



SOCIAL ENTERPRISE INVENTORY

Exploiting Potentials of

Social Enterprises through Standardized

European Evaluation

and Development System

SOCIAL SEEDS

Interreg Europe



SME competitiveness



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

I. INTRODUCTION

1. SOCIAL SEEDS project

Recent years have seen a burgeoning interest in social enterprises (SEs) across Europe, strongly driven by a growing recognition of the role social enterprises can play in tackling emerging challenges. Particularly in the current period of economic and social recovery, social enterprises are able to bring innovative solutions for social cohesion and inclusion, job creation, growth and the promotion of active citizenship. Yet, despite interest in and the emergence of examples of inspirational and 'disruptive' social enterprises, relatively little is known about the scale as well as the ecosystems of the emerging social enterprise 'sector' of Europe as a whole. Best practices across Europe show that social enterprises are effective & efficient policy tools at policymakers' hands to reduce territorial disparities, bridge the public private sphere and to boost economic growth, employability of vulnerable social groups by improving the performance of regional development policies and programmes.

Today only eight countries out of the EU-28 countries, namely Bulgaria, Greece, France, Italy, Luxembourg, Slovenia, Sweden, and United Kingdom have a policy framework in place to encourage the development of such enterprises via legal, administrative and financial instruments. Motivated by the above fact, SOCIAL SEEDS tackles this policy challenge with innovative policy diagnostic tool, the European Standardized Evaluation and Supportive System. The consortium consisting of 7 partners representing 6 partner regions and an associated strategic partner with complementary experiences and policies, aims to seek policy alternatives to improve social entrepreneurship and social innovation landscape in Europe.

2. Regional / National Social Enterprise policies

SOCIAL SEEDS regions need to identify their policies in the very beginning in order to prepare for the final phase of the project when regions will decide how to integrate lessons learned into regional / national policy instruments through respective implementation (Action) plans. This exercise is the preparatory phase for the policy improvements taking place in the second phase of the implementation of SOCIAL SEEDS. The identification of the policies addressed gives a general picture of each region's specific context and insight into the social entrepreneurship developments proposed as well as main stakeholders and relationships among them.

Aiming at a status quo description, all regions were asked to summarize their respective data concerning existing policies and strategies on social entrepreneurship, social innovation and social economy including future plans structured in three passages. The first passage is addressed to clarify the challenges facing the social enterprise ecosystem and it also indicates existing or potential policy intervention areas. These policy areas include: Access to Finance; Access to Talent; Scaling Up; Regional Inclusiveness; Sourcing and Pipeline; Capacity Building and Training; Impact Measurement, Transparency and Reporting; Ecosystem Coordination, Policy and Regulation; and Investment Exits. The second passage is dedicated to provide a comprehensive overview on existing policies and strategies on social entrepreneurship. The description also refers to the available ESIF European Structural and Investment Funds Operational Programmes and their intervention logic as well. Policies and social enterprise supporting services are also reviewed in light to access to market, skills enhancement, internationalization of social enterprises, incubation services, trainings and coaching services and access to finance. Last but not least, the last passage shows the policy niches and our partners' solutions on overcoming the barriers identified.

II. POLICY MAPPING

Region – Slovenia

The developments of the social enterprise ecosystem should be considered in the context of policy discussions at both a national and international level where inclusive innovation and social enterprises are priorities. This passage seeks to shed some light on the policy context, and clarifies some of the key terminologies and concepts for the landscaping results. It also endeavors to place the discussion about the promotion of social enterprises in the framework of wider policy context addressed to access to finance for Micro, Small and Medium Sized Enterprises, and innovation policies and taxation legislations.

a) STATE-OF-THE-ART (2000 characters max.)

In 2011, Slovenia passed an Act on Social Entrepreneurship which provides a definition of a social enterprise that is largely in line with the EU definition.

