



Open Call for Participating to the Digital Data-Driven Programme

Local Workshops for Social Economy SMEs

in LATVIA 2025







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1. About the DO Impact project

The DO Impact project stands for "Digital and data-driven Opportunities to strengthen the Social Economy Impact" and aims to support Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and enabling organisations that work on social economy topics and are interested in adopting digital solutions and data-driven models. The project thesis is that digital emerging and traditional technologies and advanced data management enable new ways of addressing social needs, increase the ability to identify social issues and provide more opportunities to effectively tackle them. Thanks to the pervasive digital technology characteristics, digital transformation and technology innovation might lead to increase the natural scale and impact of social interventions. Contextually, digitalised processes and services can contribute to collect, process and analyse, in a secure and protected manner, data that will contribute to global social economy challenges. Data analysis and valorisation and innovation technologies can generate a wide range of innovative social products and services; increase the productivity of the operations; better address societal and environmental challenges, better anticipate and meet social needs; achieve cost reductions through more personalised services, increase efficiency in the Proximity and Social Economy (PSE) Ecosystem.

It seeks to:

- Enhance awareness about the opportunities for SE Small and Medium Entities (SMEs) to digitalise their businesses and operations.
- Encourage key stakeholders across the EU to recognise the role of digitalisation in driving social innovation and sustainability.
- Provide upskilling and re-skilling opportunities to Social Economy (SE) Enabling Organisations and Social Economy SMEs.

The project follows the Social Economy entities' definition in the Social Economy Action Plan (Communication from the Commission 'Building an economy that works for people: an action plan for the social economy', COM (2021)

"The social economy covers entities sharing the following main common principles and features: the primacy of people as well as social and/or environmental purpose over profit, the reinvestment of most of the profits and surpluses to carry out activities in the interest of members/users ("collective interest") or society at large ("general interest") and democratic and/or participatory governance.

Traditionally, the term social economy entities refer to four main types of entities providing goods and services to their members or society at large: cooperatives, mutual benefit societies, associations (including charities), and foundations. They are private entities, independent of public authorities and with specific legal forms. Social enterprises are now generally understood as part of the social economy.

Social enterprises operate by providing goods and services for the market in an entrepreneurial and often innovative fashion, having social and/or environmental objectives as the reason for their commercial activity. Profits are mainly reinvested with a view to achieving their societal objective. Their method of organisation and ownership also follow democratic or participatory principles or focus on social





progress. Social enterprises adopt a variety of legal forms depending on the national context."

2. DO Impact's Digital and Data-driven Program

The DO Impact project has design specific and modular Digital and data-driven Programs for boosting capabilities (skills, tools, resources, networks) to accelerate the twin transition in European Social Economy SMEs working in the Proximity and Social Economy. The programme follows a shared methodology focused on local and regional needs and priorities and are organised by an enabling organisation within the country.

These activities will be further supported by creating moments of awareness and matchmaking where social economy companies can meet technology providers and other entities to further support them in accessing technology, as well as to generate more understanding from the technology companies towards the needs of the social economy stakeholders.

2.1. The Digital and Data-driven Program in the DO Impact countries

The program consists of workshops aimed to re-skill and up-skill the Social Economy SMEs organised at country level. They include different modules, vary on lengths and formats according to the social economy ecosystem of each country represented by the DO Impact partners.

Country	Organising DO Impact partner(s)	
Italy	TSI, FPI, PoliMi	8
Latvia	SEAL	4
Lithuania	LISVA	4
Spain	Taula, CLDI	8
Sweden	COOMPANION	8

Furthermore, there will be nine other events organised at European level open for all Social Economy Small and Medium entities interested, organised by DIESIS.

This document presents the **DO IMPACT** OPEN CALL FOR PARTICIPATION TO THE DIGITAL AND DATA-DRIVEN PROGRAMS IN LATVIA, which is targeted to **Social Economy SMEs working on the social economy sector based in Latvia**, interested in participating to the Digital and Data-Driven program organised there. In specific, to the events organised by the Social Entrepreneurship Association of Latvia (SEAL), consisting in 2 workshops on the 1st and 2nd of August at Ances dabas māja, in Ance, Latvia on the topics of "Strategic digital transformation and data for good: planning, implementing and leading change" and "Data for Good: AI, analytics and digital tools for impactdriven organisations".





