



## Welcome to TASK4ISI!

TASK4ISI (Transnational Action to advance Skills and competences FOR Inclusive entrepreneurship and Social Innovation) is a collaborative initiative aimed at supporting under-represented entrepreneurs across Central Europe. The project focuses on fostering social innovation and inclusive entrepreneurship by establishing ISIHUBs - local innovation hubs that offer aspiring entrepreneurs access to skills development, business support, and networking opportunities.

Through transnational cooperation, TASK4ISI unites 11 partners and 6 associated partners from 6 countries, all working to break down barriers for marginalized groups such as women, immigrants, youth, and the self-employed. These ISIHUBs are designed to address the unique challenges faced by these "missing" entrepreneurs and connect them with local business communities and innovation networks.

Our goal is to drive sustainable, inclusive growth by developing tailored support programs, business skills training, and matchmaking opportunities. By leveraging the collective expertise of our partners and stakeholders, we're creating pathways for social innovation and entrepreneurial success across the region.

## First six months recap

Over the past six months, TASK4ISI has made great progress in fostering inclusive entrepreneurship across the participating regions. Here are the key activities and milestones we've accomplished so far:

### Kick-off meeting in Krakow (June 2024)

Our project launched with a strong start at the kick-off meeting in Krakow on June 24-25, 2024, hosted by the lead partner, Krakow University of Economics (KUE). This event gathered project partners, stakeholders, and experts from across Europe to shape the project's objectives, methodologies, and anticipated impact. This meeting provided a great opportunity to exchange ideas and begin preparations to support "missing" entrepreneurs across Central Europe.

The meeting opened with remarks from Prof. Paweł Lula, Vice Rector for Research at KUE, followed by project coordinator Prof. Marek Ćwiklicki and project manager Dr. Magdalena Zajączkowska, who outlined the goals, work plan, and timeline. Jana Habjan Coudore, Programme Officer from the Interreg Central Europe Joint Secretariat, emphasized TASK4ISI's alignment with broader Interreg goals, reinforcing its significance for sustainable impact.

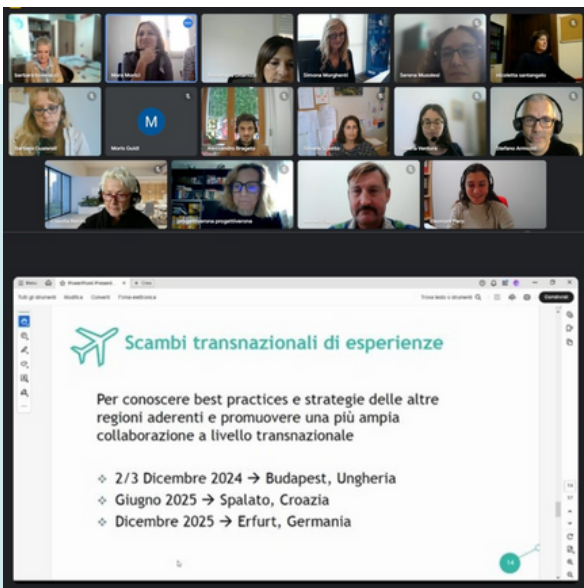


On the first day, partners from Poland, Austria, Croatia, Germany, Hungary, and Italy, presented their roles and discussed project goals, management, and communication strategies, ending with a networking dinner. The second day featured workshops on ISIHUB development and policy reviews, concluded with a press conference led by key project leaders, and finalized the executive action plan and project timeline.

## Creation and launch of ISIHUBs

One of the core components of the TASK4ISI project is the establishment of five ISIHUBs—local hubs dedicated to providing resources, networking, and support to aspiring entrepreneurs from under-represented groups. As of the end of October 2024, each region involved in the project has successfully established its ISIHUB.

The first ISIHUB was launched in Emilia Romagna, Italy, with strong support from public and private stakeholders. Following this example, other partners have successfully established their ISIHUBs, fostering inclusive entrepreneurship within their regions. These hubs will play a vital role in supporting marginalized entrepreneurs, helping them connect with local business communities, and offering tailored business skills development and matchmaking opportunities.



## Collecting best practices and preparing the analysis report

Over the past months, we have focused on collecting best practices to shape a comprehensive analysis report that will provide a needs-based framework and evidence base for TASK4ISI, outlining priorities for inclusive entrepreneurship growth at both local and transnational levels. The report will feature a survey to identify gaps in learning and support needs, a mapping of skills advancement practices, and a benchmark of tailored support services. With these data-driven insights into specific local needs and trends, the report aims to support our ISIHUBs, helping ensure that all partners are well-equipped to foster social innovation effectively.



## Looking ahead: Upcoming events in Budapest

In December 2024, two significant events will take place in Budapest, which will be crucial for advancing our efforts toward inclusive entrepreneurship:

### 1. Steering Committee (SC) Meeting

The SC Meeting will gather all project partners to review progress, discuss upcoming tasks, and refine our strategy. This meeting will provide an opportunity to reflect on our achievements and address challenges as we continue to create supportive environments for under-represented entrepreneurs across Central Europe.

## 2. First Transnational Exchange Meeting

Hosted by Impact Hub Budapest, and bringing together project partners and stakeholders, this meeting will focus on knowledge exchange, where partners will share best practices and innovative approaches, and successful initiatives that can be replicated or adapted across different regions. The meeting will also serve as a platform for fostering collaboration between ISIHUBs, ensuring that the hubs remain connected and aligned in their goals of supporting aspiring entrepreneurs. These events will highlight our shared commitment to empowering "missing" entrepreneurs and strengthening partnerships across all participating regions.

## Continued collaboration

We will continue to work closely with local stakeholders, including public institutions, businesses, and civil society organizations, to foster an environment where inclusive entrepreneurship can thrive.

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