



Association Européenne pour l'Information
sur le Développement Local a.s.b.l.

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

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Igniting the spirit of change

The year 2018 generated impetus for change in the European Association for Information on Local Development. AEIDL worked out its new, long-term strategy that we all believe to be innovative and inspiring. The strategy document was approved by the General Assembly of the association in December 2018.

The impulse to contribute to the 'common future' and develop a participatory strategy is rooted in the co-operative nature of AEIDL. Participation ensured the dynamic of the strategy process by encouraging the director and staff, board and general assembly members to contribute to their full potential and to develop the association's social capital by working together.

The production of the new Strategic Plan is the result of a collaborative process launched in 2017. It provided an opportunity to reflect on the organisation's past, to acknowledge its present experience and expertise, and to initiate a creative thinking process on its future position in the face of a changing European context. Two internal coaches worked with the AEIDL community to ignite this spirit of change – identifying common values, agreeing on vision and defining strategic directions. After approval, the Management Team started to consider the finer details of how to carry out the plan. Change was born!

Over the past 30 years, AEIDL has provided networking opportunities, analysis, evaluation, communications and information, building a wealth of expertise and knowledge on sustainable and local development. Initially focused on local employment initiatives, AEIDL has gradually broadened its scope to areas including rural, urban and coastal development, fisheries, environmental protection, transition and climate action, social and cultural innovation, employment, social affairs, social inclusion and social entrepreneurship.

The adopted new strategy echoes and amplifies AEIDL's previous observatory role on local and sustainable initia-

tives, which foresees the organisation evolving over the coming period into a resourceful 'knowledge hub'. The envisioned knowledge hub will advocate policies that support local initiatives, sustainable development and territorial cohesion in order to connect citizens within a more cohesive and democratic Europe. It will also help to communicate the added value of the EU project in this context and be open to all AEIDL internal and external stakeholders.

AEIDL is also determined to raise its voice more prominently in the EU arena, advocating practices and policies that bring innovative and sustainable solutions to address the economic, environmental and societal challenges faced by Europeans. By promoting citizens' and territorial creativity, AEIDL is committed to help rebuild the European project.

The most important internal source of delivering this ambitious plan is the commitment, and the collaborative and cross-pollinating approach that launched AEIDL's new Strategic Plan. Another internal asset is that AEIDL, as a socially and environmentally responsible organisation, has been built on the values of sustainability, respect for diversity in the broadest sense and standing up integrity and transparency.

AEIDL's shared strategic values rely on the belief that respect for solidarity between regions and the invention of new forms of multi-level and multi-stakeholder governance can help Europe to open up to the rest of the world and strive for a new economic and social equilibrium. The challenge is to encourage and strengthen citizens' involvement, to support them, whether they are engaged in public, private, community or voluntary sector, to shape new opportunities at local level.

Since its creation in 1988, AEIDL has strived to promote a Europe "rich in the diversity of its landscapes, its communities and its culture, open to the world, striving for a new economic, social and environmental equilibrium... a Europe, which is indeed, in the proper use of

Moved earth and heaven; that
which we are, we are.
One equal temper of heroic hearts,
Made weak by time and fate,
but strong in will
To strive, to seek, to find,
and not to yield.
Alfred Lord Tennyson, "Ulysses"



Photo: AEIDL/Fabrice Wagner

Márta Márczis

these adjectives, smart, sustainable and inclusive". AEIDL is convinced that cutting-edge solutions at both local and European level are needed to meet the current challenges of climate change, the loss of biodiversity, social and territorial inequalities and threats to democratic governance and human rights. Our vision is a sustainable, democratically-driven and cohesive Europe, revitalised by policies and practices that support and are inspired by local and citizens-led initiatives.

The current European context appears far from reflecting this vision. Europe is facing today a certain disenchantment with the EU project and a democratic deficit, rising Euroscepticism leading to choices such as Brexit, and the erosion of democratic principles and institutions in many EU member states. Challenges include growing social inequality and how to bridge gaps between the aspirations of European citizens and their opportunities. We are seeing that the spirit of unification, born out of the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, has been replaced by demands for building new fences.

Aware of this context, AEIDL positions itself more than ever as an actor, not an observer, challenging negative trends, promoting empowering approaches and unlocking new opportunities with the strong intention to contribute to a "Europe made by the citizens for the citizens".

Márta Márczis,
President
June 2019

Continuity

2018 was a year of continuity and development for AEIDL. The contracts signed in 2014 and 2015 with several European Commission Directorates-Generals (DG Maritime Affairs & Fisheries, DG Employment, DG Environment and EASME agency, and DG Agriculture) allowed us in 2018 to consolidate our achievements. New types of funding, such as Horizon 2020, have increased AEIDL's experience in social innovation and opened up many opportunities for development and partnership.



Photo: AEIDL/Christophe Thévenot

The nature of the services provided to customers included our core business activities (network management, communications, publications, event management, website creation and maintenance) and focused on themes directly involving local stakeholders: employment, the environment, and regional, local and rural development, etc.

Contracts with the European institutions again represented the main proportion of AEIDL activities.

AEIDL's overall revenue decreased in comparison to the previous year (-2.07%), mainly as a result of fewer activities within the LIFE contract, less revenue earned from the additional tasks generated by FARNET

and lower Horizon 2020 grant payments in 2018.

Overall expenditure also increased in 2018 (+31.7%) compared to 2017 due to higher costs in relation to publications, expert days for learning networks, missions, seminar participation (high in 2018 due to the growth of the assignments). Despite these factors, AEIDL recorded a net profit, helping to consolidate the balance sheet.

AEIDL also financed several in-house projects, targeting the priority themes identified in its strategy.

Turning to staff development, part of the budget was used to provide individual training on specific topics.

A considerable amount of staff time was devoted to defining with the AEIDL's governance the review of the strategic plan which was approved at the end of the year.

Activities also included maintaining and adding content to AEIDL's website, keeping abreast of social, environmental, territorial and citizenship themes associated with local development in Europe.

As regards the volume of activity, this increased by 2,897 hours compared with 2017, mainly due to increased activities all round. The total time worked in 2018 came to 64,939 hours, representing 37 full-time equivalents (FTEs). This was spread between 56 people - employees, freelancers and partners.

Jean Vanweydeveld,
Managing director

The year in the Association and the new strategic plan

The year 2018 was marked by the continuation and further development of our activities (despite difficulties in making progress on certain projects), as well as by the collective drafting of a new strategic plan, all of which required the active participation of AEIDL members and its whole team.



Photo: AEIDL

Adoption of the new strategic plan by the General Assembly.

The number of AEIDL's associate members is now 28. These members come from 13 European countries: Belgium (8), France (5), Italy (4), Hungary (2), United Kingdom (2), Bulgaria (1), Germany (1), Ireland (1), Lithuania (1), Portugal (1), Serbia (1) and Sweden (1).

The directors greatly participated in the year's developments, monitoring activities and their development. The Board of Directors met eight times in 2018, while the members of the General Assembly met twice.

Members are kept abreast of events by regular management e-mails and by the twice-monthly newsletter, AEIDL Flash, which is sent to all stakeholders.

