






# MedTOWN

## Co-producing social policies with Social Solidarity Economy actors to fight poverty, inequality and social exclusion

MedTOWN is a social innovation project that aims to support the role and the capacities of the **Social Solidarity Economy** actors in **fighting poverty, inequality, social exclusion and environmental unsustainability** through the research and experimentation of a **co-production model** with the use of **public complementary e-currencies for the provision of social services and financial aid to the most vulnerable groups** in order to increase the socioeconomic impact and effectiveness of public policies and the transparency of expenditures at local level.

-  **6 Countries**  
Spain, Greece, Palestine, Tunisia, Jordan & Portugal
-  **9 Partners**  
**9 Associated partners**
-  **6 Demonstrative actions**  
**6 Pilot projects**
-  Total budget **3,4 million**  
**86,5% EU contribution**
-  **36 months duration**  
(2019-2022)

The **3** pillars of MedTOWN's activity:

### **Training & Capacity Building Support**

MedTOWN will provide a capacity building programme that will be a **transformative pathway with dynamic, fresh and inspiring materials to strengthen the abilities and skills** of the participants in developing local public-private partnerships for the provision of social services promoting human wellbeing.

### **Social Experimentation Action Research Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E)**

A series of **experimental actions deploying a co-production model** will be undertaken in an effort to increase the effectiveness of social services and public expenditure. In parallel, a M&E framework will be developed to **measure the socio-economic impacts** through action research in order to provide specific recommendations for policy design.

### **Policy Dialogue & Networking**

The **MedTOWN Community of Practice (CoP)** ([cop.acpp.com](http://cop.acpp.com)) is the main tool for people-to-people communication in the project. It will be a space for inspiration, mutual e-learning and interactions on social innovation in the co-production of social services, as well as a platform for policy dialogue with critical reflections among professionals in the public social sector, local policy, citizenship and research in the SSE sector, while linking with other CoPs in the field of sustainable communities and eco-social innovation.

## Co-production, a model for fair and sustainable societies

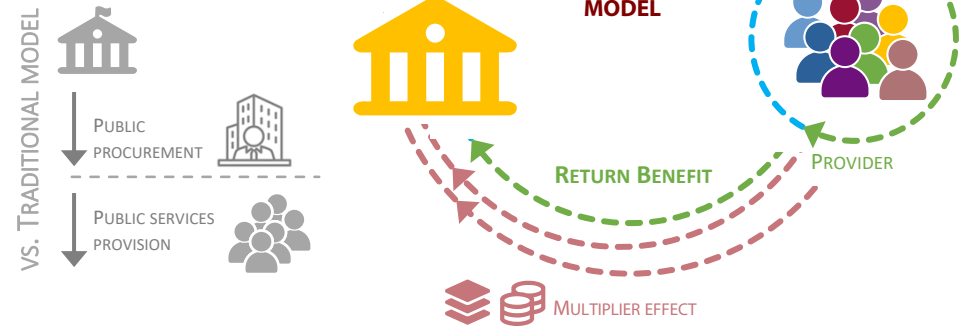
The main objective of MedTOWN is to promote co-production initiatives for municipal policies in collaboration with Social and Solidarity entities in the Mediterranean basin.

Co-production empowers citizens by collaborating in the development, design and delivery of a specific public policy, together with public authorities.

Co-production generates more resilient and sustainable societies, as participation enables citizens to include their concerns and social inclusion as it increases their sense of belonging, improves social cohesion and builds social capital. Meanwhile, the process is more cost-effective for the administration, guaranteeing the traceability of public money, verifying the suitability of the expenditure in a fast and constant way, and at the same time simplifying the administrative work, shortening the circuit in time by saving steps in the procedure between the administration and the people using the service.



MedTOWN encourages a **sustainable inclusive growth model** that will transform public services from unilateral providers to facilitators of more democratic participatory communities.



### **Multiplier effect of Complementary Currencies**

The use of **local and complementary currencies (CCs)** can turn an aid programme into a **programme of local economy promotion**. Using these instruments, subsidies not only cover the basic needs of the population, but **amplify the economic impact of the expenditure**. CCs favour the local commerce and encourage recirculation in the local economy, which **increases the multiplier effect of public spending**.

CCs do not seek to replace but rather **complement the national monetary system by supporting the local markets and economies**.



