

## SCHOLARSHIP REGULATION

Fondazione Italiana Accenture and Fondazione Opes-Lcef Ente Filantropico through the “**SEOC Challenge 2026**” initiative, offers the opportunity for international cooperation operators, entrepreneurs, cooperators and social innovators, operators in the world of associationism, under 35 from the provinces of Verona, Vicenza, Belluno, Ancona and Mantova, recent graduates or undergraduates interested in approaching social economy, young women entrepreneurs under 40 operating in the Appennino area, with a focus on enhancing inner areas, and current financial 2026/2027 full members of the Amplify Alliance Australia network, to participate in the **Social Enterprise Open Camp 2026**. This international training event brings together some of the most remarkable voices from the social entrepreneurship scene in a residential and immersive camp.

## BACKGROUND

The **Social Enterprise Open Camp** has for years been a **meeting point** between the knowledge and ideas of **social entrepreneurs** and leading **mainstream companies, academic partners**, and other **ecosystem players**. It is unique of its kind as it was designed to allow social entrepreneurs and third sector players to grow and develop thanks to the dialogue with the leaders from the impact sector, finance, and other industrial sectors and doing this in an immersive training camp, with workshops, debates, and clinics.

For the 2026 edition, the focus will build on the reflection started during the 2025 edition on **Systemic Investing and Systemic Change**, exploring how public, private, and philanthropic capital can be aligned across the entire capital continuum to move beyond isolated projects and **achieve structural impact and systemic change**. We will examine organizations that are already experimenting with innovative approaches to deploying capital collaboratively, bringing together philanthropy, public institutions, impact finance, and the private sector. We will showcase **examples where cross-sector collaboration is genuinely grounded in trust**, shared tools, flexible financing, the ability to accommodate different risk appetites, and «catalytic capital» capable of unlocking new models.

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The program will also explore **steward-ownership** as a governance model that separates decision-making power (voting rights) from economic benefits, with the aim of safeguarding organizational purpose and long-term impact. The discussions will further address **power dynamics** in designing not only new investment models but also new market models.

Finally, we will reflect on the **cultural and creative economy** as a transformative lens for generating lasting improvements and contributing to the resolution of social challenges at the local, national, and global levels.

The event will take place **from November 21 to November 24, 2026 in Bologna, Bertinoro, Cesena-Forlì.**

We believe that participation in the Social Enterprise Open is an opportunity for building the social enterprises of the future and innovating the existing ones.

## PROMOTERS AND PARTNERS

“SEOC Challenge 2026” is promoted by (the “Promoters”):

### PROMOTERS

**Opes supports enterprises that generate social and environmental impact at scale through impact investing.** Established in 2012, Opes-Lcef Foundation was a pioneer in Italy and is internationally recognized for its commitment to supporting social entrepreneurship through the deployment of patient capital.

Its activities encompass both financial support, including equity investments, hybrid instruments, and debt financing, and pre- and post-investment assistance through mentorship, strategic guidance, and support in attracting additional sources of capital.

Particular attention is devoted to women's entrepreneurship. For this reason, the Foundation has embedded **gender lens investing** into its vision, adopting it both as an impact approach and as a risk mitigation strategy. It also places strong emphasis on promoting diversity in all its forms, viewing it as a driver of entrepreneurship, innovation, growth, and sustainable development.

The Opes-Lcef Foundation is also actively engaged in ecosystem-building through capacity-building and training initiatives. Its flagship initiative is the Social Enterprise

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Open Camp (SEOC), a unique learning platform that brings together organizations working across the fields of the social economy, innovative philanthropy, and impact finance.

In **2017**, the **OPES LCEF Charitable Trust** in London became part of the Opes network. In 2023, the Trust established Opes Consulting in Nairobi, Kenya, further expanding the organization's international presence.

In **2019**, the Foundation catalyzed the creation of **Opes Italia SICAF EuVECA**, a regulated investment fund supervised by the Bank of Italy and operating as an independent legal entity, separate from the Italian Foundation. The fund invests in businesses that generate positive impact on the environment, territories, people, communities, value chains, and the broader ecosystems in which they operate.

