



## SCHOLARSHIP REGULATION

Fondazione Italiana Accenture and Fondazione Opes-Lcef Ente Filantropico through the “**SEOC Challenge 2026**” initiative, offers the opportunity for social cooperators, entrepreneurs and innovators from Piedmont and the Aosta Valley, full-member organizations of the Amplify Alliance Australia network for 2026/2027, and students, recent graduates, PhD candidates, recent PhD holders and junior research staff of Alma Mater Studiorum – University of Bologna, 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. 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

IDEATED AND PROMOTED BY

**OPES | LCEF**  
**IMPACT | FUND**

Fondazione Opes-Lcef Ente Filantropico  
Via Abbondio Sangiorgio, 13  
20145 Milano  
Tel. +39 02 82875666  
[www.opesfund.eu](http://www.opesfund.eu)

IN COLLABORATION WITH



Consorzio Nazionale CGM  
Via Ermanno Barigozzi, 24  
20138 Milano  
Tel. +39 02 36579650  
<http://cgm.coop/>



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

IDEATED AND PROMOTED BY

**OPES | LCEF**  
**IMPACT | FUND**

Fondazione Opes-Lcef Ente Filantropico  
Via Abbondio Sangiorgio, 13  
20145 Milano  
Tel. +39 02 82875666  
[www.opesfund.eu](http://www.opesfund.eu)

IN COLLABORATION WITH



Consorzio Nazionale CGM  
Via Ermanno Barigozzi, 24  
20138 Milano  
Tel. +39 02 36579650  
<http://cgm.coop/>



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 CRT

Established in 1991, Fondazione CRT is the third largest Italian philanthropic institution by asset. It has granted a total of more than EUR 2 billion for over 42,000 projects in the fields of art and culture, research, youth training, fight against poverty, improvement of the quality of life of people with disabilities, environmental protection, and innovation. In addition, it has entirely redeveloped the OGR Torino, transforming it into an international center of technological and cultural innovation.

Fondazione CRT is active in the main national and international networks of philanthropy.

IDEATED AND PROMOTED BY

**OPES LCEF  
IMPACT FUND**

Fondazione Opes-Lcef Ente Filantropico  
Via Abbondio Sangiorgio, 13  
20145 Milano  
Tel. +39 02 82875666  
[www.opesfund.eu](http://www.opesfund.eu)

IN COLLABORATION WITH



Consorzio Nazionale CGM  
Via Ermanno Barigozzi, 24  
20138 Milano  
Tel. +39 02 36579650  
<http://cgm.coop/>



Fondazione CRT also operates through a plurality of entities that contribute to the growth of the region: OGR-CRT (for design, production and communication in the fields of tech, art and contemporary culture at OGR Torino), la Scialuppa CRT Onlus Fondazione Anti Usura (for the prevention of usury), Fondazione per l'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea CRT (to support and enhance the contemporary art system), Fondazione Sviluppo e Crescita CRT (for patient investments with declared social impact); Fondazione ULAOP CRT Onlus (for actions in the field of childhood).

## OTHER PARTNERS

### Fondazione CRC

Fondazione CRC is a private and independent nonprofit organization based in Cuneo, a small city in the North West of Italy: since 1992, the mission of Fondazione CRC is to support the social, cultural and economic development of our community. Fondazione CRC is one of the top ten Italian banking origin Foundations, Fondazione CRC distributes grants and promotes projects in the following sectors: local development and innovation, arts and culture; welfare; education; public health; sport.

### 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.

## KNOWLEDGE PARTNER

### Alma Mater Studiorum – Università di Bologna

Established in 1088, the Alma Mater Studiorum Università di Bologna is the oldest university in the western world. The University of Bologna has a Multicampus structure, with campuses in Bologna and the Romagna region – Cesena, Forlì, Ravenna and Rimini, and permanent headquarters in Buenos Aires since 1998. With a current community of more than 90,000 students, the university is among the largest in Italy. Alma Mater occupies the first place among Italian universities in

IDEATED AND PROMOTED BY

**OPES | LCEF  
IMPACT | FUND**

Fondazione Opes-Lcef Ente Filantropico  
Via Abbondio Sangiorgio, 13  
20145 Milano  
Tel. +39 02 82875666  
[www.opesfund.eu](http://www.opesfund.eu)

IN COLLABORATION WITH



Consorzio Nazionale CGM  
Via Ermanno Barigozzi, 24  
20138 Milano  
Tel. +39 02 36579650  
<http://cgm.coop/>



terms of number of students abroad and is among the top 5 universities in Europe in terms of number of exchange students.

It is the first Italian university for funds received from the Erasmus+ programme and the second in terms of funds received from the European Commission due to the participation of the Horizon2020 research and innovation programme. The University of Bologna is among the top 5 Italian universities in the main international rankings (QS, Shanghai, Times Higher Education, Censis Guide and the Sole 24Ore rankings).

