growth of the sector.
- priority of training and learning and importance of **upskilling** to address these challenges.
- Focus on sustainability and growth issues

## Number of organizations

# 80

Last update: a few seconds ago

## Typology of education/training programmes on SE

- BSC course
- BSC program
- MSC course
- MSC program
- lifelong learning program
- VET program
- program course

◀ Map Legend ▶

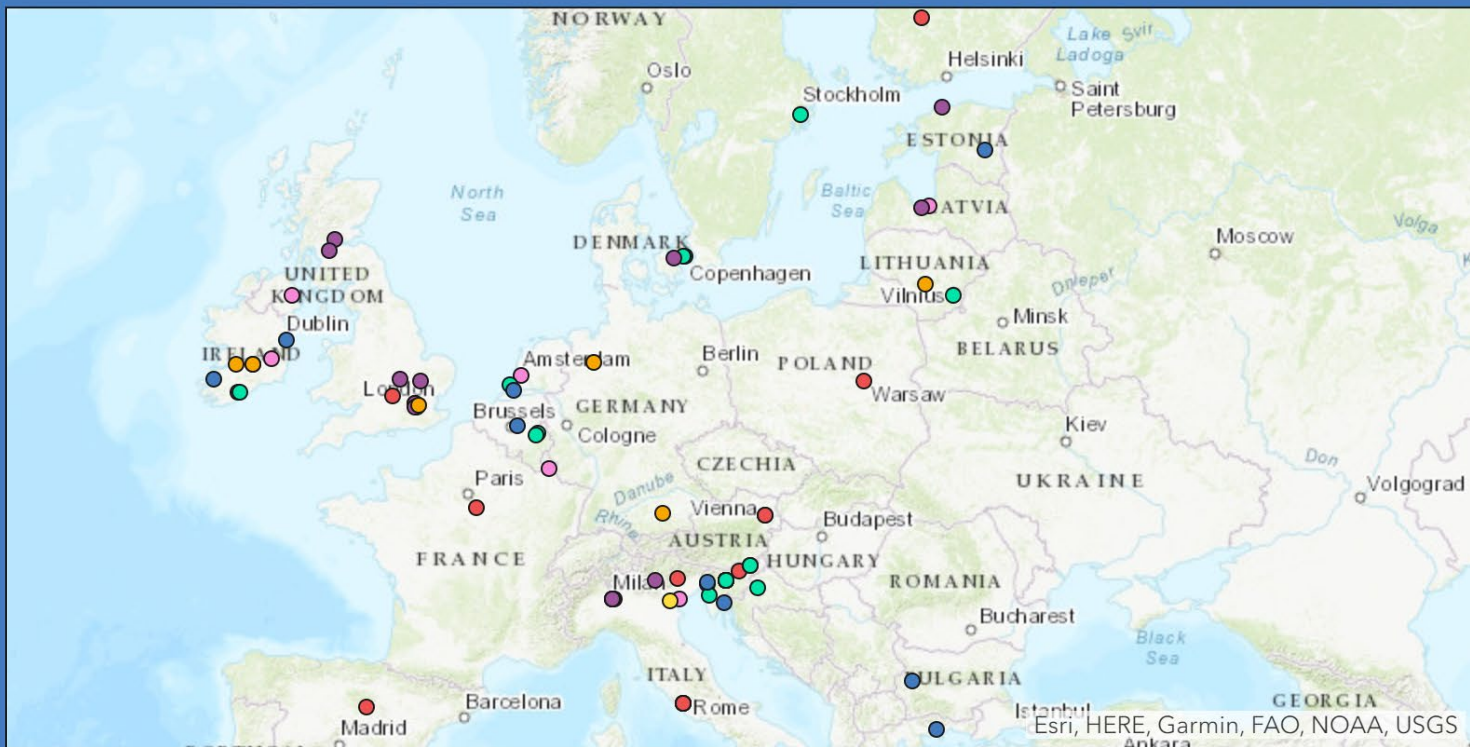


## NEW ENTRY

SocialB project consortium is aware of the fact that there are more institutions/organizations in EU providing education/training in this field. Therefore, SocialB would like to encourage providers of courses/programs, related to social entrepreneurship, to make themselves "visible" on our map.

