# EUROPE **CHAPTER** Quarterly Buzz



June 2025



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# HELP KEEP OUR SECTOR A EUROPEAN PRIORITY









## Help Keep Social Economy an EU Priority

On May 1st, the European Commission's DG GROW (The Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs) relinquished its current clear and direct commitment to the Social Economy.

Dismantling the SE Unit will see the institutional knowledge built up over the last decade lost. This will have **alarming implications**, undermining the progress achieved and stalling future advancements in this crucial ecosystem.

Economically, the SE ecosystem is incredibly important. **4 million** social economy enterprises employ over **11 million people**, generating nearly 1€ trillion in turnover in 2021. More importantly, SE, a pillar of democracy, integrates economic, social, and environmental goals **building a sustainable, green, inclusive, and competitive economy.** It prioritises social goals over profit, placing people first and reinvesting earnings into social objectives. Therefore, this **decision threatens a crucial driver of prosperity and resilience.** 



Read and sign their plea, signed by 236 organizations in less than 48h, to bring back SE to the EU strategy.

Let's stand for an economy that works for the people and the planet 🌍

# LEADERSHIP AND TEAM UPDATE IN THE EUROPE CHAPTER







## Farewell to Ricardo Oliveira Neves, Co-Chair since November 2024

We would like to share that Ricardo Oliveira Neves stepped down from his role as Co-Chair of the Europe Chapter in May to focus on his core activities.

Since joining us as Co-Chair in late 2024, Ricardo has contributed to the Europe Chapter's engagement efforts and supported internal organisational development.

We deeply appreciate his initial commitment and wish him the best with his endeavours. The good news is Ricardo will continue as an active member of the Catalyst network, where you can collaborate with him around his areas of interest, particularly the important topic of the longevity agenda.









# Looking Ahead: Searching for Associate Co-Chairs

The Europe Chapter is excited to start building a leadership pipeline to support the current Chair, Valeria Duflot, and prepare for her succession.

As a founding chair, Valeria is eager to start building the next generation of the Europe Chapter's leadership.

We're seeking individuals eager to learn more about the Europe Chapter's life and operations and begin taking responsibilities in it as associate co-chairs.

This is an opportunity to learn by doing and be "Chair-ready" when we go for elections in the winter 2026/2027 or earlier.

We will share more about this exciting plan during our upcoming general meeting and over the summer. In the meantime, we invite you to reflect - could this be your opportunity to prepare to step into a leadership role and help shape the future of the Europe Chapter?



Already feeling called to it? <u>Share your interest</u> <u>here!</u>





Europe Chapters Intern, Chantal Perez Kluin -Ready for her next Adventure

#### Are you looking for a talent?

Chantal started working as the Europe Chapters Intern in November 2024. After seven months, her internship is coming to an end.

As part of her internship Chantal has supported the Europe Chapter in several activities, including but not limited to:

- Assisting with communication materials
- Supporting members
- Identifying potential funding opportunities
- Conducting research to support the organisation of the upcoming Europe In-Person event

She is now looking for her next exciting opportunity, and would love to continue working within the field of social innovation, systems change and advancing the SDGs. She has a special interest in sustainability, health, and human rights.

You can read her <u>CV</u> here and reach out to her at chantalperezkluinn@gmail.com



#### <u>LinkedIn</u>

"At university I discovered that I was deeply interested in and drawn to the field of human rights and international law. I am looking for an opportunity to work within this field and develop skills in research, advocacy and policy work. Moreover, my internship at Catalyst Now has sparked a growing interest in the field of communication."

# FLAGSHIPS: KEY UPDATES AND OPPORTUNITIES









# **About Bridging the Gap**

#### What is Bridging the Gap Week?

Bridging the Gap is a pan-European campaign spearheaded by the Europe Chapter of Catalyst Now and designed in collaboration with European institutions and networks. Its purpose is to help **bridge the gap between social change practitioners and the public sector in Europe**, at all levels, from local to multilateral (EU).

#### How will it be organised?

- It is designed as a shared campaign promoting a week of events, distributed across Europe, and taking place **both online and offline**.
- All types of formats are welcome as long as the purpose and outcomes of each session clearly contribute to bridging the gap between practitioners and the public sector in Europe.
- The individual sessions are the responsibility of their hosts.
- The week can be used to launch movies, reports, convene high-level policy conversations, make space for peer learning, host workshops, co-creation sessions and anything in between.

