

Let's incubate resilience

Shine Program

APPLY
NOW!

In partnership with



“You can change the world
if you care enough for it”

Marian Wright Edelman

Foreword

We invest in our knowledge, and use and share it to tackle sustainability challenges and create long-term value. Swiss Re supports the SHINE program, implemented in Slovakia for the first time in 2021. In turn, it supports the next generation of social innovators in Slovakia. Entrepreneurship and innovative thinking are essential in the social fields. With them comes a new impetus to provide the stimuli and kick-off local communities need. Companies have an irreplaceable role to play in local ecosystems, as they know how to combine their expertise with the non-profit sector for ideas with a strong vision.

I am very glad that in 2021, through the Shine program, we could, together with our partners, drive activities with an impact on building societal resilience in the less developed regions in Slovakia. In cooperation with Posledné domy and selected Swiss Re experts, and supported by professional Bookbridge coaches, we formed a homogenous team which worked hard on business strategies to develop a path to returning to life in the economically less developed regions of Horehronie and Gemer. The business plan was about renovating old, abandoned houses, and preserving their architectural heritage by supporting the local workforce. Reconstructed houses will serve as unique investment opportunities in the ESG area, attracting talent to the region and offering use of buildings for purposes closely linked to the local community and the regions' values.

Striving for sustainability is a journey. We will continue with our efforts in 2022, looking for ways to support and encourage those who, with passion, in innovative ways, and with an entrepreneurial spirit, are working and contributing towards more resilient and sustainable societies. I encourage all to seize this opportunity. Let us work together.



Nima Motazed

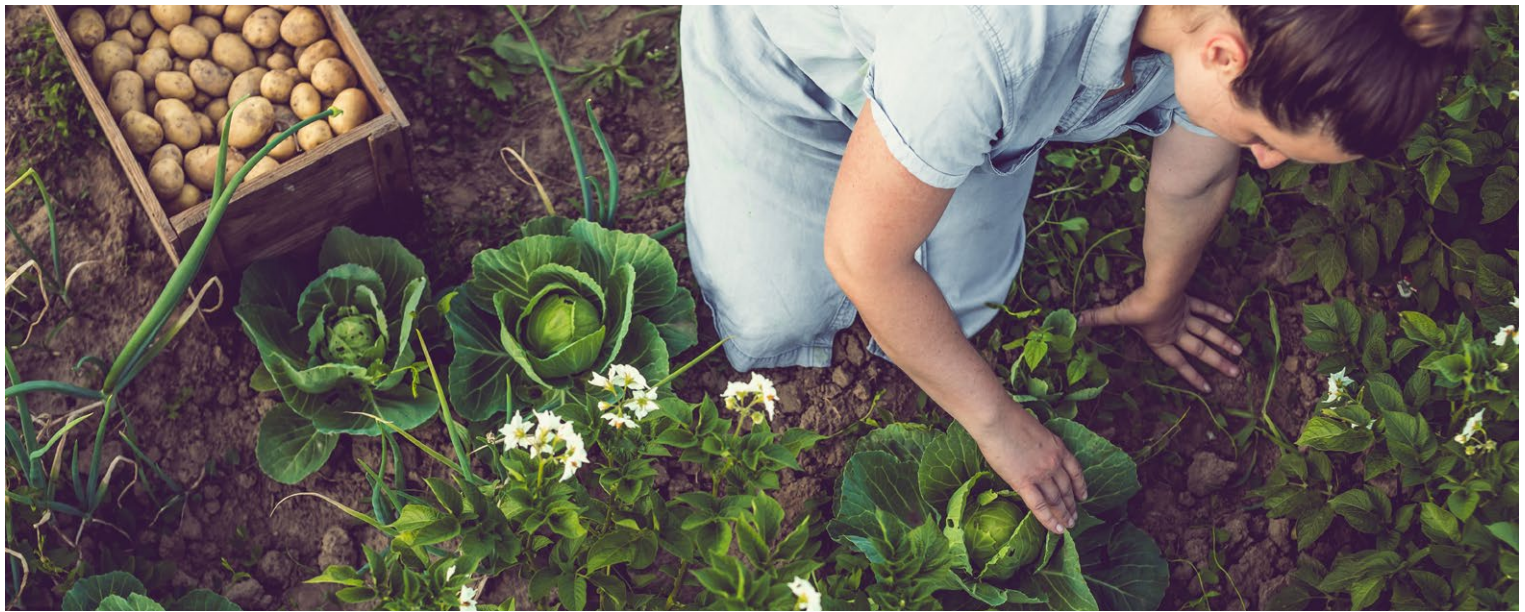
Head Global Business Solutions Swiss Re
Country President Swiss Re Slovakia

Overview

The Shine program offered by Swiss Re in association with BOOKBRIDGE, a social enterprise, and Pontis Foundation, a leading NGO nurturing social innovators, will support ideas that address challenges in any of the areas of Natural hazard and climate risk management and Access to health through innovation for societal resilience, pertaining to any region in Slovakia. These areas are in addition to Swiss Re ongoing focus area of Net-zero. We will select an aspiring/early stage entrepreneur based on his/her holistic understanding of the social challenge and innovative approach to the solution, among other parameters.

