Dear SIT Alumni,

Not so long ago, you were selected as one of the successful 15 finalists of the Social Innovation Tournament and you have started a journey with us. More than prizes, your venture became a member of the SIT Alumni Network. This means that all people working in your project can benefit from our initiatives.

The SIT Alumni network helps you build connections across sectors and countries with no boundaries. It also helps you scale the impact of your project. As a member, you have the opportunity to expand your professional network and you can apply for small grants (SITolarships) to further develop your project. You will be eligible to benefit from numerous learning opportunities, to participate in conferences and other events, to be alerted to funding opportunities and to learn from the success stories shared by other fellow Alumni.

You can find out more about these opportunities on the SIT Alumni website. The website is continuously updated so we advise you to consult it on a regular basis. This catalogue summarises and highlights all the opportunities you can still access this year. So sit back, relax and enjoy what is available to you.

LUISA FERREIRA
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We keep publishing the inspiring stories of our SIT Alumni on the EIB Blog written by former New York Times journalist, Chris Welsh. We have published close to 50 summary videos and articles.

This year, in cooperation with SIT alumnus Rádio Miúdos, we are producing a series of podcasts where SIT Alumni are interviewed by very young talented reporters and share their impact solutions in a language accessible to all. CloudCuddle, BeeOdiversity, Glowee, Peppy Pals, Speak and Adopta un Abuelo have already been featured in this series. The Freebird Club, Navilens, Usitoo and Mattecentrum episodes are coming soon!
SIT Alumni have access to a network of experts from the EIB Group (European Investment Bank and European Investment Fund). Our colleagues are highly skilled professionals working in different fields such as legal, accounting, finance, HR management, translation, IT, engineering, web-development, etc., who are ready to dedicate some time to helping social entrepreneurs scale their impact!

Walk with Path, SkillLab, Arborea, Goodbag and Recosi have already met some of them!

The SIT Alumni can benefit from the services of Cuora Consulting, a pro-bono management consultancy initiated by Global Shapers Luxembourg whose members are talented university students and young professionals. They offer their consultancy services to NGOs, social start-ups and enterprises for projects lasting approximately 6 to 12 months. HERA and Usitoo are some of the ventures getting their advices. 

Call for interest opens in September 2021

SIT Alumni can also benefit from small grants up to around €5,000 for services or activities that will benefit their venture (conferences, training programmes, investors’ fairs, networking exercises, consultancy, etc.).
SIT Alumni can participate in the Amazon World Service (AWS) Activate Programme. AWS provides start-ups with the services needed to scale up and grow businesses of any size. Upon applying for AWS, SIT Alumni are eligible for $10,000 in AWS Promotional Credit valid for 2 years; 1 year of AWS Business Support (up to $5,000) and access to the AWS Technical and Business Essentials training ($600 value per course). Additionally you get 80 credits for Self-Paced Labs ($80 value).

The European Venture Philanthropy Association (EVPA) enables venture philanthropists and social investors to maximise societal impact through increased resources, collaboration and expertise. Since 2017, we organise at the EVPA Annual Conference a showcase of SIT Alumni. Only those that have attended the Scaling Impact Executive Education Programme (Impact Bootcamp) with Católica-Lisbon are eligible to participate.
The Solar Impulse Foundation "1,000+ efficient and profitable solutions" initiative, attributes a label to profitable solutions with a positive impact on the environment in the fields of water, energy, smart city, mobility, industrial innovation, agriculture and circular economy. Solutions become qualified for further support from investors, resources and potential business opportunities. Fourteen SIT Alumni, namely, Arborea, BeeOdiversity, Breeze Technologies, CM Fluids, Desolenator, Goodbag, Glowee, Helioz (WADI), iNex Circular, MiWa, PlasticFri, Soil Steam International, Usitoo and Wasser 3.0 are among the 1,000 solutions.

The EIB Institute partners with WeChangers, an online community platform that enable people and communities to come together and collaborate effectively, at scale. You can create your account and gain access to exclusive content in the SIT Alumni Channel.
LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

IMM E-LEARNING COURSES
Impact Measurement and Management (IMM) remains a significant challenge for social entrepreneurs around the world. The EIB Institute and inFocus Consulting are partnering again in 2021 to offer the SIT Alumni Network e-learning on impact measurement and management.

