



# Enabling Social Innovation

## Panel 2: Future design, Foresight & Innovation

Moderator: DR., CEO SOILE KUITUNEN  
MIINA SILLANPÄÄ FOUNDATION



MIINA  
SILLANPÄÄN  
SÄÄTIÖ



#Innovation4Inclusion



Co-funded by  
the European Union



# What do we need social innovation for?



- Social innovations are essential for finding solutions to the major sustainability problems of our time such as climate change, social exclusion and poverty, mental health problems and loneliness.
- Social innovation requires listening to the needs of different target groups and developing human-centered solutions.
- The successful adoption and development of technological innovation also requires social innovation.



MIINA SILLANPÄÄN SÄÄTIÖ

#Innovation4Inclusion



Co-funded by  
the European Union

# The logic of Social Innovation



- Put the people first! Social innovation requires listening to the needs of different target groups and developing human-centered solutions.
- Understand and evaluate societal benefits and impact of your innovation and invention. Strive for sustainable innovation.
- Do not forget technological side of innovations. The successful adoption and development of technological innovation also requires social innovation



MIINA SILLANPÄÄN SÄÄTIÖ

#Innovation4Inclusion



Co-funded by  
the European Union





# Put the People First

**Human-centered innovation** means that development requires empathy, understanding people's everyday life and the meanings they give to things. In general, what is needed is an understanding of what is meaningful to people in their everyday lives.

People-oriented innovation also brings developers and communities together. Rather than profiling yourself as a lonely pioneer, you are a co-developer, a co-understander. It is essential that you bring your resources to be used by everyone together.



MIINA SILLANPÄÄN SÄÄTIÖ

#Innovation4Inclusion



Co-funded by  
the European Union

# Sustainable or not?

- Innovation is not innovation unless it has been introduced and exploited. Too often, the RDI process ends at the end of a project. To be truly impactful, innovation must be scaled and disseminated.
- Innovation can be useful from one point of view, but negative effects from another. It is important to find ways of balancing the effects and working for sustainable innovation.

#Innovation4Inclusion



MIINA SILLANPÄÄN SÄÄTIÖ



Co-funded by  
the European Union

# Technology matters

- Technology is a necessary, often pervasive force in all new creations. Many innovations require technology in order to be effective. For example, various applications in education have made it possible to learn regardless of time and place.
- Technology may take over in innovation. Technology can become an end in itself or it can change our activities in an unwanted direction.

#Innovation4Inclusion



MIINA SILLANPÄÄN SÄÄTIÖ



Co-funded by  
the European Union





# Thank you!

@KuitunenSoile @Msillanpaan\_sr

Learn more about the innovations of the Miina  
Sillanpää Foundation

<https://www.miinasillanpaa.fi/>



#Innovation4Inclusion



Co-funded by  
the European Union