

Creative Industry Network of Entrepreneurs (CINetwork)

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Partners: Portugalia, Marea Britanie, Spania, România, Franța, Grecia

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The British creative community which exists in Nottingham's Lace Market is community of independent creative individuals made up of those who have either a physical or social relationship to the Lace Market, as well as the micro-businesses which have grown up in there. Lace Market is playing an important role in stimulating and resourcing creative entrepreneurship.

The Creative Industry Network (CINetwork) project will identify transferable lessons from the formal and informal learning environment established within the Lace Market to support the development of a creative entrepreneurship network in several European countries (Portugal, Spain and Greece) transferred through UKWON organisation that will work close with two UK entrepreneurs - Atenna and Broadway.

The UK has remained at the forefront of European policy and practice in supporting and developing creative industry clusters, and offers a rich resource of innovation available for transfer to, and adaptation by, the partnership countries. Evidence from the UK shows that these industries demonstrate great potential for economic and also for employment growth.

CINetwork's goal is to improve business skills for creative entrepreneurs and increase the potential for enterprise creation in the creative industries. The project will engage diverse market players in dialogue and cooperation including companies from the creative cluster, universities, training providers, innovation parks, research centres and public agencies. It will capture the transferable elements of UK experience including learning mechanisms, approaches to management and networking competencies.

CINetwork will make a further significant contribution to innovation in learning and development. The project will transfer and adapt the territorial cluster effects identified in the Lace Market to establish a non-spatial learning and development cluster. This will use social media technologies to create a learning, knowledge exchange and collaboration framework for actual and potential creative entrepreneurs at national and transnational levels within the EU.

In a pilot exercise 30 young unemployed people from each participating country will participate in a specially developed online training course that will help to create the network and also help them to elaborate a business model. The best business models will be presented by the participants to the market players: crowd funding institutions, business angels, government institutions and other participants from each country of the consortium. The presentations of the business models will also be transmitted via web to facilitate the participation of market players from all countries of the consortium.

The project will impact on the entrepreneurship culture of the partnership countries including the participants in the pilot in the short term and on the vocational training culture on entrepreneurship of the beneficiary countries in the long term.

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