



**SOCIAL ENTERPRISES IN AN EVOLVING ECONOMY:
FROM NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS TO SOCIAL ENTERPRISES**

**International Conference organised by the OECD LEED Programme,
the Ministry of Labour, Family and Equal Opportunities and
the Ministry of SMEs, Trade, Tourism and Liberal Professions
in partnership with *World Learning for International Development, the Civil Society Development
Foundation and the European Center for Not-for-Profit Law*
with the support of *USAID***

**Bucharest, Romania
13 June 2007**

Rationale

Social enterprises and non-profit organisations are gaining visibility and achieving positive results in the struggle against poverty and exclusion in OECD Member and non-member countries. Governments use them as part of their active labour market programmes and social policy tools, mainly targeted at disadvantaged populations. Local authorities also support creation and development of social enterprises to pursue social inclusion objectives at local level, and often work in partnership with them and other forms of non-profit organisations for the delivery of social, welfare and community services.

In some countries where social enterprises are well-established, new developments have occurred recently, with potentially large impacts on the future of social enterprises. New legislation has been enacted in Italy and the United Kingdom, opening up new avenues for social enterprises. The outcomes of these reforms are of great interest to many countries where social enterprises have not reached the same degree of maturity.

For countries less well-acquainted with social enterprises, such as countries in Central and Eastern Europe, the emergence and use of this instrument of social inclusion still raise challenges. Important progress is being made with civil society development and civic engagement, which are key ingredients for social enterprise development, but much remains to be done. As a result, social enterprises are not as effective as they could be and their potential in bridging social and economic goals and increasing democratic participation is not fully exploited.

This conference will discuss the current policy framework and recent developments pertinent to social enterprises in the OECD, and explore the potential of social enterprises in Central and Eastern European countries and in Romania in particular. Special attention will be paid to ways to create an enabling environment for social enterprises. To what extent do social enterprises present an opportunity for post-transitional economies? What steps need to be taken to secure an environment conducive to social enterprises? What is the role of national and local governments to foster social enterprise development?



Ministry of
Labour,
Family and
Equal
Opportunities



ROMANIA CIVIL SOCIETY STRENGTHENING PROGRAM (RCSS)

PROGRAMUL
DE CONSOLIDARE A
SOCIETATII CIVILE
DIN ROMANIA



WORLD LEARNING
for INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT



EUROPEAN
CENTER FOR NOT-
FOR-PROFIT LAW



Fundația pentru
Dezvoltarea
Societății
Civile

The conference will also focus on the role of the social enterprise sector in delivering social services and on the crucial aspect of financing non-profit organisations committed to the welfare mix. The major obstacles and challenges which the sector faces will be presented: How to engage with the public and private sectors to foster a model of welfare mix? How to ensure that quality standards are guaranteed in the delivery of social and community services? How to foster users' involvement in the decision-making process? How to identify and secure financial streams?

The conference will be a unique opportunity to discuss social enterprises' new developments and to challenge their evolution in OECD Member and non-member countries.

The working languages will be English, French and Romanian.

For further information, contact Antonella Noya, Policy Analyst (Social Innovations and Social Inclusion), antonella.noya@oecd.org.

Conference venue

J.W. Marriott Bucharest Grand Hotel
Calea 13 Septembrie No. 90
050726 Bucharest 5
Romania
www.jwmarriott.ro

Conference registration

To register for the conference, participants should contact:
Ms Irina Valcu
Civil Society Development Foundation Romania
irina.vilcu@fdsc.ro
Tel: +40 21 310 0177
Fax: +40 21 310 0180

Hotel accommodation

Participants should contact office@tourneo.ro (mentioning that they will attend the OECD event) if they wish to stay at the following hotels:

Hotel Ibis Parlament 3* - *EUR 90/single/night, VAT, local taxes and breakfast included*
www.hotel.ibis.parlament.tourneo.ro

Hotel Parliament 4* - *EUR 100/single/night, VAT, local taxes and breakfast included*
www.hotel.parliament.tourneo.ro