# Catalyst Now Bridging the gap week

#### BRIDGING THE GAP WEEK

#### CatalystNow/BTG2025

September 2025 #BTG2025 #EBridgingTheGap2025 #CatalystNow

This collective campaign will allow for gravitas and momentum, increasing the visibility and attractiveness of each individual effort.





## Updates & Sessions Submission

**Update:** Bridging the Gap Week is being **rescheduled** to **late September 2025** due to recent changes at the level of the European Commission, a friend of this initiative.

This will allow the event to better reflect the evolving context and strengthen its objective: to bring together social innovators and public change agents across Europe.

Thew Date: End of September (to be confirmed soon!)

#### Host a session!

<u>Read more on the event here</u>, and you would like to contribute to the discussion by **hosting a session on collaborating with the public sector in Europe**, <u>submit</u> <u>your proposal through this form</u>.

We look forward to hearing from you! Thank you to those that have already submitted their session proposals - exciting ideas!



#### BRIDGING THE GAP WEEK

CatalystNow/BTG2025

September 2025 #BTG2025 #BridgingTheGap2025 #CatalystNow





## Europe-Wide In-Person Event: A Pivot

Following thoughtful discussions within the Europe Events Task Force - and in light of our deepening engagement with key ecosystem partners - we have decided to reschedule the event to Spring 2026. This decision is driven by an exciting new opportunity: the event will now play a central role in co-creating a cross-ecosystem roadmap for impact in 2026. Together with partners such as Euclid Network, Ashoka Europe, DIESIS, Social Economy Europe, and MyData Global, we aim to:

- Align on shared Europe-wide priorities
- Co-develop a strategic and collaborative roadmap for 2026
- Strengthen our collective positioning in European policy and partnerships

By moving the event to Spring 2026, we also gain the necessary time to:

- Secure meaningful funding and scholarships to ensure inclusive participation
- Co-create a dynamic, member-driven program
- And ensure high-quality logistics that reflect the ambition of this Europe-wide gathering

In the meantime, we will still host a smaller, closed-door, strategic co-creation meeting in December 2025 with ecosystem partners.



We are truly excited about the direction this is taking and grateful for your ongoing support. This extra time will allow us to deliver a more strategic, inclusive, and impactful in-person experience - one that not only brings us together but helps shape the future of our ecosystem.





## **Europe-Wide In-Person Event: Deepened Impact**

#### Heartfelt Thanks to the Europe Event Task Force

We extend our sincere gratitude to each of you for your time, dedication, and invaluable contributions to shaping the Europe-Wide In-Person Event. Your commitment has been instrumental, and we are fully dedicated to ensuring your continued involvement in the in-person convening.

While the decision to shift direction was not taken lightly, it reflects our shared aspiration to create meaningful and lasting impact. This change will allow your efforts to translate into tangible outcomes - for both you and the broader European ecosystem.

We look forward to continuing this important conversation during the upcoming Europe General Meeting and hope to see you there.

Thank you once again for being such an essential part of this journey!



## THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING



# MARK YOUR CALENDAR: UPCOMING MEETINGS









## Next Europe Chapter General Meeting

# Looking Ahead: Key Opportunities & Initiatives for the Second Half of the Year

As we reach the mid-year mark, it is the perfect moment to align on the exciting developments and transformative initiatives ahead:

- Bridging the Gap Week advancing policy collaboration across Europe
- Europe-Wide In-Person Event in Paris uniting changemakers for bold collective action
- Associate Co-Chairs Prep-Program the future leadership of the Europe Chapter
- Plus many other important updates!

Further details and Google Calendar invitations for the next General Meeting will be shared soon.

#### YOU'RE INVITED!!

PM CEST





## Europe Local Co-Chairs Meeting

On June 5, the Europe Chapter hosted a special Local Chapters Co-Chairs Meeting to foster collaboration, align on shared priorities, and amplify peer-to-peer learning across our regional network.

As we prepare for two of our key regional initiatives

- Bridging the Gap Week (September 2025)
- Europe-Wide In-Person Event (rescheduled to first semester of 2026)

this gathering offered an important moment to update co-chairs on evolving plans, timelines, and strategic direction.

#### This was our first collective meeting of the year, designed to:

- Connect local co-chairs across Europe
- Exchange insights and best practices
- Explore how each chapter can meaningfully contribute to making our events inclusive, impactful, and truly pan-European

#### What's next?

A follow-up meeting is already scheduled for **June 26** to dive deeper into local chapter interests and begin shaping **concrete sessions for Bridging the Gap Week**.

