





**NOVEMBER 2024 - APRIL 2025** 

# **BOOST: Urban Future Finance Acceleration Programme**

The **BOOST: Urban Future Finance acceleration programme**, powered by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Europe and Central Asia, focuses on identifying, developing, and scaling innovative financial solutions that drive urban transformation in the Western Balkans. Running from November 2024 to April 2025, the programme will onboard up to 20 teams working on innovative finance solutions, addressing one or more of these key areas:

### Monetizing Sustainability:

Convert environmental and social benefits into economic assets, and better ways to collect local revenues and align them with larger goals

# **Enhancing Financial Viability:**

Enhance the financial viability of urban projects, by reducing risks and building innovative partnerships to attract investments for urban transformation

# **Engaging Communities:**

Involve local communities to better plan and distribute city resources to meet their needs, enhance relevance and ensure strong community buy-in

The programme is open to startups, micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, social enterprises, non-profits, academic institutions, and municipalities. Participants will receive:



Tailored training (online and in-person)



Mentorship (individual and group)



Matchmaking for implementation



Financial and technical support



Access to a lifelong alumni network

# **Key Programme Modules** and **Boosters**

The programme consists of four key modules, complimented by mentorship and peer-to-peer learning opportunities designed to boost your impact, enhance your business skills and increase your organization's visibility:

# **SDG Impact Management:**

Learn to develop SDG-aligned impact models with proper monitoring.

#### **Business Model Acceleration:**

Build strong business models to scale your solution.

# **Innovative Financing:**

Fine-tune the financial aspects of your project with expert guidance.

# **Digital Transformation:**

Integrate digital tools like AI to enhance efficiency and scalability.













# **Programme Stages**

The programme is designed around these key stages to provide targeted support and foster a community of innovative finance changemakers:

# Stage 1: Needs Assessment

UNDP and partners will conduct an initial needs assessment to understand the cohort's and your needs, challenges, and opportunities, which will help us refine the curriculum.

# Stage 2: BOOSTCamp

A four-week bootcamp will kickstart your BOOST journey, featuring workshops and mentorship in impact measurement, business model development, innovative finance, and digitalization. The BOOSTcamp will include both in-person and online components, offering a hybrid learning experience. You will also participate in a 1-week in-person residency on 25-29 November 2024 (location to be announced soon).

#### Stage 3: Incubation & Acceleration

From December 2024 to April 2025, you'll benefit from tailored mentorship, peer-to-peer learning, and partnership opportunities for solutions development, market access, and fundraising.

## Stage 4: Demo Day

At the end of the programme, you will have the chance to pitch your innovation to city stakeholders, UNDP and investors for financial and non-financial prizes and awards.

# Stage 5: Post-acceleration Support

After graduation, you will be invited to join the BOOST alumni network for ongoing support, including specialized trainings, networking events, and access to resources and financing.

# Why Join the Programme?

The BOOST: Urban Future Finance acceleration programme offers a unique opportunity to accelerate your solution while connecting with a diverse ecosystem of finance, urban development, and sustainability experts. Whether you are a startup or an established organization, this acceleration programme provides the tools and network to further your solution in support of urban transformation.

Apply by October 21 and register for our information session on October 10 (at 11 CET) to learn more about the programme and how to apply.

# **About Us**

BOOST is a regional impact acceleration programme powered by UNDP Europe and Central Asia. The programme's core mission is to reimagine our future through impact innovation. The BOOST: Urban Future Finance acceleration programme is part of the Slovak Transformation Fund, financed by the Ministry of Finance of the Slovak Republic. It is supported by SocialTech Lab, which works at the intersection of technology, entrepreneurship, and peacebuilding to bridge divides, empower local changemakers, solve social and environmental challenges, and cultivate resilient ecosystems in conflict—affected regions.