There are two steps necessary:

- (1) we ask you to fill in the e-form which will give us insights into the structure of course/program (click on the stripes in the top right corner);
- (2) SocialB project consortium will consider your entry (if some things are unclear) and integrate you in our database and interactive map if it

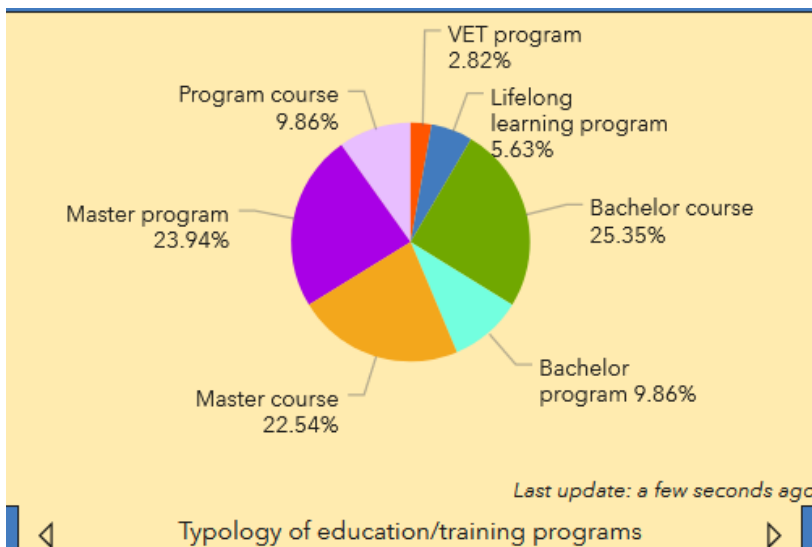
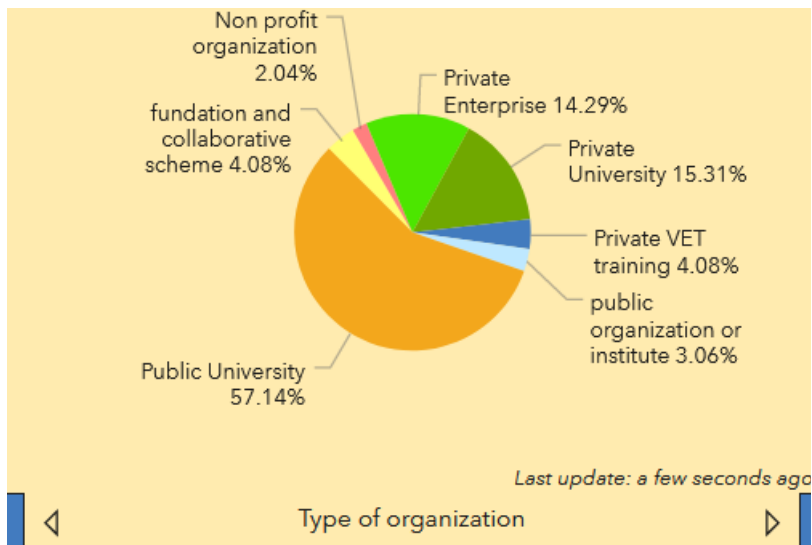


From May-August 2020, the SocialB project carried out on-line research of course/program provision in the field of social enterprise across EU, with a particular focus on the four SocialB partner countries. The existing interactive map and additional graphics offers you the opportunity to identify the location and several other components of surveyed courses/programs. We would like to thank all persons, included in data collection: if there are mistakes, please, contact us.

The project runs from January 2020 until December 2022, and the resulting Learning Units will aim to stimulate significant changes in HEI

Source: SocialB, 2020-2022.





Source: SocialB, 2020-2022.

