



Urban Agenda Platform

The global platform for sharing progress, action and knowledge on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda to achieve sustainable urban development.

SOCIAL MICROCREDIT TO FACILITATE ACCESS TO HOUSING OR AVOID THE USUAL HOUSING LOSS

Region	Europe and Central Asia
Award Scheme	Dubai International Award
Themes	Financial Strategies Housing Social Inclusion
Start Year	2017
Sustainable Development Goals	Goal 3 - Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages Goal 11 - Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
New Urban Agenda Commitments	Sustainable Urban Development for Social Inclusion and Ending Poverty

Summary

This project aims to facilitate access or prevent loss of the principal residence or rental property to individuals and families with economic difficulties. With microcredit it is to respond to no cash problems or need for immediate availability of funds due to reduced income or the delay attributable to the perception of certain aids or public subsidies that people were entitled to.

Background and Objective

In the framework of the activities of our housing service various problems related to the difficulty of maintaining the payment of residence (rent or mortgage) and situations of illegal occupation of homes are served. All these situations are attributable to various socio-economic difficulties as situations of unemployment or divorces. These difficulties can come given by the unemployed and / or family situations such as separations. All these issues are addressed with a holistic approach and coordination with social services and / or occupation services, and are often supported by regional aid for non-payment, rent subsidies or mediation for the restructuring of mortgage contracts or improvement contracts lease. These economic solutions suffer from a lack of coordination between the problem and the solution often make economic solutions and accompanying these become unviable or little adjudicative. Microloans have allowed the synchrony between economic solutions and problems and at the same time allowed parallel joint solutions for the comprehensive resolution of the problems. The population to which the program addresses is a region of 100,000 inhabitants and 27 municipalities. Social groups affected individuals and families are all at risk of losing housing or difficulty accessing housing.

Actions and Implementation

1. Problems faced in implementing the initiative, how were overcome, and the problems that remain to be solved. The main problems in implementing the initiative was that institution understand the method of the project, because to lend money isn't a usual action of public administration. This problem was solved looking for an appropriate budget item in the public budget structure law. On the other hand the problem that remains is the credit's management. It will be have to implement a specific software to manage the growing up number of cases. 2. Describe also how people, communities and institutions participated in the initiative. Local government contributed to grow up the budget and collecting different social situations to address the Microcredits and creating a specific methodology. People was object of an informal poll about what they thing about to access a loan to resolve and help in part of their problems. 3. Method that were used for assessing performance, who is using them and how often. The evaluation is focused in each case in two items: 1. The Microcredit was returned fully, it was necessary readjust the conditions: Return term, amount to be returned, others problems. 2. How the Microcredit helped or contributed into the social plan resold improve the needs that was the reason to assign the loan.

Outcomes and Impacts



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• Financial: From a financial point of view the project is part of the methodology of social microcredits which thing makes continuity is in guaranteed and growing, as has happened in just two years of operation, during which available capital has more than doubled passing the initial capital of 8,000 € to 20,000 €. • Social and Economic: The project works to prevent social exclusion caused by loss of the residence. • Institutional: At the institutional level the project has enabled the most explicit local level issues in relation to housing recognition. On the other hand this is a potentially replicable project elsewhere, because its main feature is the application of a suitable methodology to very different circumstances and environments, as has been done in our case replicating the methodology established for microcredits usual in the field of social entrepreneurship as originally drove the Grameen bank founded in Bangladesh in 1983. • The process of decision-making is multilateral and service technicians housing and social services involved, finally adopting an agreement award by the collegial body of the Governing Board, under the protocol award previously approved by this same meeting, all of which guarantees the transparency of the process without harming the efficiency and effectiveness in management.

Gender and Social Inclusivity

a)Transferability: Our experience has benefited mainly from other experiences that act integrally to people and functioning of social microcredits in the field of business. This experience has been transferred to several local administrations and the local council Garriga, the Regional Council of Garraf, among others, and now are interested in transferring from the important municipality of Mataro. Transferred b)Best Practice: This section applies only to those who are submitting their practice specifically for one of the two awards earmarked for best practice transfers. A Best Practice transfer is defined as a process whereby two or more parties engage in a mutual and structured exchange to learn from one another in view of improving processes, skills, knowledge, expertise or technology for the purpose of improving the living environment. Transfers can occur within a country or between countries. They include institutionalised transfers such as City-to-City Cooperation, or may take place spontaneously. In applying for this special category of the Dubai International Awards, applicants are requested to provide the following information: ·Describe how the transfer was initiated and by whom; ·Describe the purpose of the transfer and what the transfer involved (staff exchanges, study tours, ad hoc technical assistance, etc.) including the involvement and facilitation of any third parties such as a training or capacity-building institution or a governmental, bilateral or multilateral sponsor; ·Describe the resource and financial implications involved in the transfer including staff time, travel, transfer of funds, software or technology, etc; ·Describe any adaptations required in for example, tools, methods or technology, in response to differences in social, economic or cultural aspects between the original practice and the recipients of the transfer; ·Describe the results or impact of the transfer in, for example, changes in policy, management tools and methods, lasting change to the living environment; ·Describe lessons learned from the transfer and what you would do differently in the event of future transfers.

Innovative Initiative

Despite the short-term period of implementation of the project this has proven to be a great facilitator of comprehensive care of citizens, they have expanded the cases to which it is addressed because in the course of a few months the existence of the Project and the reality of the problems that are daily has highlighted the potential of the project.

Resources devoted to delivery

1 - UTE Equip BCpN, SLU i Equip EARHA, Fundació Carles Pi I Sunyer, Federació Catalana de Municipis, Banc de Bones Pràctiques / Microcrèdits per l'habitatge / http://www.bbp.cat/ficha_resumen_diba.php?su_idioma=1&on=fora Edit 2 - Servicio de prensa, Consell Comarcal Alt Penedès / ELS MICROCRÈDITS DEL SERVEI COMARCAL D'HABITATGE, AL BANC DE BONES PRÀCTIQUES DELS GOVERNS LOCALS / <http://www.ccapedes.cat/comunicacio/noticies/els-microcredits-del-servei-comarcal-d2019habitatge-al-banc-de-bones-practiques-dels-govern-local/?searchterm=microcr%C3%A8dits>