Ms. Mihaela Ion
Reservations Department
Tel: +40 21 411 6618
Fax: +40 21 411 6648
mobile +40 725 15 1515
www.tourneo.ro / office@tourneo.ro

Participants wishing to stay at the following hotel should contact them directly:

J.W. Marriott Bucharest Grand Hotel – *EUR 285/night, VAT, local taxes and breakfast included.*
Rate available until 1 June 2007
Tel: +40 21 403 0000
Fax: +40 21 403 1001
Address: Calea 13 Septembrie No. 90, 050726, Bucharest 5, Romania
www.jwmarriott.ro

DRAFT AGENDA
WEDNESDAY, 13 JUNE 2007

Chair: Christina Iova, Romanian Ministry of Labour, Family and Equal Opportunities

9.00-9.40 Welcome remarks and opening

Mr Jean François Rocchi, Chair, LEED Directing Committee

Mr Paul Pacurar, Minister of Labour, Family and Equal Opportunities, Romania

Representative from the Ministry for SMEs, Commerce, Tourism and Liberal Professions

Mr Thomas Mefford, Deputy Assistant Administrator for E&E, USAID (tbc)

SESSION I: SOCIAL ENTERPRISES: NEW OPPORTUNITIES AND NEW DEVELOPMENTS

9.40-10.00 Social enterprises: a North American perspective

Margie Mendell, Concordia University, Montreal, Canada

10.00-10.20 Developments in the social enterprise sector in Western Europe

Roger Spear, Open University, United Kingdom

10.20-10.40 Social entrepreneurship in designing and delivering social and community services

Giulia Galera, ISSAN, Italy

10.40-11.00 Questions and answers

11.00-11.30 Coffee break

SESSION 2: BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES AND TOOLS

Chair: Ann Van Den Cruyce, Head, Division of Employment Policy, Department of Work and Social Economy, Flanders Region, Belgium

11.30–11.50 How to create an environment conducive to social enterprises?

Peter Lloyd, independent consultant, United Kingdom

11.50–12.10 How to finance the social enterprise sector: first results of a national study on self-financing strategies of NGOs in Romania

Ancuta Vamesu, World Learning

Ana Negri, Enterprise Development Manager, NESsT

12.10 - 13.00 **Round Table: ‘Support tools and strategies for social enterprise development’**

Moderator: Peter Lloyd

Dorotea Daniele (DIESIS)

Ana Sastre (CEPES)

Jérôme Faure (DIESES)

Jan Pakulski (World Bank)

Daniela Nedelcu, Ministry of Labour, Family and Equal Opportunities

Cristian Ispas, Director, Motivation Foundation

Doina Danciu, Romanian Social Development Fund

13.00-14.30 *Lunch*

SESSION 3: THE SOCIAL ENTERPRISE SECTOR AND DELIVERY OF SOCIAL SERVICES: CHALLENGES AND OBSTACLES TOWARDS A WELFARE MIX APPROACH

Chair: Margie Mendell, Concordia University, Montreal, Canada

14.30-14.50 **Social enterprise in OECD Member countries: what are the financial streams?**

Margie Mendell, Concordia University, Montreal, Canada

14.50-15.10 **Delivering social and community services through the social enterprise sector in Romania: what are the challenges?**

Octavian Rusu, Civil Society Development Foundation

15.10-15.30 **Experience of the new member states in developing and financing social enterprises**

Nilda Bullain, European Center for Not-for-Profit Law

15.30-15.50 **Italian social co-operatives in the field of social service delivery: some good practices**

Flaviano Zandonai, Gruppo Cooperativo, CGM, Italy

15.50-16.30 **Questions and answers and debate**

16.30 -17.00 *Coffee break*

17.00-17:15 **Conclusions from the discussions**

Margie Mendell, Concordia University, Montreal

17.15-17:30 **Closing remarks**

Sergio Arzeni, Director CFE, OECD

Representative from the Romanian Government

Ionut Sibian, Civil Society Development Foundation

17.30 **Close of the conference**