

International Conference on

**THE SOCIAL ECONOMY
IN CENTRAL, EAST AND SOUTH-EAST EUROPE:**

**EMERGING TRENDS OF SOCIAL INNOVATION
AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT**

22-24 September 2005

**Boscolo Grand Hotel
Trento, Italy**

Draft Programme

**OECD LEED Centre for Local Development
Trento, Italy**

Rationale

The social economy, often associated with concepts such as ‘third sector’ and ‘non-profit sector’, refers to a wide range of organisations between the state and the market, fulfilling both economic and social missions, whose final objective is not the redistribution of profit but its reinvestment in the organisation, in order to expand and consolidate its activities and its overall mission. The organisational forms which social economy entities adopt depend on national legal frameworks and can include associations, traditional co-operatives, social co-operatives, charities, foundations and other types of organisations.

Regardless of the different definitions and organisational forms, however, what brings this diverse set of actors together is their role in fostering social cohesion in areas where traditional private or public schemes often have limited capacity for success. Social economy organisations mainly operate at local level, as they are rooted in local communities, relying on and contributing to the development of formal and informal networks of people, knowledge and resources.

Experience from Central East and South-East Europe shows that transition policies towards market economies overlooked the role and potential of the social economy in key areas of social inclusion such as employment, social services and healthcare. While democratisation policies have encouraged civil society development through the creation of charities, foundations and voluntary sector organisations, a number of countries in the region are now looking to embed the further potential of such organisations by developing legal and governance frameworks which build on local experience in order to promote the sector’s capacity and know-how in the delivery of goods and services towards social cohesion and labour market integration at local level. The need to develop policy tools and frameworks for a stronger involvement of the social economy in policy development and implementation is further supported by the trends towards effective decentralisation over the past 15 years, coupled with the opportunities offered by EU integration and/or accession. A number of tools and policies have emerged throughout OECD countries to promote active social and labour policies which can leverage the unique expertise and know-how of social economy organisations.

In the light of international experience, the conference is a unique opportunity to discuss the progress achieved by social economy organisations in Central, East and South-East European countries based on their own historical, political and institutional background.

The debate will focus on two principal themes:

Theme 1:

Rationale and Legal Frameworks for the Social Economy

What is the economic rationale of social economy organisations? How can policy initiatives effectively leverage the role of social economy organisations in promoting new forms of social service delivery and labour integration towards effective social inclusion? What is the role of legal frameworks? How can best practices inform policy process at national and sub-national level?

Theme 2:

Social economy tools and strategies

What are the key tools that social economy organisations employ to foster labour market integration and social inclusion? What lessons have been learned so far? What is the role of partnerships and networking strategies in developing social innovation and local development? What key principles underlie good practices? How do these inform national policymaking?

08.30 – 09.00 Registration

OPENING SESSION

Chair: **Sergio Arzeni**, Director, Centre for Entrepreneurship, OECD

09.00 – 09.30 Welcome and opening remarks

Lorenzo Dellai, President, Autonomous Province of Trento

Peter Tatarko, Co-ordinator, OECD LEED Centre for Local Development, OECD

Diego Schelfi, President, Trentino Federation of Cooperatives, Trento, Italy (tbc)

09.30 – 11.00 Opening roundtable:

Social innovation in the knowledge based economy

Keynote speech: Structural Change, Social Capital and the Social Economy. **Diane Coyle**, Enlightenment Economics and Institute of Political and Economic Governance, University of Manchester, U.K.

Comments by:

Alun Michael, Social Enterprise Unit, Department of Trade and Industry, U.K. (tbc)

Charles Guindon, Chantier de l'économie sociale, Canada

Gerardo Aranda Orozco, National Support Fund for Social Enterprises (FONAES), Mexico

Samuel Barco, Andalusian Confederation of Social Economy Enterprises (CEPES), Spain

Luciano Malfer, Social Policy Department, Autonomous Province of Trento, Italy

Rapporteur: **Gustavo De Santis**, Giulio Pastore Foundation, Italy

11.00 – 11.30 Coffee

THEME 1

RATIONALE AND LEGAL FRAMEWORKS FOR THE SOCIAL ECONOMY

Moderator: Antonella Noya, LEED Programme, Centre for Entrepreneurship, OECD

11.30 – 13.00 The role of the social economy in OECD countries

The Social Economy in Western Europe and Canada: outlook and trends. *Marguerite Mendell, Concordia University, Canada*

The Social Economy in Central East and South East European countries. *Ewa Les, Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland*

A comparative perspective on legal frameworks for the social economy. *Hans-H. Münkner, University of Marburg, Germany*

Discussant: Carlo Borzaga, University of Trento, Italy

Issues for debate: What defines social economy organisations? What is the role and economic rationale for social economy organisations in advanced economies? What defines different social economy models? What are the policy implications deriving from the role that social economy organisations play at the local level?

