FairShares Lab

-2018-

NEWSLETTER #3

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FairSharesLabs Platform
- a website but MUCH more!

During the recent FairShares Labs (FSL) training session in Osijek, Croatia the FairShares Platform was presented by the Hungarian partner. This E-learning and Communications tool is a website but actually much more than that! This task (Intellectual output, IO3) has been developed by Zöld-Aktív Social Cooperative and its IT partner (Info-Partner) to provide an opportunity to understand the FSL Project. It enables you to be able to use the learning and project developing tools and search for other partners, even from all over Europe and then be able to communicate with each other.

Everything on the site is available in five languages
(English, German, Dutch, Hungarian and Croatian).

The Home Page has a detailed European Map (Open Site Map) in which all registered projects can be found. These are shown with icons that express how the project is proceeding (which development stage they are at) and what kind of activities are carried out. When it is clicked the user can read the public details of the project.

Once registered, users can start creating their own project using the Platform as well as the Planner, which is a part of it. They can search for partners, stakeholders and interested people locally or abroad; search for a FairShares Lab which can provide all kinds of help (workshops, training, coaching, co-working places, contact/meeting points); search and check in to virtual or real training courses and can use a wide range of learning tools.

If they want, they can also develop an entire virtual project on the Platform!
The FairShares Platform is also useful for schools and university's aims and could therefore be integrated into the curriculum. It is possible to use the Platform to create a Test-project for students and these Test-projects can become real, live business projects at any time.

We are looking forward to starting the Platform live!

Enterprise creation with FairShares principles – but how?

The FairShares Planner!

FairShares is a philosophy for creating social enterprises that share power and wealth in a democratic way, ensuring a sustainable approach instead of quick profit. But how do you implement a FairShares enterprise in detail? What needs to be considered in taking an idea all the way through to a live organisation? The FairShares Planner helps to answer these questions.

The FairShares Planner is an online tool that can be used free of charge through the FairShares Platform. Users must first register themselves on the Platform in order to work with the FairShares Planner. The FairShares Planner offers the following benefits:

1 FairShares yes or no: With the guidance provided on the FairShares Planner, the initial idea is developed into a plan with content. There are various questions about the future social business, which have to be answered. These questions reflect the principles of FairShares. This therefore makes the idea of FairShares tangible and concrete. It also makes it clear as to whether FairShares is the right approach for the project or enterprise?

2 Together, not alone: The FairShares Planner enables you to gather answer to the questions as a team. All prospective partners, whether investor, employee or future customer – are given the opportunity to answer the questions. Someone starts and then the others add their comment and review it until completion. In this way, it is already checked at the outset, whether all parties represent the same views and the same goals. Possible conflicts about different opinions are collectively handled from the start.

3 Part of your own business plan: The answers that have been worked out are an important building block in the ongoing business plan. The generated content can be downloaded and integrated into other documents. This means that no duplicate work has to be done, for example in discussions with the bank etc.

Sounds great? You want to be a part of the FairShares movement? In only a few weeks, both – the FairShares Platform and the FairShares Planner – will be available online.

During 19th – 22nd February 2018 the 4th transnational meeting of the FairShares Labs partners, and their trainers, took place in Osijek, Croatia. During the meeting the implementation of the project so far was reviewed as well as the future activities planned. All the partners were interested and excited about what has been achieved so far and enthusiastic about the upcoming period.

An important aspect during the meeting was the training in the FairShares Planner.
Jumbo Klercq, a partner from Elephant in the Netherlands, led the training and all partners and their trainers participated to learn how to do FairShares in "real life". The trainers were carefully selected and represent the best of what every organisation has to offer.
This meeting was crucial due to the importance of knowing how to implement the FairShares idea into the real-life situation and when the meeting was over all of the participants left with knowledge, experience and satisfaction of what they will be doing in the future.

FairShares Lab

The next partners meeting is scheduled for 23rd – 25th May 2018 in Deventer, Netherlands where further work will be done on understanding the FairShares planner and model as well as how to incorporate it into business markets of the partner countries.

May 23. - May 25. 2018

DEVENTER