



PEEK Project



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Tshepang Project



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Common Good First



OVERVIEW:

WHAT IS IT?

Common Good First is a digital platform which will identify, showcase and connect community-led social impact projects to each other and to higher education for:

- Research
- Evaluation
- Learning and Teaching
- Student Engagement

HOW WAS IT DEVELOPED?

Developed by Glasgow Caledonian University, with funding from the European Union and GCU.

WHAT IS THE OBJECTIVE?

As well as building the mobile-first platform, the consortium of twelve institutions in Europe and South Africa will:

Co-create digital storytelling modules

with **COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

which will add **DIGITAL LITERACY** to the project's outcomes.

Initial launch in **South Africa** with a view to a **global roll-out** in due course.

BACKGROUND:



Professor Pamela Gillies
Principal and Vice Chancellor

PAMELA GILLIES' FIELD RESEARCH

In her research on HIV/Aids, health development and inequalities in health, Professor Pamela Gillies **noted how often communities created their own solutions to problems they confronted. Frequently these solutions went unrecorded or were documented in unpublished reports.** Some years later, it struck her that, with the ubiquity of digital tools and networks, it was now possible to:

CAPTURE AND EVALUATE

these initiatives and solutions. And so

COMMON GOOD FIRST WAS BORN.



NEXT STEPS:

We are clear that IMPACT AND SUSTAINABILITY are critical in this project.

As a member of the Ashoka U cohort of universities around the world who teach or research in the area of social innovation, we know we have further potential partners in the United States, Canada and Australia. In fact Ashoka U honoured Common Good First with a Cordes Innovation Award for Community Partnerships in March 2017.

We believe that, with the right leadership in place, for the overall consortium and in each institution, there will be enough buy-in for this project to live on beyond the period of EU funding.

As Margaret Mead said, *'It is small groups of committed people working together who change our world for the better.'* We hope that, in creating real-world and virtual communities of solution-finders - **and telling their stories** - we can try to make a difference, too.

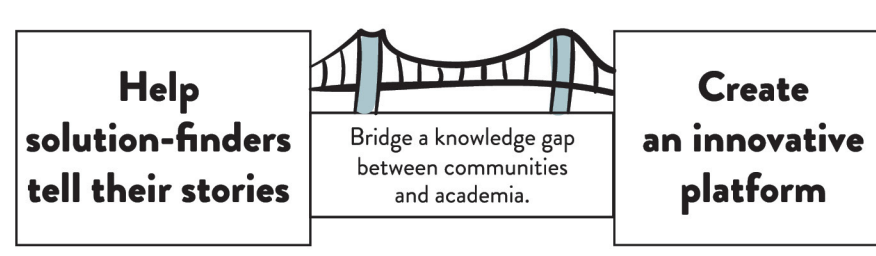
The academic teams in South Africa and Europe are also considering ways to document the project's outcomes in academic publications.



Social Innovation organisations in Scotland and beyond tell us again and again that the areas where they need most support are in:

1. Building strong, collaborative networks.
2. Finding ways to communicate their projects' aims.

Using digital storytelling tools and a website designed to work on phones, tablets and computers, we will:



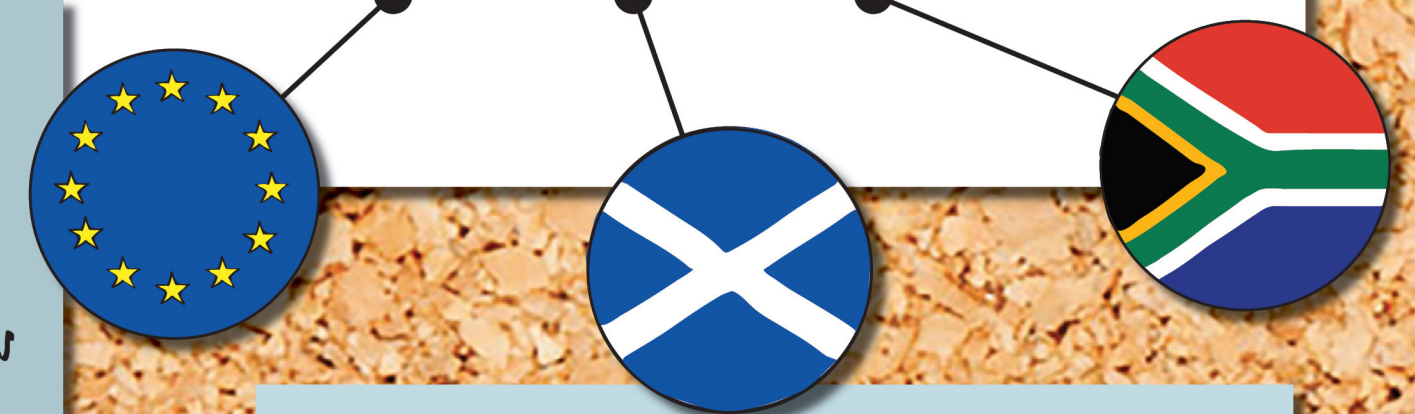
We will also provide a route for individuals and community groups to connect with **— AND LEARN FROM —** each other.

Common Good First is a programme developed by GLASGOW CALEDONIAN UNIVERSITY.

*It will be the **FIRST OF ITS KIND** to try to meet these needs by facilitating an exchange of grassroots solutions to pressing social problems, both in the UK and around the world.*

WHO'S INVOLVED?

The project is funded with a Capacity Building in Higher Education grant of €1 million from the Erasmus programme of the European Union. A consortium of six universities in South Africa, five in Europe and social innovation 'think tank', SIX, will deliver the platform and the digital storytelling elements over a three-year period, starting in October 2017.



The Scottish Government - whose strong commitment to social innovation and social enterprise - is part of the advisory group for the project and have been supporters from the outset.

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Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union

The recognition of **COMMON GOOD FIRST** further underlines GCU's position as

LEADERS in social innovation research and teaching in Scotland.

