



IN-CUBA

News Bulletin

June 2019

The IN-CUBA partnership is working to develop an incubator methodology based on co-production addressed to people with intellectual disability...

Setting the ground

The IN-CUBA (Incubators for CO-productive Enterprises and Social Inclusion) Project wants to foster social inclusion by developing an incubation methodology based on co-production addressed to people with intellectual disability.

To this goal, a very committed partnership decided to take a path made of 8 intellectual outputs:

- IO1 - Analysis of users' needs and requirements to develop an incubator methodology based on co-production for people with intellectual disability (ID);
- IO2 - Report: levers and obstacles in the access to entrepreneurship for people with ID;
- IO3 - Business incubator Toolkit: a co-productive methodology to develop accessible

business incubator services for people with ID;

- IO4 - Pilot Actions: testing of the co-productive methodology;
- IO5 - Evaluation and Impact Analysis;
- IO6 - How to apply the methodology: Video Tutorials;
- IO7 - How to apply the methodology: Training Guidelines;
- IO8 - Outcomes and Achievements: final publication.

The core output is the n.3, around which all the project is built. However, to get there it is important to make a preliminary analysis and check what is the situation at European level. In this direction go the outputs 1 and 2.

The Output 1 is a research that focuses on users' needs and requirements to develop an incubator methodology based on co-production for people with intellectual disability

This research starts from the results of the ENABLE project and from the experiences of the

partners involved. Co-production is a process that enables services users to become shapers of public services because it means involving all stakeholders, including the people who use a service, in the process of determining what services are delivered and how they operate. The co-production approach is based on reciprocity between the user, service providers, and other stakeholders.

The scientific literature agrees on the positive aspects of entrepreneurship and self-employment for people with intellectual disabilities. However, there has been little real experimentation and support systems are non-existent. It is therefore important to dedicate the first intellectual output of the project to the analysis of needs and requirements of people with intellectual disability. Developing a methodology based on co-production means actively involving users in the incubating of ideas and setting up phases and it is important to be aware of the needs and requirements in order to make their involvement an experience of self-improvement and increased independence.

This Intellectual Output has been shaped through the following tasks:

- Task 1) building on the results of the ENABLE project: The ENABLE project saw the active involvement of users on the occasion of dedicated focus groups aimed at testing coproduction. The results and report of these activities were analysed to bring out the relevant elements in identifying needs and requirements to develop an incubator methodology based on co-production for people with intellectual disability.

- Task 2) Research and data collection: this task focus on data collection at European level on the literature on entrepreneurship of people with intellectual disability and lessons learned from experiences entrepreneurs in situations of ID, pointing out the obstacles and leverages towards entrepreneurship. To do so, DeLork elaborated a questionnaire that was shared with all the partners who returned it filled with information and data. Four questions were asked: 1. We want to make a mindmap concerning the subject 'entrepreneurship of people with an intellectual disability' Please find some interesting keywords;

2. Provide some facts and figures about entrepreneurship of people with an intellectual disability in your country + mention the sources; Summarise the top 3 academic articles that you found about entrepreneurship of people with an intellectual disability. Please provide us the abstracts of each article (Golden tip: you can contact local universities or research-centra to help you); 4 Can you share experiences that focus on entrepreneurship of people with an intellectual disability. This could be in your own organisation or in other organisations in your region (as in your daily work, previous projects, seminars, etc...) Please provide detailed information.

- Task 3) Elaboration and synthesis (booklet): The research on the needs and requirements to develop an incubator methodology based on co-production for people with intellectual disability and on entrepreneurship was assessed and synthesised in a practical booklet with the support of Fondazione San Sebastiano - CREA in order to extract a set of clear messages and rules that have to be conveyed to the partners responsible for the development of the methodology and finally the pilot actions. The Booklet starts with results of ENABLE to clarify and explain the reason and starting point of the IN-CUBA project is clarified. The document then discuss why people with intellectual disabilities are motivated to become entrepreneurs and what are the benefits. After that it clarifies what is entrepreneurship for people with intellectual disabilities providing the reader with some good examples. This is followed by a mind-map composed by keywords that partners were asked to provide. The focus is then on the literature and what are obstacles and leverages towards entrepreneurship followed by some existing methods that can inspire us in developing of the co-productive methodology for incubating enterprises for people with intellectual disabilities. The booklet ends with the general conclusions, lessons learned from the literature studies and good practices. The full document can be downloaded [here](#).

The Output 2 is another important piece of the puzzle. In particular, another important element of analysis focus on the Levers and obstacles in the access to entrepreneurship for people with Intellectual Disability. In particular, this output, which is formally a research survey, aims at pointing out how entrepreneurship is accessible at European level for people with intellectual disability, and what are the main barriers in this regard. This research survey was done via questionnaire, sent to all ARFIE Members and local stakeholders identified by the project partners. The questionnaire was translated in all the partners languages to make it sharable at national levels. Each partner shared it within their networks. Furthermore, ARFIE elaborated also an online version in English and French and shared it via messages and its Newsletter.

