



Promoting social and solidarity economy ecosystems

While estimates vary, a cross-country study shows that traditional SSE organisations account for 6.3% of employment and 13.6 million jobs across EU28 countries. To increase the scale and impact of the social and solidarity economy globally, the OECD and the European Union are embarking on an ambitious three-year project.

Why this project?

Growing inequalities, persistent unemployment and environmental imperatives have come to the fore as priority policy issues. In that context, the **social and solidarity economy (SSE)** can contribute to building more inclusive and sustainable economies and societies. The SSE has indeed proved to be a longstanding agent of inclusive growth.

The main characteristic of the SSE is doing business differently, often through social innovation. Traditional SSE organisations and more recent forms, such as social enterprises, all share a common approach that puts people at the core of their mission. By doing so they address social, economic and/or environmental challenges in their business model. Despite the increasingly recognised importance of the SSE, many countries still struggle to develop conducive

ecosystems and to access good practices at the international level. This project will thus focus on two critical policy levers which can help unlock the potential of the SSE, namely legal frameworks and social impact measurement.

Objectives

As part of the OECD and EU strategic objectives to promote inclusive, smart, resilient and sustainable growth, this project aims to:

- support the SSE, including social enterprise development and internationalisation;
- raise awareness and capacity to build conducive national and local ecosystems for SSE development;
- promote knowledge and other exchanges at the international level.



Target Countries



Brazil



Canada



EU



India



Korea



Mexico



US



How will this project achieve these goals?

In addition to country fact sheets and other targeted papers, the project will develop:

- Peer-learning partnerships to exchange knowledge and experiences on the SSE and social entrepreneurship;
- International guide on legal frameworks for the SSE;
- International guide on social impact measurement for the SSE.

Special themes and hot topics in the field will also be addressed in the different project activities. They include the internationalisation of the SSE, gender and social fintech among others. Several events

and workshops will also be organised to enhance knowledge-exchange on these issues.

Would you like to get involved?

Several opportunities for collaboration are possible. Your country or organisation could:

- Manage a peer-learning partnership;
- Participate in the peer-learning partnerships;
- Host a specific event around the topics of the project;
- Share policy successes and lessons learnt on the SSE with other countries through OECD channels; etc.

PROJECT TIMELINE



CONTACT

If you are interested to learn more about the project or to get involved, please contact [Antonella Noya](mailto:Antonella.Noya@oecd.org), Head of the Social Economy and Innovation Unit | Antonella.noya@oecd.org
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About the OECD Social Economy and Innovation Unit

OECD began work on social entrepreneurship over 25 years ago. The OECD assists national, regional and local governments in designing and implementing strategies to support the SSE and social enterprises by providing them with tailored and evidence-based policy recommendations. The work supports the OECD's Local Economic and Employment Development (LEED) Programme.

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