

Atlantic Social Lab

Newsletter - May 2019

Find out the latest news from the Atlantic Social Lab project in Cork here!
We are an EU funded project which promotes the use of social innovation to address key societal challenges. The project involves 9 partners from across the UK, Spain, Portugal, France and Ireland. Cork City Council is the Irish partner and in Cork we are focused on using social innovation to address issues being faced by social enterprises and look at innovative ways of stimulating civic engagement in the city. This Newsletter will keep you up to date on all our activities in Cork.



Atlantic Social Lab Project Partners with the Lord Mayor of Cork City Councillor Mick Finn during their meeting in Cork in March 2019.

ASL Partners Visit Cork



The Atlantic Social Lab project partners held their 6th coordination meeting in Cork during March 2019. The meeting took place in the UCC Centre for Executive Learning on Lapps Quay and was followed by a visit to the social enterprise "Sailing into Wellness" in Kinsale. Partners were given a presentation on the aims, objectives and beneficiaries of Sailing into Wellness and given a sailing experience in Kinsale Harbour to really sample the benefits those recovering from addiction or with mental health issues can receive from working with this social enterprise.

Later that evening they were treated to a tour of Cork City from Councillor Kieran McCarthy and the next day they were given a demonstration from STEAM Education. This interactive Steam Education demonstration gave participants hands on experience of how this social enterprise teaches Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths to primary school

children.

The project partners then visited and learnt about The Foyer, Cork Community Bikes, Graffiti Theater and Churchfield Community Trust on Assumption Road where they learnt about the services provided by these social enterprises and how they are benefiting the community. They also learned about and received a delicious lunch from The Garden Cafe which is a Churchfield Community Trust Social Enterprise. The produce used in the lunch was grown on site and tended to by those working with this social enterprise.



Shaping the City

Cork City Council and Atlantic Social Lab staff have been very busy in recent months promoting and facilitating voter registration across the city in the run up to the Local and European Elections on the 24th of May. They have hosted information and registration stands in libraries and numerous businesses and educational institutions across the city including Tyndall, University College Cork, Pfizer, Qualcomm etc. These Information and Registration stands received significant numbers of visits from the migrant community with hundreds of engagements and many voter registrations. Throughout this Voter Engagement Campaign there has been strong interest from the migrant community in engaging with local government and with community and voluntary groups in the city. This campaign culminated with the hosting of a stand at Cork airport.

Workshop on Storytelling for Social Enterprises



Facilitator Dave Dunn and Participants at the Workshop on Storytelling in Nano Nagel Place, Cork

The Atlantic Social Lab project in Cork held a “Storytelling Workshop for Social Enterprises” in Nano Nagel Place, Cork on the 18th of April 2019.

This event was facilitated by expert storyteller Dave Dunn and looked at ways to actively engage an audience so that they want to listen and hear the story being told. It covered the different elements of storytelling including “Clarity || delivering the message you want to deliver: what to say, what not to say”; “Confidence || a boost for when you’re in the spotlight”; “Courage || helping you to go out and find new audiences” and “Connection || receiving a real response from people who can relate to your message”.

The workshop also used guided discussions and group exercises to teach the storyteller’s craft to deliver a message in an engaging manner and identify common risks and pitfalls when pitching an idea or concept. It gave workarounds and recovery strategies for

common mistakes and explored the Dos and Don'ts of public speaking.

The workshop ended with a clinic style session where participants were given the opportunity to practice their presentations and receive feedback from the facilitator and other participants.

This event drew nearly 15 participants from across the region with all participants actively engaging making this a very successful event.

Ask & Advise Evening



The Atlantic Social Lab project in Cork held its second “Ask & Advise Evening” for Social Enterprises in the Glandore Workspace on Lapps Quay in Cork on the 19th of March 2019.

Facilitated by Chris Gordon from the Irish Social Enterprise Network, the event brought together Social Enterprises from across the city. Participants shared their experiences in creating, building and developing their social enterprises and together with the facilitator they gave each other advice on how to overcome challenges.

This event drew together nearly 15 Social Enterprises from a variety of sectors and issues discussed ranged from the available work space in Cork for setting up a social enterprise to funding sources for networking for social enterprises as well as the steps to take to internationalise your social enterprise.



Upcoming events

Social Impact Measurement

Measuring your social impact

29th May 2019

Social Procurement for Procurers

Introduction session to social procurement and community benefit clauses for procurers.

Date TBC

Social Procurement for Social Enterprises

Introduction to social procurement and community benefit clauses for social enterprises.

Date TBC