

Social Cooperatives and Social Enterprises International School

Social cooperatives and social enterprises are among the most vital actors of the economy at world level, showing the capacity to understand the great change and challenges that our society faces today.

The increasing number of social cooperatives and social enterprises active at international level confirms this; this is demonstrated by the attention of many Countries, in particular in the European Union; it is witnessed by the transformation of regulatory frameworks and policies increasingly focused on the enhancement of the role of these actors.

In Italy, the cooperative movement has pioneered the emergence of the social cooperative phenomenon, creating a highly innovative cooperative model that inspired normative frameworks and the cooperative movement worldwide. At the same time, new forms of social entrepreneurship and philanthropy are emerging, influencing methods and strategies to provide answers to new needs and proving great capacity of inclusion.

In Italy, Federsolidarietà has organised in 2013 and 2014 two seminars focused on the analysis of the transformation of welfare systems in Europe, and the changes in the production and provision of social services, social assistance, and education. In July 2014, Bertinoro hosted the first summer school on social cooperatives “Imprenditorialità e progettazione strategica”.

In 2015, the *Social Cooperatives and Social Enterprises International School* will analyse the evolution of social cooperatives and social enterprises in the different local framework, and their role in the development of new ways of promoting social inclusion and innovation in different context. The school will focus on local development, technology innovation and on impact evaluation, presenting an overview on new approaches and solutions. The school aim to facilitate networking and growth the activity of social cooperatives and social enterprises connecting local to international dimension, sharing common goals and strategies to respond to the needs of communities.

In the International School, the diversity of actors becomes a strategic asset and everyone can bring something from his/her own experience of everyday life as social cooperator and as social entrepreneur. At the same time, participants meet the different visions and models and enrich his/her own toolbox with new instruments.

The school will take place in Milan on 11th-13th October, **it foresee the participation of 30 social cooperators and social entrepreneurs, 15 Italians and 15 from foreign countries. The working language will be English.**

The participation fee is 100 € VAT excluded (110 € with 10% VAT). The fee includes programme participation and materials, accommodation in Milan (night of the 11th and of the 12th of October), coffee breaks and lunch, personal ticket entrance to EXPO Milan 2015.

Participants will be hosted in triple and quadruple rooms in Residence Zumbini 6 and Ostello Burigozzo, well-known venues in central Milan managed by the social cooperative “la Cordata”. The school will take place in Residence Zumbini 6.

The school will have the closing session in EXPO Milan 2015, at the Cascina Triulza pavilion.

Deadlines: registration form and payment 15th of September

General information and programme

Introduction to the International School (with the collaboration of AICCON – University of Bologna)

Welfare systems are constantly evolving; it changes the provision of answers to emerging needs of the population and the relationship between public institutions, the society, social cooperatives and social enterprises. The opening session will present an overview of the phenomenon in its most recent trends, main frameworks, common aspects and differences.

Session 1

Social cooperatives and local development

The evolution of the welfare model in Europe calls social cooperatives and social enterprises to fully deploy their potentials of inclusion. In fact, they can promote change in the paradigm of realisation of social services, connecting the empowerment of local communities and the revitalisation of local assets, they can work with public institutions in organising policies and innovate their funding.

Session 2.

Tools and methodologies for social impact measure and evaluation

Social cooperatives and social enterprises need to increase their capacity of analysis on the social impact of their activities. The session will provide an overview on the social impact measurement, and present some methods of evaluation of activities. It will update participants on recent trends of the debate on social impact finance and impact investing.

Session 3

Technology innovation and social cooperatives

Technology innovation, in particular on information and communication technology, is increasingly changing our society and the way people is in contact. How much this process can influence the life of social cooperatives and social enterprises? What are possible patterns of change that can innovate the activity of these actors? Is it possible and affordable to develop new ways of social services provision?

The three training session will be organised as follows:

- Theory introduction
- Presentation of an experience
- A workshop session

Residence Zumbini 6 – Milan 11th-13th October 2015 – Programme

	Sunday 11th October	Monday 12th October	Tuesday 13th October
Morning	<p>Arrival of participants</p> <p>Presentation of the participants</p> <p>Presentation of the school</p>	1. Social cooperatives and local development	3. Technology innovation and social cooperatives
Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
Afternoon	Introduction Social cooperatives, social enterprises and evolution of welfare in Europe	2. Tools and methodologies for social impact measure and evaluation	EXPO Milan 2015 Closing session and visit to EXPO