



Newsletter #3

Welcome to the third edition of the SECON project newsletter!

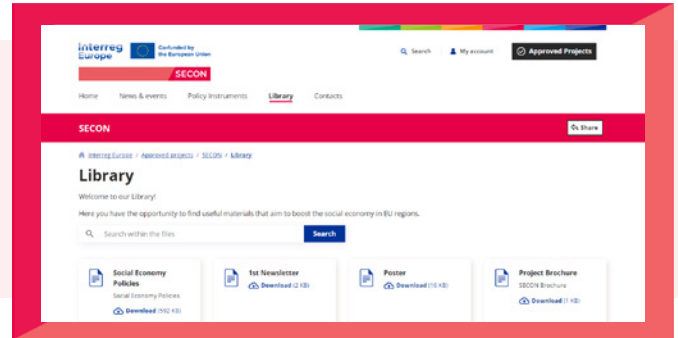
In this issue, we recap key activities, and provide updates on upcoming events and initiatives.

Project Overview

SECON (Social Economy - Regional Policies for Supporting Social Economy Enterprises) aims to drive policy improvement and facilitate the exchange of best practices to promote social economy within EU regions. Recognising the potential of the social economy as a catalyst for sustainable growth and community development, SECON strives to create an enabling environment that supports its advancement through a range of activities, including regional and interregional learning initiatives, development of studies and reports, and knowledge exchange endeavours.

For a brief recap of the 1st year,
read our previous newsletter

in our [Library](#).



Where We Are Now: This Semester's Activities

Study Visit in Harghita County, Romania

The **SECON** project partners gathered in Harghita County, Romania, from April 16-18, 2024, for a productive international partner meeting. The visit featured thematic seminars and coordination meetings, focusing on fostering an enabling environment for the social economy. Participants explored exemplary social economy initiatives during good practices visit tours to the Civitas Foundation, Helyénvaló Local Products Shop, and KÖZ. community coffee shop in the Odorhei region, as well as the Workshop of Harghita County Association of Disabled People and Jakab Antal Study House of the Caritas Social Association in the Miercurea Ciuc region.



The event also included **cultural experiences** such as local gastronomy presentations and folk music and dance performances, enriching participants' understanding of the region's social and cultural context. This visit was instrumental in enhancing interregional cooperation and sharing valuable insights into social economy practices.

Regional Stakeholder Group Meetings

The third regional stakeholder meetings are being held in partners' regions to ensure the inclusion of all interested parties in the process.

Field Research on Regional Needs, Attitudes, and Perspectives

The regional policy baseline studies and evidence gathering continue with a field research study, coordinated by KMOP, aimed at assessing the specific needs of each region concerning social economy promotion. This research will inform interregional policy learning and support foresight and new initiatives.

Discover SECON in 84 seconds

Catch a glimpse of our work toward boosting the social economy in EU regions.



Upcoming Event: Interregional Exchange Workshop in Extremadura, Spain

We are excited to announce the next study visit and interregional exchange workshop, scheduled for October 2024 in Extremadura, Spain. This event, organised by the Consejería de Agricultura, Desarrollo Rural, Población y Territorio Junta de Extremadura, will focus on furthering our understanding and cooperation in the social economy sector. Stay tuned for more details in our next newsletter.

Our Consortium

SECON brings together ten partners from nine countries (Greece, Belgium, Poland, Spain, Germany, Romania, Latvia, Bulgaria and Portugal).



Stay Connected

Stay tuned for more updates in our next newsletter as we continue to advance the social economy within EU regions. Follow us on our social media channels and join our efforts in creating a sustainable future through the social economy.

Thank you for being a part of the SECON journey!



www.interregeurope.eu/secon