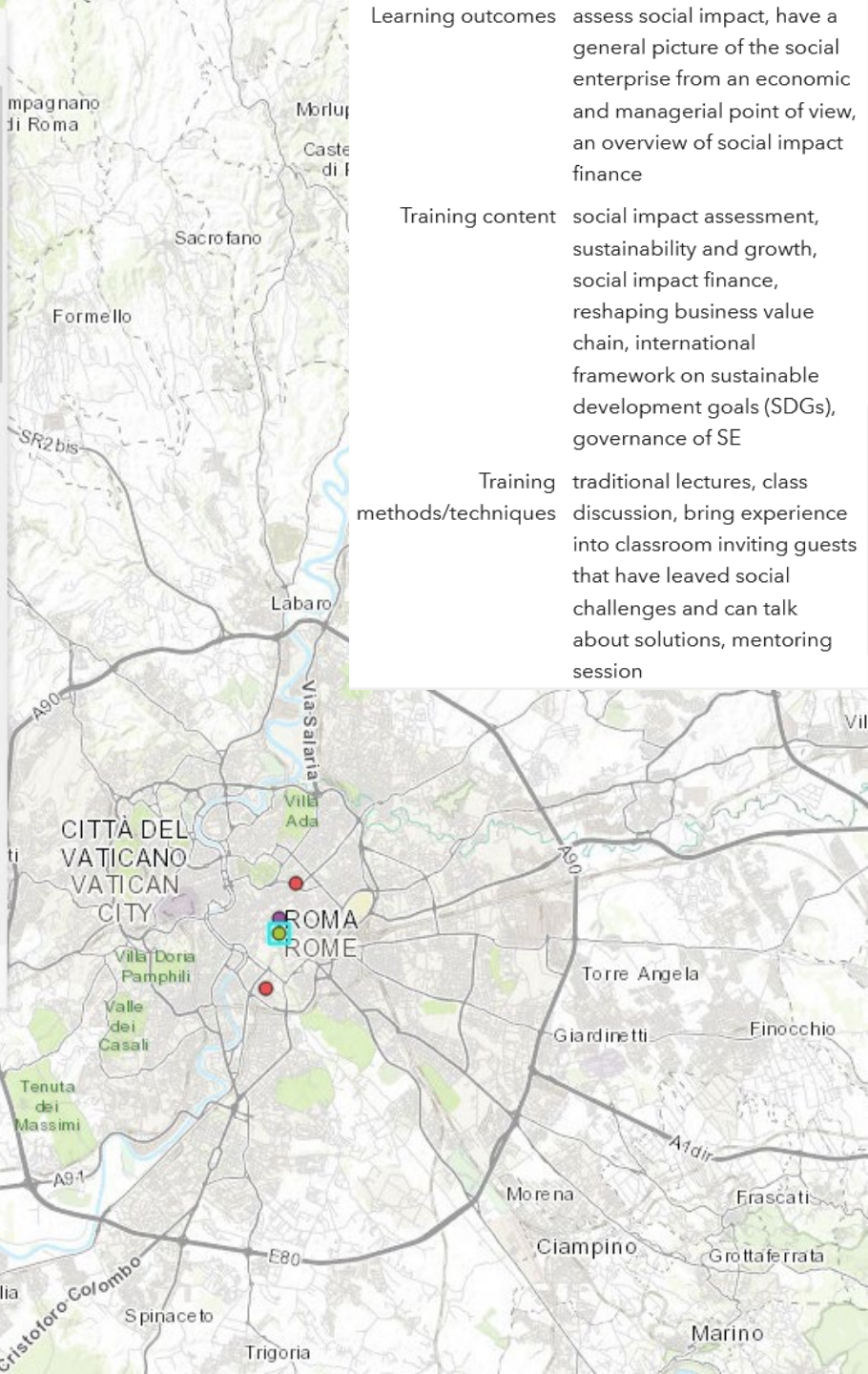




Showing 1

**University of Rome Tor Vergata**

OBJECTID_1	29
Country	Italy
City	Rome
Type of course/program	MSC course
Title of the course/program	Social entrepreneurship and innovation
Name of the organization	University of Rome Tor Vergata
Type of the organization	public university
Website of the course	<a href="https://economia.uniroma2.it/master-science/ba/corso/568/">https://economia.uniroma2.it/master-science/ba/corso/568/</a>
Language	English
Target group	young students (under 30)
Duration / Number of hours	less than 6 months/36 hours
EQF level	7
ECTS/ECVET credits	9



