Atlantic Social Lab

A digital, inclusive, green and participatory Atlantic Area through Social Innovation





Atlantic Social Lab is a project co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), through the INTERREG Cooperation Program Atlantic Area (EAPA 246/2016).

More information

Atlantic Social Lab has developed several communication channels where



f /AtlanticSocialLab



@atlantic_lab





https://atlanticsociallab.ces.uc.pt/





Background

Emerging social issues and challenges require new responses as firms, public organizations and the third sector find increasingly difficult to provide solutions based on traditional methods. Society is at a turning point facing a double challenge - responding to emerging needs due to renewed social preferences and structural changes regarding demography, employment, innovation, in a context of persistent public budgetary constraints.

The first phase of Atlantic Social Lab was developed between 2017 and 2021 and was primarily aimed at developing and testing socially innovative solutions in the domains of social welfare services, active population involvement, green and inclusive economy, and social economy and social responsibility of the private sector.

This project phase ended with several tangible results that benefited many citizens in the Atlantic Area.

Main achievements

- Atlantic Social Innovation Observatory
- Implementation of 8 pilot actions in the Atlantic Area
- Several technical reports
- Atlantic Social Lab website
- Dissemination and capitalization activities

However, the Covid-19 pandemic highlighted territorial vulnerabilities worldwide. Also across the Atlantic regions, weaknesses and gaps in social protection and inclusion policies originated pressing needs.

Extension Phase

The project received an extension to reflect on the pandemic's socioeconomic consequences and to consolidate the capitalization of Atlantic Social Lab achievements.

The extension phase reflects and tests new tools to provide long-term solutions in the post-Covid scenario. In this sense, new pilot actions will be developed and tested to provide social services to citizens in this new context, with particular emphasis on digitalization.

The extension of Atlantic Social Lab started in March 2022 and will last until June 2023



Partnership

The project is led by the Avilés City Council (Spain).

The Atlantic Social Lab activities are being jointly developed by the partnership with a double organization: the local & regional public organizations, third-sector organizations & associations will be implementing the pilot action. At the same time, universities will act as quality control and academic advisors to communicate, monitor and guide the impact evaluation of pilot actions and policy recommendations.



















The partnership comprises 7 partners from the eligible countries of the Atlantic Area and includes 3 local & regional public organizations, 2 universities and 2 third sector organizations & associations.