## IN COLLABORATION WITH

**Consorzio Nazionale CGM** is a network that promotes the social enterprise development model in Italy, for an inclusive and sustainable economy for all. With its activities for over 30 years, it has been supporting its ecosystem of affiliated co-operatives and social enterprises in defining models for responding to community needs. CGM's operational levers are research & development, training and consulting: European and national projects, events, accompanying actions, open innovation programs involving the 42 associated territorial networks, for a total of about 500 cooperatives and social enterprises. Our reference sectors are welfare in all its declinations (education, social and health care, assistance and care for the vulnerable, labor inclusion) but also urban regeneration, culture, tourism, social agriculture and local development in a wider sense.

## STRATEGIC PARTNERS

### Fondazione Compagnia di San Paolo

Since 1563, we have been working out of Turin for the common good, with a focus on people.

Our experience has taught us that the well-being of individuals is closely linked to that of their community. This is why, for us, the Sustainable Development Goals set by the United Nations are a valuable opportunity to contribute to the future of

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humankind at all levels: we have taken on this challenge and reorganised ourselves accordingly.

We have three main Goals: Culture, People and Planet, which can be achieved through fourteen Missions.

We are committed to preserving and expanding our endowment in order to make contributions and develop projects working alongside institutions and in collaboration with our auxiliary bodies. This is our commitment, for the common good and for everyone's future.

## **Fondazione Cariplo**

A philanthropic, grant making institution, supporting non-profit organizations and local institutions and communities in implementing projects with a social purpose in the following sectors: Arts and Culture, Welfare and Wellbeing, Scientific Research and Environment.

Dating back to 1823, managing the assets gathered over 180 years by its predecessor, Cassa di Risparmio delle Provincie Lombarde (the Savings Bank of the Lombardy Provinces), to carry on its long-standing philanthropic tradition, Fondazione Cariplo aims at operating based on the principle of subsidiarity, anticipating needs, and fulfilling its special mission of being a resource that helps social and civil organizations better serve their community.

## **OTHER PARTNERS**

### **Fondazione Cariverona**

Fondazione Cariverona is a private, independent, non-profit organization with banking origins. For over thirty years, it has been committed to improving people's lives and promoting the social, economic, and cultural development across the provinces of Verona, Vicenza, Belluno, Mantua, and Ancona. The Foundation promotes change through both its own initiatives and by funding projects selected via public calls. Its 2023–2025 strategy focuses on environmental sustainability, the development of human capital with a strong focus on younger generations, and social innovation to foster well-being and inclusion across communities. Since 1991, Fondazione Cariverona has supported over 22,000 projects, allocating more than €1.8 billion in funding.

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### **Amplify Alliance Australia**

Amplify Alliance Australia is a Member-led peak body representing Not for Profit and social enterprise organisations delivering human and social services working across the key determinants of wellbeing; Jobs, Home, Learning, Health, Social Justice and Social Connection.

### **Fondazione Edoardo Garrone**

Fondazione Edoardo Garrone is an operating foundation, established in 2004 in Genoa as a natural evolution of the Garrone-Mondini family's longstanding social and philanthropic commitment. It is dedicated to the memory of Edoardo Garrone, who in 1938 launched the industrial activity of the ERG Group.

The Foundation is committed to educating and empowering younger generations, helping them become conscious protagonists of their personal and professional journeys and active agents of positive change in society. FEG believes that today's major challenges – from ecological transition to social equity and cultural evolution – can only be addressed through the active engagement of young people. That is why FEG listens to the needs of communities and local areas, responding with concrete initiatives capable of generating lasting impact.

The Foundation's approach is based on strategic philanthropy, driven by clearly defined and measurable goals, the development of networks and partnerships, and constant monitoring of results. Each year, FEG involves young people in innovative educational programs, providing them with practical tools to face the challenges of the future. In particular, FEG focuses on the education sector and the revitalization of Italy's Apennine areas.

### **Fondazione Pietro Pittini**

Pietro Pittini Foundation is aimed at young and most vulnerable people to provide them with an opportunity of emancipation and enhancement of their potential. Together with different partners it creates and implements a wide sphere of activities towards educational and professional development likewise social and cultural support both at a regional and national level.

