Partnerships a key to success, a case study of a successful EU-wide social enterprise university multi-partnership

University of Greenwich
20/11/2014
Agenda

• Reflections;
• Universities;
• University of Northampton
• Changing times,
• E.U. FP7 project, and
• Final Thoughts
Reflections

• Who am I?
• Background and Influence
• Interest in Social Enterprise Education
• Role(s)
What are Universities for?

1. Teaching
2. Research
3. Community/Social Engagement
The University of Northampton has an institution-wide commitment to social enterprise.

First HEI in the U.K. to become an Ashoka U Changemaker Campus.
The Start of a Journey

Aiming to be a top 50 ranked U.K. University and the Number 1 University for Social Enterprise by 2015

• Changing Focus
• Changing Teaching
• Changing Research
Social Enterprise Strategy

Core aims:

• Delivering an enhanced student experience

• Delivering through our values of social inclusion, social impact, social innovation and change

• Delivering entrepreneurial, innovation and enterprise skills
Terminology

• Social Innovation - ideas to change the way society works
• Social Entrepreneurship – the process of getting the idea ready to be delivered
• Social Enterprise — The Venture that emerges from the Innovation
Changemaker Values

- Empathy
- Initiative
- Team Work
- Innovation
- Transformation

Positive Change
Conceptions of Changemaker

Bethany Alden Rivers, Ming Nie and Alejandro Armellini (2014) University teachers’ conceptions of “Changemaker”: a starting point for embedding social innovation in learning and teaching

TRANSFORMING LIVES + INSPIRING CHANGE
The times they are a changing

- Complexity of Social Issues
- Ageing Society
- Systems not working
- Local Solutions
- Lived Experience
- Youth Unemployment
- Relational state
- E.U.
“Enabling the Flourishing and Evolution of Social Entrepreneurship for Innovative and Inclusive Societies”

Involves: 10 Countries, including Serbia and Albania

Aims: to provide a better understanding of Social Entrepreneurship

Time: 2013-2016

Structure: 9 Work Packages
Objectives

1. To construct an Evolutionary Theory of Social Entrepreneurship
2. Identify the features of an “Enabling Eco-System for Social Entrepreneurship”
3. Identify the “New Generation” of Social Entrepreneurs
4. Provide advice to stakeholders
Evolutionary Theory of Social Entrepreneurship

• Developed in different ways across Europe.
• Aims to construct a theory that explains these differences
• Need to connect the Social with the Economic
• Takes into account history, trends and how social entrepreneurship and institutions co-evolved over time
Enabling an Eco-System for Social Entrepreneurship

Identifies the macro-meso and micro conditions under which Social Enterprises can contribute effectively and efficiently in building an inclusive and innovative society.
New Generation of Social Entrepreneurs

- Focuses on the new generation of social enterprises that have emerged in the last five years.
- It will assess its features, needs, constraints as well as its contribution to Social Innovation.
Provide Advice to Stakeholders

Specifically targeted at:

- **Policy makers** at the European, national and local level;
- **Organizations** that support social entrepreneurship, and
- **Foundations and Financial Institutions**
Concluding Thoughts

• Focus on societal challenges and need for more multidisciplinary projects
• Focus on innovation as a major focus in H2020
• More bottom-up Approaches required
• Importance of Networks to develop understanding
• Can improve Service delivery and Good practice
• Contributes to Teaching and Curriculum design
Thank you for listening

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