### CHAPTER CHAIRS, JOIN US!





# THE CHANGE HUB







# The Change Hub: March and April

The Change Hub is Catalyst Now Europe Chapter's flagship monthly two days learning and co-creation space. It brings together changemakers from across Europe to explore systems change, social impact, and collective action through interactive dialogue, peer learning, and collaboration.

We would like to share with you some of the **highlights and insights** from the first two sessions in March and April:

#### March - Digital Transformations

Al for Social Change: Future-Proofing Skills to Drive Impact & Innovation (session recording is available here)

#### 1 April - Climate Change

Building Heat-Resilient Cities in Southeastern and Central Europe: A Systems Change Approach. (session recording is available here)

Thank you to those 100+ members and non-members that attended and participated across both sessions 🙌

**Congratulations** to the 28 participants that received an official **Certificate of Active Participation** - **signed by Gaby Arenas de Meneses**, Catalyst Now Community Co-Chief Facilitator **3** 

We hope to see you in the upcoming sessions!





# Slow Throughput: The Leverage Points for a Regenerative Supply Chain

In a world increasingly shaped by **speed and extraction**, this **Change Hub** session takes a bold step in the opposite direction - inviting us to consider how **slowing down** might be our most radical act of systems transformation. **Regenerative supply chains** aren't just about logistics or efficiency - they're about **reimagining our relationships** with people, places, and the planet.

With his unique blend of **systems thinking**, **community activism**, and **creative inquiry**, **Michael Boyle** will guide us through the *ecological logic* of **slow throughput** - a practice of supply rooted in **resilience**, **regeneration**, and **reciprocity**. Together, we'll explore how **small leverage points** across production and distribution systems can generate **transformative ripples**.

#### What to Expect:



#### Date: July 2-3 Time: 3PM CEST (1 hour) <u>Register here</u>



Michael Boyle, based in Vienna, is a passionate defender of the common good. A university lecturer, radio host, and committed activist, he works tirelessly to foster regenerative communities. In addition to his academic and civic engagement, Michael is also a painter - bringing creativity and heart into every space he enters.







## Get involved as a session host!

Members are warmly invited to **host or propose future sessions**. You get to share your expertise, lead conversations, and help shape the Change Hub's 2025 programme.

We are looking for members to host Change Hub sessions from July onwards. We are interested in hosting sessions that focus on one of the following six key topics: climate change, environment, livelihoods, health, education, and digital transformations. Other topics suggestions are most definitely welcome too!

Do you wish to share your knowledge and experiences, lead an inspiring discussion, connect with fellow changemakers, and develop your mentoring and presentation skills? **Then this is your opportunity!** 

**If you are interested in becoming a host, please fill out <u>this form</u>. We will get back to you to arrange a meeting. You can count on having the Catalyst Now Secretariat's full support throughout the entire process of creating and hosting your session.** 

Thank you to the members that have already hosted or are hosting a session soon! Let's keep the momentum going!



# **GRANT NAVIGATOR**









# Do Not Miss a Funding Opportunity

The Grant Navigator is a list of interesting and relevant funding opportunities that we have compiled for members to use and explore.

This list is updated monthly to reflect current funding opportunities and relevant open calls. This means that we are constantly adding new opportunities and removing calls that have already closed.

#### Take a look at the funding opportunities here

If you are interested in partnering with other members to apply for any of these funding opportunities, feel free to reach out to the Europe Chapter Coordinator, Mykyta Pobiehun at <u>pobiehun@catalyst2030.net</u>

#### Stay tuned for the latest version! 📢

Grant Navigator

Your map to financial support

Catalyst Now

# LOCAL CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS









## **Scotland Chapter Development**

On **April 29**, the **kick-off meeting** with prospective members was successfully held. We are happy to share that members showed a strong interest and enthusiasm for launching the Scotland Chapter

On May 20, the first in-person meeting took place in Edinburgh.

These inaugural meetings explored the potential for launching a Scotland Chapter and focused on the needs of Scotland-based members, on the support members could potentially provide, and on co-creating a locally ground action agenda for the year ahead, including discussions on potential proposal and funding ideas.

We are thrilled to share that a **second in-person meeting** was scheduled and took place on May 28, in Edinburgh.

Mel Young will continue serving as interim group lead.

Members based in Scotland who wish to join are encouraged to contact **Mykyta Pobiehun** at pobiehun@catalyst2030.net

We are excited to see how the Scotland Chapter will grow!