Another **in person workshop** will be organised together with LISVA (LIETUVOS SOCIALINIO VERSLO ASOCIACIJA) in Rokiškis (TBC), Lithuania, around November 2025 on the topic of "Analysing Social Economy trends, insights and new opportunities". Interested participants can also manifest the interest in participating in this event.

2.2. What do we offer?

The **DO IMPACT** OPEN CALL FOR PARTICIPATION TO THE DIGITAL AND DATA-DRIVEN PROGRAMS - LATVIA provides financial support for Social Economy SMEs interested in taking part in the Digital and Data Driven Program organised by the DO Impact partners at country level.

Reimbursement is assured only for SMEs (responding to the EU definition) attending to the complete agenda of the event.

The event location must be farther than 20KM from the applicant's headquarters in order to be eligible for the financial support.

Do Impact has destined an overall budget of **8.200,00 EUR** for supporting in-person participation of SMEs from Latvia in the specific events organised by the project partner LATVIJAS SOCIALAS UZNEMEJDARBIBAS ASOCIACIJA (SEAL) as well as LISVA. This budget will support travel, accommodation and subsistence costs of the entities participating to the event.

According to the distance between the city where the SME is based and the city where the event is being held, each beneficiary SME can receive up to 1.000,00 EUR in the form of a lump-sum per event. It is foreseen that at least 9 entities will receive financial support from this call.

Lump sum funding is a fixed payment defined up-front and set out in the agreement that will be signed between the DO Impact project and the beneficiary SME, stating all conditions for funding. The lump sum will be paid upon completion of activities, and no financial reporting is needed.

Criteria

The specific conditions (selection criteria) for receiving financial support include:

- To be a Social Economy SMEs
- Not being part of the DO Impact Consortium.
- Be present for the entire duration of the event.
- Comply with all the requests made by the DO Impact project in terms of feedback and follow-up.
- The place of establishment of the selected organisation (headquarters) must be more than 20 kilometres away from the location of the event.

Organisations that are part of DO Impact Consortium are not eligible for the financial support.





Each selected entity can receive up to one thousand euro (1.000,00 euro) from the project for event, according to the conditions expressed below. The table below shows the criteria for calculating the amount of the financial support to be provided in the form of lump-sum. It will be based on the distance and duration of the travel for participating in a specific activity organised by the project.

Eligible costs

The financial support is meant to cover part or all the costs for participating in the workshops(s) chosen by the organisation in the application form.

The eligible costs are exclusively those related to the participation in the workshop: travel, accommodation, and subsistence costs. According to the following criteria:

For **traveling**, **subsistence** and **accommodation** costs for participating to events the lump-sum will be composed according to the following criteria:

- For 1-day events, entities can receive up to 300 EUR depending on the distance between the applicant's headquarters' city and the city where the Workshop is organised. [Column A in the following table].
- For events lasting 2 or more days, entities can receive up to 1.000,00 EUR depending on the distance between the applicant's headquarters' city and the city where the event is organised. [Column B in the following table].

Table 1. Cost Categories

DISTANCE \downarrow & DURATION \rightarrow	A)	B)
FROM 20 KM TO LESS THAN 200 KM	1 DAY	2 OR MORE DAYS*
FROM 20 KM TO LESS THAN 200 KM	100 euro	300 euro
FROM 200 KM TO LESS THAN 1000 KM	300 euro	500 euro
FROM 1000 KM ON	-	1000 euro

*for events taking place in 2 consecutive days, even if they are different workshops, the calculation will be B).