The debate over how to deal with migrants in Europe continued, giving rise

to much interest and participation. Local initiatives benefiting refugees are regularly featured in AEIDL Flash and on the AEIDL website. Both the rural network and FARNET have also addressed this topic with the support of AEIDL experts.

Several projects approved by the 2017 General Assembly have progressed in 2018:

- Planning for events to commemorate the 30th birthday of AEIDL laid out all the activities for 2019.
- The review of the membership occurred during the extraordinary assembly of December. Members were asked to define their roles and define the best composition for the Assembly to support the new strategic plan.

- The issue of creating a new category of member making up the 'AEIDL network' is still pending. Proposals have been put forward and comments made. The work of the subcommittee on this subject will continue in the context of the Strategy Group, enriching the proposals concerning AEIDL's governance.

The Strategy Working Group, the 'Core Group' (comprising directors, other GA members and team members), worked very hard to present in December the new strategic plan to association members, who approved it unanimously.

The year 2018 has shown that AEIDL is alive and kicking. However, it needs to further establish achievable targets for 2019, allowing it to better develop

as an organisation and to face up to the challenges of the future, while maintaining respect for its values.

AEIDL hosted two series of events in 2018, thereby contributing to activities in favour of migrants and women:

- **We Exist** is an organisation created and managed by Syrian people. Its aim is to facilitate access into the labour market for people who have fled conflict and persecution. We Exist promotes participation in socio-economic and cultural life, and seeks to raise awareness of

Syrian culture and traditions. Its plan is to establish a Syrian Centre for culinary and cultural exchange. AEIDL has been working with We Exist, twice offering Syrian cooking classes at our facilities in 2018. During those encounters participants had the opportunity to learn how to cook delicious traditional Syrian food as well as to get to know more about Syrian culture and the difficult situation from which people fled to start a new life in Brussels. Thanks to our **contribution** and the support

of other organisations, We Exist is now looking for a place to set up their own restaurant in Brussels, which will allow them to employ more people who have fled conflict and persecution.

- The Brussels's commune of Etterbeek, in which AEIDL is located, organised a series of workshops aimed at women (22 in total) for improving self-confidence, which we had the pleasure of hosting.

AEIDL “EcoTeam”

AEIDL is committed to reducing its ecological footprint, adopting sustainable practices and promoting respect for the environment.

Last year was a busy year for the Eco-Team.

We decided to focus on the issue of waste generated by AEIDL. Our guideline was clear: the best waste is the one that does not exist. The first step to reducing waste and minimise its impact on the environment (particularly the impact of treatment and recycling) is to reduce the purchase of products that will end up in the bin.

This has led to several changes on a daily basis. Some of our organic waste is now brought to the neighbourhood compost - which is then redistributed

to the residents of the neighbourhood. Another important change, concerns the coffee machine! We opted for fair trade coffee beans, which are supplied in large containers and thus avoid waste related to capsules. Non-disposable crockery and utensils were also acquired for meetings. Furthermore several sorting bins were installed, as well as a ‘Recycorner’.

We also reviewed the different types of waste produced by AEIDL and continued to monitor their weight.

The team has put together some several events. Our agro-ecologist videographer, Fabrice Wagner, did us the honour of inviting us to participate in the creation of a permaculture vegetable garden in the village of Tharoul (Wallonia). Ana Canomanuel and Ana Nava Tazo, event and

environment specialists in the LIFE team, put together a full and varied programme for the European Week for Waste Reduction: clothing exchanges, participation in a Zero Waste lunch, DIY product recipe exchanges, and a visit to the GreenBizz green Brussels business incubator.

Additionally, our co-advisor Pascaline Aimé tracked the indicators, reviewed invoices and contracts, wrote advisory documents, all the time holding fast to her convictions. In December we obtained our third (and last) star for the Brussels Eco-Dynamic Enterprise Label. The evaluator appreciated our culture of soft mobility and low waste production and energy consumption.

It is now a question of maintaining this course for the years to come!



Fernando Barreiro (1949-2018)

In December 2018, we were very saddened at the news of the death of Fernando Barreiro, a member of AEIDL, a long-standing friend and colleague, and an unfailing local development activist. Fernando's wisdom and commitment to local development, which was an inspiration to us all, will be greatly missed!

<https://www.aeidl.eu/en/news/what-s-new-at-aeidl/4621-fernando-barreiro-1949-2018.html>



AEIDL Flash and website

The purpose of our fortnightly electronic newsletter, AEIDL Flash, is to shine a light on our activities and the news on our website. News items from different sources are selected owing to their relevance for local development in Europe.

The “Latest News” and “What’s New at AEIDL?” sections of the website are being fuelled every day with information from various sources (European institutions, think tanks, foundations, Eurostat, EurActiv, OECD, media, etc.). This information work is ‘activated’ by the AEIDL Flash.

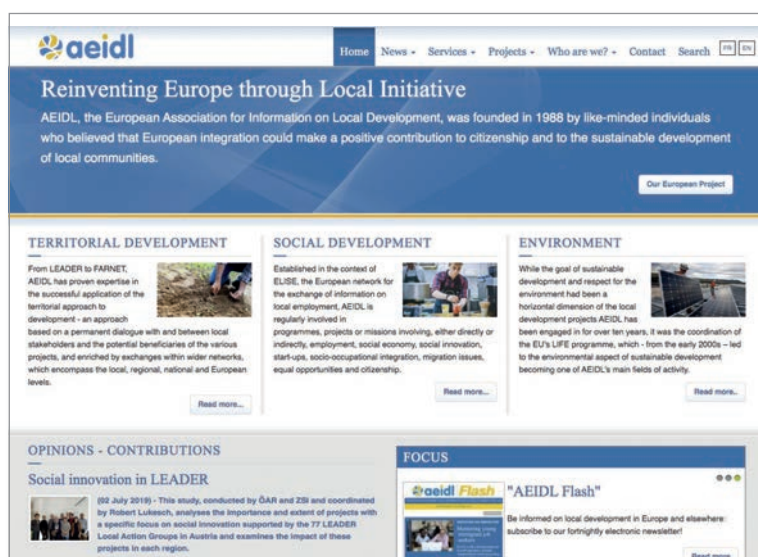
Fuel by experts and journalists, “Opinions/Contributions” section contributes to the debates on local development and social innovation issues.

The AEIDL Flash is sent every other Friday to three main groups: General Assembly members; the team; and AEIDL’s experts, partners, ‘friends’ and academics.

