Social Innovations are both social in their ends and in their means. They are new ideas (products, services and models) that simultaneously meet social needs and create new social relationships or collaborations.

Research at the University of Bologna covers all relevant aspects of Social Innovation.
Education and Society
Sustainable development education; Trans-culturalism and transcultural society; Social policy and family.

International Development
Social inequality in developed countries; Fair trade, critical consumption, microcredit and ethical finance; Fundraising management.

Governance
Welfare policies at EU, national and local levels; Welfare systems innovation; Open and e-government, e-participation and inclusion; Public sector innovation; Social investment policies initiatives; Innovative practices for health and healthcare; Citizen engagement, bottom-up solutions; Design Thinking and organizational change; Gender and organizational change.

Social economy
Social economy and social enterprises; Models of organisation, self-management and workers’ empowerment; Third sector and social private sector; Relational goods and social economy; Non-profit organisations and social cooperatives; Corporate Social Responsibility.

HIGHLIGHTS
Horizon 2020 SIC Social Innovation Community project aims to create a ‘network of networks’ of social innovation actors. The project will identify and connect actors - including researchers, social innovators, citizens, policy-makers, as well as intermediaries, businesses, civil society organisations and public sector employees - delivering engagement, research, experimentation, learning and policy activities.
Horizon 2020 COSIE Co-creation of service innovation in Europe project builds on the idea that public sector innovations – whether ICT-related or not – can best be achieved by creating collaborative partnerships between service providers and service beneficiaries The goal of CoSIE is to contribute to democratic dimensions and social inclusion through co-creating public services by engaging diverse citizen groups and stakeholders in varied public services.
Urban Innovative Actions programme S.A.L.U.S W SPACE project aims to build a center for hospitality, work and intercultural welfare and wellness (Salus Space). The intervention will create an experimental site for social innovation through a participatory design process and will define an innovative and replicable model of reception and integration for refugees.