In article 2 **non profit legal entity** (social enterprise) is defined as follows: Non-profit legal entity shall mean a society, institute, foundation, company, cooperative society, European cooperative society or other legal entity governed by private law not established for the sole purpose of generating profit, which does not distribute assets or the generated profit or excess revenue over expenditure, except to a limited scope in accordance with legislation;

In Article 3: **definition of social enterprises** and its objectives are defined as follows:

Definition of social entrepreneurship: “Social entrepreneurship shall represent the permanent performance of social entrepreneurship activities or other activities, which are subject to special conditions of employment, in the manufacture and sales of products or the provision of services on the market, for which the generation of profit is neither an exclusive nor a main objective”

Objectives of social enterprise: Social entrepreneurship shall strengthen social solidarity and cohesion, promote the participation of the people, support voluntary work, improve society's capacity for innovation in addressing social, economic, environmental and other issues, ensure the additional supply of products and services in the public interest, develop new employment possibilities, provide additional jobs and enable social integration and vocational reintegration of the most disadvantaged groups in the labour market (social entrepreneurship objectives). Article 4: Social entrepreneurship principles and requirements.

Article 4 define **social enterprises principles and requirements:**

A non-profit legal entity may engage in social entrepreneurship provided that it is established and operates pursuant to the following principles and requirements (hereinafter: the principles), which indicate its public benefit nature and social character:

- it is established by the voluntary decision of its founders (autonomous initiative);
- its sole purpose is not to generate profit (non-profit purpose of establishment);
- it is established with the main purpose of continuously engaging in social entrepreneurship or other activities with a view to employing the most disadvantaged groups in the labour market and thus serving the public interest (performance of activities in the public interest);
- its members work voluntarily (voluntariness); ☐ it is managed independently (independence);
- the manufacture and sale of its products or the provision of its services in the market are largely organised according to market principles (market orientation);
- it typically involves voluntary work (voluntary work participation);

- individual founders or owners do not exercise dominant influence over decision-making; decisions are adopted by all members according to the principle one member-one vote, and irrespective of the capital share (equality of members);
- the stakeholders are involved in decision making (stakeholder participation in management);
- assets, profit and excesses revenue over expenditure are used for the purposes of social entrepreneurship or other non-profit purposes, profit or excesses revenue distribution is not allowed or is limited in accordance with this Act (non-profit operation);
- it provides for the transparency of its financial operation and for internal control over its inventory management and financial operations (operations transparency);
- it permanently performs its activities for the benefit of its members, users and the wider community (operating for the public benefit).

Act defines in article 8 **two types of social enterprises**:

- type A, which carries out (one or several) “social entrepreneurship activities” as laid out in Article 5 of the Act or as defined in the Regulation on Determination of Activities of Social Entrepreneurship;
- type B, which is a work-integration social enterprise (employing people from vulnerable groups). The following groups are defined as vulnerable target groups: the disabled, unemployed persons that are hard-to-employ due to lasting physical or mental problems, long-term unemployed (over 24 months), first-time job seekers (unemployed persons, registered with the Employment Service of the Republic of Slovenia for more than six months if employed for the first time after having finished their education or after having finished their traineeship), unemployed; people older 55, Roma people, young drop-outs from primary and secondary education, ex-prisoners (for one year after serving the sentence), refugees included in the integration programmes, drug and alcohol abusers that are in rehabilitation programmes or up to two years after the rehabilitation programmes, or homeless people.

Article 8 define which legal entity can acquire the **status of social enterprise**: any non-profit legal entity can acquire the status of a social enterprise provided it meets the following criteria:

- It has been established with a view to permanently performing the social entrepreneurship activities and employing at least one worker in the first year of its operation and at least two workers in subsequent years (hereinafter: social enterprise of Type A); or
- established with a view to employing persons referred to in Article 6 of this Act and being engaged in a particular activity by permanently employing at least one third of these workers out of the total staff (hereinafter: Type B social enterprise); and it operates according to the principles of social entrepreneurship stipulated by the Act,
- all other conditions stipulated by this Act and the act governing the legal structure of particular types of a non-profit legal entities are fulfilled.