The questionnaire is composed of 6 questions that tried to approach entrepreneurship for people with intellectual disability and the possible involvement of them in the management of companies:

- 1) In your Country/Region, is entrepreneurship something that people with Intellectual Disability can achieve?
- 2) In your opinion, could entrepreneurship be a gateway to the labour market for people with disability?
- 3) Multiple choice: How would you assess access to entrepreneurship for people with intellectual disabilities in your country? Please choose among the five options provided for each point
- 4) In your opinion, what are the obstacles to entrepreneurship for people with intellectual disability?
- 5) In your country / region, do people with intellectual disability have the opportunity to be involved in the management of the company where they are employed (participating in the board of director or in the management board)? If so, can you provide some details (legal forms, legal frameworks...)?
- 6) Can the social aim of an enterprise be considered a driver in favouring the involvement of people with intellectual disability in the management and governance of a company?

With the support of all the partners it has been translated into Italian, French, Spanish, Portuguese, and German, and it has been shared with all the members of ARFIE and all the professionals and experts connected to its Network, as well as with the National networks of the IN-CUBA Partners. The English and French versions were made available also online.

ARFIE received more than 50 replies from participants from Belgium, Luxembourg, France, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Greece, and UK. The number of feedbacks received was enough to get a comprehensive picture and start elaborating the report.

The survey shows that there is a gap to fill. Entrepreneurship can be considered a gateway to the labour market for people with ID, but there are barriers to break. Legislation is not always clear, but it doesn't seem an obstacle per se, even though it doesn't favour directly entrepreneurship for people with ID. There are prejudice and lack of confidence to overcome and support services to be shaped. The access to finance seems an issue. There is an interest towards the access to entrepreneurship for people with ID... and IN-CUBA seems to go in the right way, to fill the gap and maybe make the right push to start changing something. A business incubator for social entrepreneurs with intellectual disability would be particularly useful because it would allow the provision of support, opportunity, peer mentoring, technical assistance, and shared resources.

You can download the Report [here](#)

The first two outputs allowed the partnership to set the ground to start the co-productive Focus Groups and work around the development of the co-productive methodology for incubation of project and ideas for people with intellectual disability.

Stay tuned to know more!

SAVE THE DATE

04 March 2020 - Luxembourg

IN-CUBA Dissemination Conference

IN-CUBA Project Partnership



APEMH Foundation (LU) is the project coordinator. It is APEMH mission to defend rights and interests of people with intellectual disabilities and manage a series of facilities and services that can meet users' diverse needs, through an inclusive approach that encourages full participation and self-determination. APEMH has a training unit (UFEP) with an extensive expertise in developing inclusive learning programs, and an easy to read accessibility of information department that is leader in Luxembourg and in Europe. www.apemh.lu



AMPANS (ES) mission is to improve the quality of life of people with intellectual disability, creating and managing centres, services and supporting the criteria of efficiency and effectiveness. It has a strong commitment to serve people with disabilities, AMPANS provides services to over 1,200 people each year. www.ampans.cat



CADIAI (IT) is a social cooperative that for 40 years has been providing the community with the best possible care services and assistance to people with disabilities, both in terms of promoting the well-being as enhancement of the various paths of empowerment and independence promoting. Cadiai, has always tried to create a synergy with families and with the government to assess the best solutions and the most valued answers to the emerging needs.



CREA (IT) is the research centre of San Sebastiano Onlus foundation. It provides resources to improve the health of adult people with intellectual disability. The principal outcome measure is Quality of Life, as individual optimization of the relation between attribution of importance and perception of satisfaction in several areas of life, in a lifelong perspective. www.crea-sansebastiano.org



De Lork (BE) has long lasting demonstrated experience on enabling users to actively participate in the decision making of the organization and leading research in participative methodologies. www.delork.be



FENACERCI is the National Federation of Cooperatives and Social Solidarity is 52 associated members located throughout the country, providing support and services to about 25,000 people with intellectual disabilities and their families, with close to 6000 professionals. FENACERCI advocates for a society characterised by equal opportunities for all. www.fenacerci.pt



Open Group (IT) has a long experience in managing semi residential, social rehabilitation and transition to employment services for people with disabilities. OpenGroup is also specialized in art and web design services involving people with disability. www.opengroup.eu



ARFIE is an EU Umbrella organization with more than 25 years of close collaboration between service providers and training and research centres in the disability field in EU. ARFIE has Members in several EU countries and will lead the Work package "Dissemination and Exploitation of Results" due to his proven expertise in this field as also notable outreach. www.arfie.info



For more information about the project



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co-production