

LOOKING UP

A training path from experiences of local
development towards European Social Solidarity
Economy strategies

KA210-ADU - Small-scale partnerships in adult education Form ID KA210-ADU-D102CF25

1/04/2024 – 30/09/2025

23rd September 2025



In collaboration with



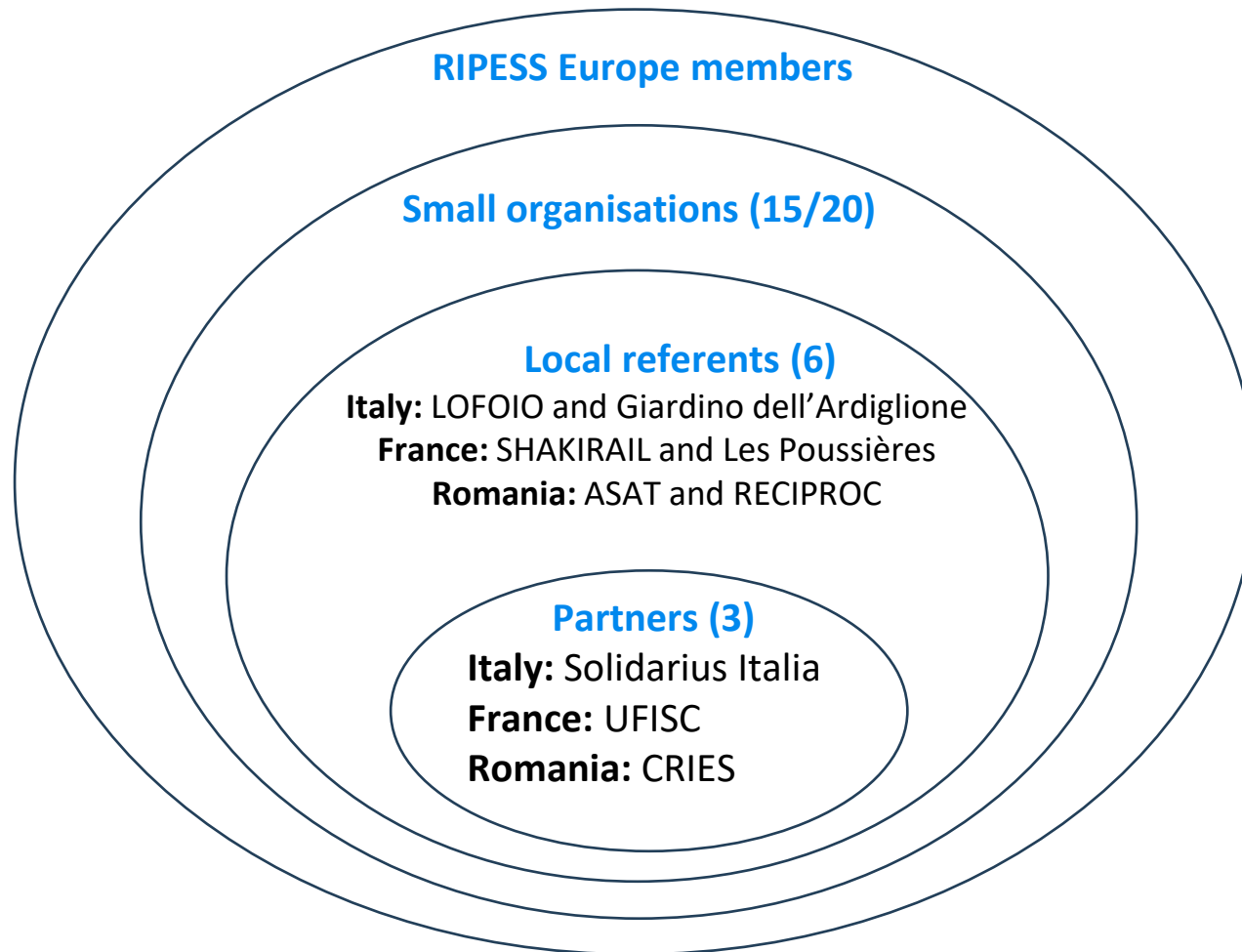
**Funded by
the European Union**

Looking UP general objectives

- **Co-promoting capabilities, awareness and civic engagement of small organisations** working in the field of urban and rural local development in the framework of ecological transition, social solidarity economy and **the policies that at different levels guide these actions**
- **Strengthening those organisations that are deeply engaged in the challenges of their contexts and local dynamics**, that play a central role in the development of their communities but doesn't easily have the opportunity to participate in European exchanges and that are hardly aware of the policies and strategies that guide local urban/rural development at European and national level.
- **Bringing these small realities closer to the European dimension** by making them subjects of an exchange, enhancing their know-how and their networks

To and with whom?

