BENISI
scaling social innovation

Building a European Network of Incubators for Social Innovation

BENISI Objectives

EU-funded FP7 project under coordination and support actions scheme.

1. Increase the innovation capabilities of social innovators
2. Support small and locally successful social innovations to be realised across Europe
3. Provide new evidence of the role of incubators networks in accelerating and scaling up social innovations,
4. Test social incubation processes and show what works and how across Europe

Target: 300 social innovations

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BENISI Approach

- 36 month project [*May 2013 - April 2016*]

- Network of networks with 13 consortium partners [*7 countries*]

  - i-propeller (lead)

  - Impact Hub network (6 locations, 5 geo-clusters)

  - EURADA [European Regional Authorities Development Agency]

  - DIESIS [European Research and Development Service for Social Economy]

  - Pefondes [European Network of the Foundations for Social Economy]
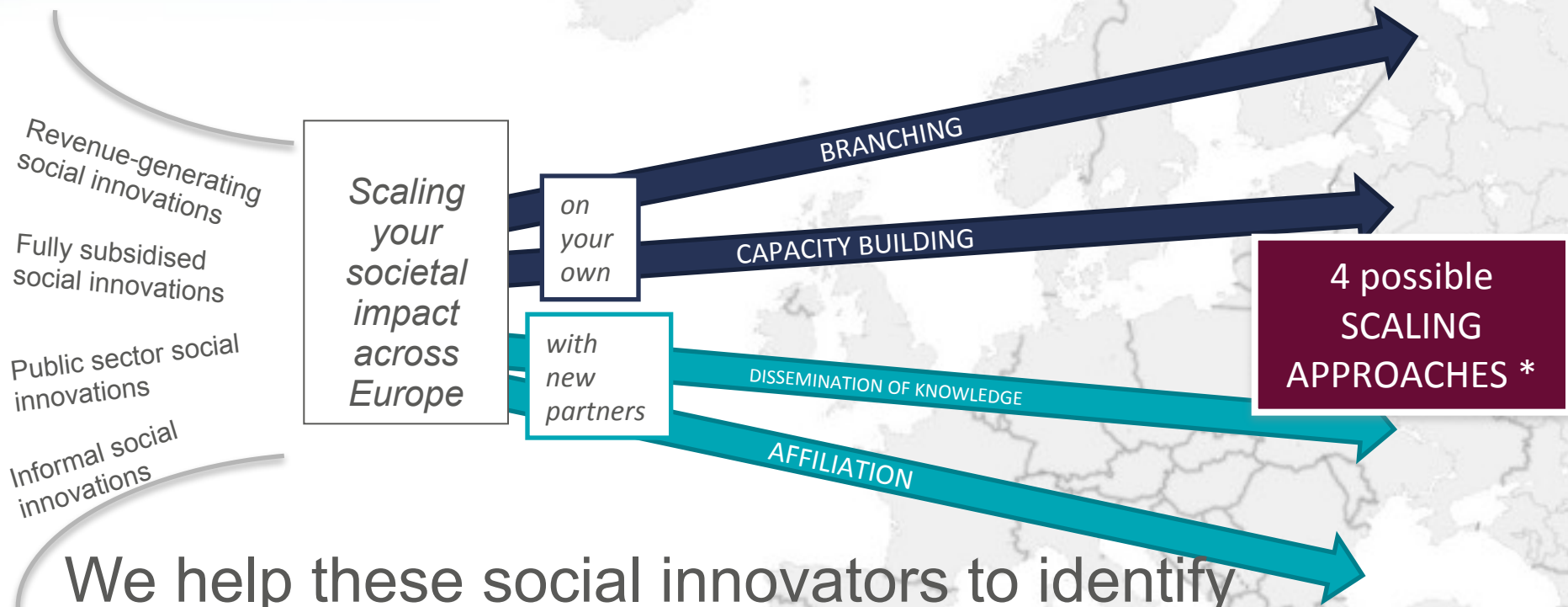
  - Cariplo Foundation

Why do we need the BENISI network?

