

ENSIE (European Network of Work Integration Social Enterprises)

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'Social Entrepreneurship & inclusion' event



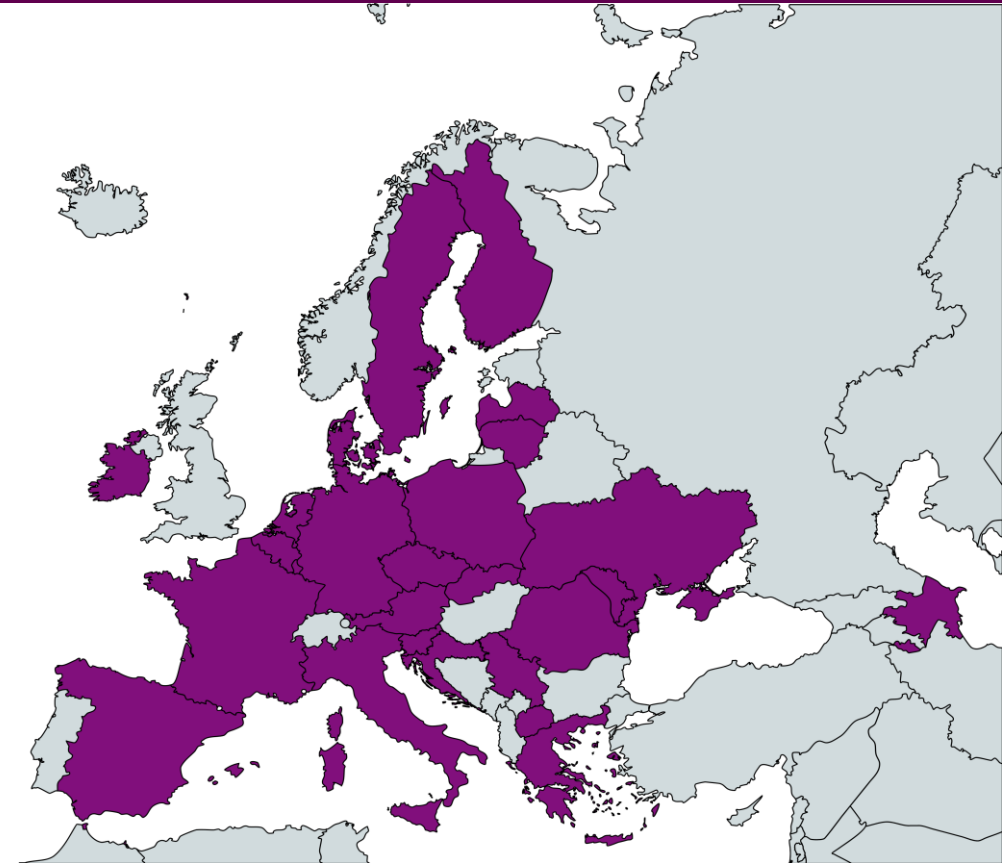
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ENSIE & ITS MEMBERS

- **ENSIE** is the **European Network of Work Integration Social Enterprises**, established in 2001
- It gathers **31** national, regional and local networks
- In **19** countries across the **EU** + Azerbaijan, North Macedonia, Moldova, Serbia and Ukraine.
- It gathers more than **3000** work integration social enterprises (WISEs)
- And represents more than **187 000** disadvantaged workers



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ENSIE MEMBERS



faedeei.



la fédération
des entreprises
d'insertion



HERWIN



FEDAS
LUXEMBOURG



SOCIAL
ENTREPRENEURSHIP
ASSOCIATION OF LATVIA



swom

Barlička



LIETUVOS
SOCIALINIO VERSLO
ASOCIACIJA

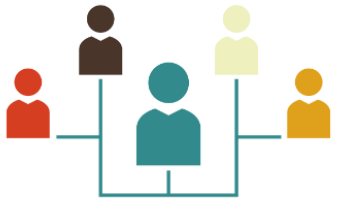


Gammas
ACTEUR DE
L'ÉCONOMIE SOCIALE

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ENSIE MISSIONS



Transfer relevant information from the EU level to national/regional and local members



Exchange of good practices



Development of European projects



Representation of WISEs' interests at EU level



Awareness raising on WISEs and their social and economic impact

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MAIN FOCUS AREAS



WISES AND POLICIES

- **SDGs**
- **EPSR**
- **Green Deal and Circular Economy**
- **Social Economy in Western Balkans and Eastern Neighbourhood**



SPECIFIC TARGET GROUPS

- **Migrants**
- **Long-term unemployed**
- **Youth**
- **NEETs**
- **People with disabilities**
- **Roma**



WISES FEATURES

- **WISEs legal framework**
- **De minimis**
- **GBER**
- **SGEI**
- **Impact measurement**



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MAIN FOCUS AREAS



EUROPEAN SEMESTER



ACCESS TO MARKET



SKILLS AND EDUCATION



SOCIAL ECONOMY AND
SOCIAL ENTERPRISES



DIGITALISATION AND
NEW TECHNOLOGIES



ACCESS TO FINANCE



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WHAT IS SOCIAL ECONOMY?