When filling the application form, Social Economy SMEs will have to declare their headquarter city and the calculations of the distance will be carried out using the two calculators provided by EU linked to the Commission Decision C (2021) 35, available at the following link:

https://commission.europa.eu/funding-tenders/procedures-guidelinestenders/information-contractors-and-beneficiaries/calculate-unit-costs-eligible-travelcosts_en





The departure will be the city of the legal address of the organisation, and the arrival will be the city in which the event is being held. For distances over 400km please use the Flight calculator.

3. Who can participate?

3.1. Eligible applicants

The eligible applicants of DO IMPACT OPEN CALL FOR PARTICIPATION TO THE DIGITAL AND DATA-DRIVEN PROGRAMS are organisations the Social Economy SMEs as defined by the EU, that work in the Proximity and Social Economy sector (e.g. cooperatives, mutual benefit societies, associations (including charities), and foundations).

A SME will be considered as such if coherent with the <u>Commission Recommendation</u> <u>2003/361/EC</u> and the <u>SME user guide</u>.

As a summary, the criteria which define an SME are:

• Headcount in Annual Work Unit (AWU): less than 250.

and

- Annual turnover: less or equal to €50 million and/or
- Annual balance sheet total: less or equal to €43 million.

For Latvia, it means micro, small and medium entities such as limited liability companies – SIA (Sabiedrība ar ierobežotu atbildību), associations - biedrības, nevalstiskās organizācijas, labdarības organizācijas, foundations - nodibinājumi.

The DO Impact Consortium has the right to request formal registration documents from the applicants. In case the Consortium request is not answered within 7 working days, the applicant will be considered as ineligible.

SMEs that are under liquidation, in difficulty, or excluded from the possibility of obtaining EU funding under the provisions of national or EU law, or by a decision of national or EU authority are not eligible to apply for funding.

Social economy enabling organisations (meaning an umbrella organisation, a sectoral federation or Association representing social economy entities, providing support services to social economy entities or federate social entities) and other kind of entities not fulfilling the eligibility criteria are not eligible for this call. If you are a SE enabling organisation, we invite you to check DO Impact's Capacity building training available <u>here</u>.

Double funding shall be avoided! The applicants must not be or have been funded by national or European public funds for the same activities related to what they candidate to by applying to this call. This is a fundamental principle for public expenditure in the EU: no costs for the same activity can be funded twice from the EU budget.





Gender Equality, Diversity and Social Inclusion

The DO Impact project seeks gender balance, diversity protection and social inclusion. Therefore, applicants to DO IMPACT OPEN CALL FOR PARTICIPATION TO THE DIGITAL AND DATA-DRIVEN PROGRAMS are invited to take all measures to promote equal opportunities within their staff in the implementation of the action as well as address diversity.

3.2. Eligible countries

Social Economy SMEs established in the countries where the events are taking place: Italy, Spain, Sweden, Baltics and Europe.

For the purposed of this call, the entities must be **located in Latvia**.

3.3. Language

The application form must be filled in English, the official language for **DO IMPACT** OPEN CALL FOR PARTICIPATION TO THE DIGITAL AND DATA-DRIVEN PROGRAMS. Submissions done in any other language will not be evaluated. This means any requested documentation will have to be submitted in English in order to be considered eligible. The applicants can ask support to the DO Impact partners organising the workshops in their country. English is also the only official language for the agreement.

The Digital and Data-Driven Program will be held in the language of the country where it is organised.

3.4. Absence of conflicts of interest

Applicants shall not have any actual and/or potential conflicts of interest with the DO Impact Consortium, during both the selection process and the whole project development. All cases of potential conflicts of interest must be declared and will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

Applicants cannot be DO Impact Consortium partners or affiliated entities (Affiliated Entity means any entity which owns or controls, is owned or controlled by, or is under common ownership or control with, the DO Impact partner.) nor their employees or co-operators under a contractual agreement.

4. How to participate?

4.1. Application form

The submission of the DO IMPACT OPEN CALL FOR PARTICIPATION TO THE DIGITAL AND DATA-DRIVEN PROGRAMS - LATVIA application must be done exclusively through the following link:





LINK TO FORM

Only the application form filled online, in English and submitted will be considered eligible.