Maintenance of the status of social enterprise (article 8):

A non-profit legal entity may only maintain the status of a social enterprise subject to proving that it has started to pursue a legitimate social entrepreneurship activity or other activity and has employed the number of workers referred to in the first indent or has complied with the staff structure requirement referred to in the second indent of the previous paragraph (see the text article 8 above) within the time limits specified in the first paragraph of Article 19

- A social enterprise shall submit evidence of the commencement of its activity to the responsible ministry within one year of acquiring the status. A Type A social enterprise shall submit evidence of the employment of at least one worker after the end of the first year of operation and evidence of the employment of at least two workers after the end of the second year of operation. A Type B social enterprise shall submit evidence of the employment of workers and its staff structure within two years of acquiring the status.
- A social enterprise shall report to the responsible ministry by 31 March of the current year on a possible failure to generate the prescribed revenue threshold from social entrepreneurship activities in the previous financial year. The failure to comply with the staff headcount or staff structure requirements shall be reported by the social enterprise within three months of having fallen below the number of workers, or after a change in its staff structure has occurred. It shall also indicate the reasons for failing to generate the revenue threshold or maintain the prescribed number of workers or staff structure).
- The report referred to in the preceding paragraph shall be accompanied by a plan to restructure the social enterprise so as to comply with the required annual revenue threshold in the subsequent year or an employment plan with a timetable to cover the bridging period.
- The use of the public funds granted as incentives, exemptions or allowances to social enterprises shall be subject to reporting by a social enterprise in accordance with the implementing regulations issued pursuant to this Act, special regulations or the existing contractual obligations.

To maintain the status of a social enterprise, the annual report of the Type A social enterprise shall disclose at least 40% of its total revenue from social entrepreneurship activity after the second calendar year of its operation, and at least 50% of the total revenue after the third and all subsequent years of its operation.

Article 5 define **area and activities** of social entrepreneurs:

- social assistance;
- family assistance;
- protection of persons with disabilities;
- science, research, education;
- provision and organisation of youth work;
- protection and promotion of health;
- ensuring social inclusion, promotion of employment and vocational training of unemployed people and persons at risk of unemployment;
- job brokerage for people referred to in Article 6 herein, including the activity of hiring out such workers to another user;
- organic food production;
- nature conservation, landscaping, environmental protection and animal protection;
- promotion of the use of renewable energy sources and the development of the green economy;
- tourist services for people otherwise excluded from or limited by their living conditions in accessing them, provided in a manner that respects the values of sustainability, accessibility and solidarity (social tourism);
- shops for socially disadvantaged people (social shops), shops selling the products of small producers from the most undeveloped environments, based on ethical, transparent and equal business relationships between producers and traders aimed at ensuring fair pay for the producers and their survival (fair trade), and shops with services and products from social entrepreneurship activities;
- culture, technical culture and preservation of cultural, technical and natural heritage;
- amateur sport and physical activities for recreational purposes and socialisation;
- protection and rescue activities;

- promotion of local communities' development;
- support services for social enterprises;
- other areas of social entrepreneurship, that can be defined by special Acts.

All social enterprises are registered at the national Ministry for economy and technology development (http://www.mgrt.gov.si/si/delovna_podrocja/socialno_podjetnistvo/evidenca_so_p/). Overall in Slovenia we have over 167 social enterprises.

Beside social enterprises in Slovenia we have over 600 entities with 11.500 employees (2014 statistical data) that are companies for disabled persons or employment centres that have „social character” but do not comply with the conditions of National law for social enterprises. They have specific bonuses according to other legislation (companies with handicaps – subsidies for part of salaries, employment centres -national concession with national support for experts working in the centres and subsidies for salaries of vulnerable goal groups working in such centres).

