

# TOUCH

TACKLING OUTCOME-BASED FINANCE CHALLENGES  
A REPLICATION MODEL FOR SOCIAL ECONOMY

## TOUCH NEWSLETTER

#2 ISSUE



## TOUCH NEWSLETTER

21 October 2025

Welcome to the **second edition** of our newsletter.

In this issue, you'll find details about the upcoming webinar on the **TOUCH CAPACITY LAB**, organised by **Torino Social Impact**, a key event for organisations working on the **inclusion of young NEETs** in the labour market. On the second page, don't miss our **Partner Corner**, where we share insights and updates from across our network. Enjoy the read!

## TOUCH CAPACITY LAB

**Watch the webinar and  
learn how to apply**

The role of **outcome-based finance** in expanding opportunities for social enterprises is gaining increasing attention across Europe.

The **TOUCH project**, funded under the ESF 2024–2026 programme, aims to test how these mechanisms can be effectively applied in the Italian context. Its initial focus is **the design of an outcome fund in the Piedmont Region**, with the goal of replicating the model in other Italian and European regions.

Within this framework, on 24 October, **Torino Social Impact** will host a webinar on the **TOUCH CAPACITY LAB**, a programme designed to

strengthen the skills of organisations that promote the labour **inclusion of young NEETs**.

The initiative aims to upskill women and migrants in particular, and develop the practical capacities needed to access and manage **outcome-based financing models**.

**Participation is free**, but registration is required. A simultaneous **translation service from English to Italian** will be available.

During the webinar, participants will learn **how to apply for the programme**, explore **innovative social finance tools**, hear **international success stories**, and discover how organisations in Italy can actively engage in outcome-based funding models.

Sign up at [this link](#), the deadline is 23 October.

## Agenda

**24 October, at 11:00 AM (CET, Online)**

**11:00 – 11:15**

Welcome & Introduction

**11:15 – 11:30**

Keynote:  
**Mario Calderini**, Torino Social Impact & Politecnico di Milano

**11:30 – 12:00**

Knowledge session:  
**Bjorn Vennema**, Social Finance NL & **Martijn Berghman**, Refugee Team

**12:00 – 12:30**

Knowledge session:  
**Conor Sullivan**, Bridges Outcomes Partnerships

**12:30 – 12:45**

Presentation:  
**TOUCH CAPACITY LAB Call for Proposals**

**12:45 – 13:00**

Closing Remarks

# Partners Corner

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TOUCH consortium is formed by nine organisations committed to addressing societal challenges, while enhancing financial accessibility for social enterprises. As we continue introducing our project's partners, read below to learn more about **Social Finance NL**, **Human Foundation** and **Tiresia**.



## SOCIAL FINANCE NL

**Social Finance NL** is a Dutch advisory and intermediary organisation dedicated to developing innovative financing models that generate measurable social impact. Established in 2018, it has since become **a leading player in the Netherlands' social finance ecosystem**.

The organisation works across sectors, partnering with governments, social enterprises, investors, and civil society actors, to design and implement mechanisms such as **outcome-based finance**, **social impact bonds**, and **public-private partnerships**. Beyond structuring financial solutions, Social Finance NL also provides expertise in impact measurement, feasibility studies, and the development of social business cases.

As a member of the **Social Finance Global Network**, it benefits from international knowledge exchange and contributes to a broader paradigm shift: moving from funding based on costs to financing based on the social value created.

Through this approach, Social Finance NL positions itself as a connector, advisor, and catalyst for systemic change in the way social challenges are addressed and financed.



*Do & think tank per l'innovazione sociale*

## HUMAN FOUNDATION

**Human Foundation** is an Italian "do & think tank" dedicated to social innovation, impact finance, and the development of an impact economy. Founded and chaired by Giovanna Melandri, it acts as both a research hub and an operational partner, bridging ideas with practice.

The foundation collaborates with institutions, social enterprises, investors, and philanthropic actors to design and scale innovative solutions to social challenges. Its activities include impact assessment and evaluation, using tools such as the **Theory of Change**, alongside **training and capacity building** to strengthen skills in social innovation and measurement. Human Foundation also supports urban regeneration and local development, while advising stakeholders on aligning investment strategies with social and environmental goals.

It has been instrumental in launching **Social Impact Agenda for Italy**, the national impact investing network, and in establishing **Social Value Italia**, the Italian hub of **Social Value International**. Through its work, the foundation positions itself as a connector and catalyst for systemic change, making measurable impact central to policy, investment, and innovation.



## Politecnico di Milano - TIRESIA

TIRESIA is a research center based in the **School of Management of the Politecnico di Milano**.

Tiresia's main research interests and activities include new forms of impact entrepreneurship, social impact measurement, impact finance and inclusive innovation.

The organisation focuses on the study and interpretation of the transformations that are deeply changing entrepreneurship, corporations, finance and innovation in the impact economy.

TIRESIA's hybrid approach combines **research, education, advisory and experiential learning**. It produces scholarly and practice-oriented research addressing academic, policy and civil society needs.

TIRESIA is also actively engaged in advisory activities for corporations, financial institutions and policymakers.

Its main areas of expertise include **impact measurement and management, impact-driven entrepreneurship and innovation, sustainable finance, and public-private partnerships** for social outcomes.

## RESOURCES

Curious about the **TOUCH** project?

Explore the resources below to discover how we're driving impact and shaping the future of social finance.

### List of resources

- **Torino Social Impact website**
  - [Project presentation](#)
  - [TOUCH CAPACITY LAB](#)
- **Diesis Network website**
  - [First edition of the TOUCH newsletter](#)
  - [Project page](#)

## OUR PARTNERS



POLITECNICO  
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Co-funded by  
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