4.2. Number of applications

Only one application per SME will be evaluated (and possibly selected for funding). In the case of multiple submissions by the same applicant, only the last one received (as per timestamp of the IT system) will enter the evaluation process, the rest will not be considered, meaning, they will be declared non-eligible.

If the submitted application is declared non-eligible or fails to reach the thresholds needed to proceed to the evaluation, the applications that were submitted earlier by the same applicant will not be considered for evaluation either.

4.3. Deadlines for submission of applications

This DO IMPACT OPEN CALL FOR PARTICIPATION TO THE DIGITAL AND DATA-DRIVEN PROGRAMS will be open until the last in-person event is organised and until the 30th of June 2026 at the latest.

In the case of the participation to the **first 2 workshops (1-2/08/2025)**, the cut-off **deadline is 20 July 2025 at 23:59 CEST**.

For the event in Lithuania in November, the cut-off date will be announced later on, applicants nevertheless can already manifest their interest in participating and accessing to the financial support also for this event,

The DO Impact Consortium reserves the right to add a cut-off date in case there is still budget available.

Only proposals submitted before each cut-off deadline will be accepted. After the call closure, no additions or changes to received proposals will be considered.

5. Evaluation and selection of beneficiaries

5.1. Evaluation criteria

Companies applying to DO IMPACT OPEN CALL FOR PARTICIPATION TO THE DIGITAL AND DATA-DRIVEN PROGRAMS will be ranked according to the evaluation criteria shown in the table below.

Table 2. Evaluation criteria

Evaluation criteria	Weight
Criteria 1: Learning needs in terms of upskill/reskill linked to digitalisation and use of data	20%





How will the participation in the Digital and Data-Driven Program tackle your current needs and interests related to digitalisation? (max. 1000 characters)	
Criteria 2: Presence of a digitalisation strategy / plan / roadmap	35%
How would you describe your digitalisation level? Do you have already a plan to implement some technologies, a roadmap /digitalisation path, a destined budget? Is it the first time you are approaching these topics? Data produced in the organisation information.	
Criteria 3: Expected outcomes of the participants including the impact they foresee in the organisation	35%
Which specific outcomes and impact do you aim to achieve by participating in the Digital and Data-Driven Program? Please mention all the workshops/topics of interest for you (max. 1500 characters)	
Criteria 4: Expertise and competences available	10%
What expertise, resources, or experiences can you bring to the <u>DO</u> <u>Impact Digital and Data-Drive Programme</u> ? Please specify for any topic related. (max. 1000 characters)	
MAX TOTAL SCORE	5

DO Impact Selection Committee will score the criteria on a scale from 0 to 5 (half-point scores may be given):

- Fail [0] The proposal fails to address the criterion, or it cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information.
- Poor [1] The criterion is inadequately addressed or there are serious inherent weaknesses.
- Fair [2] The proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses.
- Good [3] The proposal addresses the criterion well but there are a certain number of shortcomings.
- Very good [4] There is a small number of shortcomings but overall, the proposal addresses the criterion very well.
- Excellent [5] The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion with no or minor shortcomings.

The evaluation period, including the eligibility check and the technical evaluation, shall take maximum 7 working days, starting from the closing date of the call. (check the cut-off dates calendars on the <u>website</u>)

A minimum overall score of 3 points is required to be considered for the selection stage.





The evaluation phase will start after each cut-off date with an eligibility check of the Application Form that will take maximum 2 working days. The eligibility and evaluation will be carried out jointly by an evaluator appointed by the project coordinator (partner in charge of the management of the present call) and an evaluator appointed by the partner organising the event. Following the evaluation process, the ranking of the applications will be generated according to the highest obtained scores.

All applicants will be informed of the final results of the evaluation procedure within ~5 working days after the deadline. In case of a delay in the evaluation procedure, this will be communicated to the applicants via email.