## Local Chapters Funding Consortium

Four of our local chapters came together to apply for an EU funding opportunity.

After weeks of hard work, we are excited to share that an application to the **CERV programme** has been **submitted successfully** 

The CERV (Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values) programme is an EU funding programme that aims to protect and promote Union rights and values, working towards sustaining and developing open, rights-based, democratic, equal, and inclusive societies based on the rule of law.

If the application is approved, it will provide funding for **online and offline activities in the Ukraine, Slovenia, Austria, and Greece Chapters during 2026–2027**.

If you are interested in joining the Consortium or have a funding opportunity you believe we should pursue together, please reach out to **Mykyta Pobiehun** at <u>pobiehun@catalyst2030.net</u>







## London Chapter In-Person Meeting

We are thrilled to announce that the London Chapter had an in-person meeting on June 9, at the House of Transformation. A heartfelt thank you to Anton Chernikov for the in-kind offer to host the event.

Members gathered in the spirit of connection and collaboration using the **"U Change – Cooking Together"** format - blending shared meals with meaningful conversations.

Their agenda included discussions about the Catalyst Now Strategy 2025-2029, outcomes from the Governing Council meeting in Bogotá, regional engagement and upcoming regional gatherings, and motivation and social reward within the network.

#### Ideas for future gatherings:



✓ A series of workshops, on a self-managed rotational basis, where each member will host the gathering and offer her/his tools, experience and knowledge. The rest of the members will share their perspectives. This way, members are all learning from each other, as well as finding alternative solutions as a collective.

✓ 'Randomizer': 1-1 meetings using tools to matchmake members based on their passions and hobbies.

If you wish to join the workshop series or the Randomizer please reach out to **Mykyta Pobiehun** at pobiehun@catalyst2030.net



# Upcoming Austria Chapter In-Person Meeting

The Austria Chapter is organising its **next "home table meeting"** on:

June 26, 2025 at 19.00 CEST
The pub <u>"Wohlleben</u>", Vienna

The members will come together to connect and talk about ideas related to the visibility of the Austrian chapter as well as to discuss ongoing activities at Catalyst Now.

Participants are asked to send a short confirmation to <u>office@hafelekar.at</u>

Catalyst Now Austria Chapter



# FROM OUR FRIENDS AND PARTNERS







## Nominate an Ashoka Fellow

Do you know a leading social entrepreneur based in **Switzerland**?

This year, Ashoka Switzerland's Fellowship search focuses on **Health for All.** 

Therefore, Ashoka is looking for **changemakers transforming and revolutionizing health and wellbeing in Switzerland.** They want to support social innovators that tackle health challenges with bold and disruptive solutions.

Ashoka Fellows gain access to a **global network** of innovators, **funding opportunities** and the support needed to **scale their impact**.

Nominations are anonymous and multiple submissions are allowed.



Switzerland

Submit nominations here





# The Networks Festival 2025

Join an **online**, **six-week global gathering** to learn more about how to spark change and to connect and co-create with 1000+ systems change practitioners.

Co-organized by Fito Network and Greaterthan Collective.

Triangle 12th - June 22nd

These are some of the topics sessions will focus on: networked organizing, how to change systems, money practices, leadership capacities, the art of facilitation, leveraging technology, telling your story, resourcing and funding, and equity and wellbeing. If any of these interest you, be sure to <u>explore the full program and register for sessions!</u>

Who is this festival for?

Bridge builders, movement makers, network weavers, storytellers, system shapers, field catalysts, big dreamers, and collaborative changemakers.

# THE NETWORKS FESTIVAL

A 6 week event to connect, imagine, and rewire how change happens.







# Social Shifters Global Innovation Challenge 2025

#### Why participate in the challenge?

- Multiple grant awards of up to \$15,000 USD one submission makes you eligible for multiple awards.
- Personalised pitch coaching.
- Free founder and project support, including elearning, workshops and peer-to-peer connection.
- Exclusive access to our Global Opportunity Network – with year-round access to more grants, paid work, fellowships, and training.

#### **Eligibility:**

• Young founders (18–30 years old) leading a startup or project with decision-making authority. The project/startup must contribute towards at least one of the UN SDGs and show at least 6 months of consistent activity and team commitment toward their impact goals.

