



Research Directorate General



Dipartimento di Economia
Università degli Studi di Trento



LEED Programme

With the support of

Provincia Autonoma di Trento
and
Federazione Trentina delle Cooperative



Social Enterprise: A Comparative Perspective

International Conference
Trento, 13th – 15th December 2001

The last decade has seen the growth of a particular type of non-profit organisation – that which has a social focus. These kinds of enterprises are called Social Enterprises. They have contributed to the development of a dynamic social entrepreneurship, playing an important role in generating employment, improving the welfare of individuals and families, and fighting social inequalities.

In 1996, a network of European universities called EMES was created, in order to better understand the characteristics and evolution of this phenomenon. The goal of the Network is to analyse “The Emergence of Social Enterprises” within the 15 Countries of the European Union.

At the same time that interest in this topic is growing, the definition of the social enterprise is being discussed within many international organisations, such as the European Commission and the OECD. The research completed by the EMES Network in the year 2000 has been published in the book *The Emergence of Social Enterprise*, by Carlo Borzaga and Jacques Defourny, edited by Routledge.

The dissemination and discussion of the results of the EMES European Network study is an important part of the research process. This conference therefore provides a forum in which to discuss the wide range of related approaches and opinions. Specifically, the characteristics and the dimensions of social enterprises will be analysed in the conference sessions, in order to strengthen the awareness of the potential importance of social enterprises for policy-makers and social entrepreneurs.

Margherita Cogo

President of

Regione Autonoma Trentino – Alto Adige / Südtirol

Carlo Borzaga

President of ISSAN – Università di Trento

Thursday 13th December 2001

11.00 h.

Greetings of Academic and Institutional Authorities

Margherita Cogo, President of Regione Autonoma Trentino - Alto Adige / Südtirol

Massimo Egidi, Rector of Università degli Studi di Trento

12.30 h

Lunch break

15.00 h

Social Enterprises in Europe and the United States

Chairman: Carlo Borzaga, Università di Trento, Italy

European Experiences and Perspectives

Jacques Defourny, Université de Liège, Belgium

American Experiences and Perspectives

Dennis Young, Case Western Reserve University, USA

Coffee break

Social Enterprises and Welfare Systems

Adalbert Evers, Justus Liebig Universität Giessen, Germany

Social Enterprises and Civil Society

Victor Pestoff, Södertörns Högskola, Sweden

Friday 14th December 2001

9.00 h

Characteristics of Social Enterprises: Theoretical Perspectives

Chairman: Benedetto Gui, Università di Padova, Italy

The Social Enterprise as an Incentive Structure
Alberto Bacchiega, European Commission

Social Enterprise: a Theoretical Socio-Economic Approach
Jean-Louis Laville, CRIDA/LSCI, France

Coffee break

Nonprofit enterprise as a stakeholders governed organisation
Avner Ben-Ner, University of Minnesota, USA

The Distributive Function of Social Enterprises
Stefano Zamagni, Università di Bologna, Italy

The Selection and Involvement of Workers and Volunteers
Carlo Borzaga, Università di Trento, Italy

Constitutional Ideology and Effectiveness within Social Enterprise
Lorenzo Sacconi, Università di Trento, Italy

Lunch break

14.30 h

Comparison of the Social Enterprise Experience

Chairman: Antonella Noya, OECD - LEED Programme

Social Enterprises Developing Collective Benefits: the Case of Belgium and France
Marthe Nyssens, Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium

Social Enterprises and Local Development in Ireland
Patricia O'Hara, University College Cork, Ireland

The Social Co-operatives in Italy
Alceste Santuari, Libera Università di Bolzano, Italy

Unemployment and the Social Enterprise in Finland
Pekka Pättiniemi, University of Helsinki, Finland

Coffee break

Social Enterprise in the United Kingdom

Roger Spear, The Open University, United Kingdom

Social Enterprises and Integration of Disadvantaged Workers in Spain
Isabel Vidal, Centro de Iniciativas de la Economía Social, Spain

Co-operative Activity and Community Development in Denmark
S. Bengtsson, Socialforskningsinstituttet, Denmark

Co-operatives for the Rehabilitation of Disabled People: the Case of CERCIS in Portugal
H. Perista, Centro de Estudos para a Intervenção Social, Portugal

Social Enterprise in Holland
Piet Renooy, Regioplan, Holland

20.30 h
Dinner Reception

Saturday 15th December 2001

9.00 h
Perspective and Policies
Chairman: Dennis Young, Case Western Reserve University, USA

Social Enterprises and Local Development
Pamela Holcomb, Urban Institute, Washington DC, USA

Social Enterprises and Employment
Marie Corman, European Commission

Towards a Legislation for Social Enterprises
Fabrizio Cafaggi, Università di Trento, Italy

Coffee break

Support Structures for Sustainable Social Enterprises
Peter Lloyd, University of Liverpool, United Kingdom

Social Enterprises and Financial Institutions
Udo Reifner, IFF Hamburg, Germany

Network strategies
Felice Scalvini, Confcooperative, Italy

Management and Governance in Social Enterprises
Luca Solari, Università di Trento, Italy

Conclusions

Office of the Organisers

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Registration Forms must be sent

before the 03rd December 2001. To register for the Conference, please see ISSN Web site

For hotel arrangements

TM Hotels

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Please, book ***before the 26th November 2001***