ADDED VALUE

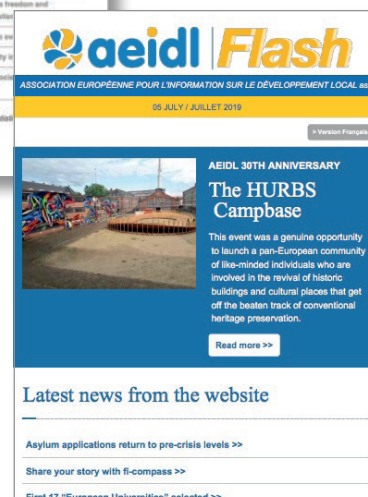
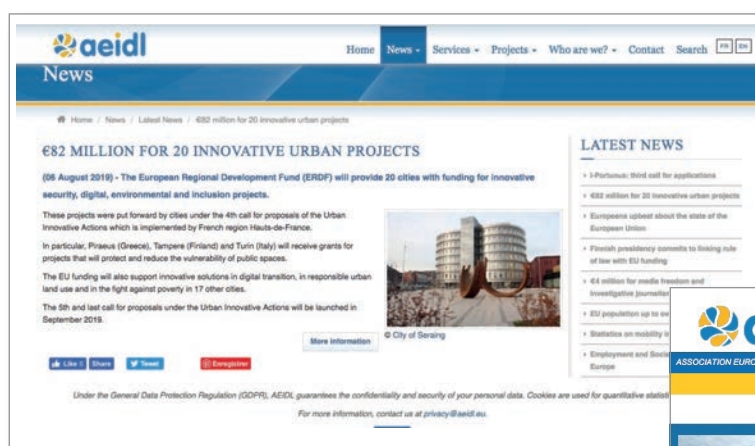
The AEIDL Flash supports AEIDL’s web-site, while promoting AEIDL’s activities to members, its team and around 450 people (practitioners, experts, partners, network members, etc) involved in local development.

Furthermore, the newsletter creates a sense of belonging to AEIDL, as shown by the large number of positive reactions and article suggestions received.



2018 ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS

- The AEIDL website attracts around 2,000 individual visitors per month.
- Audience of the AEIDL Flash reached more than 1,700 subscribers in December 2018.



Client: AEIDL

Duration: ongoing

Budget: -

Team: One editor (Jean-Luc Janot) + graphic designer's punctual intervention (Daniel Renders)

Website: <http://www.aeidl.eu/>

ESF Transnational Cooperation Platform

The European Commission's Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (DG EMPL) has contracted AEIDL to provide technical assistance to the EU-level platform for transnational cooperation in the European Social Fund (ESF).



Photo: ESF Transnational Platform/Vivian Hertz

ESF Transnational Platform's annual seminar, held in June 2018, Brussels.

ADDED VALUE

AEIDL has been involved in the ESF since 2001; from 2001 until 2008 it provided technical assistance to the entrepreneurship pillar of the EQUAL programme and from 2009 until 2013 it supported 17 thematic learning networks among ESF Managing Authorities.

The goal of such transnational cooperation is to improve the quality of employment and inclusion policies and to deliver effective reforms. This relies on the sharing of information and good practice, and working together towards common solutions by bringing together administrations, social partners and non-governmental organisations. For project promoters, input from foreign partners may enable them to approach challenges in novel ways, to solve problems more efficiently, and to avoid pitfalls during processes of change. For public administrations, transnational cooperation provides a structure in which to pursue mutual learning.

To support this, AEIDL has established an EU-level platform to facilitate the exchange of experience, the making of transnational partnerships,

capacity building and networking, and the dissemination of outcomes.

More specifically, AEIDL's technical support concerns:

- Animating and supporting nine thematic networks, respectively on employment, inclusion, youth employment, learning and skills, social economy, governance and public administration, simplification, partnership and migrants;
- Creating and managing a website, which includes a database, to enable ESF project promoters to find partners abroad;
- Publishing technical dossiers and good practices; and
- Organising an annual event.

2018 ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS

In 2018 the nine Thematic Networks continued their work, producing several publications - including various case studies and dossiers on themes related to:

- **Dossier 4** - *Co-production and the importance of strengthening citizen engagement through more inclusive, bottom-up and participatory ways of working with communities*
- **Dossier 5** - *Systems Thinking for European Structural and Investment Funds Management – Guide to process evaluation and lean fund management* – investigates the type of work that really serves clients' needs and that which is wasteful. It shows how Managing Authorities can apply the Vanguard Method to improve their operations. It recommends analysing demand and then turning organisations 'outside in' to focus on fulfilling customers' needs.
- **Dossier 6** - *Tackling long-term unemployment through risk profiling and outreach* – describes the various profiling methods used to decide what active labour market measures will best suit different categories of long-term unemployed people. Weighing the evidence on current practice, it concludes that although statistical tools can help if used properly, assessment by human caseworkers is still the best method.
- **Dossier 7** - *Review of the European Code of Conduct on Partnership (ECCP)* – looks at ways to improve how the partnership principle is applied in practice. It makes recommendations in some areas already

addressed in the existing ECCP and in some new areas including accountability, flexibility, representativeness, transparency, ongoing involvement and capacity building.

- **Dossier 8 - Female (un)employment and work-life balance** – provides an updated overview of the different situations facing women and men in the labour market, focusing on some key issues such as participation, conditions for participation and the possibility to combine work and private responsibilities. It also illustrates some promising practices financed by the ESF and public authorities to increase female participation in the labour market and to improve work-life balance.
- **Dossier 9 - Addressing youth unemployment through outreach, activation and service integration** – focuses on the most successful approaches and common patterns in supporting young people not in employment, education or training (NEETs) to move into [sustained employment](#).

The Platform participated in the EU online public consultation on the next Multiannual Financial Framework accompanied by a policy paper drafted by the team. Additionally, it responded to a survey in preparation to the European Parliament study conducted by the Istituto per la Ricerca Sociale (IRS) on the experience of the ESF beneficiaries in the current funding period.

In addition to the over 20 Thematic Network meetings held during the year, three outstanding events were also organised. A Partner Search Forum took place in March 2018 in Warsaw, Poland, to facilitate the creation of transnational partnerships in light of the 2018 coordinated calls for transnational projects. Over 63 stakeholder organisations were represented in the Forum and took part on thematic round tables debates and a speed-dating exercise. In June, the Platform organised its Annual Seminar, which brought together

204 participants from ESF Managing Authorities and Intermediate Bodies, other public authorities in charge of policy frameworks, social partners and NGOs working in Member States or at European level as well as EU institutions representatives, researchers and academics. The third event was held in December 2018 on the Future of Work theme. The Employment, Learning and Skills and Partnership Networks co-organised the event which explored how the ESF can support Member States to design and implement programmes that adequately address the challenges and opportunities related to the future of work, with a specific focus on the most vulnerable EU populations.

Over last year, the final year of the contract, the Platform reached maturity, following three contractual years developing a solid network of stakeholders as well as knowledge and mutual learning at individual Thematic Network level. The 4th contract year thus aimed to increase synergies and networking, among Thematic Networks, but also with other programmes and funds. A joint meeting between the Thematic Network on migrants and the AMIF managing authorities was held in September 2018 to explore ways of fostering synergies between the ESF and AMIF in order to improve migrant integration. In November 2018, the ESF Transnational Platform was also invited to a meeting of Interreg representatives to develop synergies on how ESF and Interreg promote inclusive growth.

The sub-project on the theme of tackling long-term unemployment, which was introduced at the end of 2017, addresses three themes that were identified as crucial in the implementation of the Council Recommendation on integration of the Long-Term Unemployed (LTU) into the labour market by Member States, namely:

- **Theme 1:** Support for development of common shared case histories

- **Theme 2:** Post-placement after-care, mentoring and support to ensure placement sustainability
- **Theme 3:** Targeted employability support through work experience/vocational training and guidance in specific sectors.