Deadline: August 29, 2025



#### Register <u>here</u>!

# MEMBER EVENTS AND UPDATES









# Cities Ending Homelessness -Oslo Forum 2025

#### Oslo 2025 Cities Ending Homelessness Forum

Cities Ending Homelessness is an initiative with an ambitious aim - to bring together policy makers, social innovators, those with lived experience and academics from across sectors to discuss <u>how to end homelessness</u>.

The Cities Ending Homelessness Forum will be held in **Oslo with sessions taking place between Monday 25<sup>th</sup> and Friday 29<sup>th</sup> of August**. This event is part of the Oslo 2025 Homeless World Cup, an annual football tournament with purpose.

The Homeless World Cup Foundation is **inviting you to share existing solutions and seek new ideas** on how to tackle this issue, whether you work with people experiencing homelessness or in other areas. For more information on the Forum in Oslo, as well as updates on their year-round work please join their mailing list.

If you have any questions, please contact **Katelynne Kirk** at <u>katelynne@homelessworldcup.org</u>



OSLO 2025 CITIES ENDING HOMELESSNESS FORUM

25-29 AUGUST

SAVE THE DATE REGISTER FOR MORE INFORMATION

Interested in Participating: Members interested in participating are invited to contact Katelynne Kirk directly at katelynne@homelessworldcup.





# Cities Ending Homelessness -Edinburgh Forum 2025

Cities Ending Homelessness will also host the Edinburgh Forum, a smaller, separate event happening on the **17<sup>th</sup> of July 2025, 10am - 3pm at Edinburgh City Chambers.** This will be an exciting opportunity to explore solutions to homelessness in Edinburgh, specifically discussing <u>sport for social impact.</u> temporary housing, women's homelessness and more.

This is a dynamic forum to share existing solutions and find new ideas. Ideas can come from any area – from sport to finance, mental health to housing, justice to politics and beyond. You don't need to work with people experiencing homelessness, you just need a passion for social innovation. There is no *single* reason for homelessness, there is no *single* solution, and no *single* city has all the answers – that's why we need to work together. **A world without Homelessness. That's the goal.** 

More details will be published soon. For more information on the Forum in Edinburgh, as well as updates and news on their year-round work please join their mailing list.

If you have any questions, please contact katelynne@homelessworldcup.org



Interested in Participating: Members interested in participating are invited to contact Katelynne Kirk directly at katelynne@homelessworldcup.





# EcoLaunch Accelerator Program 🚀

**EcoLaunch** is calling on practitioners, social entrepreneurs, and innovators focused on **Nature-based Solutions and NatureTech** to join a dynamic, participant-driven accelerator program

#### What makes this program different?

Instead of using a rigid, predetermined syllabus, EcoLaunch creates **intentional spaces** with conversations **tailored** to your **evolving needs** in order to maximise your **growth and impact.** 

#### What will you gain?

- You will build deep connections with a global network of Nature-based entrepreneurs.
- Customised advice/strategies.
- Hear from over 80 leading global experts.
- Access to practical tools and frameworks to accelerate your enterprise/journey.

Format: Online content and interactive live panel sessions.

EcoLaunch offers a range of **scholarship** tiers designed specifically for **Catalyst Now members**. There are four tiers that range from **80-100% discount**.

#### Click <u>here</u> to learn more about EcoLaunch



Click <u>here</u> to learn more about Catalyst Now Scholarships





# Economies of the Future Will Be Discussed in Istanbul: Next Economies Summit 2025

The Next Economies Summit 2025, will be taking place on September 12–14, 2025, at Kadir Has University in Istanbul. Organised by the Prosumer Economy Society and Kadir Has University's Center for Energy and Sustainable Development (CESD), the summit will be held under the theme "United Next Economies". It aims to collaboratively redesign economic systems in response to global challenges such as the climate crisis, biodiversity loss, and social injustice.

The summit will host **world-renowned speakers** including Katherine Trebeck, Amitabh Behar, Ashish Kothari, Mads Christensen, and Simel Esim.

The program focuses on the experiences of **networks and social movements working for economic transformation**, **innovative business models**, and **policy proposals** – promoting not only the sharing of ideas, but also **collective action**.



The early registration period has been extended until June 22, 2025. This significant event offers a powerful platform for anyone looking to contribute to economic and social transformation. For more information and registration visit: nexteconomies.net


# Launch of the company PeaceEye

Andreas Papp, a Catalyst Now Austria Chapter Co-Chair, has co-founded, along with a few Professors of the Department of Geoinformatics at the University of Salzburg, a company called **PeaceEye**.

