

December 2015



FIERE 4th Newsletter

The **FIERE (Furthering Innovative Entrepreneurial Regions of Europe)** project is approaching its conclusion which occurs at the end of December 2015. The project has been examining **how public and community/voluntary organisations can be more entrepreneurial and innovative** in the way they do their business and deliver services to their clients.

Piloting of Innovative Entrepreneurship Training Programme completed

The partners from the six European countries have developed an Entrepreneurial and Innovative Skills Training Programme for public, private and voluntary organisations and their employees and volunteers. In all six partner countries, pilot training workshops were held between June and

November 2015 to pilot and test the innovative entrepreneurship skills training programme and its three modules (Creativity and Innovation; Analytical Thinking and Resourcefulness; and Resilience and Leadership). In Bulgaria, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy and Portugal 362 people participated in these FIERE workshops. The results from the evaluation questionnaires completed by workshop participants have been overall very positive: high levels of satisfaction were expressed both with the contents of the training programme and with the training delivery methods in all partner countries. The complete Trainer and Trainee Handbooks in all partner languages can be downloaded at: <http://www.fiereproject.eu/index.php/reports/>.

FIERE Final Conference on Innovation and Entrepreneurship



On 12th November 2015 the transnational FIERE Final Conference “**Public and Community Sectors adapting to change through Innovation & New Ways of Doing Things**” was held in Cashel, Ireland. The audience learnt about the work carried out by the partners since 2014 and about the pilot short-form **Entrepreneurial & Innovative Skills Training Programme** that has been developed for staff and volunteers of public and community/voluntary organisations. The second part of the conference presented **Case studies** showcasing how organisations have successfully implemented “innovative” and “entrepreneurial” ways for improving their impact. Speakers included Senan Cooke about Dunhill Rural Enterprises and Ecopark in County Waterford; Seán Keating about Tipperary County Council’s merger project and Mary Fogarty from the The Cottage Shop & Tea Room in Loughmore, County

Tipperary. Stefanía Kristinsdóttir from Iceland also spoke about an initiative in Iceland to tackle rural communities suffering economic decline. The complete Conference Programme along with all presentations can be downloaded from the FIERE website: <http://www.fiereproject.eu/index.php/reports/>.

Beyond the end of the project...

FIERE project partners are integrating the project results in their future business plans. They have also started to further disseminate project results through their **local networks, cooperation with regional institutions and dissemination channels**. Part of the FIERE project has been the setting-up of **FIERE Mentoring Networks** in the six partner countries that will continue to engage with the material developed by the project and with the promotion of innovative and entrepreneurial approaches in their regions.

All project results, including all training material, will remain available for free download on the FIERE website following its conclusion: www.fiereproject.eu.

For further informations



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[Twitter](#)



info@fiereproject.eu

Contacts

TCC - michael.moroney@tipperarycoco.ie

WIT - wogorman@wit.ie

CESIE - dorothea.urban@cesie.org

IPS - todorov_t@unwe.bg

AllWeb S.A. - jhassid@unipi.gr

ACIB - acib@acibarcelos.pt

EINURD - stefania@einurd.is



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