The LTU sub-project operates around the concept of mutual learning among donor countries – i.e. those with advanced practices and experience in the field and recipient countries, and those with less-advanced practices and in need of learning. Numerous working group meetings were organised around the three themes in 2018 and the results of this pilot sub-project will be presented in 2019.



Client: European Commission (DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion)

Duration: 2015-2019

Budget: €2.3m p.a.

Team (AEIDL): 13 FTE

Website: <http://ec.europa.eu/esf/transnationality>

LIFE at the service of the environment and climate

Informing, promoting, making known, publicising – since 2001 AEIDL has been the “Communications Team” for this major European environment programme.

ADDED VALUE

This contract strengthens AEIDL's position and reputation, combining its know-how in communications and European environmental and climate policy. It has also allowed AEIDL to establish and maintain contact with numerous experts throughout Europe in a wide range of fields linked with environment, climate, nature and biodiversity protection. The experience gained through LIFE demonstrates AEIDL's ability to produce high-quality information in a specialist area. This can be exploited in other fields linked to the environment, such as climate change, renewable energy, and more generally, sustainable development.

Photo: LIFE07 NAT/PO00630



The LIFE programme is the EU's funding instrument for the environment and climate action. The general objective of LIFE is to contribute to the implementation, updating and development of EU environmental and climate policy and legislation by co-financing projects with European added value.

LIFE began in 1992 and to date there have been four complete phases of the programme (LIFE I: 1992-1995, LIFE II: 1996-1999, LIFE III: 2000-2006 and LIFE+: 2007-2013) for which AEIDL has been awarded communication contracts. During this period, LIFE has co-financed some 4,500 projects, contributing around €3.4 billion to the protection of the environment and climate.

The European Commission (DG Environment and DG Climate Action) manages the LIFE programme. The Commission has delegated the implementation of many components of the LIFE programme to the Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME). External selection, monitoring and communication teams provide assistance to the Commission and EASME.

In October 2014, the European Commission signed a framework contract with NEEMO EEIG, which includes AEIDL, for services related to monitoring and communications for the new LIFE programme (2014-2020).

In the context of this partnership, AEIDL's task is to provide technical

support and assistance to European-level communication activities.

As the Communications Team of LIFE, AEIDL is responsible for the following tasks on a permanent basis:

- LIFE website maintenance, updating and development
 - Updating the LIFE website (<http://ec.europa.eu/life>) on a daily basis
 - Feeding new content into the LIFE Video Player (<http://lifevideos.eu/videos/>)
 - Managing LIFE's Facebook (facebook.com/LIFE.programme) and Twitter (twitter.com/LIFE_Programme) accounts
- Summaries of completed projects (some 150 a year)
- Collections of new projects
 - Three collections (one per thematic area) covering a total of more than 150 new projects selected each year
- The *LIFEnews* newsletter (10 issues a year)
- Thematic brochures (twice a year)
- Brochures on the best LIFE projects (twice a year) and organising the Best Project Award ceremony
- Thematic diffusion and dissemination of the results of LIFE projects to stakeholders and decision-makers
- “Country overviews” (summaries of the LIFE situation in each EU Member State)
 - We update the country overviews of the 28 Member States, integrating each year's selection of projects. Each overview is translated into the respective country's language(s).

- LIFE promotional material
- Multimedia [databases](#) (photos, videos, documents, publications, etc.)
- PR assistance for LIFE projects
- Review of PR activities and communication strategy

2018 ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS

On May 2018, we organised the LIFE Awards Ceremony during Green Week with the participation of Commissioner Vella. The ceremony was a success with sketches and videos showing the main achievements of the projects rewarded.

Since the beginning of 2018, the look and feel of LIFEnews changed and we are now working with a content management system. The LIFEnews is no longer thematic but highlights the most important articles published during the month with extra highlights. Ten editions were published in 2018.

The following thematic brochures were published:

- “LIFE & Wildlife Crime” was translated and produced in eight languages (FR, IT, ES, HR, RO, PT and BG)
- LIFE & the Marine environment
- LIFE and the Plastics Strategy
- LIFE making a difference in EU's Nature
- NGO achievements brochure

The following thematic factsheets were published:

- LIFE integrated projects
- LIFE makes cities green!
- LIFE is good for nature
- LIFE and energy intensive industries,
- LIFE is good for the environment!
- LIFE unites people for nature

The team made the LIFE project results visible in around 40 events across the EU.



The Team also participated in 5 Platform meetings.

28 country factsheets were updated, which provides an overview of the LIFE programme in the different Member States.

The Team prepared a playlist of videos on Green Tech and Circular Economy, to be displayed at ECOMONDO 2018 (06-11 November, Rimini, Italy) and a playlist of videos on climate change to be displayed at COP24 (3-14 December 2018, Katowice, Poland).

Two videos on integrated projects for the Climate sub-programme were produced:

- LIFE Integrated Project: Belgium's BEreel! to achieve an 80% reduction in GHG by 2050 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RDx5o4TGjD8>
- LIFE Integrated Project: meet Sofie Verhoeven from BEreel! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ncJp8M6DPO4>

The Team prepared the annual compilation of funded projects and two press releases one with annexes for the funded traditional projects and one for the funded IP projects.



Client: European Commission (DG Environment, DG Climate action & EASME)

Duration: 2014-2018

Budget: €2 400 000 (2013-2014) - €6 400 000 (2015-2018).

Team: 20 persons (14 FTEs)

Website: <http://ec.europa.eu/life>, <http://www.aeidl.eu/en/projects/environment/life.html>, www.neemo.eu.

FARNET: sustainable developo

Within the framework of DevNet GEIE, established in partnership with Grupo Alba (Spain), AEIDL is participating in the Support Unit for FARNET, the European Fisheries Areas Network.

ADDED VALUE

FARNET represents an opportunity for AEIDL to apply its experience in rural development (gained in the context of LEADER) in a different context, as well as to exploit its expertise in communications relating to European programmes. It also ensures that AEIDL is associated with an initiative which has become a key feature of European fisheries policy.



Photo: Jean-Luc Janot

Co-operative shop in Saint-Jean-de-Luz, France.

The FARNET Support Unit (FSU) is the technical assistance team contracted by the European Commission to assist in the implementation of Community-Led Local Development (CLLD) under the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF). It works closely with DG MARE, the Member State managing authorities (MAs), the national fisheries networks and with the FARNET Local Action Groups (FLAGs) and others involved in the implementation of CLLD, building a

“learning network” that connects the growing knowledge and experience in CLLD from across Europe. It consists of a permanent team of 12 people, based in Brussels, assisted by 18 regional experts.