Rapporteur: Gustavo De Santis, Giulio Pastore Foundation, Italy

12.45 – 14.00 Lunch

Moderator: Carlo Borzaga, University of Trento, Italy

14.00 – 16.00 Emerging social economy trends in Central East Europe

A supportive financing framework for Social Economy Organisations, *Katerina Hadzi-Miceva, European Centre for Not-for-Profit Law, Hungary*

The social economy and its institutional context – the case of Poland, *Tomasz Kaźmierczak, Institute of Public Affairs, Poland*

The Social Economy in the Czech Republic – Waiting for Emergence. *Jaroslava Stastna, Open Society Fund Prague and Charles University, Czech Republic*

Existing situation and potential development to networking and partnership of actors related to social economy: a case model for Slovenia to be compared with the region of Veneto, Italy. *Davide Branco and Zdenka Kovač, GEA College of Entrepreneurship, Slovenia*

Discussant: Patrick De Bucquois, European Standing Conference of Co-operatives, Mutual Societies, Associations and Foundations (CEP-CMAF), Belgium

Issues for debate: Why should governments promote legal frameworks for social economy organisations? What legislative/financial models are emerging in Central East and South East Europe? How do they compare to other existing OECD models? How can policy address key barriers and opportunities for social economy development? How can best practices at the local/regional level feed and inform the policymaking cycle?

Rapporteur: Gianluca Vignola, UNDP, Italy

16.00 – 16.30 Coffee

Moderator: Ewa Les, Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland

16.30 – 18.30 The social economy in the new political context: perspectives from Central East and Southeast Europe

Cezary Mizejewski, Undersecretary of State, Ministry of Social Policy, Poland (tbc)

Czeslaw Jerzy Malkowski, President of the City of Olsztyn, Poland

Marek Jetmar, Community Support Framework Department, Ministry for Regional Development, Czech Republic

Cvjetana Plavska Matic, National Foundation for Civil Society Development, Croatia

Nóra Sasvári, Department of Civil Relations, Ministry of Youth, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, Hungary

Erik Kos and Ana Hrvat, Department for Employment, Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs, Slovenia

Rapporteur: Martin B. Tracy, Social Insurance Research International, U.S.A.

Issues for debate: What is the role for social economy involvement in public provision of social services? Why is decentralisation a new opportunity for social economy development? How can national and sub-national governments promote partnerships with the social economy to increase effectiveness in service delivery? How do best practices at the local level feed and inform the policymaking cycle? What are the key barriers for increased social economy involvement in Central East and South East Europe?

SOCIAL ECONOMY TOOLS AND STRATEGIES: PARALLEL WORKSHOPS

9.15 – 10.45

Parallel session 1: Social innovation in service delivery

Moderator: **John Robinson**, *Enterprising Communities National Office*, Ministry of Social Development, New Zealand

Communities of Children - Non-Government Organisations as facilitating partners? **Evan Lewis**, *Early Childhood and Communities Branch, Australian Government Department of Family and Community Services, Australia*

The importance of capacity building in social economy projects and local development – in Hungary, **Ferenc Albert Szigei**, *Operational Program for Regional Development (OPRD) Managing Authority, Hungary*

Introduction of innovative management tools in social assistance and social service delivery in Russia: practical lessons learned. **Kirill Chagin**, *Social Policy Division, Institute for Urban Economics, Russia*

The Social Innovation Fund in Serbia: a model for social welfare reform. **Danilo Vukovic and Branka Andjelkovic**, *Serbia*

Governmental role in promoting social economy in education: Ukrainian context. **Natalya Kolisnichenko**, *The Ukrainian Academy of Public Administration, Ukraine*

Rapporteur: **Zuzana Trihilova**, *University of Economics of Prague, Czech Republic*

Parallel session 2: Developing social entrepreneurship

Moderator: **Andrew Carter**, *The Smart Company*, U.K.

Social Enterprises in Bulgaria – fuelling social innovation and social inclusion. **Maria Ilcheva**, *Social Enterprise Foundation, Bulgaria*

Social Enterprise: some tentative reflections on awareness and utility of the model in Ukraine. **Olga Sandakova**, *DFID, Ukraine*

Berlin Development Agency for Social Enterprises and Neighborhood Economy (BEST). **Günther Lorenz**, *BEST, Germany*

Profit and non profit entrepreneurship for social inclusion in Central Eastern Europe, UNIDEA. **Francesca Gori**, *UNIDEA, Italy*

Rapporteur: **Ana Sastre**, *Confederation of Social Economy Enterprises (CEPES), Spain*

Parallel session 3: Developing social economy potential in Southeast Europe

Moderator: **Francesca Vanoni**, *Osservatorio Balcani, Italy*

Social Capital in Croatia: can bridging/linking civil society organisations contribute to an increase in social capital? **Libby Cooper**, *Centris, U.K.*

The role of the non-profit sector in the local development framework in the Balkans, **Risto Karajkov**, *University of Bologna, Italy*