In our region Gorenjska so far we have only 7 social enterprises, most of the social enterprises have their headquarters in Ljubljana or Maribor and they are as well as in Gorenjska established only recently with rather low income. The most successful social enterprises are those, that built up their social entrepreneurship from other forms of care for vulnerable groups (e.g. employment centres)

In Gorenjska region we have 7 social enterprises:

- Foundation Vincenc Draksler dealing with reintegration of the ex drug addicts: beside reintegration centre they have also the center of reuse and shop
- Center Stonoga dealing with buying and selling local food (local food value chains)
- Institute Carnus dealing with renovation of used articles
- Institute Brez ovir dealing with trainings

- Institute Breja Preja dealing with meeting and products from wool and other textile
- Cooperative Miži dealing with cooperation for development of local chains in production and selling of local food
- Impact, dealing with trainings

Most of them, except Foundation Vincenc Draksler, first social enterprise, established in our region based on National law, which has long, over 15 years long tradition of work with ex drug addicts, most of social enterprises are in the beginning of their entrepreneurial journey, so they have mostly no or one employee and they were established in last three years. As seen from the list, the diversity of their activities are rather limited.

Financial support:

In national strategy for development of social enterprises it is clearly stated that limited access to finances is the main reason for slower growth of social enterprises. Additionally financial support infrastructure, financial instruments and intermediate bodies for access to capital for social enterprises are not yet developed. Social enterprises cannot, due to their financial weakness, get access to specific entrepreneurial financial subsidies or loans that are supported through EU funds and provided by national ministries or national funds. Specific crowd funding, micro loans, donation schemes, business angels, risk capital, ethical banks are non existing, therefore most of the social enterprises, that are „more successful on the market” are mostly financed by public funds (special public funds available through ERDF and ESS funds).

The rest of the social enterprises are mostly on their own, trying to find the money to develop the social enterprise mostly using their own resources or smaller donations.

On the other side there is very low knowledge among NGO-s and social enterprises regarding the possible alternative forms of financing of the development of social enterprises.

Most of the banks are not „social enterprises” friendly and they not provide user friendly services, that would enable social enterprises or social enterprises start ups possibilities for favourable loans. Private companies are not very much in „donations” for social enterprises, they are mostly interested in financing „sport” and other more „value for money” entities and endeavours.

Existing financial support:

- There is only **one private foundation for social investments**, which main goal is to support social investments: <http://www.sklad05.si/> that is offering smaller grants, bridge loans, impact microcredits, innovative instruments of impact bonds,.. but they are very limited with their resources (they so far manage 268 social investments in amount of 4 mio EUR) and they have broad range of their beneficiaries (not special fund for social enterprises).
- Public support - **grants through structural funds**: National operational program 2007-2013: support to start up of social enterprises (finished with the end of last programing period).

Even if the social enterprise obtain the public grant for development of new line of business of social enterprise, there is always a condition to provide several regular employments to goal groups involved in the start up of new „business endeavour” after the closure of the project and after the public support is finished (in the case that they cannot secure employment after the closure of the project, social enterprise can expect that they will have to return public funds). Grants for development of new business social enterprise endeavour are „project based” therefore long term cofinancement of newly established activities cannot be foreseen. Therefore even if social enterprises are counting on structural funds money they can easily end up in financial difficulties (so called gap „between one and next public financing”).

Within programing period 2014-2020 we expect the **following changes, improvements in financial instruments, supported through structural funds** (it is hard to predict quick development with the support of private sector):

- New development of **microcredit scheme on Slovene enterprise fund** where special micro loan for social enterprises can be obtained: <http://www.podjetniskisklad.si/en.>, but due to the fact that social enterprises are weak (especially looking at balance sheets) the progress with using this, very welcome support, is expected to be rather slow.
- Public support - **grants through structural funds**: National operational program 2014 -2020 (support to Start-up social enterprises - incentives for the start-up of enterprises and youth cooperatives).

Non financial support:

In Slovenia so far specialised non financial support such as; regional support offices for development of social enterprises, one stop shops, social incubators, specific counselling and trainings, specific education on social entrepreneurship.. are not developed.

National strategy for social enterprises 2013-2016 define clear goal to foster and promote the social entrepreneurship and to upgrade existing support mechanisms for social entrepreneurship and to provide training for upgrading the knowledge regarding social enterprises.