TARGET: Organisations, especially the small ones, that work in the field of urban and rural local development in the framework of ecological transition and social solidarity economy → they play a key role in the development of their communities but often don't know of the policies and strategies that guide local urban/rural development at European and national level



Experts involved
by partners from
Universities,
Research
centres, SSE
movement...



Activities

- 1 co design [workshop](#) in Florence (June 2024)
- 9 [online sessions](#) (October 2024- May 2025)
- 1 final [workshop](#) in Timisoara (May -June 2025)
- 1 final [webinar](#) with RIPESS (Sept 25)



See you on Zoom platform
5.30 - 7 pm (CET time)

Looking Up

01 Networking and the development of solidarity and community economies placed based in urban and rural areas.

NOVEMBER 12th, 2024 - Social permaculture approach for a systemic community's development

NOVEMBER 26th, 2024- Developing communities

DECEMBER 3rd, 2024- Economies responding to community needs

Local participatory development and ecological transition in artistic & cultural alternative places

02

JANUARY 28th, 2025 - What are artistic & cultural alternative places?

FEBRUARY 4th, 2025 - How artistic & cultural alternative places take part in sustainable development?

FEBRUARY 11th, 2025 - How artistic & cultural projects contribute to local democracy?

Urban-rural relations through food and its supply chains

03

MARCH 11th, 2025- The global food system and its impact

MARCH 18th, 2025- Building resilient communities: the role of the short supply chains

MARCH 25th, 2025- Building strong local food systems: resources for short supply chains

To participate fill in the form: <https://shorturl.at/EHpiZ>

Find more informations about the project [here](#) or write to info@solidariusitalia.it

The Looking Up perspective through the pedagogical approach

Learning community

Participatory approach → training needs & co-design of the contents

Case studies not good practices → for an increasingly in-depth and cross-cutting analysis and self-analysis/assessment

Co-designed results



Results: A toolkit

- Collaborative process with partners, local organisations and experts, in a progressive level of analysis, evaluation and reflection.
- Resource kit regrouping: materials, case studies, tools collected regarding sustainable participatory local development, SSE and ecological transition, policy lines of national and EU actions...
- Toolkit aimed in particular at: activists, volunteers, staff of small organisations working in community places (third/intermediary places); SSE organisations, associations, cooperatives or Local Action Groups; students and people interested in ecological transition and sustainable local development in rural/urban areas.
- An open tool presenting the different aspects and ideas of the project. And an evolving tool regarding policies at EU, national and local level that can help us inspire each other.
- Objective to identify common elements throughout projects and initiatives presented, with the difficulty to apprehend and grasps local contexts.



PDF toolkit in EN, IT, RO, FR
Available soon



Moodle course

<https://edu.ripest.eu/course/view.php?id=23>

Results: A toolkit

Index

- ▶ Project & partners and toolkit
- ▶ Local development and SSE in Europe

Looking Up key concepts: SSE, Social, economic & territorial cohesion, Local development

Local development initiatives in SSE: shared insights & lessons - common elements and risks for local development
- ▶ 6 case studies from Italy, France & Romania
 - Asat
 - Giardino dell'Ardiglione
 - Lofoi
 - Poussieres (les)
 - Reciproc
 - Shakirail (le)
- ▶ Public policies: an overview

Policies rubric: EU & international level, national level, regional & local level regarding

 - Community, social solidarity economy and community economies (cycle 1)
 - Ecological transition in artistic & cultural alternative places (cycle 2)
 - Urban-rural relationships through food and short supply chains (cycle 3)
- ▶ Resources

The Moodle Platform: A Space for Learning and Community



Results: Concept note for future projects (Italian and English)

How can we design our projects to truly respond to local needs?

If initiatives are designed only to align with fragmented funding calls, they risk generating responses to induced needs—artificial priorities shaped by external agendas rather than the real challenges faced by communities

Develop adaptable tools and strengthen small organisations

Effective action requires methodologies and instruments tailored to the local context. Small organisations, often born from everyday practices, need support to enhance their skills, share knowledge, and avoid isolation or self-referential approaches.

Balance local anchoring with European exchange

While deeply engaging with specific local needs, it is equally important to remain connected to broader networks. Exchanging practices at national and European levels allows learning and transfer of good practices—without falling into the trap of copying models that may not work in different socio-cultural environments.

Thanks!