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## GOAL OF SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

“SEOC Challenge 2026” will provide **up to up to 150 scholarships** that gives the opportunity to participate at the Social Enterprise Open Camp in Bologna, Bertinoro, Cesena-Forlì from November 21 to November 24, 2026.

## BENEFICIARIES AND REQUIREMENTS

**To take part in the challenge and be selected you must:**

1. apply to the call for applications accessing: <https://seoc2026challenge.apply-idea360.com/>
2. submit your CV
3. in the case of NGO operators, social enterprises/cooperatives, associations or start-ups, attach a presentation of your organization (optional)
4. Attach at the candidate's choice one of three contributions:
  - an **essay** (max. 2000 characters including spaces)
  - a **short video** (max. 5 minutes)
  - a **presentation** (max. 10 slides)

in which you report personal reflections, ideas, proposals, and strategies inspired by business models and initiatives capable of operating with a systemic mindset, moving beyond linear approaches to address the complexity of today's challenges.

**It is important that the contribution is not 'generic'.** Submissions should include best practices, share professional experiences, and offer thoughtful insights, concrete examples, and recommendations on this edition's key themes.

To support its development, here are a few prompts and guiding questions:

### *From Egosystem to Ecosystem/Systemic Investing e Systemic Change*

- *Inspired by the theme of this year's SEOC, can you share concrete examples where the shift from "Me" to "We", from an individual to an ecosystem mindset, has transformed structures and dynamics to address global challenges, from environmental sustainability to social innovation?*
- *Can you identify a concrete example in which different forms of capital (impact investors, banks, public funding, philanthropy, etc.) have been aligned to generate structural impact within a specific field? What were the key factors that made this alignment possible?*

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- *Based on your experience or within your context, what are the main barriers preventing cross-sector collaboration among philanthropy, public institutions, impact finance, and the private sector? How could these barriers be overcome?*
- *Catalytic capital can unlock innovative solutions by taking on risks that other actors are unable or unwilling to bear. Can you share examples of how this type of capital has been used to enable systemic partnerships or to initiate changes that address the root causes of complex challenges?*
- *Beyond financial capital, what other forms of capital are needed to drive transformational, system-level change? We are thinking of human, social, cultural, relational, and other forms of capital. In your experience or reflection, which of these are most critical to initiating or sustaining systemic change? How can they be mobilized and integrated? Can you share a concrete example?*

### *Governance Models and Steward-Ownership*

- *How can separating decision-making power (voting rights) from economic benefits help protect an organization's long-term mission? Are you aware of organizations that have adopted steward-ownership or other alternative governance models?*
- *What opportunities and challenges do you see in adopting governance models that prioritize the protection of social and environmental purpose? How can these models contribute to transforming the systems in which organizations operate?*
- *What power dynamics emerge when designing new governance, investment, and business models? How can decision-making power be redistributed more equitably to ensure that the voices of all relevant stakeholders are meaningfully included?*
- *How can governance models promote greater gender equity in leadership, decision-making, and access to resources? Can you share examples of organizations that have successfully embedded a gender perspective into their governance structures?*

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### *The Cultural and Creative Economy as a Transformative Lens*

- *How can culture, creativity, and imagination act as catalysts for systemic change? Can you share examples of businesses or initiatives that leverage cultural and creative activities to address complex social challenges at the local, national, or global level?*
- *Considering the transformative potential of the cultural and creative economy, how can new narratives, languages, and artistic approaches help reshape behaviours, mindsets, and power dynamics in ways that foster systemic solutions?*

And if you belong to one of the following categories:

- **international cooperation** operator<sup>1</sup>
- **entrepreneur, cooperator and social innovator**<sup>1</sup>
- operator in the world of **associationism**<sup>1</sup>
- **under 35** from the provinces of Verona, Vicenza, Belluno, Ancona and Mantova<sup>2</sup>
- **recent graduate** or **undergraduate under 30** interested in approaching social economy and impact investing<sup>3</sup>
- **Young women entrepreneurs under 40** operating in the Appennino area, with a focus on enhancing inner areas<sup>4</sup>
- Current financial **2026/2027 full members of the Amplify Alliance Australia network**<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Scholarships offered by **Fondazione Compagnia di San Paolo**, and **Fondazione Cariplo**

