

## Slovenian Social innovation Competence Centre (SSICC) Progress report, State of Play and Future Perspective

### 1. Progress report

At the final event of SEED project in Slovenia taken place at Technology park Ljubljana on 4<sup>th</sup> of May 2023 representatives of Slovenian project partners presented Digital Social Innovation Lab platform - <https://disi-lab.si/> as a pilot project in framework of SEED project.

The Digital Social Innovation Lab (DiSILab) serves as a crucial enabling platform for the Slovenian Social Innovation Competence Center. It represents a confluence of knowledge dissemination and state-of-the-art tools tailored for the vanguard of social innovators.

DiSILab is as a digital platform, conceived to foster, initiate, and sustain the activities of the Slovenian Social Innovation Competence Center, which is set up and running. It offers a digital infrastructure and a suite of tools, ensuring seamless operations, research, collaborations, and events promoting social innovation.

#### Composition of the DiSILab Platform:

- **Core Framework:** Built on a robust digital architecture designed for scalability and ease of navigation.
- **Information Repository:** A vast database providing insights on social innovation within Slovenia and the EU.
- **Integrated Tools Section:** Features a curated suite of tools that cater to ideation, collaboration, mapping, and more.
- **Connectivity with SEED:** Direct linkage with the SEED project, granting users access to its comprehensive resources.
- **Partnerships and Collaborations:** Integrated modules that spotlight founding organizations, partners, and associated entities.

#### Social Innovation Tools on the DiSILab Platform:

##### 1. Social Innovation Idea Factory

**Purpose:** A digital environment emphasizing the collection and discourse of social innovative concepts.

**Benefits:**

- **Swift Evaluation:** Streamlined processes to ensure swift realization of viable ideas.
- **Diverse Idea Origins:** A platform that encourages multifaceted idea generation.
- **Targeted Innovation Direction:** Funnels innovator energies towards aligned social impactful goals.

# HashNET

## 2. Work and Skill (WnS) Platform

**Objective:** To fortify trust in the social innovation landscape.

**Key Features:**

- **Instant Verification:** Real-time skill and work history validation.
- **Blockchain Trust:** Replaces traditional trust mechanics with the reliability of blockchain.
- **Efficient Collaboration:** Reduces need for extraneous documentation, making collaborations smoother.

## 3. SocialB Interactive Maps

Highlighting European entities providing education in social entrepreneurship.

## 4. Social Innovation Toolbox:

**Objective:** Offering a unified framework through a diverse set of tools for holistic social innovation.

## 5. Fund 2740

A philanthropic foundation with significant backing, focusing on community upliftment and social economic ventures.

With its dynamic nature, DiSILab envisions an integration of cutting-edge tools like Metaverse and AI, ensuring that social innovators have the arsenal to craft transformative societal projects. DiSILab is not just a platform; it's the multifunctional digital tool for the Slovenian Social Innovation Competence Center. It's a testament to the possibilities when technology, vision, and societal ambition converge.

## 2. State of Play

The SSICC was established by four founding organizations: Ministry of Economy, Tourism and Sport, Noordung Center, Hashnet and Sončna Zadruga. These organizations recognized the need for a collaborative platform for social innovation initiatives in Slovenia, and each of them is committed to providing resources and support for the SSICC. As part of their commitment to the SSICC, the founding organizations plan to invite additional partners to join the consortium. These partners will be chosen based on their expertise and experience in social innovation and will be asked to contribute in-kind resources to the SSICC.

The in-kind contributions that the partners are providing include physical infrastructure with offices and staff committed to work on the basic activities of the SSICC. This will ensure that the SSICC has a physical presence in multiple locations throughout Slovenia, making it more accessible to individuals and organizations across the country.

Additionally, the partners are providing their existing technical solutions and tools to facilitate the operation and activities of the SSICC. This allows the SSICC to leverage existing resources and infrastructure, reducing the need for the SSICC to develop its own technical solutions and tools from scratch.

By inviting additional partners to join the consortium and providing in-kind resources, the SSICC will be able to expand its reach and impact across Slovenia, while also leveraging existing resources and expertise. This collaborative approach ensures that the SSICC can provide a comprehensive platform for social innovation initiatives in Slovenia, while also promoting collaboration and innovation among individuals and organizations across the country.

### Facilities of the SSICC already in function:

#### Noordung Center Vitanje

This is an innovative center located in Vitanje, which offers a unique space for hosting events, workshops, and conferences, and also provides facilities for testing and prototyping new products and technologies.

#### Hashnet in Slovenske Konjice

This is a coworking and startup incubator space located in Slovenske Konjice, which provides a collaborative environment for entrepreneurs and startups, and also offers facilities for hosting events and workshops.

### Potential new SSICC facilities:

#### Impact Hub Ljubljana

This is a coworking and innovation space located in the center of Ljubljana, which offers a variety of spaces for hosting events, workshops, and meetings.

#### Kovačnica Kranj

# HashNET

This is a coworking space located in Kranj, which provides a collaborative and creative space for entrepreneurs and freelancers, and also offers facilities for hosting events and workshops.