The main **objective** of PeaceEye is to **predict the outbreak of armed violence** and to support the SDG's with a wide range of **already existing** emergency preparedness and response services.

## How does it do this?

It harnesses Earth Observation (EO), Artificial Intelligence (AI), Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT), Human Intelligence (HumINT), and advanced analytics to deliver a powerful insight tool for volatile regions, enhancing situational awareness and providing actionable intelligence. These insights enable decision-makers to anticipate risks and make strategic decisions.



Click here to learn more!







# **Discover Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs**

Are you ready to launch your business - or take it to new heights?

**Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs** is your gateway to cross-border collaboration, fresh ideas, and market expansion.

This **EU-funded exchange programme** connects **new or aspiring entrepreneurs** with **experienced small business owners** across participating countries.

Whether you are at the **start of your journey** or already running a small enterprise, this programme offers an incredible opportunity to:

- Acquire real-world entrepreneurial skills
- Test ideas in new markets
- Collaborate with seasoned mentors
- Grow beyond borders

**Our Europe Chapter Member, the Academy of Entrepreneurship**, proudly serves as a programme ambassador.



# Academy of Entrepreneurship<sup>®</sup>

Interested in joining from Greece, the UK, USA, Canada, or Singapore?

Get in touch with our partners at **eye@akep.eu** to learn more!

Make sure to <u>explore their rich</u> <u>resources and guidance here</u>, including:

- Participant Guides & Registration Info
- Inspiring Success Stories
- Business Plan Tips
- Profiles of Host
   Entrepreneurs





AgriGO.Al is Europe's first Al-powered farming assistant accessible directly via WhatsApp. It delivers smart farming advice on crop health, weather, pest control, and more in local languages— no app downloads or complex logins required. Farmers receive instant, data-driven advice.

AgriGO.Al empowers rural communities and smallholder farmers by bridging the digital divide.

## How does AgriGO.Al align with EU goals for rural innovation, digital inclusion, and sustainable agriculture?

VIIt supports the EU's aim to create a digital single market by bringing advanced AI tools to a traditionally less digitized sector (agriculture).

VIt targets digital inclusion by using an accessible platform such as WhatsApp.

VIt helps farmers align with the EU's environmental and sustainability targets for agriculture by providing advice on sustainable practices, resource optimization (water, soil), and pest management.

VIt provides an affordable and accessible way for small and medium-sized family farms to access expert advice they might not otherwise be able to afford or easily find.

AgriGO AI is democratizing access to high-quality agricultural expertise.



Explore their website <u>here</u>







The Invest Climate Gender platform is a pioneering digital hub designed to **mobilize capital toward high-impact investments** at the intersection of **climate action** and **gender equity** 

Launched through a collaboration between Heading for Change (HfC) and Artha Networks, this platform serves as a **gateway** for investors, fund managers, support organizations, and service providers to discover and engage with curated opportunities that drive both **environmental sustainability** and **gender inclusivity**.

Celebrating the launch of this platform is significant because it represents a concerted effort to address the underrepresentation of gender considerations in climate finance. By illuminating the vast potential at the climate-gender nexus, Invest Climate Gender empowers stakeholders to take meaningful action **toward a more equitable and sustainable future.** 



Find more information and register on their website.







# Source Impactfully: Introducing the New EqualReach Platform

EqualReach connects businesses to a world of untapped talent. They identify, vet, and support highly skilled teams from refugee communities around the world, who are often excluded from traditional hiring systems. You bring the projects. They bring the teams. **Creating dignified work while delivering meaningful results for your business.** 

In Q1, EqualReach officially launched their platform and introduced their new website - designed to make connecting with trusted, skilled teams faster and easier than ever. Whether you're building tech, designing campaigns, or looking for specialist support, EqualReach helps you deliver business outcomes while generating meaningful social impact.

New features are coming soon:

✓Impact tracking for every project — ideal for your DEI and ESG goals (they will start by sharing reports via email). EqualReach aims to provide clear, trackable impact data for every project — giving you real evidence to include in your reporting and funding submissions.

✓ Project menu — browse a growing selection of services offered by their global teams.

✓ Simplified project setup — create a brief, receive custom proposals, and pick your preferred team. They handle contracts and payments for you.



EqualReach is calling on bold, purpose-driven founders to launch their next project with them.

Submit a project now





# Workshop: "Transformative Health Incentivisation for Planetary Wellbeing"

This workshop, held at the **IUHPE International Conference on Health Promotion** in Abu Dhabi, was facilitated by the **Rypple Foundation**, a Europe Chapter member, and led by Ushma Issar (Co-Founder and CEO), together with Daniela de Paiva (Co-Founder and Chief Impact Officer). It brought together global experts and practitioners focused on **advancing health promotion worldwide**.





