

### **CY IBL Accelerator Business Launch Pad Pilot**

Through the IBL project, disadvantaged entrepreneurs had the opportunity to participate in a two-day training program across Europe. More specifically, in Cyprus, participants attended either online and/or face to face in the middle of September (12 & 13/09/2022) in a two full day piloting program in order to build their skills, knowledge and networking.

The training took place in Agios Theodoros, where the Cypriot partner of the IBL project, the Center for Social Innovation, collaborated with the Women's Association of Larnaca to facilitate the training. The women's association is an active organization, where many people attend their events and workshops, and also, there are many underrepresented entrepreneurs within the region, especially due to the fact that the region is a rural area and most of its members are women coming from vulnerable groups.

A total of 14 entrepreneurs attended the program. The engagement and feedback from participants was very positive. After completing the two sessions, almost all participants exchanged their personal and business social media networks in order to keep in touch. Evaluations were completed and certifications were also provided to all attendees.





In addition to the Accelerator Business Launch Pad, the IBL project developed the Inclusive Business Launch Pad Circles™ which were piloted in Cyprus by Center for Social Innovation through three online sessions with 7 participants from the first piloting attended.

The Circles aimed to offer a close and safe environment to them in order to share their experiences. Through the SMART goals practice, they were able to progress from the theoretical part of the first sessions by focusing on making achievable goals. Thus, every participant focused on their targets and spoke about how they would like to achieve them. In between the three online sessions, participants were speaking, encouraging, and inspiring each other.