<sup>2</sup> Scholarships offered by **Fondazione Cariverona**

<sup>3</sup> Scholarships offered by **Fondazione Pietro Pittnini**

<sup>4</sup> Scholarships offered by **Fondazione Edoardo Garrone**

<sup>5</sup> Scholarships offered by **Amplify Alliance Australia**

**NB: a maximum of two operators will be selected for the same organization**

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## ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

All applications will be assessed by Fondazione Opes-Lcef which will select, at their sole and absolute discretion, **up to 150 scholarship winners**. Evaluation will be based on:

- Effectiveness of the written text and/or video sent
- The professional profile and its relevance with the topics covered in the **Social Enterprise Open Camp 2026**.

## TIMETABLE

### *Phase A – Application*

Applications must be submitted in the period from **June 29, 2026 at 12.00 p.m. to July 15, 2026 at 11.59 p.m.** with these modalities:

- Access the site <https://seoc2026challenge.apply-idea360.com/>
- Register yourself, or log in if already registered, on the platform idea360
- Access the participation form by clicking on “**Apply**”
- Fill in the form by compiling all the mandatory fields required
- Attach the required documents

### *PHASE B – Selection and Communication*

**By July 21, 2026** Fondazione Opes-Lcef, at its sole and absolute discretion, will select up to 150 scholarship winners.

The candidates selected will be contacted by email and notified on the website. They will receive a code that gives access to the 2026 Social Enterprise Open Camp.

### *Phase C – Registration for the participation in the Social Enterprise Open Camp 2026*

The winners of the scholarships must register their participation **no later than July 24, 2026** on the site [www.socialopencamp.org](http://www.socialopencamp.org). To finalize the registration, the participant is required to fill out the registration form and pay a symbolic contribution of € 50,00 to support the initiatives of the organizers (copy of bank transfer to be sent by email to the organizers – email address will be indicated on the registration form).

The dates above may be updated and/or changed. Changes will be notified on the website <https://seoc2026challenge.apply-idea360.com/>

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*Should not all scholarships be awarded, or should additional scholarships become available through new partners, the organizers reserve the right to open a second round of the Challenge..*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

**Up to a maximum of 150 candidates** will be selected and awarded a scholarship.

By accepting, each participant agrees that the submitted Project (*Attachment 2*) may be subject to publications and communication activities.

The Promoters and Partners, who are each Joint Controllers of the processing of the personal data provided by the participants, commit themselves to process the aforementioned personal data in full compliance with the provisions of the privacy policy attached to this Regulation as well as to maintain and protect confidentiality of the documents and information sent, except for the purposes strictly related to the initiative and to external communication activities.

All data provided on the participation form will be reviewed and assessed exclusively by:

- the working team made up of Promoters and Partners
- the system administrator
- all those who, for reasons strictly related to the management of the initiative, will have access to them.

## EXCLUSION

Any attempt of fraud and any incorrect, partial, or false declaration will imply the immediate exclusion of the participant and/or the participating team.

Applications will not be considered if:

- not submitted within the deadline
- presented in partial form
- contrary to any rules of this Regulation and its annexes.

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## FURTHER INFORMATION

All operations will take place in accordance with current law. Promoters and Partners reserve the right to modify this regulation, respecting the nature and objectives of the initiative, to improve participation itself.

Promoter and Partners declare and guarantee that the initiative is not subject to the discipline of D.P.R. 430/2001 falling under exclusion cases pursuant to art. 6 of this D.P.R. For anything not covered by this Regulation and its annexes, please refer to the conditions of use of **idea360** available at the following link: <https://idea360.com/>

## ACCEPTANCE

Participation implies full and unconditional knowledge, approval, and acceptance of all the conditions contained in this Regulation and in its annexes, considered an integral part of the Regulation itself.

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