The FARNET Support Unit (FSU) is responsible for the following activities:

- Build knowledge and capacity in Community-Led Local development

- Identify and disseminate successful responses to key challenges for coastal, fisheries and aquaculture areas across Europe
- Ensure the flow of information among stakeholders involved in Community-Led Local Development
- Support cooperation between FLAGs and with other local development partnerships throughout Europe and beyond.
- How we do it:

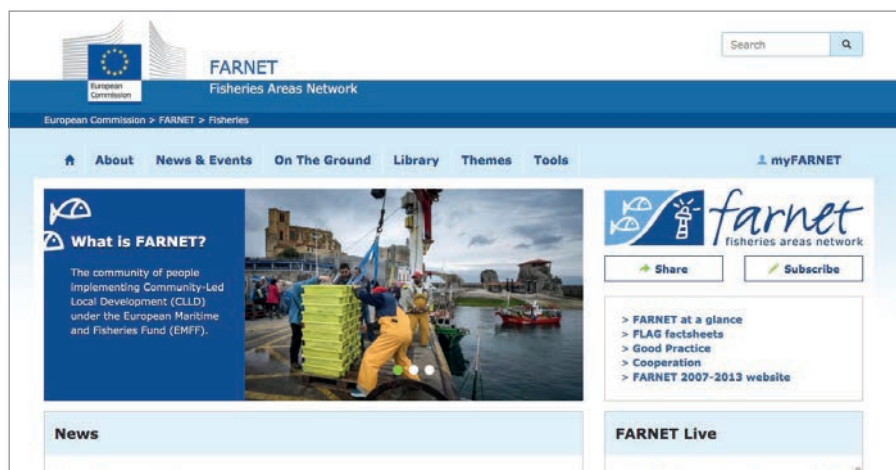
Implementation of Europe's fisheries areas

- Expert advice and assistance to FLAGs and administrations
- Events: capacity-building events, transnational seminars, conferences, adhoc expert groups
- Cooperation with other local development networks
- Identification of CLLD Good Practices
- Publications: regular electronic FARNET Flash, a yearly FARNET Magazine, thematic and methodological guides and other technical reports
- The FARNET website and social media: Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and the FARNET YouTube Channel.

2018 ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS

Activities focused on:

- The development of support itineraries for Bulgaria, Croatia, France, Italy and Romania.
- The co-organisation of capacity-building events for FLAGs and



MA in Bulgaria, Croatia, France, Italy, Lithuania and Romania.

- The organisation and facilitation of two Managing Authorities meetings.
- The organisation and facilitation of two transnational seminars:
 - 'Local Resource Management', in Vigo, Spain, on 13-15 March 2018
 - 'Circular Economy in fishing and aquaculture areas' in Saint Jean

de Luz, France, on 20-22 November 2018.

- Eight issues of the *FARNET Flash*
- The publication of *FARNET Magazine* n° 16 in DE, EN, ES, FR and PL.
- The publication of two *FARNET Guides*:
 - Guide #14: "Integrating aquaculture within local communities" in BG, DE, EN, ES, FR, IT and PL.
 - Guide #15: "Evaluating CLLD - Handbook for LAGs and FLAGs" in DE, EL, EN, ES, FR, IT and PL.
- The publication of a series of project examples.



Client: European Commission (DG Maritime Affairs and Fisheries)

Duration: 2015-2021

Budget: €1 890 000

Team (AEIDL): 6 FTE

Website: www.farnet.eu

Contact Point of the European Network for Rural Development (ENRD)

The Directorate-General for Agriculture of the European Commission (DG AGRI) has contracted the RURANET EEIG, made up of four partner organisations including AEIDL, to manage the Contact Point of the European Network for Rural Development (ENRD) during the 2014-2020 period.

ADDED VALUE

After LEADER (1992-2001) and the Helpdesk of the European Evaluation Network for Rural Development (2008-2013), this contract allows AEIDL to continue to be a key actor in the field of rural development.

The purpose of the ENRD is to increase the involvement of all stakeholders (in particular in agriculture, forestry and rural development) in the implementation of the EU rural development policy; to improve the quality of rural development programmes; and to play a role in informing the broader public on the benefits of rural development policy.

RURANET is an equal partnership of four organisations with complementary skills and expertise: AEIDL, Grupo Alba, IEEP (Institute for European Environmental Policy) and the Rural Development Company.

A permanent team of 20 full-time equivalents work for the ENRD Contact Point, the first activities of which began in July 2014.

The ENRD Contact Point is in charge of three major tasks:

- Knowledge development
- Knowledge sharing
- Exchange and cooperation

2018 ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS

Operational objectives of the rural networks are implemented through the use of a wide range of tools and activity types. The ENRD Contact Point organises its work – and the use of these tools – through a series of capacity building and thematic priorities supported by cross-cutting activities.

PRIORITY 1 - Support to more effective and simpler programme implementation

Events

- Workshop 'Performance-based delivery models', 30/01/2018
- Workshop 'Addressing Bottlenecks in RDP Implementation and Preparing for the Performance Review', 21/06/2018
- Seminar on 'The future CAP delivery model', 23/10/2018
- Workshop 'Attracting young farmers and fostering generational renewal in rural areas', 10/12/2018

Products

Newsletters, FAQs, factsheets, articles in the ENRD Magazine, Good Practices

Other

Provision of expert work in support of the Seminar 'Capitalising on CLLD experiences – Building resilient local communities' (08-10/11/2018)

Running and animating a workshop on CLLD Management and "how to make the processes simpler, more efficient and beneficiary-oriented".

PRIORITY 2 - Strengthening National Rural Networks and National Support Units

National Rural Networks Meetings

- 10th meeting, Germany, 20-21/03/2018
- 11th meeting, Czech Republic, 31/05/2018
- 12th meeting, Estonia, 17-18/09/2018

Workshops

- 'Improving rural policy delivery: the regional dimension', 13/02/2018
- 'The vibrant rural North', 16-18/04/2018

- NRNs' Workshop on Communication, 01/06/2018
- 'Project Examples and Good Practices: Approaches to Collection and Dissemination', 08/11/2018

Outputs from other activities

- Around 50 Member State (MS) missions conducted
- MS needs and opportunities summary report compiled
- National Rural Networks 'toolkit' updated
- 2017 Common Network Statistics summary report compiled

PRIORITY 3 - Support to simpler and more effective rolling out of Community-led Local Development (CLLD) and LEADER

LEADER / CLLD Sub-group meetings

- 5th sub-group meeting, 08/03/2018

Events

- Workshop 'Putting LEADER Simplification into Practice', 06/02/2018
- Seminar on 'LEADER: Acting Locally in a Changing World', 15-17/10/2018

Outputs from other activities

- LEADER/CLLD 'toolkit' updated
- LEADER cooperation Guide translated into 21 languages
- MS cooperation fiches updated
- LAG database and associated cooperation partner search tool enhanced

Other

Provision of expert work in support of the Seminar 'Capitalising on CLLD experiences – Building resilient local communities' (08-10/11/2018): run-

e European Network for Rural

ning and animating a workshop on CLLD Management and “how to make the processes simpler, more efficient and beneficiary-oriented”.

PRIORITY 4 - Smart and competitive rural areas

Thematic Group: ‘Smart Villages’

- Four meetings (21/02/2018, 12/06/2018, 04/10/2018 and 05/12/2018)
- Outputs report, on July 2018

Events

- ENRD Seminar on ‘Smart Villages’, 22/05/2018

Products

EU Rural Review 26 & a Projects Brochure ‘Digital and Social Innovation in Rural Services’ (see below under ‘Communication’); Dedicated web-content; case studies and factsheets

Other

Provision of expert work in support of the 11th Rural Policy Conference ‘Enhancing Rural Innovation’ (09-11/04/2018): facilitation of six workshops; setting up and manning the ENRD exhibit in the rural exhibitor’s show.