## GOAL OF SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

**“SEOC Challenge 2026 – Phase 2”** will provide **up to 50 additional 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:

IDEATED AND PROMOTED BY

**OPES | LCEF**  
**IMPACT | FUND**

Fondazione Opes-Lcef Ente Filantropico  
Via Abbondio Sangiorgio, 13  
20145 Milano  
Tel. +39 02 82875666  
[www.opesfund.eu](http://www.opesfund.eu)

IN COLLABORATION WITH



Consorzio Nazionale CGM  
Via Ermanno Barigozzi, 24  
20138 Milano  
Tel. +39 02 36579650  
<http://cgm.coop/>



## *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 mind-set, 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?*
- *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?*

IDEATED AND PROMOTED BY

**OPES | LCEF**  
**IMPACT | FUND**

Fondazione Opes-Lcef Ente Filantropico  
Via Abbondio Sangiorgio, 13  
20145 Milano  
Tel. +39 02 82875666  
[www.opesfund.eu](http://www.opesfund.eu)

IN COLLABORATION WITH



Consorzio Nazionale CGM  
Via Ermanno Barigozzi, 24  
20138 Milano  
Tel. +39 02 36579650  
<http://cgm.coop/>



- 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?

### *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:

- **Social cooperators, entrepreneurs, and innovators from Piedmont and the Aosta Valley<sup>1</sup>**
- **Full-member organizations of the Amplify Alliance Australia network for 2026/2027<sup>2</sup>**
- **Students and recent graduates** (within the past 2 years) **of master's or single-cycle degree programs, PhD candidates, recent PhD holders** (within the past 2 years), **and junior research staff\* at Alma Mater Studiorum – University of Bologna<sup>3</sup>**

\* Holders of research grants, research fellowships, research contracts, research assignments, post-doc positions, and type-A fixed-term researchers (RTDA)

<sup>1</sup> scholarships offered by **Fondazione CRT** and **CRC**

IDEATED AND PROMOTED BY

**OPES | LCEF**  
**IMPACT | FUND**

Fondazione Opes-Lcef Ente Filantropico  
Via Abbondio Sangiorgio, 13  
20145 Milano  
Tel. +39 02 82875666  
[www.opesfund.eu](http://www.opesfund.eu)

IN COLLABORATION WITH



Consorzio Nazionale CGM  
Via Ermanno Barigozzi, 24  
20138 Milano  
Tel. +39 02 36579650  
<http://cgm.coop/>

<sup>2</sup>scholarships offered by **Amplify Alliance Australia**

<sup>3</sup>scholarships offered through the knowledge partnership with **Alma Mater Studiorum – University of Bologna**

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

## ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

All applications will be assessed by Fondazione Opes-Lcef which will select, at their sole and absolute discretion, **up to 50 additional 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 **July 27, 2026 at 12.00 p.m. to September 6, 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 September 11, 2026** Fondazione Opes-Lcef, at its sole and absolute discretion, will select up to 50 additional 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.

IDEATED AND PROMOTED BY

**OPES | LCEF  
IMPACT | FUND**

Fondazione Opes-Lcef Ente Filantropico  
Via Abbondio Sangiorgio, 13  
20145 Milano  
Tel. +39 02 82875666  
[www.opesfund.eu](http://www.opesfund.eu)

IN COLLABORATION WITH



Consorzio Nazionale CGM  
Via Ermanno Barigozzi, 24  
20138 Milano  
Tel. +39 02 36579650  
<http://cgm.coop/>

## **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 September 16, 2026 at 12.00 p.m.** 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/>

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

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**Up to a maximum of 50 additional 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.

IDEATED AND PROMOTED BY

**OPES | LCEF  
IMPACT | FUND**

Fondazione Opes-Lcef Ente Filantropico  
Via Abbondio Sangiorgio, 13  
20145 Milano  
Tel. +39 02 82875666  
[www.opesfund.eu](http://www.opesfund.eu)

IN COLLABORATION WITH



Consorzio Nazionale CGM  
Via Ermanno Barigozzi, 24  
20138 Milano  
Tel. +39 02 36579650  
<http://cgm.coop/>

## 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.

## 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.

IDEATED AND PROMOTED BY

**OPES | LCEF  
IMPACT | FUND**

Fondazione Opes-Lcef Ente Filantropico  
Via Abbondio Sangiorgio, 13  
20145 Milano  
Tel. +39 02 82875666  
[www.opesfund.eu](http://www.opesfund.eu)

IN COLLABORATION WITH



Consorzio Nazionale CGM  
Via Ermanno Barigozzi, 24  
20138 Milano  
Tel. +39 02 36579650  
<http://cgm.coop/>