- Social innovators indicate <u>access to networks</u> and <u>connecting to peers</u> working in similar fields as top needed resources to scale their innovations

- Over 90% of the social innovators interviewed view partnering with others as a means of scaling their social enterprises

- Geographically, social innovators are only ready to scale in their own countries or neighboring countries - To accelerate the scaling process across Europe, a new approach is necessary

- The network enables incubators and other support organisations to benefit from common learnings and development of best practices to facilitate scaling

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Guidance in SCALING APPROACH

Revenue-generating social innovations

Fully subsidised social innovations

Public sector social innovations

Informal social innovations

Scaling your societal impact across Europe

on your own

with new partners

BRANCHING

CAPACITY BUILDING

DISSEMINATION OF KNOWLEDGE

AFFILIATION

4 possible SCALING APPROACHES *

We help these social innovators to identify which scaling approach(es) are most suitable to grow their societal impact

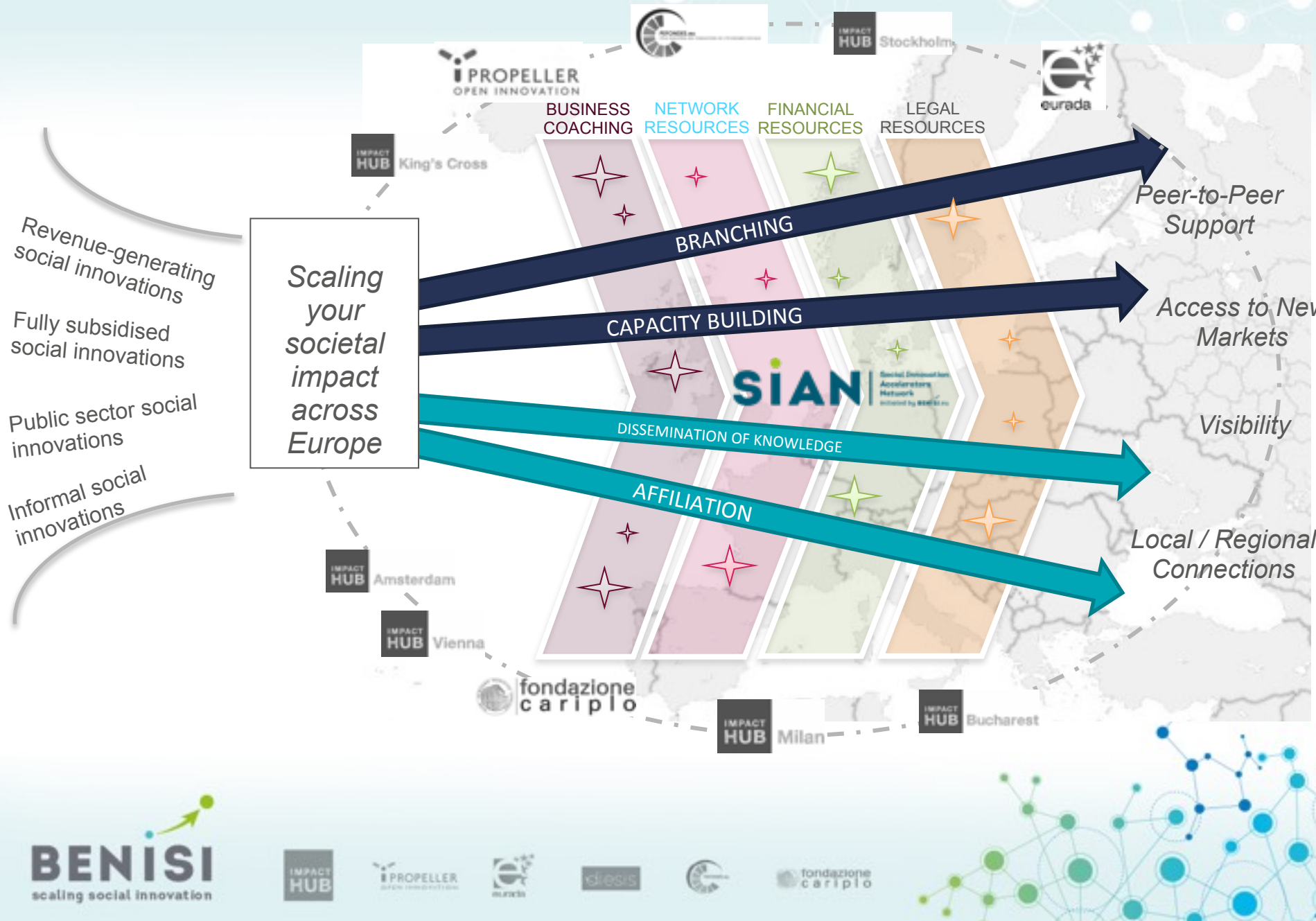* Adapted from Prof Dr. Christiana Weber – Scaling social enterprises

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Matching Social Innovations to Scaling Resources: Key Activities

BUSINESS COACHING NETWORK RESOURCES FINANCIAL RESOURCES LEGAL RESOURCES

SIAN — Social Innovation Accelerators Network initiated by BENISI.eu

- Providing a report of key resources and peers that can potentially support the scaling process
  - Resources matching scaling needs
  - Peer-to-peer matches working in similar fields and impact areas
- Connecting social innovators to SIAN members
- Providing business coaching to high potential social innovations

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Overview of the BENISI Network