The course is delivered in 3 levels - (i) Introduction, (ii) Foundation, and (iii) Builder - courses are available only to the SIT 2020 Alumni. You can follow the complete course at your own pace and join a 90-minute group tutorial. An automated assessment follows at the end of each learning objective. Each of the levels includes a practical 1-page guide and workbooks.

The IMM Advanced Training is a series of 5 tailor-made Webinars on (1) How to calculate social return on investment (SROI); (2) How to run a focus group online/tips for online facilitation; (3) How to train colleagues in IMM/using IMM templates and tools; (4) How to make the case for investing in IMM; and (5) How to communicate impact in a more engaging way.

Those eligible will be contacted by INFOCUS with details to access the Webinars.
E-TRAINING ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Andrew Davis, who is considered as one of the UK's most prolific Keynote Speaker & Trainer in Social Media & Content Marketing, presented three sessions on 22 April, 6 May and 3 June.

IE UNIVERSITY E-TRAINING

We have partnered with IE University to offer SIT Alumni full scholarships for two online courses. The Digital Marketing, Social Media and Analytics held from 3 February to 12 March, and the course on Data Science and Visualization for Business taking place from 26 May to 2 July 2021. Participants learnt how to use data to make the right decisions and drive lasting success.

E-TRAINING ON HOW TO COMMUNICATE YOUR IMPACT

Held in May and June, this online pitching training presented by Kim van Niekerk, a top communication coach, incorporated learnings from content, language, audience, storytelling and slide deck presentation. Participants got to know how to have a stronger presence on stage and video conferences.

Upcoming editions of the same trainings can be scheduled if there is demand. Let us know if you are interested.
Have you ever worked in a flow state? When you have been fully immersed in a feeling of energised focus? Finding the advantages of flow state is one of the many reasons why top universities are shaping new leaders with mindfulness programmes, positive psychology and growth mindset. Kim van Niekerk has designed an online learning programme that will curate thinking from psychologists, coaches, and neuroscientists. You will join a group of 10 participants on a journey of deep reflection and personal growth over 8 weeks. Short daily exercises will get you into and keep you in ‘flow’.

Applications for this online programme are open until 16 September.

STRATEGIC AND FINANCIAL PLANNING PROGRAMME

4 module’s online programme delivered from October to December 2021 by IES - Social Business School, the first business school focused on Social Innovation. This initiative addresses 10 lucky SIT Alumni projects with up to 2 participants each. It includes pre-recorded videos, live and individual follow up sessions in specific areas of improvement for social entrepreneurs. The release of the videos and live sessions will take place from 19 October to 13 December 2021. Individual follow up sessions from November to March 2022, in accordance with the availability.

Applications for this online programme are open until 16 September.
Certified learning (Lisbon, Portugal)

SCALING IMPACT

EXECUTIVE PROGRAMME

Formerly known as SIT Impact Bootcamp, the 5th edition of a full-time 6-day executive training course will run in Lisbon, Portugal from 6 to 11 September. This programme helps SIT Alumni develop a scaling plan for their innovative solution, fine-tune the strategy of engagement with key stakeholders, develop an investment case for financing and prepare to pitch their scaling plan to an audience of investors.

The Scaling Impact Executive Programme (SIEP) is organised in collaboration with Católica-Lisbon School of Business & Economics, a top 30 business school in Europe. The twelve selected projects are required to participate with minimum 2 and maximum 3 team members and have to be among the finalists of previous editions of the SIT (2012-2020). Projects that have already participated are not eligible to re-apply. All expenses are paid by the EIB Institute.

Still places available for the 5th edition. Apply now!

LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT
SERIES ON RAISING VENTURE CAPITAL WITH IMPACT

Presented by Wladimir Nikoluk from Atlas Metrics and joined by guest speakers of the VC ecosystem, this series of 5 Webinars held from February to April explored how entrepreneurs can successfully use impact measurement to raise funding from existing and emerging venture capital funds.

LEGAL & HUMAN RIGHTS

Francisco Granja de Almeida, Inês Villar and Maria Folque from VdA Law Firm give us the legal perspective and connection to human rights to many relevant issues for the SIT Alumni and their stakeholders.