Prioritisation in case of equal scores

In case a group of applicants score equal points, the prioritisation will be carried out as follow:

- 1st criterion: Applications ranked based on the scores obtained in Criterion 3 (Expected outcomes of the participants including the impact they foresee in your entity) of the evaluation criteria (higher to lower).
- 2nd criterion: Applications ranked based on the less represented cities/towns, to assure a balanced participation from companies coming from different parts of the country.
- 3rd criterion: gender balance presence at the event and a well-structured strategy on this topic within the organisation.

5.2. Confirmation

Once the information of the evaluation results is received, each selected company must confirm its commitment to participating in the Event by sending an email to <u>doimpact@piemonteinnova.it</u> and thus starting the agreement signing procedure. This communication must be sent within 3 working days from receiving the communication as a selected beneficiary.

5.3. Contact point

For any information, please send an email to <u>doimpact@piemonteinnova.it</u> specifying the topic of the request and the question/doubt/information needed.

Information about the project, its objectives and activities can be found on the DO Impact website: <u>https://diesis-network.coop/doimpact/project/</u>

Enquiries and complaints

If you consider that a mistake has been made, you can send your complaint in English by email to <u>doimpact@piemonteinnova.it</u> including at least the following information:

• contact details (including email address).





- the subject of the complaint.
- explanation and evidence regarding the complaint.
- Copy of the submitted application form.

Companies will have five calendar days to submit their complaint starting from the day after communication of the results is sent. The DO Impact Consortium will review the complaint within no more than seven calendar days from its reception. If we need more time to assess the complaint, we will inform the company by email about the need for an extension.

We will not consider nor review anonymous complaints, nor complaints with incomplete information.

6. Preparation, signature of the Agreement and fulfilment of activities

Once the beneficiaries have been selected, they will receive the agreement proposed by the DO Impact Coordinator (Fondazione Piemonte Innova) defining the total lump sum to be received, the conditions and payment.

The agreement will also contain all the relevant information related to the company, DO Impact coordinator, and the principles and obligations¹ to be fulfilled by the beneficiaries SMEs, related to:

- **Conflict of interests**: The beneficiaries must take all measures to prevent any situation where the impartial and objective implementation of the Agreement could be compromised for reasons involving family, emotional life, political or national affinity, economic interest or any other direct or indirect interest ('conflict of interests'). They must formally notify the DO Impact Consortium without delay of any situation constituting or likely to lead to a conflict of interests and immediately take all the necessary steps to rectify this situation. The DO Impact Consortium may verify that the measures taken are appropriate and may require additional measures to be taken by a specified deadline.
- **Confidentiality and security Sensitive information**: The beneficiary SME must keep confidential any data, documents or other material (in any form) that is



¹ Following the requirements of the Grant Agreement 101167976 (Art. 9.4) signed by the DO Impact Consortium related to providing financial support to third parties (FSTP).



identified as sensitive in writing ('sensitive information') - during the implementation of the action and for at least until the time-limit set out in the Privacy policy. Unless otherwise agreed between the parties signing the agreement, they may use sensitive information only to implement the Agreement. The beneficiaries may disclose sensitive information to their personnel or other participants involved in the action only if they: (a) need to know it in order to implement the Agreement and (b) are bound by an obligation of confidentiality. The DO Impact Consortium may disclose sensitive information to its staff and to other EU institutions and bodies. It may moreover disclose sensitive information to third parties, if: (a) this is necessary to implement the Agreement or safeguard the EU financial interests and (b) the recipients of the information are bound by an obligation of confidentiality. The confidentiality obligations no longer apply if: (a) the disclosing party agrees to release the other party (b) the information becomes publicly available, without breaching any confidentiality obligation (c) the disclosure of the sensitive information is required by EU, international or national law. Specific confidentiality rules (if any) will be set out in the agreement.

