

# DELIVERABLE D.C.3.3 PRESS RELEASES (PR)

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## DelFin kick off meeting - EU project supporting the development of social entrepreneurship in rural regions of Central Europe

MAGDEBURG, GERMANY (May 16, 2019) - The kick off meeting of Interreg Central Europe project DelFin was hosted by the project lead partner the Investitionsbank Sachsen-Anhalt (Development Bank of Saxony-Anhalt). The main objective of the project is to promote social entrepreneurship in rural regions in order to advance economic and social innovation.

The main motivation of this project are the social challenges that European rural regions are currently facing, such as brain drain, unemployment and aging of the population. "This project is intended to bring partners from different countries together whose goal is to confront economic challenges of rural areas with social innovations and to support the development of social entrepreneurship in Central Europe." - emphasized Claudia Zott, DelFin project manager at the Investitionsbank Sachsen-Anhalt.



DelFin Project Partners, Magdeburg

Project consortium includes eight project partners from Germany, Hungary, Croatia and Italy. The implementation of project activities is planned for the period of April 1, 2019 to March 30, 2021, with a total budget of 1.9 million EUR funded by Interreg Central Europe as part of the European Regional Development Fund.

The rural regions Saalekreis (DE), Hajdu Bihar (HU), Duga Resa (CR) and rural areas in the Piedmont Region (IT) work together with the specific aim to enhance funding for public support structures for social entrepreneurship and to further develop finance and funding instruments for social enterprises.

The project wants to facilitate a cooperation process of regional and local stakeholders for social entrepreneurship in a rural environment.



Sidewalk Gallery, Merseburg



Klosterbauhütte, Merseburg

During this project the partners will **develop a toolbox** for promotion of social entrepreneurship in rural areas, which will be tested in **four pilot projects**. Also, **eight capacity building seminars with focus on municipalities and finance institutions** will be organized to further spread the developed knowledge. Finally, **four action plans** will be carried out in the partner regions to ensure sustainability and mainstreaming of project results. The project will allow a **transnational mutual learning process of partners with different experiences, but similar challenges**.

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<https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/DelFin.html>