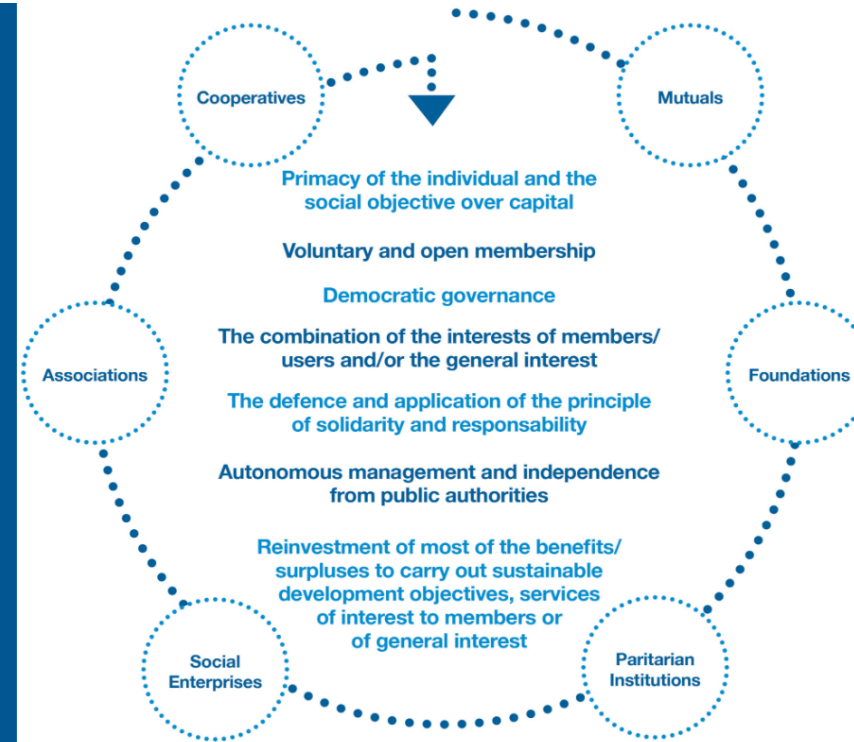
What is the social economy?

The social economy is a major socio-economic player of the European social market economy. There are **2.8 million social economy enterprises and organisations**, ranging from SMEs to large EU groups.

The social economy is present across all sectors and employs **13.6 million people** and accounts for **8% of the EU's GDP**.

The social economy is made up of a diversity of enterprises and organisations like **cooperatives, mutuals, associations, foundations, social enterprises** among other forms specific to each country.

What makes them part of the social economy are the **shared values and features which unite them**, for instance they put people over profits, they are governed democratically, and they reinvest most profits.



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WHAT IS SOCIAL ECONOMY?



People before profit

Social economy enterprises and organisations prioritise people and communities over profit, driven by their mission to serve the common good and general interest



Democracy at work

Social economy enterprises and organisations have inclusive and democratic governance



Reinvesting profits

Social economy enterprises and organisations reinvest most of their profits or surpluses to pursue sustainable development objectives

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What does ENSIE do?

Representing the interests of work integration social enterprises (WISEs) within European institutions

Communication and awareness-raising regarding the activities of WISEs and their economic and social impact

Disseminating relevant information on European policy to members at national, regional and local levels;

Exchange of good practices

Development of European projects



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WORK INTEGRATION SOCIAL ENTERPRISES

2,8 million Social Economy Enterprises in Europe

WISE: Subset of social economy enterprises

Support people excluded from the labour market

Facilitating their integration & Providing training and job opportunities



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“Work integration social enterprises are:

- Source: [COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION of 27 November 2023 on developing social economy framework conditions](#)



The Social Economy Action Plan

- The Social Economy Action Plan (SEAP) was adopted by the Commission in November 2021.
- International momentum for the social economy (Commissioner Schmidt, the Spanish and Belgian EU Presidencies, the ILO, the UN, the EESC, the European Parliament).
- Adoption by the Council of the Recommendation on the development of framework conditions for the social economy in 2023.
- Undeniable influence of the SEAP/Recommendation on the development of national strategies and, more generally, policies in support of the social economy, albeit to a highly uneven extent across the various EU Member States.