This innovator will then undergo a six-month immersive program during which he/she will collaborate with experts, business coaches, and leaders in Swiss Re to develop a financially feasible and scalable business plan. Following this, the progress of this new social enterprise will be monitored to analyze impact.

We are positive that this experience will not only help the winner realize his/her vision but also help the person grow professionally and personally.



What Shine offers to social innovators

- Access to skills and expertise of Swiss Re talent for six months
- Sharpened focus and approach to scale business
- Personalised leadership coaching in line with international standards
- Visibility in the local social entrepreneurial ecosystem
- Long-term association with Swiss Re Foundation
- Grant amount of up to EUR 25 000 to realise their vision

Who should apply?

Focus areas

Applicants' impact areas must be aligned with one of the Swiss Re Foundation's strategic focus areas:

- Transformation to Net-Zero (renewable energy, afforestation, recycling etc)
- Healthy nutrition
- Access to health
- Climate-smart agriculture
- Disaster risk management

Innovation

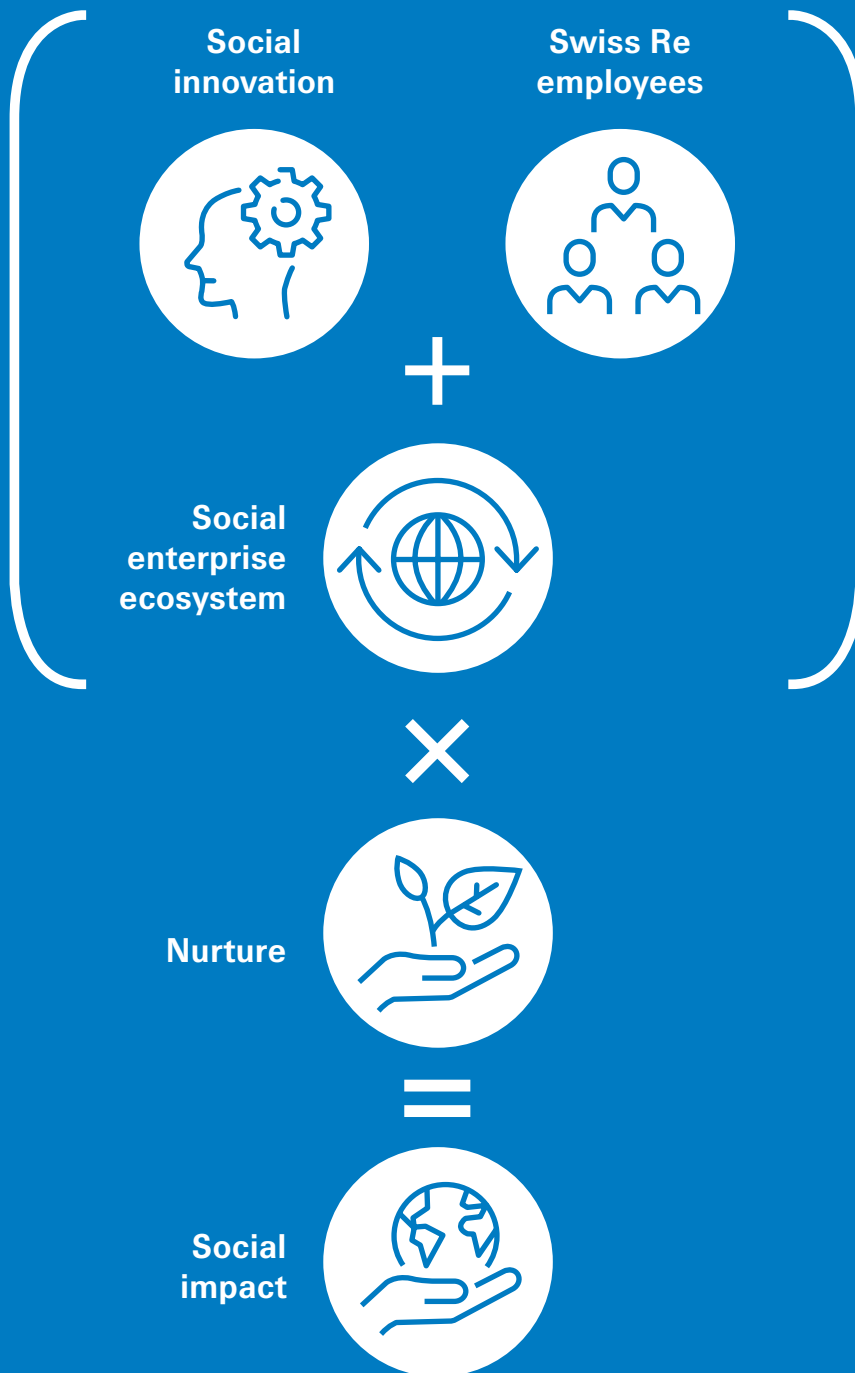
Applicants must display high levels of innovation in their product, service and/or delivery. The solution must be focused and should address a critical social or ecological challenge.