Learning outcomes assess social impact, have a general picture of the social enterprise from an economic and managerial point of view, an overview of social impact finance

Training content social impact assessment, sustainability and growth, social impact finance, reshaping business value chain, international framework on sustainable development goals (SDGs), governance of SE

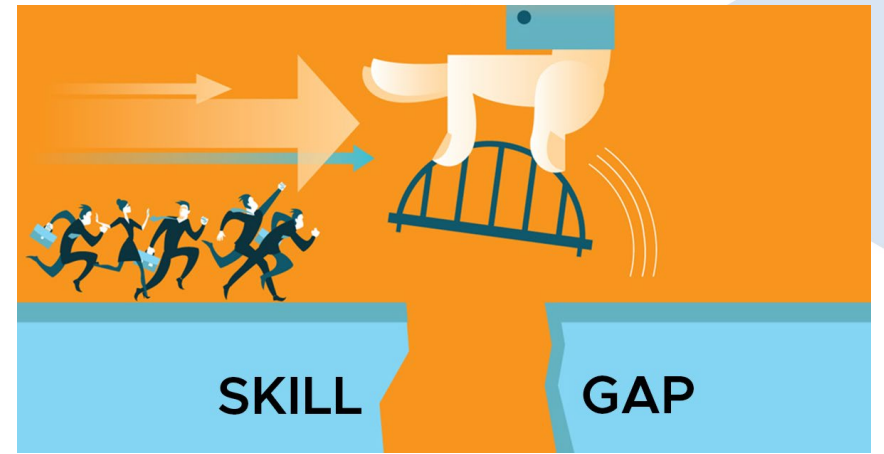
Training methods/techniques traditional lectures, class discussion, bring experience into classroom inviting guests that have leaved social challenges and can talk about solutions, mentoring session

Source: SocialB, 2020-2022

... the interactive map has a potential to evolve further... with new entries!



# Learning resources



- Learning resources - blended learning materials in 6 modules with 24 Learning Units which incorporate an innovative mix of blended learning methodologies and assessment types, for both students and SE, to facilitate the development of critical entrepreneurial skills. (EQF Level: 5 and 6)
- Develop innovative learning techniques and assessment in terms of face to face or synchronous e-learning, E-learning (asynchronous), Work-Based Learning, Self directed learning
- Development of Learning Toolkits
- The Learning Units form the primary content of the SocialB eLearning Repository to support individual learning, organisational training, and network development to support the longer-term sustainability of SEs.

MODULES	LEARNING UNITS	
<p style="text-align: center;">1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Introduction to Social Entrepreneurship</p>	1	“History and evolution of SE in Europe”
	2	“Reshape business value chain into social value chain”
	3	“Introduction to Social Innovation”
	4	“ Public/Private partnerships in the field of Social Enterprise”
<p style="text-align: center;">2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Project Design and Management</p>	5	"EU projects - EU opportunities for the development and funding of social enterprises"
	6	"Procurements processes, funding applications and proposals writing"
	7	"Project Management"
	8	"Soft Skills"
<p style="text-align: center;">3</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Human Resource</p>	9	“The role of human resource management”
	10	“Recruitment and selection of employees and volunteers”
	11	"Managing employee performance"
	12	"Leadership, and communication for maximum impact"