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The three pillars of the SEAP

Create framework
conditions for social
economy

- Appropriate legal and policy frameworks
- State aid and public procurement
- Promotion of the SE at local, regional and international level

Create opportunities
for social economy

- Support for businesses and capacity building, access to funding and credit
- Attracting young people to the SE
- Social innovation, the SE's contribution to the twin transition

Strengthen the
recognition of social
economy

- Communication strategies and SE summits
- Facilitating collaboration between academia and the SE
- Carrying out studies



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Council recommendation (2023)

Objective 1: To promote access to the labour market and social inclusion through the social economy

Objective 2: To develop regulatory frameworks and policies for the development of the social economy

The Recommendation urges States to develop national SE strategies by 2025



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Development of national strategies

State of the art

Countries with approved national strategies	8 Countries: Czechia, Germany, Greece, Spain, Finland, Ireland, Poland and Slovenia
Strategies adopted at the regional level	Belgium Wallonia Region: existing strategy prior to the adoption of the SEAP Brussels Region: strategy to promote the dual transition, adopted in 2023, which includes the social economy Flanders Region: strategy adopted, which came into force in January 2026
Countries where the development of a strategy is ongoing	12 countries: Bulgaria, France, Croatia, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Latvia, Malta, Portugal, Romania and Slovakia
Countries that have not started or announce their intention of creating a national strategy	6 countries: Austria, Cyprus , Denmark, Estonia, Netherlands and Sweden.



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Influence of SEAP and Recommendation

How have the SEAP and the Council Recommendation influenced national policies?

Framework for legitimising advocacy	Austria, Estonia, Cyprus , Denmark, Hungary, Sweden
Source of inspiration for national policies, even in the absence of a strategy	Netherlands
External factor that has enabled the development of national strategies	Belgium (Wallonia), Greece, France, Croatia, Portugal, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Slovakia
External factors that have influenced the content of national strategies	Belgium (Flanders), Bulgaria, Czechia, Germany, Spain, Finland, Ireland, Latvia, Slovenia
Strengthening institutional capacity, data availability and policy coherence	Spain, France, Ireland, Slovenia



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Examples of national policies inspired by SEAP

Legal framework	PL: adoption of a framework law on the social economy; RO: amendments to the framework law; reform of existing legislation relating to existing legal forms (AT, CY , CZ, DE, EL, FR, SE, SI)
Access to funding and credit	BE, BG, FR, ES, IE, LT, MT, PT: bespoke financial instruments, tax incentives, funding for innovation, calls for proposals for start-ups and resilience schemes
Access to market	BE, BG, CZ, DE, ES, FR, LT, MT, NL: reforms and capacity-building to promote socially responsible procurement and reserved markets. B2B in BE, IT, FR, etc.
Capacity building and skills development	BE, BG, CZ, EL, FI, FR, SK, PT, IE, LT: training, incubators, support structures, leadership development
Visibility, evaluation and data	BE, BG, ES, FI, FR, PT, RO, LT, LV: communication campaigns, strengthening of data collection systems, assessments of regulatory frameworks/policies
Social innovation	CZ, BE, FR, DE, NL, BG, ES: support for the establishment of social innovation centres, programmes/strategies and initiatives funded by European funds
Labour Market and Inclusion	BE, CZ, PL, RO, SK, ES, EL, SI: employability, social enterprises promoting employment integration



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- 100



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OVERVIEW OF WISES IN EUROPE (B-WISE PROJECT) – LEGAL STRUCTURES

Main dynamic	Countries
No specific legislation designed for WISEs	AT, EE, IE, NL, SE
Specific legislation for WISEs exists, but most WISEs use traditional legal forms	CZ, DE, FI, HU, LU, LV, PL, RO, SK
Decisive role of WISE/Social enterprise statuses and/or legal forms	BE, DE, FR, EL, IT, ES, PT, SI
WISE statuses evolution from previous experience of sheltered workshops	BG, HR, LT, SI, ES

Table from EURICSE report in the *B-WISE project*

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OVERVIEW OF WISES IN EUROPE (B-WISE PROJECT) – INTEGRATION MODELS

Model	Main characteristics	Countries
Permanent	• Aim: create stable jobs within the WISE • Tight connections with public social services • Individualised integration paths • In some instances participation of WSNs in governing bodies	BE, BG, HR, CZ, DE, EL, LV, LT, PL, SK, SI
Transitional	• Aim: equip WSN with skills to enter the open labour market • Tight connections with public employment services • Max length of employment established by law • Standardised training in cooperation with VET providers	AT, FR, ES
Mixed	• Stable position within the WISE for some WSN, transitory solutions for others	DK, EE, FI, IE, HU, IT, NL, PL, RO, SE

Table from EURICSE report in the *B-WISE project*

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-Challenges

- Closing the funding gap for WISEs : different problems in the access to finance with different solutions (access to markets, fiscal advantages...)
- Harmonization of enabling conditions for WISEs in the national Member States



THE FUTURE OF WISES IN EUROPE

Areas of work

- Social Economy Action Plan revision
 - Public procurement directive revision
 - General Block Exemption Regulation revision
 - Multi financial framework
-
- European Pillar of Social Rights
 - Anti-Poverty Strategy
 - Quality Jobs roadmap....



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Thank you for your attention!

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