

# Innovative Approaches Promoting Social Inclusion: What Do They Look Like?

19 October 2023 online

## Objectives of the event:

- Building a consensus on the defining characteristics of effective innovation.
- Identifying the barriers that hinder innovation.

Different EU policies provide the foundation for up-to-date innovation and interventions. Civil society organisations and the individuals involved conduct a day-to-day 'reality check' through their lived experiences, while authorities fund support schemes and interventions.

Is all of this contributing to the innovation we are striving for? Not all change is innovative, and not all innovation promotes real social inclusion. By exploring and debating, we want to redefine and reconfirm the key characteristics of effective innovation.

## Key information

Date: 19 October 2023

Time: 9.00 - 12.00 (CEST)

## Agenda

Time (CEST)	Description
9.00–9.15	<b>Introduction and Welcome</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Agnė Buividavičiūtė, Coordinator of the CoP on Social Inclusion</li><li>- Neringa Poškutė, Head of Social Innovation and Transnational Initiatives Division, European Social Fund Agency</li><li>- Iveta Marcinová, Chair of the CoP on Social Inclusion, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Czech Republic</li></ul>
9.15–10.00	<b>Information Sharing Session</b> <p>Description: This session will cover updates and insights on various topics, including toolkit for social housing, the European Commission guidance on independent living, the upcoming Social Innovation Forum, Member States' news, and more.</p> <p>EC guidance on independent living</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Olga Martinez De Briones, DG EMPL, European Commission</li></ul> <p>The upcoming Social Housing Toolkit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Grzegorz Gajewski, DG EMPL, European Commission</li></ul> <p>Delegated Act re. Simplification <a href="#">EUR-Lex - 32023R1676</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Karen Van De Putte, DG EMPL, European Commission</li></ul>

10.00–11.00	<p><b>Identification of Barriers that Hinder Innovative Approaches</b></p> <p>Description: During this session, stakeholders, project teams, and managing authorities will be encouraged to present and exchange insights on the obstacles and challenges encountered in the various phases of call design, project development, implementation, and up-scaling. These hindrances may encompass legal, financial, professional, structural, and societal factors. We will have the chance to hear from colleagues from the Czech Republic, Latvia, Spain, Greece, Germany, Flanders (Belgium), FEANTSA, and others.</p>
11.00–11:50	<p><b>Key Characteristics of Effective Innovation</b></p> <p>Description: This session features brief presentations from experts covering sub-themes of child poverty, community living and empowering services, and homelessness. Following these presentations, an interactive debate will center around the guiding question: “How can we ensure that ESF+ funds activities that result in effective innovation?”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Ruth Owen, Deputy Director of FEANTSA</li><li>- Zuzana Konradova, EU Affairs Coordinator at Eurochild</li><li>- Gunta Anca, Vice president at European Disability Forum</li></ul>
11.50–12.00	<p><b>Closing Remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Agnė Buividavičiūtė, Coordinator of the CoP on Social Inclusion</li></ul>