Learn more about <u>Rypple's</u> work!

## What was the session about?

✓ The challenges of current health systems: rising costs, focus on treatment over prevention, and misaligned investments that often support industries detrimental to health.

✓ The "health-ing economy": transitioning to economic models that generate value through wellbeing rather than sickness.

✓ Using fiscal tools and policy levers to create environments where healthy choices are easier and **incentivized**.

✓ The importance of participatory design and futures thinking in co-creating sustainable health policies.

✓ Case studies from Denmark, the UK, and New Zealand demonstrating real-world examples of health incentivisation.

✓ Overcoming barriers like political short-termism, corporate resistance, and data challenges through collaboration and innovative governance.

If you are interested in collaborating, in learning more about how to transition toward a "health-ing economy" or wish to explore ways to apply it in your own contexts, **feel free to contact Ushma Issar at ushma@rypple.org** 



## Yunus Environment Hub -New Report

Yunus Environment Hub is excited to share their **latest report**, launched on May 8th. This report analyses the landscape of Social Businesses in the German circular economy and takes a closer look at the social dimension within the circular economy transition.

This comprehensive study, conducted in collaboration with the Bertelsmann Stiftung, analyses the current practices in integrating the social dimension into circular economy strategies, practices and business models. **Moreover, it also charts a path towards a truly circular economy – one that is regenerative by design, inclusive, and socially just.** 

**Report:** A Systemic Circular Economy Transition in Germany: The Role and Impact of Circular Social Businesses.

## Find the report here.











# Killing Curiosity (film + facilitation guide)

## **English:**

Killing Curiosity is a short film about the power of empowering young people to take responsibility for their own learning and lives. It's now available with a free facilitation guide to help spark meaningful community dialogues. Access it here!

## **Spanish:**

Killing Curiosity es una película sobre el poder de empoderar a niños/as y jóvenes a tomar la responsabilidad de su aprendizaje. Está disponible junto con una guía de facilitación para activar diálogos significativos en comunidad. Accede aquí!

The film and facilitation guide were designed to help schools and communities question education and reimagine how it could be if it was centered around agency and community. The guide has been refined in +35 events in congresses, schools, universities and communities.





## Mehr als Schlagzeilen

## German:

Die Initiative in Simmering am 21. September zielt darauf ab, durch ein Erzählcafé mit vielfältigen Teilnehmenden unterschiedliche Perspektiven auf Sicherheit zu erkunden und in einer wissenschaftlichen Dokumentation festzuhalten, um so fundierte Grundlagen für zukünftige Maßnahmen im Bezirk zu schaffen.

## **September 21st**

The main language of the event, organised by Circular Vienna, will be **German**. Translations will be offered in Turkish and Arabic.

This Vienna initiative offers a valuable European model for fostering inclusive urban safety by using a participatory **"storytelling cafe"** to understand diverse perspectives on security within a local community.

Its social innovation lies in empowering residents and aiming for community-led solutions, while the scientific documentation of these experiences provides transferable insights for addressing similar challenges across Europe's diverse cities and the social economy sector. The focus on a nuanced understanding of security and community engagement makes it a relevant case study for **social innovation in promoting cohesive societies**.



Find more information about the event <u>here</u>





# **Social Enterprise Open Camp** 2025

## **TOGETHERNESS - Cultivating Systemic Change**

SEOC is a 4-day residential training event organized by Opes dedicated to social entrepreneurship and impact investing. This immersive experience gathers the most notable figures in the field of impact entrepreneurship worldwide.

The 2025 edition will explore how to cultivate systemic change by rethinking business models, partnerships and investment approaches to address complex social challenges. Culture, creativity, youth leadership, and community-driven development will take center stage as key drivers of this transformation.

Workshops will feature 7 real-world case studies from social enterprises.

## When and where will SEOC 2025 take place?

November 28th - December 1st Turin, Cuneo, and Langhe - Italy

Last year, over 370 participants from 40+ nationalities attended, ranging in age from 20 to 75 years old.

Deadline for the first selection phase for the scholarships: June 16.2025

Find more information on the scholarships here

## **Scholarships**

They have launched a challenge to assign up to 125 scholarships. They include:

- Registration fee
- ✓ Participation in all activities of SEOC

Board and room at affiliated facilities with accommodation in a double room you can choose your roommate.

