

PRESS-RELEASE

Subject: CEAL-network; 6 European organizations team up to build a new educational model for Community-based Entrepreneurship

START PRESS-RELEASE

The **Community-based Entrepreneurship Action-Learning Network** (CEAL-network) is a partnership between 6 organizations in 5 countries, who with the support of the European Union, are developing and testing an education program where **youth from communities and universities** learn together to **set up community-based projects with a socio-economic dimension**. Through the realization of an actual community projects during the program, youngsters acquire entrepreneurial skills, experience new forms of local economic models and learn how to work in diverse cultural conditions.

From late January till June 2016 in **6 cities across Europe**, 2 to 3 months **local pilot programs** are run in local communities, using the experience and outcomes to create an action learning model for formal and non-formal educational institutions to build community entrepreneurship programs, fostering collaborations between students and underprivileged youth in communities.

Brazilian roots, applied in Europe

The CEAL-network draws its inspiration from Instituto Elos Brazil who've developed programs in communities where young citizens with fewer opportunities and students jointly realize projects that support community development, personal development, yet also have an income generating aspect. This program is called 'comunidades empededoras', takes 12 months and is based on the Elos philosophy, which lies at the heart of the methodologies used and tested during the local pilots.

6 Pilot programs of the CEAL-network

Local programs of the CEAL-network are being run in:

- 22nd of January till late April - Portugaleta (Bilbao, Spain) by Kiribil Sarea, Ede Fundazioa and Portugaleteko Merkatua.
- 10th of February till late march - Utrecht (Netherlands) by the Elos Foundation, a foundation for international community collaboration
- 21st of February till early april - Gent (Belgium) by Act4Change, a national youth volunteer organization
- 1st of March till late June - Frome (United Kingdom) by Edventure Frome a school for community enterprise – run by and for the local community.
- 1st of April till late June - Segovia (Spain) by Altekio/GSAMadrid, a cooperative of social entrepreneurs
- 22nd of April till late June - Berlin and Leipzig (Germany) by Ideenhoch3, a network of social innovators.

All partners locally collaborate with an educational partner and a community partner who mobilize participant and build the program together. This group includes a.o. partners as the University of Gent, EDE Fundazioa (Bilbao, Spain), Science Shop of Technische Universität Berlin (Germany), Utrecht University School of Governance (Nederland), and the National University of Distance Education (UNED, Spain) Find attached a list of all involved partners.

Innovation supported by the European Union

The CEAL-network is funded by the European Union, under the Erasmus+ program, with the aim to build a network, a 'good practice' and a tool, based on the successful Brazilian methodology to have young learners, learning institutes and communities build entrepreneurial learning spaces together.

The program is based on current social-economical contexts across Europe, with an increasing need from youth to take the future they desire into their own hands, with unemployment rates under youth reaching rates over 50% in certain countries of Europe. At the same time we see that current educational institutions are looking for innovative, inclusive and practical modules beyond regular curriculum and offer real-life learning opportunities.

To address this challenge, by the end of the support of the Erasmusplus program in October 2016, the CEAL-program model will be fully developed and launched for continuous use in current and future countries.

END PRESS-RELEASE

Note to media:

For more information and scheduling interviews with European and the Brazilian organizations, please contact Niels Koldewijn of Elos Foundation.

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WWW: www.ceal-network.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/cealnetwork

Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MOI_DZs8Svw

Attached: CEAL-network partner descriptions and infographic

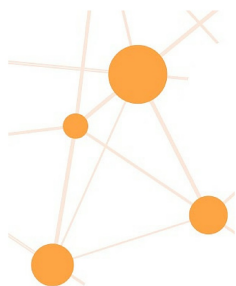
For footage of recent activities in Bilbao

<https://storify.com/KIRIBIL/oasis-merkatua>

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/kiribilsarean/albums/72157663559234709>

<http://oasisbizkaia.org/?cat=9>

<https://vimeo.com/album/3777454>



A program part of



The CEAL program is supported by