Maturity

Applicants must be early-stage enterprises that have an established proof of concept for their offering and are looking to accelerate their growth.

Mission and purpose

Applicants must have a strong social purpose and commitment and an outcome-focused approach to their impact area.

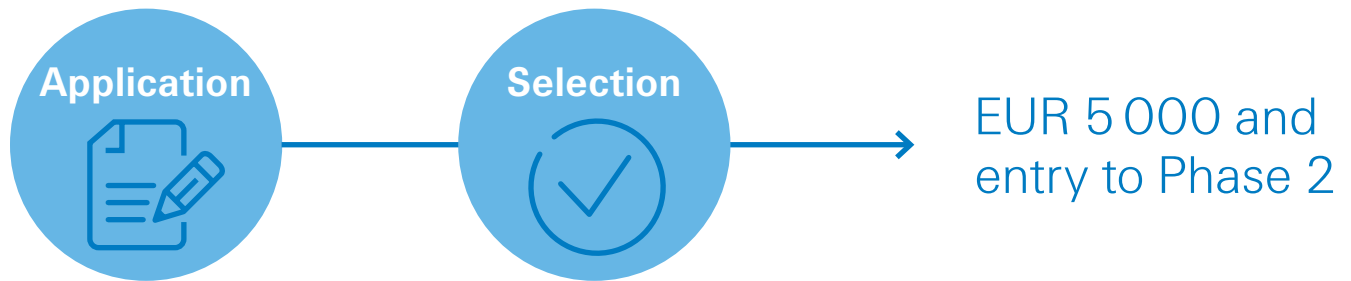


Program structure

Phase 1: Social Innovator Award

The submitted applications will be evaluated, and shortlisted entrepreneurs will be interviewed to select a winner who will enter the Action Learning Program along with a cohort of Swiss Re employees.

The winner will also receive the Shine Social Innovator Award including a grant of EUR 5 000.



Program structure

Phase 2: Action Learning Program

The social innovator will team up with Swiss Re employees and go through an accredited Action Learning Program facilitated in collaboration with our partner BOOKBRIDGE. During this immersive six-month journey, the innovator along with Swiss Re employees will together define problem areas for the business, engage with target communities, design and test solution prototypes and develop a viable business plan. They will then pitch this plan to the Shine panel of experts with the aim to earn an additional grant of EUR 20 000.

The cohort will be guided throughout this process by professional business and leadership coaches in an open workshop setting.



Program structure / Action Learning Program

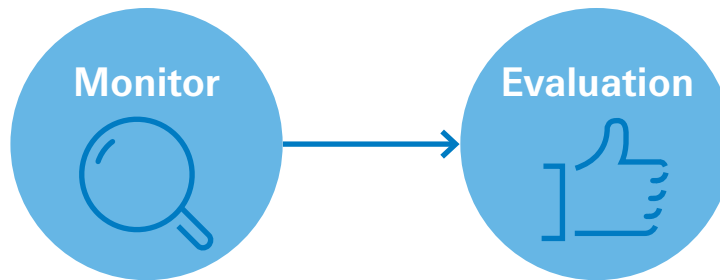
Module 1 (3 days) 28 – 30 September 2022	Module 2 (5 days) 6 – 11 November 2022	Module 3 (3 days) 25 – 27 January 2023	Module 4 (2 days) 9 – 10 March 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kick-off design sprint• Deep dive into business opportunities and challenges• Find your personal purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meet and empathize with target communities• Work on business Model, impact chain• Define team's purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pitch final business model to the jury• Create implementation plan• Reflect on working of self-organized team	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establish governance model• Share lessons learnt• Transfer learnings

- The modules span 13 working days in a (virtual or in-person) workshop setting. Travel (minimal, if required) would be additional.
- Between modules, the team is expected to spend 3–5 hours weekly on virtual teamwork.
- The above structure and dates are indicative and likely to be adapted to the prevailing COVID-19 situation.