PRIORITY 5 - Promoting the transition to a green economy in rural areas

Thematic Group: ‘Sustainable management of water and soils’

- Two meetings, 22/03/2018 and 15/05/2018
- Outputs report, on July 2018

Thematic Group: ‘Mainstreaming bioeconomy’

- One meeting, 09/10/2018

Products

- EU Rural Review 25 & a Project Brochure ‘Resource-Efficient Rural Economies’ (see below under ‘Communication’); dedicated web-content; case studies and factsheets

Events

- ENRD Seminar on ‘Sustainable Management of Water and Soils’, 04/06/2018

PRIORITY 6 - Responding to demographic change and promoting social inclusion in rural areas

Workshops

- ENRD Workshop ‘Making Rural Areas More Attractive for Young People’, 03/05/2018

Products

Dedicated web-content, good practices, case studies and factsheets

Cross-cutting activities

- RDP analysis & Monitoring Indicators
- Summary analysis of amendments of RDPs
- One RDP screening overview report (July 2018)
- 12 case study report and summary tables on selected RDPs
- An EU Fiche presenting aggregated monitoring information at EU level on Priorities and Focus Areas (FAs)
- A Fiche for Priority 4 and related FAs

Good practices examples

- 100, by December 2018

Communication

ENRD Website

- Fully up-to-date ENRD Website content including FAQs
- Creation of a comprehensive ‘ENRD Publications Library’
- Enhanced website functionalities as required and feasible within the overall EC IT environment

Social media

- Continuing outreach through Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn and YouTube channels

Monthly ENRD newsletter (in three languages: EN, DE, FR)

- 12 editions

ENRD Magazine ‘Rural Connections’

(in six languages: EN, DE, ES, FR, IT, PL)

- Spring / Summer 2018 Issue
- Autumn / Winter 2018 Issue

EU Rural Review (in six languages: EN, DE, ES, FR, IT, PL)

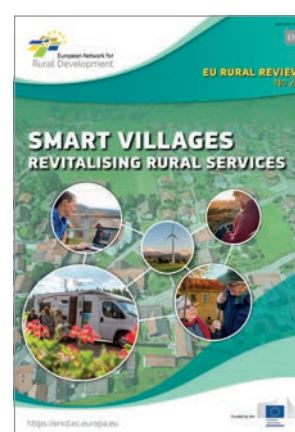
- EU Rural Review 25 ‘Resource Efficiency’
- EU Rural Review 26 ‘Smart Villages: Revitalising Rural Services’

EAFRD Projects Brochure (in six languages: EN, DE, ES, FR, IT, PL)

- ‘Resource-Efficient Rural Economies’
- ‘Digital and Social Innovation in Rural Services’

Support to Rural Networks Governance meetings

- 5th LEADER Sub-group meeting, 08/03/2018
- 9th RN SG meeting, 25/05/2018
- 10th RN SG meeting, 22/10/2018
- 5th Assembly, 11/12/2018



Client: European Commission (DG Agriculture)

Duration: 2014-2020

Budget: € 3 000 000

Website: <http://www.enrd.eu>

Social Innovation

Funded by the EU's Horizon 2020 programme, and managed by a consortium of 12 leading organisations in the field of social innovation throughout Europe¹, the Social Innovation Community (SIC) aims to engage, strengthen and connect existing social innovation networks, including public sector innovators, digital social innovators, social economy actors and more.

1 The SIC consortium includes: AEIDL, [SIX](#) (Social Innovation eXchange, UK), [YF](#) (the Young Foundation, UK), [Nesta](#) (Innovation Foundation, UK), [TUDO](#) (Dortmund University, Germany), [UNIBO](#) (University of Bologna, Italy), [SIL](#) (Social Innovation Lab, Croatia), [DRIFT](#) (Dutch Research Institute for Transitions), [SINNERGIJAK UPV/EHU](#) (Social Innovation Research Centre, University of the Basque Country, Spain), [ZSI](#) (Centre for Social Innovation, Austria), [REVES](#) (European Network for Cities and Regions for the Social Economy) and the [Danish Technological Institute](#).

ADDED VALUE

This three-year contract reinforced the links AEIDL has built up in recent years with some of Europe's leading organisations in the field of social innovation.

Launched in February 2016, SIC is co-ordinated by AEIDL, which is responsible for the financial and administrative aspects of the project.

There is increasing interest in social innovation as a means of addressing societal challenges, but considerable variation in the extent to which different countries and regions have embraced it. To address this, the EC funded several research projects, competitions and network-building activities. However, the overall land-

scape of social innovation support in Europe remained fragmented.

The Social Innovation Community (SIC) project aimed rectify this by strengthening and connecting networks of social innovation actors. It identified eleven 'networks' to engage with, some well organised (DSI community) and others newly emerging (community-led social innovation). Through research, experimentation, learning, policy and communications activities, SIC engaged with research-

ers, social innovators, citizens, policymakers, support organisations and intermediaries, businesses, civil society organisations and public sector employees, helping them to build new connections and strengthen their social innovation practices.

2018 ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS

The year 2018 was the last year of SIC implementation, ending in February



Photo: SIC

Community (SIC)

2019. The project reached cruising speed in the last two years. All project's tasks were fully and timely undertaken. The project's vision and plan were also clear and flexible enough to seize unexpected opportunities to develop additional activities, such as its participation in the EU conference, 'Opening up to an Era of Social innovation conference' (November 2017); the co-production of the [Lisbon Declaration on Social Innovation](#) and its presentation to Commissioner Moedas at [Web Summit](#), as well as participation of the SIC project in the [Web Summit's 'Social Innovation Village'](#) (November 2018), both events held in Lisbon, and the production of two additional Summer Schools editions.

More than 70 events or roadshows, both online and offline, took place in more than 36 cities and 21 countries in Europe, including the final event in November 2018 in Seville, Spain, attended by 124 people from 19 countries. The [SIC platform](#) ensured a strong online presence, linking to the Learning repository and Research and Policy portals. More than 20,000 people engaged online, through social media and the monthly SIC newsletter. The EU Social Innovation Declaration was endorsed by more than 650 signatories.

Five **Transformative Research Sessions** (TRS), organised between June 2017 and June 2018, were successful experiments confirming the importance of having research and practice interact. Five **Hot Topic Workshops** were also organised between May 2017 and November 2018.

Five [SIC impactful experiments](#) were conducted in Turin (Italy), Zagreb (Croatia), Oslo (Norway) and Parnu (Estonia). They tested new multi-sector and transnational collaborations in addressing locally defined issues and



Carrefour des innovations sociales: a social innovation hub

AEIDL participates in the 'Carrefour des innovations sociales', a new French collaborative platform for social innovation.