- Classified information: The parties must handle classified information in accordance with the applicable EU, international or national law on classified information (in particular, Decision 2015/44417 and its implementing rules). Deliverables which contain classified information must be submitted according to special procedures agreed with the granting authority. Action tasks involving classified information may be subcontracted only after explicit approval (in writing) from the granting authority. Classified information may not be disclosed to any third party (including participants involved in the action implementation) without prior explicit written approval from the granting authority. Specific security rules (if any) will be set out in the agreement.
- **Ethics**: the activities must be carried out in line with the highest ethical standards and the applicable EU, international and national law on ethical principles. Specific ethics rules (if any) will be set out in the agreement.
- Values: the beneficiary must commit to and ensure the respect of basic EU values (such as respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and human rights, including the rights of minorities). Specific rules on values (if any) will be set out in the agreement.
- Visibility of the EU emblem: conditions and requirements will be included in the agreement following what stated in Communication obligations.
- Specific rules for carrying out the action, settled in the agreement.
- Keeping records and supporting documents: the beneficiaries must at least until the time-limit set out by the DO Impact Consortium in the Agreement (5 years after the end of DO Impact project, i.e.: 31/08/2026) — keep records and other supporting documents to prove the proper implementation of the action (meaning, the participation to the event). In addition, the beneficiaries must — for the same period — keep the following to justify the amounts declared: adequate records and supporting documents to prove proper





implementation and fulfilment of the conditions as described in the agreement.

Consequences of non-compliance: If a beneficiary breaches any of its • obligations under the agreement, the lump-sum may be reduced or terminated.

The beneficiaries must complete the agreement with the required information and the SME's legal representative must sign it. The agreement must be signed using a certified electronic signature (encrypted digital signatures, such as those produced using e-signature software) and sent via email to doimpact@piemonteinnova.it within 5 working days after its reception. It will then be counter-signed by Fondazione Piemonte Innova, and a fully signed copy will be sent back via email to the company.

In case the company prefers to sign the contract by hand, this must be notified to Piemonte Innova when the communication of selection is received, thus before receiving the agreement. In this case, the signed Agreement must be sent by post.

In all cases mentioned above, a signature indicates acceptance of the agreement and all its terms.

Proof of participation 6.1.

In order to receive the lump-sum, beneficiaries have to sign the participants list available during the event, which will be used as proof of participation in the event.

Furthermore, they will have to contribute to the impact measurement of the project by filling feedback forms and other requested information.

Payment 6.2.

The lump sum, as set in the agreement will be paid after the company has participate in the event and has filled the feedback form.

The payment will be carried out by Fondazione Piemonte Innova, coordinator of the DO Impact project, within 60 days (2 months) after receiving the required documents.

Communication obligations 6.3.

For dissemination of the activities funded by DO Impact, the recipients must credit the DO Impact project through proper citation and appearance of the DO Impact logo and the EU emblem, with the disclaimer

"This activity has indirectly received funding from the European Union's Single Market Programme, via the DO Impact Project (GA N. 101167976)".

The DO Impact project will provide further communication on this topic to all beneficiaries of this call and this information will be also included in the agreement.





7. Confidentiality and GDPR data protection

By submitting the application, the company consents that the content of the application form will be shared with DO Impact partners. The privacy policy is available <u>here</u> as well as linked in the application form.

DO Impact consortium has the right to use non-sensitive information relating to the activities, materials and documents received from the beneficiaries for policy, information, communication, dissemination and publicity purposes — during the project implementation and afterwards. All this information will be included in the agreement that will be signed by the beneficiary and a partner of DO Impact.

8. ANNEX 1: Call Process

The following graphic shows the overall process for the DO IMPACT OPEN CALL FOR PARTICIPATION TO THE DIGITAL AND DATA-DRIVEN PROGRAMME.



Figure 1 - Open call mechanism

9. ANNEX 2: SME checklist

In order to submit a complete application to **DO IMPACT** OPEN CALL FOR PARTICIPATION TO THE DIGITAL AND DATA-DRIVEN PROGRAMME, SMEs must present the following documentation:

- Participation Form: completed within the deadline. Link:
- If selected, entities must provide:
 - o the Bank account reference (IBAN and BIC codes)
 - Information about the grant recipient's legal representative (name and surname, position, telephone number, email address, signature).