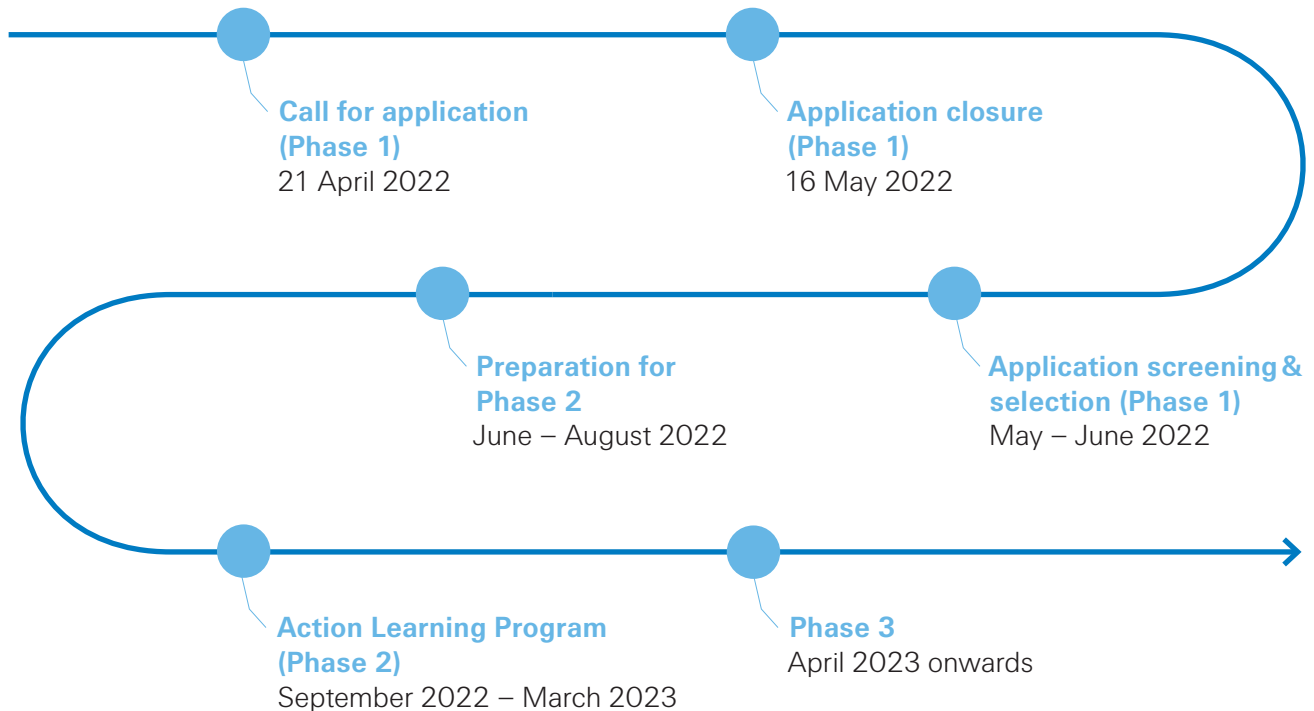
Phase 3

Phase 3: Impact monitoring

The Swiss Re Foundation will monitor the progress, impact and sustainability of the social enterprise for a period of two years after the Action Learning Program phase to ensure stability and growth.



Time schedule





How to apply

Please fill in the [application form](#) and we will get back to you.

About



Pontis Foundation (Outreach partner)

Pontis Foundation is one of the largest foundations in Slovakia, which brings together companies, non-governmental organisations, state institutions, communities and individuals to make positive changes in education, responsible entrepreneurship and social innovations.

[Read more](#)



BOOKBRIDGE (Learning partner)

BOOKBRIDGE believes in a world where people do what they really are. We empower people to become self-confident, responsible citizens by running experiential learning programs which result in the set-up of sustainable social enterprises.

[Read more](#)



Swiss Re
Foundation

Swiss Re Foundation (Program sponsor)

The Swiss Re Foundation reflects Swiss Re's social and humanitarian values. With our external partners and Swiss Re employees, we help strengthen resilience in targeted low-income communities and in communities near Swiss Re locations. To help build resilient societies, we offer our partners tailored grant financing, access to expertise, research and capacity-building as well as collaborative networks to create measurable, lasting impacts at scale.

[Read more](#)

Contact us

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