



IN-CUBA

News Bulletin

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The Starting point of IN-CUBA can be identified in the ENABLE Project, which allowed a very committed partnership to test co-production as a way to organise and provide social services for people with intellectual disability ...

The new IN-CUBA Project

The ENABLE project allowed a very committed partnership to test co-production as a way to provide services for people with intellectual disability. ENABLE was overall a successful project and left the partnership with the desire to go a little further and **develop an incubator methodology based on co-production** addressed to people with intellectual disability to foster the access to entrepreneurship and self-entrepreneurship.

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. Working on co-productive approaches has

highlighted the capacity of users to become protagonists and have an active role, opening the doors to new possibilities and further developments. In fact, the scientific literature and several success stories confirm that, through the appropriate support, people with intellectual disability succeed in concretizing ideas through long-term projects, especially projects that lead to the creation of companies. This opens up new opportunities for the development of people's employability and social inclusion. However, if at present national systems tend to promote entrepreneurship and innovation, these programmes are rarely accessible to people with intellectual disability and no measure is put in place to investigate the potential impact entrepreneurship can generate for them and their entourage.

An incubator is an organisation that helps new and start-up companies to develop by providing support services and enabling access to the resources they need. In the context of IN-CUBA however, we can define incubator as a support for the development of projects and ideas... a methodology based on co-production that supports the development of ideas and projects

to transform them into enterprises (considered in its widest meaning).

IN-CUBA aims to support and assess new approaches to the access to entrepreneurship for people with intellectual disability reducing disparities and promoting inclusion. To these goals the action foresees to:

- Develop a methodology based on co-production to incubate ideas, identify the ways and source of funding, and transform them in enterprises;
- Enable users to be equal partners within the planning and development of a project, thus enhancing self-determination;
- Provide opportunities for self-development and inclusion for people with intellectual disabilities so that they can be acknowledged as people that can contribute to the development of their community.
- Testing the results in dedicated pilot actions aimed at the setting up of enterprises;
- Evaluate the impacts of the entrepreneurial process on the quality of life of the users as well as the overall impacts of the project in terms of social inclusion;
- Disseminate project experience and outcomes, also in view of enhancing social representation and promote the adaptation of methodologies at local level;
- Promote the development, testing, and implementation of innovative practices in the field of training for professionalisation;
- Promote activities that could better prepare professionals on equity, diversity and social inclusion in the training / learning environment.

To these goals, a very committed partnership is engaged in developing a 36 Months action to help addressing diversity and promote shared

values, equality, non-discrimination and social inclusion through innovative and integrated approaches. The Project is coordinated by APEMH with the support of ARFIE and it involves 8 partners from 5 European countries.

The project is based on research and analysis and real testing, and all the foreseen activities are based on co-production and will see users as protagonists.

IN-CUBA, more than a project

For the Partnership IN-CUBA is more than a project, is an opportunity to be actor of change and:

- **Work for the improvement of the skills of professionals** of the social care sector and the quality of services provided;
- **enable service users** to be equal partners within the planning and development of a personal project, thus enhancing self-determination and autonomy;
- provide **opportunities** for **self-development** and **inclusion for people with intellectual disability**.



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



co-production.eu



info@co-production.eu



co-production