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## Mapping and Surveying report

**One of the main results of the EntCom project (“Entrepreneurship and Community cooperatives”) presents the Training course for Community Cooperative Facilitators. On one hand mapping and surveying has been the starting point to know what are the real needs of formation and learning of young people in rural areas, entrepreneurs, stakeholders at local and national level, and members of rural communities. On the other hand, within the process project partners analysed the data and would like to disseminate the good practices already developed in rural areas in the different countries of the project.**

The Mapping and Surveying report starts with **Key concepts and definitions**, about cooperatives and community cooperatives or similar tools and legal frameworks useful for communities, which want to self - organize and provide solutions for common needs in different countries.

The central part of the report concern **Identification of training needs – Survey results**. Questionnaires were submitted by different target groups in each partner country (entrepreneurs and youth people living in rural areas, stakeholders at local level and national level, rural population identified as local authorities, social workers, citizens). Through the survey, the project EntCom aimed to define the skills required for implementation of entrepreneurship initiatives in rural communities, to identify the main needs for the local development and employability in rural areas, to collect information about the opportunities, initiatives and interests of active citizenship in rural communities. The last part of the Mapping and Surveying report comprises **Good practices selection**, with the experiences of organized communities in Italy, Austria, Latvia, Czech Republic, Portugal, U.K., Turkey and other countries. These practices should offer improvement of the skills and answer the questions of activation and formal organization of rural communities addressing also employability of young people.

Katia de Luca, the representative of Italian project partner communicates a few findings: *„The survey provided a lot of information about needs of training. Generally there is a great awareness of necessity to improve the skills before starting an entrepreneurial project for the community. We found out the main topics that needs to be improved - how to start and fund a project, innovation, communication, marketing, etc. And furthermore also methods to be used - face to face training is considered essential, next to e-learning materials.”*

Mapping and survey has also given the project partners some suggestion on the role of entrepreneurship in a community cooperative setting, such as stimulating cooperation between institutions, local authorities and citizens; favouring networking; developing a good capacity to create new jobs; working on needs analysis, continuously as change community needs; promoting initiatives citizens centered; working for sustainability; stimulating a participatory process in communities and reflective practice etc.

Mapping and surveys results further suggested some area of skills that represent an input for the training design. The aim of the training is to give to facilitators instruments and tools to support the community cooperatives formation in rural areas, and at the same time instruments to look for further technical trainings in their local context or on e-learning modality. So, the training for Community Cooperative Facilitators provides knowledge and tools to develop entrepreneurial skills such as project management, cooperative governance, networking, communication and presentation skills, team management, fundraising and business modelling.

### Contact



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### *Background*

The EntCom project lasts from September 2014 to August 2016 and there are 7 partners involved with this project: TOJAS INVESTIMENTOS, LDA (Portugal), Sarikamis Kaymakamligi (Turkey), Latconsul SIA (Latvia), KOMUNIKUJEME o.p.s. (Czech Republic), ENTER-EUROPEAN NETWORK FOR TRANSFER AND EXPLOITATION OF EUROPEAN PROJECT RESULTS (Austria), newly TFEI (UK) and it is coordinated by representative association of cooperatives of Apulia Region - Lega Regionale delle Cooperative e Mutue - LEGACOOOP (Italy).

The EntCom project generally aims at fostering active citizenship and entrepreneurship (considering social entrepreneurship) in small or remote areas.

The project has three clear activities:

1. The development and consolidation of entrepreneurial competences (knowledge, skills and attitude) in order to structure entrepreneurial initiatives under the specific framework of “community cooperatives”;
2. Foster learning mobilities at EU level to answer local needs;
3. Contribute to the recognition and validation of such entrepreneurial competences under the ECVET, ESCO and EUROPASS framework.

More information: [www.entcom.eu](http://www.entcom.eu), [FB](#), [LinkedIn](#)



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