NGOs in Bulgaria as key actors in the development of “inclusive” social policy, **Andriana Petrova**, *Bulgarian Centre for Not-for-Profit Law, Bulgaria*

Social Economy potential in youth policy development in Bosnia and Herzegovina. **Ernest Djonko**, *LAB, Bosnia and Herzegovina*

Rapporteur: *tba*

10.45 – 11.15 **Coffee Break**

SOCIAL ECONOMY TOOLS AND STRATEGIES:

PARALLEL WORKSHOPS

11.15 – 12.45

Parallel session 1: Building networks and partnerships for sustainable rural communities

Moderator: **Jan Hendeliowitz**, Director General, Employment Region Zealand and Greater Copenhagen, Denmark

A difficult way from social passivity to participation: a case study of the Middle Odra River Valley Partnership, Poland. **Marek Furmankiewicz**, Agriculture University of Wroclaw, Poland

Social Co-operative Development: the Olsztyn case study. **Przemyslaw Rosinski**, WAMACCOOP, Poland and **Katarzyna Zbrzyzna**, Center of Social Integration in Olsztyn, Poland

Rural Romanian Social Inclusion and Local Development. **Claudia Novac**, Centre for Rural Assistance, Romania

The Social Economy Network in the region of Skaraborg, Sweden. **Ulla Landenmark**, SENS, Sweden

Rapporteur: **Jan Pakulski**, World Bank (tbc)

Parallel session 2 Building networks and partnerships for sustainable urban communities

Moderator: **Luigi Martignetti**, REVES network (Reseau des villes et des regions pour l'économie sociale), Bruxelles

An alternative economy for local development. **Luca Lo Bianco and Alessandro Messina**, Rome Municipality, Italy

Transformation Sites. **Renato Galliano**, Milano Metropoli Development Agency, Italy

Accessible housing programme in Poland and European experiences in this area. **Barbara Sadowska**, Barka Foundation for Mutual Help, Poland

Social enterprises – a model supporting social economy development in Bulgaria. **Tania Kapoor**, Counterpart International, Bulgaria

Rapporteur:

Parallel session 3: Social Economy Financial Tools

Moderator **Philippe Guichandut**, Executive Director of the European Microfinance Network

Opportunities for and barriers against development of the social economy in Poland. **Pawel Grzesik**, National Association of Co-operative Savings and Credit Unions, Poland

Economic and Social Mission of Microcredit Institutions in Montenegro. **Sasa Popovic**, University of Montenegro, Montenegro

The Integra Experience in developing social capital and market access among women at risk through microenterprise development in Slovakia, Romania, Russia, Bulgaria and Serbia. **Allan Bussard**, The Integra Foundation, Republic of Slovakia

Supporting Social Economy initiatives through social capital enhancement and capacity building. **Liliana Vasilescu**, Romanian Social Development Fund, Romania

Rapporteur: **Patricio Fernández** SERCOTEC, Chile

12.45 – 14.00 Lunch

Chair: *Jean-François Rocchi*, Chair of the OECD LEED Directing Committee, France

14.00 – 15.30 The role of the social economy in local development: tools and strategies

The role of the social economy in local development *Xavier Greffe*, University Paris I Sorbonne, France

Comments based on reports from the parallel sessions:

John Robinson

Andrew Carter

Francesca Vanoni

Jan Hendeliowitz

Luigi Martignetti

Philippe Guichandut

Rapporteur: *Stephen Di Biasio*, Public Affairs and Communications, OECD

15.30 – 16.00 Coffee Break

16.00 – 17.30 Social Economy self development initiatives in Central East and South East Europe

Linking research and practice for self-development initiatives. *Marguerite Mendell*, Concordia University, Canada

Comments by:

Igor Kosir, Bratislava University of Economics, Slovakia

Gabor Hegyesi, Elte University, Hungary

Nadia Johanisova, University of Brno, Czech Republic

Rapporteur: *Antonella Noya*, Centre for Entrepreneurship, OECD

CONCLUSIONS

17.30 – 18.00 Conclusions:

Carlo Borzaga, University of Trento, Italy

Marta Dalmaso, Autonomous Province of Trento, Italy (tbc)

Jean-François Rocchi, Chair of the OECD LEED Directing Committee, France

**STUDY VISIT:
SOCIAL ECONOMY BEST PRACTICES IN TRENTINO**

Hosted by the Trentino Federation of Co-operatives

9.30– 12.30 Presentation of the Federation of Co-operatives

This session will present the history, experience, and best practices developed in the Autonomous Province of Trento by the Trentino Federation of Co-operatives. It will highlight the role of Trentino best practices in developing a case model law for social co-operatives. It will also present market tools and strategies adopted by the Federation to foster the competitiveness of agricultural and credit co-operatives and thus contribute to local economic development.

The programme will seek to establish contacts between different organisations with a view to developing joint co-operation activities.