## 6 DEMONSTRATIVE ACTIONS

**6 Countries**  
Spain, Greece, Palestine, Tunisia, Jordan & Portugal

**9 Partners**

- **Assembly of Cooperation for Peace (ACPP)**, NGO, Spain
- **Tier 1 Technology**, Private Economic Operator, Spain
- **Scientific Society for Social Cohesion and Development (EPEKSA)**, No Profit, Greece
- **Agricultural Development Association (PARC)**, NGO, Palestine
- **The Jordanian Hashemite Fund for Human Development (JOHUD)**, NGO, Jordan
- **Association of Tunisian Women for research on development (AFTURD)**, No Profit, Tunisia
- **Campolide District Council (JFC)**, Public Administration, Lisbon, Portugal
- **Palestinian Hydrology Group for Water & Environmental Resources Development (PHG)**, NGO, Palestine
- **Balearic Government. General Directorate of Cooperation & Sports (CAIB)** Public Admin., Spain

**9 Associated partners**

- **Municipality of Seville**, Spain
- **Andalusian Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AACID)**, Spain
- **Ministry of Labour, Social Insurance and Social Solidarity**, Greece
- **Ministry of Labour**, Palestine
- **Ministry of Women, Family, Childhood & Seniors (MFFES)**, Tunisia
- **Environmental Quality Authority (EQA)**, Palestine
- **Birzeit University**, Palestine
- **Ministry of Social Affairs (MSA)**, Tunisia
- **Ministry of Social Development**, Jordan

### Portugal

Help co-producing urban public space regeneration by encouraging active citizen participation in the development of the Campolide Agroforest as a means to promote the social inclusion of vulnerable groups living in low-income neighbourhoods, and to engage with local SSE actors.

ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP, SOCIAL CAPITAL, INCREASED GREEN AREAS, INCREASED LOCAL FOOD CONSUMPTION

PROMOTION OF SUSTAINABLE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

### Spain

Co-producing the delivery of first aid subsidies of the Municipality of Seville to the low-income population living in Amate district, seeking to produce socio-economic impacts with the use of a public complementary currency (CC) for the empowerment and sustainability of the local economy.

FIRST AID SUBSIDIES, PROVIDED BY CITY COUNCIL THROUGH A MEANS OF PAYMENT WITH SOCIAL IMPACT (CC)

STIMULATION OF THE LOCAL ECONOMY

### Tunisia

Co-producing social housing for women survivors of gender violence in transition flats belonging to the MFFES and operated by AFTURD, aiming to ensure that the women involved in the program will be actively engaged in improving their capacities, and collectively generate sufficient income to achieve their economic independence, and wellbeing.

INTEGRATION OF WOMEN VICTIMS OF GENDER VIOLENCE (WVV). AFTURD TRANSITION FLATS HELP WVV CREATE SSE BUSINESS

JOB CREATION AND SOCIAL IMPACT THROUGH SSE BUSINESSES

### Greece

Co-producing the delivery of Minimum Guaranteed Income of the Municipality of Paggaiio with the support of SSE actors and the use of a digital card. An open circuit registry of local public-private-social enterprises- beneficiaries will take advantage of a series of bonuses and benefits..

MINIMUM GUARANTEED INCOME PROVIDED BY THE MUNICIPALITY THROUGH A DIGITAL CARD WITH SOCIAL IMPACT

SUPPORT OF LOCAL ECONOMY AND PROMOTION OF SELF EMPLOYMENT THROUGH SSE START UPS

### Palestine

Co-producing a community solid waste management system based on a circular economy model using a CC, with the support of the Municipality Beni Zeid and the local agricultural cooperatives. The local currency will work as an incentive to both encourage waste separation and as a mechanism to increase the economic capacity of vulnerable economic groups.

CLEAN AIR AND CO2 EMISSION REDUCTION

CITIZEN WASTE MANAGEMENT WITH CC AND LOCAL PROCESSORS OF WASTE

### Jordan

Co-producing services for people with disabilities (PWD) through a Social Business Incubator hosted by the Ministry of Social Development and operated by JOHUD.

INTEGRATION OF INMIGRANTS, PWD AND WOMEN. JOHUD BUSINESS INCUBATOR HELPS THEM CREATE SSE BUSINESS

INTEGRATION THROUGH JOB CREATION OF THE PWD, WOMEN AND REFUGEES