Following the initiative of CGET (the French government's office for land planning, and territorial and urban policy), La Fonda (a well-established think tank working with associations) and around 50 more partners, France launched in 2017 the 'Carrefour des innovations sociales' (Social Innovation Hub). This platform aims at unleashing the potential of social innovation, providing spaces for co-construction.

On of the founding members of the Carrefour, AEIDL brings a European dimension to this French project by rallying other Member States to the approach.

AEIDL is part of the working groups on data (data analysis, collection, taxonomies, databases) and on the European dimension. <http://www.carrefourdesinnovationssociales.fr/en>.

challenges on cross-cutting issues affecting all EU countries: refugee integration, urban revitalisation, families at risk of eviction, absence of a holistic approach in public service delivery and lack of job opportunities for young people. The **SIC experimentation processes** was co-designed and tested innovative solutions to these challenges.

A learning path to replicate the Summer School learning experience with its activities and tools has been produced and made available in the [Learning Repository](#), currently available at: www.silearning.eu.

In October 2017, the SIC consortium decided to take on a significant task not foreseen in the original work programme: to **co-create** an 'EU social innovation policy declaration'.

The Lisbon Declaration on Social Innovation was endorsed at the Web Summit in Lisbon 2018 by Commissioner Carlos Moedas, who announced that the EU "will put more money into social innovation".

SIC delivered 20 policy workshops in years two and three of the project, reaching over 650 community, public sector and civil society representatives, in 10 EU countries; produced 25 original pieces of content for the SIC Policy Portal; wrote four 'policy digests' (aligned to themes in the Declaration); and produced two detailed 'State of the Union' reports, one on [employment policy and social innovation](#), and the other on how [European Social Fund Plus](#) could be optimised for social innovation.

All relevant information is available on the [SIC platform](#), still accessible but **not updated anymore**. For updated information, visit www.silearning.eu and [ESSI](#).

Client: European Commission (DG Research & Innovation and European Research Executive Agency, Horizon 2020 programme)

Duration: 02/2016-02/2019 (36 months)

Team (AEIDL): 2 persons (Armelle Ledan Prade and Patricia Martinez Saez)

Budget: EUR 2 991 906.25 (AEIDL: EUR 140 311.25)

Website: <https://www.siceurope.eu/>

Buying for Social Impact

In June 2018, AEIDL was awarded the service contract ‘Promoting Social Considerations into Public Procurement Procedures for Social Economy Enterprises’ (PPSEE) funded by the COSME Programme.

ADDED VALUE

The project reaffirms AEIDL's involvement in the social economy while cooperating with key European partners in the field.

PPSEE is a project commissioned by the Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME) and the European Commission Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW) to promote the use of social considerations in public procurement procedures. The project has two main objectives:

- To encourage contracting authorities to use public procurement to pursue social goals; and
- To increase the capacity of social economy enterprises to take part in public procurement procedures and to access new markets.

The project covers 15 Member States: Croatia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Ireland, Latvia, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Sweden.

AEIDL is the lead partner of a consortium that brings together European organisations active in the promotion of local development and social economy enterprises: the [European Network of Cities and Regions for the Social Economy \(REVES\)](#), [DIESIS COOP](#), [Social Economy Europe \(SEE\)](#) and the [European Network of Social Integration Enterprises \(ENSIE\)](#).



Photo: Shutterstock/FirnaV

2018 ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS

From July 2018 the project was set up and the desk research was conducted (with minor exceptions) to feed into the national conferences that will take place during the second period of implementation. Desk research included three tasks:

- Developing a comparative legal analysis of how relevant provisions of Directive 24/2014/EU have been transposed in national legislation in the 15 Member States considered in the project (hereafter ‘matrices’);
- Developing country reports on how the social economy ecosystem is shaped, on how public procurement is structured and about the capacity of social economy enterprises to gain access to public procurement contracts (hereafter ‘mapping reports’);

- Identification and analysis of 20-30 good practices on the implementation of the social clauses of the Directive, as well as market consultations and soft approaches.

The EU level matrix was delivered in October 2019, as a basis for the national public procurement experts to develop the national matrices. Most of national matrices and mapping reports were delivered by the end of December.

October 2018 saw the preparation of the first pilot conference to be held in Italy in February 2019 as well as preparation for the conference in Poland held in March 2019.

Client: Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME)

Duration: 2018-2019

Budget: €721 410

Website: <https://www.aeidl.eu/en/projects/social-development/bsi-buying-for-social-impact.html>

EMEN: the European Migrant Entrepreneurship Network

Funded by the EU's COSME programme, the EMEN project focuses on sharing approaches and lessons learnt across and between public administrations, business development support and financial organisations, social enterprises, non-profit organisations, educational institutions and other public and private organisations supporting migrant entrepreneurship in cities, regions and countries throughout Europe.

The aim of **EMEN** is to develop, share and promote support schemes not only for individual migrant entrepreneurs but also for social and inclusive enterprises benefitting migrants. Ultimately the knowledge gained will be of use for those developing and promoting support schemes for migrant entrepreneurs.

The network operates through three 'Communities of Practice', coordinated by AEIDL, each addressing a key component of a comprehensive ecosystem to support migrant entrepreneurship: coaching and mentoring (led by Social Impact gGmbH, Berlin); access to finance (led by THUAS-FINE, The Hague); and professionalisation and diversity management (led by UNITEE, Brussels).

The network's services are delivered through a dedicated website www.emen-project.eu, publications and an 'infoline', and in the case of peer reviews, though personal dialogue, coaching and mentoring.

2018 ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS

Since its public launch on December 2017, EMEN partners have been working to enlarge and reinforce the three Community of Practices (CoP), to develop substantial content able to trigger peer-to-peer discussions among the CoP members and to look for opportunities to meet face to face and organise learning meetings.

A key moment for disseminating the EMEN project and engaging relevant actors in the three CoPs was the first EMEN annual conference hosted by Social Impact in Munich on 23 April and that attracted over 60 participants.

In terms of project dissemination, the EMEN project website, coordinated by AEIDL and enriched by all partners, has achieved a total of 3,317 visits and 2,276 items have been downloaded. It contains not only some of the 26 project outcomes developed during these months, but also 28 posts with relevant news and external resources. The website also has a dedicated online space, the CoP Discussion Fora, which currently has 46 subscribers representing 32 different organisations from 12 EU countries. The website is, at the same time, connected with the rest of the dissemination channels developed during the first months of the project.

Two EMEN newsletters were sent to more than 1 100 recipients in 2018.

The three Community of Practices were enlarged during 2018 and some relevant findings were obtained though the various activities and outcomes developed.

CoP1 on Mentoring and Coaching currently involves 39 organisations.

CoP2 on Access to finance launched its activities based on the experience of over 100 microfinance institutions in Europe, with the aim of compiling



evidence of best practice in enabling migrant entrepreneurs to raise business finance.

CoP3 on migrant entrepreneurs' associations professionalisation and diversity management has to date attracted 40 members: 28 members from local and national migrant entrepreneur associations (with most of the members being part of UNITEE's network), six support organisations and research centres and 11 chambers of commerce, among which a mix of national, regional and local chambers of commerce, with both groups together covering 11 countries and one region.