Registrations for the Webinar on Diversity and Inclusion open in October.

You can review all past webinars on our Youtube channel.
EU FUNDING FOR IMPACT ENTREPRENEURS

Are you looking to understand and explore EU funding opportunities? This webinar presented by Marco Zappalorto, Senior Innovation Expert at VVA Group with long-term experience in working with and accessing EU funding, can help you.

SOCIAL FRANCHISING AND SCALING

To franchise or not to franchise? SIT Alumni will learn pros and cons from Dan Berelowitz, an expert on the topic of social franchising to achieve scale and social replication.

Registrations open in October.

EVIDENCE AT THE HEART OF SUSTAINABILITY ACTIONS

In November, SIT Alumni will have the chance to learn more about Evidensia knowledge platform that provides easy access to credible research on the sustainability impacts of supply chain initiatives and many interactive tools. Presented by Tiba Faselli from ISEAL Alliance.

Registrations open in October.
The EIB Group (EIB, EIF and EIB Institute) participated at the ChangeNOW, an international summit held online from 27 to 29 May to present concrete actions and innovations to tackle climate change-related issues. The Institute organised a session on 28 May where 7 SIT Alumni, Breeze Technologies, CM Fluids, Helioz, Miwa, Soil Steam International, Sponsh and Usitoo presented their impactful solutions.

The SIT Alumni Meeting will take place on 8 October in Lisbon, Portugal, the day after the SIT 2021 Pitching Competition - Grand Finale. 
Registrations are open.

The European Venture Philanthropy Association (EVPA) Annual Conference was planned as a hybrid event to take place online and in Portugal. Given the continuing Covid pandemic and ensuing uncertainty it will take place online on 9 November. Eight SIT Alumni will showcase their innovative solutions at a session organised by the Institute.
EIB GROUP EXPERTS

Get to know and connect with an expert.

"Awareness and protection for our environment, equality of humankind and to leave no one behind are the navigators in an ever-closer and interconnected future."

BJÖRN BRONGER, EIB

Expertise: Project finance (including PPP), structured finance, investment loans, collateralisation

"Being passionate about impact might lead you to make promises you cannot deliver. A lean impact framework shows transparency and accountability while ensuring your impact thesis does not drift along the way."

CLAUDIO CALI, EIB

Expertise: Impact measurement and evaluation

"Any venture idea, any business dream should have the chance to become reality. Inclusive finance instruments are striving to support that."

CRISTINA DUMITRESCU, EIF

Expertise: Microfinance, transaction structuring, trade finance

"With every single project or initiative, we are making a difference to people’s health and lives. Every one of these counts."

DANA BURDUJA, EIB

Expertise: Health economics, social services - including long-term care, integrated care and community care

"Social and sustainable strategies provide great opportunities to generate value for an organisation and for society."

ELLEN BOERSMA, EIB

Expertise: Urban development, clean energy and legal

"I believe in knowledge sharing to build a better tomorrow."

GUY CHETRIT, EIB

Expertise: Public-private partnerships, project financing, and infrastructure delivery model
Fill out the application form in the website and send it to institute@eib.org.

EIB GROUP EXPERTS

“Sooner or later, something fundamental in your business world will change.”

HARALD GRUBER, EIB

Expertise: Digitalisation of the economy, adoption and diffusion of digital technologies

“Always focus on the positive, both in yourself and in other people. Complement missing skills by adding diversity to the team and learn from each other.”

JEROEN VIJVER, EIB

Expertise: Human resources management and recruitment

“The best way to make social ventures thrive is by making them financially sustainable.”

LUÍS VELOSA, EIB

Expertise: Venture capital financing, business plan preparation

“E-commerce can unlock opportunities for change makers. My dream is a digital world driving social entrepreneurs to create more impact.”

NICOLAS ESPEEL, EIB

Expertise: E-commerce (complete pipeline), IT product and project management, change management

“No impact without money. No purpose for money without impact.”

THOMAS FERRÉ, EIB - THE EIC FUND

Expertise: GTM and customer acquisition strategies, growth strategies, finance and fundraising
DO NOT MISS A THING

SIT ALUMNI KEY DATES

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