✓On-site transportation: hotel-SEOC shuttle.

Not included: Journey from residence to location and back to residence.

To learn more about the different eligibility criteria and to apply to the challenge, explore their website.



Cultivating Systemic Change

TURIN-CUNEO-LANGHE NOV 28 - DEC 1, 2025





## Coming Soon: Turning Crisis Into Connection

NaTakallam is working towards the creation of sustainable income opportunities for refugees and displaced individuals through language, cultural exchange, and translation services.

They are launching a **new crowdfunding campaign on June 20.** This campaign fuels training, job access, and global visibility for displaced talent — turning connection into lasting impact.

The campaign directly addresses key European social sector priorities: refugee inclusion, dignified livelihoods, and sustainable digital employment.

NaTakallam's model enables displaced individuals — many of whom reside in or near Europe — to contribute meaningfully to society while preserving their dignity and cultural identity. **Supporting this campaign is a tangible way to champion social innovation, inclusion, and cross-cultural dialogue.** 

Take a look at the preview <u>here</u>.







# Join Green Revolution on the Treesistance Charity Run

This run, organized by Treesistance, has been created to **support frontline nature defenders who protect the Amazon rainforest.** All funds raised will support forest guardians with the essential equipment they need to safely and effectively keep the forest standing.

## P Het Amsterdamse Bos

Located between Amsterdam and Amstelveen, the Amsterdamse Bos is one of the largest urban forests in Europe.

June 22 - starting times vary from 12 to 14:15.

You can choose the distance you will run, and all participants will receive a special Indigenous inspired gift.

At the check-out, once you have chosen a distance and filled in all your details, under the section 'team', choose the option of joining an existing team/group and choose to be part of the GREEN REVOLUTION team.

Green Revolution Foundation, founded by Attila Suba, a fellow member of Catalyst Now, is an Amsterdam based organization with a mission to undo the harm inflicted on our planet. They are working on raising €2 million to launch the world's first weed coffee shop where profits are diverted to the indigenous communities that protect the planet's rainforests.

Find more information and get your tickets <u>here!</u>



Learn more about Green Revolution's work <u>here!</u>





# Creative Writing for Social Change

**Creative Writing for Social Change**, founded by Andy Pring, a Catalyst Now member, **is organising an event** - Speed Networking for Those Working to Counter the Anti-immigration Narratives. This initiative is a **monthly gathering** on Zoom for people all across the globe to come together, network and work collaboratively.

TRANST Next gathering: June 26 at 2PM BST.

These monthly gatherings provide a space where networks can work together to identify key anti-immigration narratives, deconstruct them, develop specific counter-narratives and then identify the most effective ways of disseminating them.

Moreover, Creative Writing for Social Change is offering **four two-hour creative writing workshops** using a virtual exchange methodology. Groups of six people start on a rolling basis throughout the year.

These workshops are for adults of any age and background to **dialogue and write creatively about the social issues that are most important to them.** Creating an environment that enables groups to share the details of influential life events through creative writing allows for the growth of deep empathy.

Register for the Speed Networking <u>here</u>!

Creative Writing for Social Change.

Apply for the writing workshops <u>here</u>!





# The Hague Humanity Hub -Investing in Peace

The Hague Humanity Hub invites you to an online session: Investing in Peace - Why It Matters and What It Takes. This session will explore a timely and essential question: What does it mean to invest in peace and what conditions are needed to make such investments truly transformative?

June 24, 2025 |16:00-17:30 CET
Online, Part of the <u>Just Peace Festival 2025</u>

Global peace and stability are under increasing pressure from protracted conflicts and climate-related risks to widening inequalities and rising authoritarianism. Yet at the same time, these challenges present **a powerful opportunity: to reimagine how we fund and foster peace.** 

This session, a participatory conversation, sets the scene for an <u>in-person dialogue</u> in September 2025.

## They invite key stakeholders to jointly explore:

What are the preconditions for a peaceful society?
 How can investment (financial, social, and institutional) contribute to those preconditions?

✓How can we move beyond siloed efforts toward collective strategies and sustainable models?

**Register** here : Speakers will be announced shortly.



Who should join: This event is for professionals working at the intersection of peace, justice, development, philanthropy, responsible business, or systems of change - whether from civil society, government, private sector, or international organisations. **Europe Chapter's key digital hubs and tools:** 

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# Stay tuned, connected and supported



\*members only