



## EU-POLICY UPDATE

### SMART SOCIAL INCLUSION – MARCH 2015

EU developments		
February 2015	<b>Experts' workshop on ICT-enabled social innovation</b>	<p>The Joint Research centre of the European Commission (JRC) presented their draft report on mapping ICT-enabled social innovation supporting the implementation of the Social Investment Package. This report presents fifty good practices on the use of ICT-enabled social innovation in the implementation of the SIP. The good practices are looking at different topics such as education, active and healthy ageing, employment, etc.</p> <p>The objective of the JRC is to increase the report's scope in presenting new good practices. The final report should be ready in 2016.</p> <p><a href="#">Draft report on mapping ICT-enabled social innovation</a></p>
January 2015	<b>Report on Social Impact Measurement</b>	<p>The Social Impact Measurement Sub-group, a sub-group of the European Commission experts' group on social entrepreneurship published a report on social impact measurement. It provides public authorities with a methodology to measure social impact investments.</p> <p>The report aims at helping social fund managers, investors and grant givers determine in which enterprises they should invest and see if the enterprises they have backed have achieved their stated social objectives.</p> <p><a href="#">Report on Social Impact Measurement</a></p>
December 2014	<b>Intergroup on social economy re-established</b>	<p>The Conference of presidents of the European Parliament has established the new intergroups for 2014-2019, re-establishing the intergroup on social economy. Intergroups are informal bodies bringing together MEPs from different countries and political groups having a common interest in a topic.</p> <p>The intergroup on social economy will call on the European Commission to include the development of the social economy sector among its priorities for the next five years as it can contribute to job creation, growth, and further social cohesion in the European Union. Two public hearings are planned this spring on the inclusion of the social economy among the political priorities of the European</p>

		<p>Commission for this new mandate.</p> <p><a href="#">More information on the intergroup</a></p>
December 2014	<b>Working Programme 2015</b>	<p>The European Commission published its working programme for 2015. No new regulation will be introduced concerning social innovation and social economy. However, the proposal on a Statute for European Foundation will be withdrawn as no progress has been made on it so far.</p> <p><a href="#">Work Programme 2015</a></p>
November 2014	<b>Rome Strategy on social economy</b>	<p>The Italian Presidency organised a high-level conference on social economy in Rome. The outcome of the conference is the Rome Strategy, which gives key recommendations to policy-makers for the future of social economy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clearly identify the social economy interlocutors within the following European institutions</li> <li>• In regard with the Europe 2020 Strategy, to recognise the role of social economy, develop guidelines for and monitor the implementation of the public procurement directive, develop partnerships between public and social economy organisations, monitor the use of European Strategic and Investment Fund for social economy.</li> <li>• Target social investment in the Juncker Plan</li> <li>• Improve the availability of funding options and financing solutions for the social economy</li> <li>• Pursue dialogue on social impact measurement</li> <li>• Develop the involvement of target groups (youth, women) in social economy</li> <li>• Develop a culture of evaluation in social economy.</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Rome Strategy</a></p>
November 2014	<b>Mapping of social enterprises</b>	<p>The European Commission published a report on mapping the social enterprises in Europe. This study outlines the social enterprises' main features using a common definition of social enterprises (an autonomous organisation that combines a social purpose with entrepreneurial activity).</p> <p>The report shows that social enterprises are more and more important and that there is a growing convergence towards a common definition of social enterprises in Europe. However, it also underlines the fact that support structures for social enterprises are still underdeveloped and fragmented, with the exception of France, UK and Italy.</p>

		<p>An online feedback form is available for organisations to comment on the study and improve it.</p> <p><a href="#">Report on Social enterprises</a></p>
<p><b>Relevant funding calls and information</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EIB has opened a call for proposals in its <a href="#">Social innovation tournament</a> framework. It rewards and sponsors European entrepreneurs whose primary purpose is to generate a social, ethical or environmental impact. Deadline: 21 March 2015.</li> <li>• EaSI call for proposal on social experimentation planned for the spring 2015 and targeted at local authorities.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">European Parliament report on Social Impact Bonds</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Report from the social impact investment Task Force of the G8</a> presenting recommendations to foster social impact investment.</li> <li>• Social Innovation for Active and Healthy Ageing, <a href="#">case study collection</a>, King Baudoin Foundation</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Reports from past events</b></p> <p><i>Conference on social impact investment</i></p> <p>EUROCITIES attended a conference on social impact investment. Experts from France, the UK, Germany and Italy explained the challenges and opportunities lying behind social impact investment. They explained that social impact investment should not replace public investments but the contribution of private sector is crucial to innovate and scale good practices. Private sector should also invest in prevention through tools such as social impact bonds.</p> <p>Participants also called for a stronger social component in the Juncker plan. The DG employment from the European Commission said that the new Commission will work on tying better links between the Social Investment Package and the Social Business Initiative in order to foster social impact investing.</p> <p><a href="#">Information on the event</a></p>		
<p><b>Upcoming events</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EUROCITIES brokerage event on the call for proposals on social experimentation. More information will follow.</li> <li>• <a href="#">Fourth European Forum on Social Entrepreneurship</a> in Plovdiv, Bulgaria, 26-29 March</li> <li>• Conference on "The role of the non-profit sector as a provider of social services of general interest", EESC, Warsaw, 12 April.</li> <li>• <a href="#">Service Design In The Public Sector</a>, SPIDER project conference, 9-10 June, Dublin</li> </ul>		