Client: EASME, for DG GROW
Duration: Oct 2017-Sep 2020 (3 years)
Budget: €416 000
Team (AEIDL): Patricia Martinez
Website: www.emen-project.eu

ADDED VALUE

EMEN is a concrete outcome of AEIDL's involvement in the promotion of migrant integration, and will result in:

- The better integration of migrants into the EU, by helping them to become economically self-sufficient by running their own businesses
- More numerous and more successful migrant entrepreneurs
- Networking connections among migrant entrepreneurship advisers
- Better representation for these migrant entrepreneurs in chambers of commerce
- Online resources to help migrant entrepreneurs and their advisers

fi-compass: a platform for advisory services on financial instruments under the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF)

Supported by the European Commission in partnership with the European Investment Bank, fi-compass is designed to support ESIF managing authorities and other interested parties, by providing practical know-how and learning tools on financial instruments. These include ‘how-to’ manuals, factsheets and case study publications, as well as face-to-face training seminars, networking events, and video information.

ADDED VALUE

fi-compass is an opportunity to position AEIDL in the field of European financial instruments while maintaining strong links with:

- regional, rural and social development
- agriculture, maritime affairs and fisheries.

The overall objective of the framework contract is to support EIB in providing communication on fi-compass and capacity-building services for the use of ESIF financial instruments to the EU public sector (national bodies, regional administrations and managing authorities). The aim is to increase the quality, scale and speed of the implementation of financial instruments using ESI Funds, which is a priority of the EC for the 2014–2020 programming period.

fi-compass covers the financial instruments for the European Structural and Investment Funds:

- European Regional Development Fund/Cohesion Fund
- European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development
- European Social Fund
- European Maritime and Fisheries Fund



Client: European Investment Bank (EIB)

Duration: 2018-2021

Budget: €11 000 000

Website: www.fi-compass.eu



Photo: Pexels/Magnus Martinsen

The consortium is led by Deloitte with AEIDL, EIPA and Infeurope as partners. AEIDL's task is to provide technical support and assistance for European-level communication activities (video production, journalism/writing/editorial, graphic design and layout, online digital communication, studies, publications) and capacity-building activities (events, thematic and financial instrument expertise) in English and other EU languages.

2018 ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS

Since June 2018, AEIDL has provided editorial work, video production, design and layout and communica-

tion advice for events and publications on a range of areas, including:

- Working with managing authorities on ESIF equity instruments
- Working with managing authorities on loan and guarantee instruments
- EAFRD financial instruments working with rural infrastructures
- EAFRD financial instruments for agriculture and rural development in 2014–2020
- EAFRD Credit Fund Lombardy 2014–2020
- Fisheries and aquaculture, Estonia
- Social Impacts Bond programme under Portugal's Social Innovation Initiative
- Flexible financial products for the agricultural sector in the EU

Green Growth and Circular Economy: Supporting activities for stakeholder engagement, exchange of information and best practices

The objective of this framework contract is to ensure that the European Commission has a range of tools to actively engage stakeholders in the development and implementation of the Commission's policies related to Green Growth and Circular Economy

In particular, it aims to:

- Actively engage European and non-European stakeholders in the development and implementation of the proposed policies
- Educate and train stakeholders on policies and legislation, increasing understanding, support and acceptance for the proposed policies
- Raise the Commission's profile as a key player in Green Growth and Circular Economy on the international stage
- Advocate a resource-efficient society by raising awareness about environmental issues among the general public and encouraging citizens to take positive action
- Encourage stakeholders and opinion leaders to adopt and promote Circular Economy and Green Growth in their field of activity, namely through facilitating the exchange of best practices and by rewarding consistent efforts.

content preparation, journalism, App design and development, development of E-pubs, development of other online promotional and information tools, production and delivery of customised promotional articles, awards, etc.

The consortium is led by Intrasoftware (Scope) with AEIDL, Inspiire, Teamwork, Mio-ECSDE and Coffey as partners.

2018 ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS

AEIDL has been involved in the content preparation and in the communication aspect of the following activities:

- Promotion of the EU Ecolabel and increase of consumers' awareness about EU Ecolabel products

- Support to the second European Clean Air Forum
- High-level conference 'Unlocking the full potential of the EU chemicals policy'
- Organising the 22nd European Forum on Eco-Innovation in Vienna
- Virtuous Circle events in Athens, Warsaw and Lisbon
- Second workshop on integrated nitrogen management
- Support for the EMAS Award ceremony

ADDED VALUE

Green Growth and Circular Economy are in line with AEIDL's strategy. This contract strengthens AEIDL's position and reputation, combining its know-how in communications and European environmental policy. It enables AEIDL to keep and strengthen links with DG Environment, while also complementing the work being done for the LIFE programme.

Client: European Commission (DG Environment)

Duration: 2018-2022

Budget: €20 000 000

Website: ec.europa.eu/info/departments/environment_en

It covers ad hoc stakeholder engagement activities, such as event organisation and the development and implementation of a range of stakeholder engagement tools and outreach activities.

AEIDL is particularly involved in the development and implementation of stakeholder engagement strategies including continuous awareness-raising and awareness monitoring, writing and editorial work,

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AEIDL in 2018



Photo: AEIDL/Fabrice Wagner

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Photo: AEIDL/Jean-Luc Janot

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Green growth & circular economy

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Toby Johnson, ESF-TP, EMEN,

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Katalin Kolosy, RURANET,
fi-compass, other contracts

Marguerite Korenblit, FARNET

Christine Kotarakos, AEIDL
Business Unit

Aleksandra Kowalska, ESF-TP

Daniel Kurth, LIFE

Armelle Ledan, SIC, Carrefour
des innovations sociales

Patricia Martinez Sáez, SIC,
EMEN, AEIDL Business Unit

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fi-compass, Social media

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Green growth & circular economy

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fi-compass

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fi-compass

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AEIDL Business Unit

Dominique Sterckx, Human
Resources Manager

Christophe Thévenot, ICT,
Knowledge Management, Green
growth & circular economy,
Carrefour des innovations sociales

Justin Toland, LIFE, fi-compass

Mihael Topolovec, ESF-TP

Carla Travagnin, LIFE

Lucie Trokanová, LIFE

Margot Van Soetendael,
FARNET

Fabrice Wagner, LIFE, ESF-TP,
EMEN, fi-compass

AEIDL PROFILE

Name: Association Européenne pour l'Information sur le Développement Local (AEIDL) / European Association for Information on Local Development

Legal status: asbl (non-profit organization).

Founded: 1988

Purpose: To contribute to a Europe based on solidarity and citizen involvement, founded on sustainable development and equal opportunities, by offering a wide range of services to local development and civil society stakeholders, as well as various institutions, including the European Commission.

Services: Managing networks and technical assistance; evaluation and advice; information, communications and publishing; training.

Fields of activity: Territorial development (local, regional, rural, urban); the environment and sustainable development; employment and social development; citizenship.

Partner institutions: European institutions; local, regional, national and European authorities, decision-makers and “developers”; development agencies; citizen groups; professional organisations; non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

Contact:

AEIDL, Chaussée St-Pierre 260, B-1040 Brussels

T. +32 2 736 49 60

info@aeidl.eu – www.aeidl.eu