So far there exist only a possibility to obtain some knowledge and support through:

One stop shop for SME-s and start ups (traditional national scheme available in all regions in Slovenia, started with its work over 15 years ago): <http://www.podjetniski-portal.si/ustanavljam-podjetje/vem-tocke> but the knowledge of experts working at one stop shops are not „social enterprises” specific, but more general (in terms of support organisation for SME-s and start ups) and need to be upgraded.

Slovenian forum of social enterprises, which was established in 2011 (85 founding members), with the aim to bring together organisations (from public, private and NGO sector) interested in development of social entrepreneurship in Slovenia: <http://fsp.si/> . Members can exchange informations and knowledge.

Education and trainings: Most of the faculties in the field of economy and entrepreneurship (public and private) have in their regular educational programs at least some parts of education content connected to the social entrepreneurship, in some cases they provide also specific subject on social entrepreneurship like private college: <http://gea-college.si/>. There is also range of shorter trainings and workshops connected to development of social enterprises but are mostly connected to the public funds (EU projects).

Coworking centres: we have range of coworking centres that in some cases are also promoting that they are „social enterprises friendly”, but in reality, as far as I know, none of them is „for social enterprises only”.

We expect that **most progress regarding the non financial support** like regional support schemes and improvement of soft measures for social entrepreneurship will be provided through **National operational program 2014 -2020** which will enable and provide:

- Support for mentoring schemes for vulnerable groups working in social enterprises
- Support for strengthening the support environment for social enterprises
- Support the transnationality in the field of social entrepreneurship
- Support to upgrade the services of One stop shop for SME-s and start ups (with the specific knowledge regarding social enterprises).

Based on the information given above there is very limited (**almost non existing Ecosystem enablers**) therefore we cannot recommend or describe „a good practice „enablers” for Slovenia.

Key stakeholders that are of vital importance to successfully develop social entrepreneurship support:

- Policy makers (national and local)
- Education and training organisations
- Social enterprises
- NGO-s having intention to start social enterprise
- Development agencies
- Financial institutions (banks,..)

Opportunities:

- Social entrepreneurship has big potential for growth in market niches that so far were not relevantly employed
- Defined Ministry responsible for social entrepreneurship, legal acts, strategies, action plans, quality assurance and monitoring in the field of social entrepreneurship
- National operational program 2014-2020 offer possibilities to upgrade social entrepreneurship in Slovenia

- There is a strong determination of national ministry for economy and technology development to upgrade regulations to increase the possibilities for social enterprises and to enlarge the possibilities for companies with handicapped and employment centres to join the family of social enterprises
- There is a strong determination of national ministry for economy and technology to support development of support mechanisms to enable the improvement of support landscape for social entrepreneurs
- There is a need for improvement of recognition of social entrepreneurship, its role, principles and potentials both on local, regional and national level
- Local communities so far does not provide specific calls for social enterprises, but there is a growing number of local communities in favour of social enterprises - there fore we believe that there is time and place for development of local support mechanisms for social enterprises
- There is a need to upgrade understanding and knowledge in public procurement among public officials to quicker develop the market possibilities for social enterprises
- Trainings and skills among social entrepreneurs are not sufficient and need to be upgraded
- No discounts in taxes (VAT, income tax) for social entrepreneurship are not available so far
- Some SME-s are in favour to support social enterprises in the case that they have „strong case” and they are thrustworthy, therefore opportunities for bigger involvement of SME-s in social entrepreneurship can be expected
- Some banks are showing more and more appreciation also to smaller investors in businesses, also word „ethnic bank” is becoming more understandable so there is a clear expectations that beside public support of social enterprise in a long run loans from private banks should be developed
- Traditional solidarity among inhabitants and strong role of NGO-s, which mostly are still based on voluntary basis but have big potentials to gradually develop some ideas in the field of social enterprises

Barriers:

