

SDG-DRIVEN INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS

Creating next-gen innovation ecosystems catalysing digital social innovation and technology to address global challenges



ABOUT THE PROJECT



SDG-Driven Innovation Ecosystems is a practice-based international consortium comprising the Global Steering Group for Impact Investing (GSG) and affiliated National Advisory Boards (NABs) for Impact investing in Israel (IFIE), France (FAIR), Italy (SIA), and Portugal (MAZE). The project also involves ancillary partners in Central European (CEE) countries.

The project seeks to create dedicated pathways within in the rapidly expanding global impact investment market to scale innovative, tech-based solutions to the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The project kicks off with a mapping of current state of play, as well as opportunities and barriers in the countries represented by consortium members. Based on findings, partners will issue a set of recommendations for market actors - policymakers and regulators, investors and financial entities, entrepreneurs, entrepreneurial support organizations, and academia - leveraging each country's strengths to foster a shared model for the development of innovative ecosystems driven by the SDGs.

Consortium partners will raise awareness and ambitions among ecosystem actors through a series of convenings and engagements to strengthen policy initiatives, grow pools of funding, implement long-term collaborations, and measure and manage contributions to the SDGs. Shared learnings and engagement will be drawn together in a roadmap for enhancing global partnerships (SDG 17) and investments that support a green, digital and social transition in Europe.

PROJECT PHASES



The initial phase of the project (October 2022 – January 2023) begins with a comprehensive ecosystem mapping study undertaken by each project partner of the actors, resources, policies, and networks engaged in SDG-aligned social and tech-based innovation in their country.

Country reports will be collated by the GSG, which will issue a synthesis report assessing the state of play in each country (expected release date: March 2023). The report will highlight best practices, and current barriers, and provide recommendations for how to streamline and coordinate efforts across the various countries.

Findings will serve as the basis for subsequent project phases, namely, further opportunities for dialogue and engagement with a wide array of local and international stakeholders. Input from these discussions will contribute to the development of a roadmap featuring a set of recommendations for local action and cross-country collaboration.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS



Embarking on the initial mapping phase, we seek to answer the following research questions related to the current state of play of SDG-aligned ecosystems:

ACTORS

Who are the main public, private, and social sector actors and their skill sets in your country's SDG-related tech ecosystem?

RESOURCES

What are the economic values, sources of funding, and use cases for resources?

POLICY

What are the main policies that govern this space?

NETWORKS

What are the most meaningful relationships and collaborations between stakeholders involved in this ecosystem?

STRENGTHS & BARRIERS

What are the main strengths? What is working?
What are the main barriers? What can work better?

DATA COLLECTION METHODS



Our mapping study integrates the following methods:



DESKTOP RESEARCH

We will use desktop research to gather and review existing literature, including publications, industry reports, articles, etc.



INTERVIEWS

We seek to arrange interviews with stakeholders to fill in knowledge gaps and gather inputs for the analysis section.



ROUNDTABLES

We are organizing an engagement event featuring roundtables with actors from the ecosystem to garner additional information from key stakeholders.

Through these focus areas and methods, we will produce a country report consisting of the key components of our ecosystem, as well as several case studies describing best practices from a local country context.

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