



RETHINKING INCLUSION

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IMPACT HUB

EPIM Call for Expressions of Interest Rethinking Inclusion

Unlocking innovative solutions for migrant inclusion and social cohesion with a whole-of-society approach¹

EPIM Fund “Building Inclusive European Societies”

The process of migrant inclusion begins on the first day of arrival and its success hinges on a swift introduction into an **inclusive, socially interactive process between migrants and other members of the society** they are part of, on a long-term basis.

The way that migrant inclusion is experienced and addressed today will contribute to shape the Europe of tomorrow. Crucial to this experience is the **sense of belonging and mutual understanding** within the society. Acknowledging and addressing the **various social and economic drivers of inclusion and exclusion** as well as efforts to support **social cohesion** is also key for the whole of European societies in the long-term to provide for an alternative to trends of rising social tensions and fragmentations, populism, spatial segregation, racism and xenophobia. Nurturing spaces for social interactions can mitigate reasons for tension and foster a sense of belonging and inclusiveness.

The [European Programme for Integration and Migration \(EPIM\)](#) has partnered with [Impact Hub](#) to **identify socially innovative practices and initiatives (“solutions”)** implemented in Europe in the field of migrant inclusion and social cohesion. This call for expressions of interest is launched in the framework of the EPIM Fund on “Building Inclusive European societies”. With this Thematic Fund, EPIM aspires to see migrants and other members of the societies they live in benefit from collective and individual improvements of quality of life and mutual understanding, thanks to greater social cohesion.

Little has been done so far to harness and learn from **promising grassroots responses** initiated by civil society (including NGOs, social enterprises², diaspora organisations, migrant and community-led organisations) to address inclusion challenges. As a consequence, most of these initiatives remain small in scale and cannot provide for an impact assessment or the communication thereof to inform policy, funding and practice change. Drawing lessons from initiatives that have been considered socially impactful hold **potential for society as a whole** and help to overcome the narrative of “us” and “them”.

Through its support, EPIM hopes to **unlock the potential and the capacities of solution implementers** to learn from, scale up, transfer, adapt and measure the social impact of promising bottom-up and whole-of-society solutions that foster migrant inclusion and social cohesion, to eventually inform European inclusion policies, funding and practices.

¹ By whole-of-society solutions, we mean [bottom-up solutions](#) developed and driven by local communities that put the emphasis on the role of migrants and other members of the society they are part of as well as [issue-focused solutions](#) which hold value for society as a whole by targeting not only migrants as sole beneficiaries but also other members of the societies they are part of.

² Please note that innovative start-ups and other for-profit organisations can propose a solution but at a later stage of the process will be required to pair up with a non-profit organisation, as EPIM can only make grants to non-profit organisations. Please refer to the *Guidelines for the submission of an Expression of Interest* for more details.

Expressions of interest

The call for expressions of interest is issued to help EPIM identify civil society organisations that have developed **promising whole-of-society solutions** (project, process, service, practice) in the field of migrant inclusion and that **demonstrate an interest** in adapting their solution and/or transferring their knowledge to stakeholders based in at least one of the following countries: Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Italy, Portugal or Sweden.

Support to selected applicants

- **Step 1:** On the basis of the expressions of interest, **up to 20 solutions** will be selected across Europe to participate in a **case study analysis** where social impact experts will take a closer look at the essence and impact of the solution as well as possible scaling opportunities. (Multimedia) case studies will be made available to all solutions initiators and can be used as communications and fundraising materials as well as strategic tools to maximize the impact of their work.
- **Step 2:** Based on the case studies, **up to 8 solutions** will be selected to be **matched** with stakeholders interested in adapting the solution in one of the target countries.
- **Step 3:** EPIM will support pairs consisting of the solution initiator and (an) interested stakeholder(s), in developing a **proposal for capacity support** to prepare for the scaling/transfer of the solution in other (national) contexts.
- **Step 4:** Selected pairs will be awarded with **grants** of up to 30,000 EUR for a timeframe of up to 9 months to prepare for the scaling/transfer of the solution.

All applicants, including those who are not selected, will receive a **set of useful resources** to increase their knowledge and capacity to improve and scale their projects. All eligible solutions will be **featured on the Social Challenges Platform** and will also be included in an **internal mapping of initiatives** that gives them visibility to a group of funders.

HOW TO SUBMIT AN EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

All applicants eligible for this call are invited to submit an expression of interest **by 15 September 2018, 23:59 CET**.

The application process will take place in two stages:

Stage 1 - Learn more about the call and start preparing your application!

From 15 June to 15 July 2018, click on “Login/Register” to create an account on www.socialchallenges.eu and receive regular updates about the call. In the list of cities, select “Bruxelles EPIM”, click on “Get involved” and follow the instructions. Download the application package and start preparing your submission. In the meantime, feel free to contact us for any question you may have and spread the word.

Stage 2 – Submit your application!

From 16 July to 15 September 2018, 23:59 CET, apply online! Applicants submitting an application by July 31st, 2018, will receive first feedback and will have their eligibility checked, giving them the possibility to improve their application based on the feedback until the final deadline of September 15th, 2018.

Eligible applications will be reviewed by EPIM and Impact Hub with the support of internal and external experts approved by EPIM. A final decision will be made by the EPIM Selection Committee by the end of October 2018.

Please note that applications must be submitted **in English**. We encourage you to consult the [Guidelines for the submission of an expression of interest](#) and the *Application form* before applying.

CONTACT

Please refer any question you may have about this call for expressions of interest to rethinking-inclusion@socialchallenges.eu