- Social entrepreneurship still remain „the outsider” and will not be the best understood and supported in the overall policy field (national ministries, local communities).
- Due to rather hash conditions of the Act for social enterprises, many of social enterprises will loose the status - registration at the national ministry
- Due to unfavourable financial incentives (especially at private banks non existing favourable loans) and limited public funds, further low development opportunities for social enterprises can be expected
- Further low readiness of national level for tax deduction for social enterprises
- Further non existance of specific benefits for local communities and private companies to act as strategic partner (buyer of services and products) from social enterprises
- Social enterprises will remain financially weak with „so called local focus” with rather unstable business models, unstable incomes, rather low employment and too low standards of quality of products/services therefore will be pushed on the „edge of the interest and support”
- Social entrepreneurship act and other legislation will remain the same; therefore no opportunity for „cutting down the barriers and possibilities for further opening the field for innovative approaches and ideas (including tax policies)
- The support mechanisms on regional/local level, so far not developed, will not be adequate, therefore no adequate support, especially in „soft measures” cannot be expected
- Due to further limitation of public funds further existing benefits and services of social state can be lost and some „elementary fields of social state” will be pushed to „social entrepreneurship only” option.

b) POLICY LANDSCAPE

Publicly funded schemes specifically designed for or targeting social enterprises (2014-2020)

Support type	Are there any schemes specifically targeting social enterprises?	Are any of these schemes funded by ERDF/ESF?	Are any of these schemes funded by the policy instrument you address?
Pre-start support (e.g. incubators)	no	no	no
Awareness raising (e.g. awards)	no	no	no
Social entrepreneurship education (e.g. school for social entrepreneurs)	no	no	no
Business support (e.g. business planning, management skills, marketing etc.)	no	no	no
Training and coaching schemes	no	no	no
Investment readiness support	no	no	no
Dedicated financial instruments (started in 2016)	yes	yes	yes
Physical infrastructure (e.g. shared working space)	no	no	no
Collaborations and access to markets	no	no	no
Networking, knowledge sharing, mutual learning initiatives	no	no	no
Internationalization	no	no	no

Within programming period 2014-2020 we expect the **following changes, improvements in financial instruments, supported through structural funds** (it is hard to predict quick development with the support of private sector):

- New development of **microcredit scheme on Slovene enterprise fund (ERDF)** where special micro loan for social enterprises can be obtained: <http://www.podjetniskisklad.si/en/>, but due to the fact that social enterprises are weak (especially looking at balance sheets) the progress with using this, very welcome support, is expected to be rather slow.
- Public support - **grants through structural funds**: National operational program 2014 -2020 (ERDF) (support to Start-up social enterprises - incentives for the start-up of enterprises and youth cooperatives).

We expect that **most progress regarding the non financial support** like regional support schemes and improvement of soft measures for social entrepreneurship will be provided through **National operational program 2014 -2020 (ERDF)** which will enable and provide:

- Support for mentoring schemes for vulnerable groups working in social enterprises
- Support for strengthening the support environment for social enterprises
- Support the transnationality in the field of social entrepreneurship
- Support to upgrade the services of One stop shop for SME-s and start ups (with the specific knowledge regarding social enterprises).

c) POLICY NICHES (2000 characters max.)

We prepared the table based on the fact that beside the national Act for social enterprises other support mechanisms (except subsidies for start up of new entrepreneurial endeavour (before ESS now envisaged ERDF) are not developed (especially that goes for regional and local level) such as:

- Financial support infrastructure, financial instruments (e.g. crowd funding, micro loans, donation schemes, business angels, risk capital, ethical banks) and intermediate bodies for access to capital for social enterprises
- Non financial support such as; regional support offices for development of social enterprises, one stop shops, social incubators, specific counselling and trainings, specific education on social entrepreneurship.. are not developed.