## **Rotunda center Koper**

This is a cultural center located in Koper, which hosts a variety of cultural and artistic events, and also provides facilities for hosting workshops and conferences.

By partnering with these and other similar facilities, the SSICC will be able to provide a network of physical spaces throughout Slovenia where individuals and organizations can come together to collaborate on social innovation initiatives. This approach allows the SSICC to leverage existing resources and infrastructure, while also promoting collaboration and innovation in communities throughout Slovenia.



Co-funded by  
the European Union



Social innovation ecosystem development

## 3. Future Perspectives of the Slovenian Social Innovation Competence Center (SSICC)

### Revenue Streams

Understanding the essence of a multifaceted revenue model, SSICC has integrated various streams:

- **Memberships:** The DISI Lab platform's membership tiers aim not just for accessibility but also engagement. By catering to different user needs and expectations, the structure ensures that each user finds value, whether through a basic access or a premium experience with personalized support.
- **Fees:** Recognizing that different users might need specialized services, the DISI Lab platform provides services like custom training or particular analytical tools. This flexibility in billing (recurring or one-time) ensures adaptability to users' diverse financial models.
- **Services:** Expanding beyond the traditional realm, the DISI Lab platform ventures into value-added services like marketing or project promotion. This multifaceted approach means that users aren't just passive participants; they're active contributors and beneficiaries.
- **Marketing on the Platform:** In this digital era, the power of targeted advertising cannot be understated. Offering businesses and organizations the chance to promote their offerings directly to engaged users provides them with unparalleled reach, while also providing a steady revenue stream for the platform.

### Value Proposition

At its core, SSICC offers:

- A vast interconnected **network** that brings together stakeholders from various domains of social innovation.
- **Training and consultancy** that's not generic but tailored to the nuanced challenges faced by social innovators.
- A structured environment that fosters **collaboration**, ensuring that synergy amplifies impact.
- A repository of **best practices**, which ensures that knowledge isn't siloed but shared, guaranteeing continual advancement.

### Key Activities

1. **R&D:** Innovating solutions to tackle real-world problems.
2. **Events:** Providing platforms for idea-sharing, networking, and showcasing advancements.
3. **Training and Mentorship:** Building the next generation of social innovators with the right skillset and mindset.
4. **Consultancy:** Assisting organizations in harnessing the power of social innovation.
5. **Partnerships:** Bridging gaps between sectors - public, private, and civil society to create a comprehensive ecosystem.

# HashNET

## Key Resources

1. Harnessing **expertise** in social innovation.
2. A vast **network** of stakeholders, ensuring a rich pool of knowledge and capabilities.
3. Physical **facilities** that foster collaboration.
4. Tapping into **funding** opportunities, ensuring financial sustainability.
5. Technological prowess, especially the **DISI Lab platform**, to stay at the forefront of digital-age social innovation.

## Key Partners

SSICC understands that collaboration is the key:

1. Engaging with local **government bodies** and **agencies** ensures alignment with national goals.
2. Collaborating with the **private sector** brings in business acumen and financial muscle.
3. Civil society organizations and NGOs bring grassroots-level understanding and expertise.
4. By partnering with **European Social Innovation Center**, SSICC ensures that it's synced with broader European objectives and can tap into a larger resource pool.

## Cost Structure

1. **Personnel**: The backbone of SSICC, ensuring they're compensated ensures motivation and retention.
2. **Facilities**: Physical spaces play a pivotal role in collaboration and innovation.
3. **Marketing and Outreach**: Ensuring the SSICC's initiatives get the visibility they deserve.
4. **Administrative Costs**: Essential to ensure smooth day-to-day operations.
5. **Technology and Software**: Vital to keep SSICC at the forefront of digital innovation.

## Financial and Sustainable Business Model

- Robust **public funding** ensuring foundational stability. **It is planned but not secured yet.**
- **In-kind contributions** from partners that leverage pre-existing assets and reduce financial strain.
- **DISI Lab platform revenues** which create a self-sustaining economic model for the center.
- **Strategic partnerships** that not just bring in financial support but also intellectual capital.

## Connecting Social Innovations with Funding

- Bridging innovators with **investment funds** and **impact investors**, ensuring ideas don't falter due to lack of capital.
- Guiding stakeholders in tapping into the expansive **EU Commission funding**, ensuring Slovenia fully harnesses available European resources.
- Exploring and establishing a **social impact investment fund**, further strengthening the financial ecosystem.



# HashNET

## Governance Structure

- Setting up a traditional **consortium agreement** to ensure mutual collaboration.
- Externally, the **distributed governance model** ensures every stakeholder, from academia to NGOs, has a voice.
- Embracing **Distributed Autonomous Organization (DAO)**, SICC brings transparency, security, and modernity to its operations.

In conclusion, the SICC's forward-looking stance, both in its operational model and governance structure, positions it uniquely to spearhead social innovation in Slovenia and potentially, beyond its borders.

In Slovenske Konjice, 9.8.2023

Prepared by:  
Tadej Slapnik,  
CEO Hashnet