<b>MODULES</b>	<b>LEARNING UNITS</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;">4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Social Impact Assessment</p>	13	"Introduction to Social Impact Assessment"
	14	"Methodology and tools to assess social impact"
	15	"Data analysis and visualization"
	16	"The importance of communicating social impact to key stakeholders"
<p style="text-align: center;">5</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Financial and Economic Sustainability of SE</p>	17	"Strategic planning and the life cycle of Social Enterprises"
	18	"How to build a business plan"
	19	"Financial planning and cash flow constraints"
	20	"Credit access and opportunities for social enterprises: Social Finance and Social Impact Finance"
<p style="text-align: center;">6</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Growth Strategies, Marketing and Fundraising for SE</p>	21	"Growth strategies and long term profitability of Social Enterprise projects"
	22	"Market evaluation and competitiveness assessment"
	23	"Fundraising and diverse fundings for SE"
	24	"Marketing, Sales and Networking skills "

# Training



TRAINING  
METHODOLOGY



LEARNING MATERIAL



TRAINING PLATFORM

## Scope of the activity

**Piloting,**  
**Assessment** and  
**Evaluation**  
of the outputs

**Period:** April 2022- July 2022

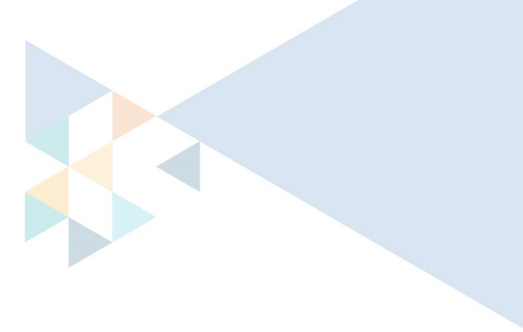
**Participants:** 112

**Training Hours:** more than 540

**Tested LUs:** 20 out of 24

**Methods:** mixed methods based on  
specificities per country per target group

# Key Findings



**1**

## Learning material

- + well structured
- + to the point
- + original
- + practical activities
- Country's context
- Country's maturity level

**2**

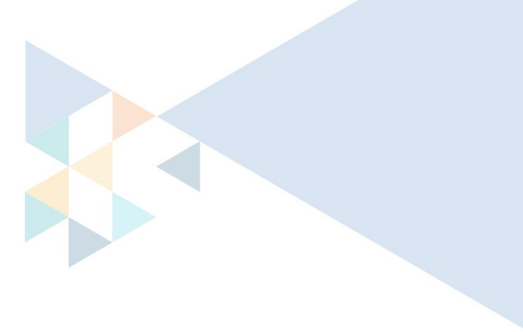
## Methodology

- + original
- + triggering

**3**

## E- Learning Platform

- + Moodle
- + interesting Interface
- + well structured
- Not all familiar with



## What Social Entrepreneurs say

1

- Face-to Face and/or synchronous eLearning
- Tutors support
- Less familiar with platform

## Social Business Advisors

3

- Innovative Techniques Toolkit

## HEI/VET providers

2

- Simplified version for SEs
- Support with practical activities



# Journals



- Corv, L., Pastore, L., Manti, A., Sotiropoulou, A., Hvalic Erzetic, B., Potocnik, I., Taylor, M. (2021) "*The educational ecosystem for sustainability and growth of Social Enterprises: insights from Europe*," EAST-WEST Journal of Economics and Business, Special Issue on Social Economy & Social Enterprises.
- [Loukopoulos](#), A., Taylor, M., Sotiropoulou, A., Hvalic Erzetic, B., Mikolič, S., Potocnik, I., Manti, A., (2022) "Social Entrepreneurship Education Enhancement through Innovative Training Pedagogies across Europe," The Irish Journal of Management, 41 (2)

Dr. Marie Taylor  
Sustainable  
Development  
Research Institute  
Marie.taylor@tus.ie



**TUS**

Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta na Sionainne:  
Lár Tíre, An tIarthar Láir  
Technological University of the Shannon:  
Midlands Midwest



[www.tus.ie](http://www.tus.ie)