In the table below we tried to combine promised new coming support mechanism supported by public funds with the needs of the regional and local environment:

- Financial; microcredit scheme on Slovene enterprise fund (ERDF) and grants through National operational program 2014 -2020 (ERDF): support to Start-up social enterprises - incentives for the start-up of enterprises and youth cooperatives).
- Non financial; promised to be provided through National operational program 2014 -2020 (ERDF): support for mentoring schemes for vulnerable groups working in social enterprises, strengthening the support environment for social enterprises, transnationality in the field of social entrepreneurship, upgrade the services of One stop shop for SME-s and start ups (with the specific knowledge regarding social enterprises).

areas of improvement	description	connection to national operational program measures 2014-2020
Legal definition	Act for social entrepreneurship need some improvements (e.g. inclusion of companies with handicapped people, employment centres, limitations regarding national status need to be checked and if necessary changed to become more user friendly Other legislation need to be changed (e.g. tax policy, other policies connected to the work of social enterprises).	role of the national ministry and the Council for Social entrepreneurship (composed of representatives of all ministries (except the Ministry for foreign affairs)
Lack of stakeholder engagement	regional support network need to be established – part of it should be constant work with stakeholders (empowerment) Upgrading of support measures for start up of innovative business endeavours are needed (support the cooperation with stakeholders ⁹)	Measure: Support for strengthening the support environment for social enterprises Public support - grants through structural funds: National operational program 2014 -2020 (ERDF) (support to Start-up social enterprises - incentives for the start-up of enterprises and youth cooperatives (limited due to concentration on social enterprise only – not network)
Lack of social entrepreneurial skills	regional support network need to be established – part of it should be constant work on	Measure – limited (due to limited knowledge): Support for

	<p>trainings (social enterprises and start ups)</p> <p>support measures for vulnerable goal groups in social enterprises need to be upgraded</p>	<p>strengthening the support environment for social enterprises Measure– limited (due to limited knowledge) : Support to upgrade the services of One stop shop for SME-s and start ups (with the specific knowledge regarding social enterprises).</p> <p>Measure: Support for mentoring schemes for vulnerable groups working in social enterprises</p>
Enhancement programmes	long term goal	
Lack of social enterprise catalyst professional services	long term goal	
Lack of access to external funding (e.g. seed- and venture capital investors, business angels, social finance providers),	<p>further external funding need to be explored and in a long run possible models to be developed (now good start with public National fund scheme microcredits for social enterprises)</p> <p>Withing regional support network (no existing so far) and transnational cooperation further possibilities in cooperation with other regions need to be developed</p>	<p>microcredit scheme on Slovene enterprise fund (ERDF) where special micro loan for social enterprises can be obtained: http://www.podjetniskisklad.si/en.</p> <p>Measure partly – very limited (due to lack of knowlege): Support for strengthening the support environment for social enterprises</p> <p>separate measures need to be defined and developed (through transnational cooperation)</p>
Lack of social impact measurement	started with Act for social entrepreneurship	<p>Act for social enterprises: article 42 – register of social enterprises</p> <p>article 43 – supervision of the Act (National Labour inspectorate, National tax Administration, National Market inspectorate, Agency of RS for Public legal Records and Related services, other responsible national ministries for electronic register and business operations of a social enterprise, Slovenian Institute of Auditors</p>

Physical infrastructure (e.g. shared working space)	constant work on development of support for social enterprises and start ups in existing coworking centres or new ones specific for social entrepreneurship (in the case of existing critical mass-probably big cities)	No.
Collaborations and access to markets	regional support network need to be established – part of it should be slowly development of the coloboration and access to market (empowerment the environment and stakeholders) (in cooperation with other regions)	Measure – partly (limited possibility due to lack of appropriate knowledge): Support for strengthening the support environment for social enterprises Measure – partly (limited possibility due to lack of appropriate knowledge): Support to upgrade the services of One stop shop for SME-s and start ups (with the specific knowledge regarding social enterprises).
Networking, knowledge sharing, mutual learning initiatives	regional support network need to be established – part of it should be slowly development of networking, knowledge sharing, mutual learning initiatives (in cooperation with other regions)	Measure – partly (limited possibility due to lack of appropriate knowledge): Support for strengthening the support environment for social enterprises Measure – partly (limited possibility due to lack of appropriate knowledge): Support to upgrade the services of One stop shop for SME-s and start ups (with the specific knowledge regarding social enterprises).
Internationalization	long term goal	no Measure: Support the transnationality in the field of social entrepreneurship (limited due to the fact that probably will be connected to cooperation in EU projects – details not yet known).

III. COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS