ENSIE Call for specific support measures for inclusive and integrated forms of employment during the Coronavirus Crisis
Call for specific support measures for inclusive and integrated forms of employment during the Coronavirus crisis

A united call made by ENSIE, RREUSE, Social Firms Europe – CEFEC and CEC.

ENSIE, together with RREUSE, Social Firms Europe-CEFEC and CEC published at the end of March their Call for specific measures for inclusive and integrated forms of employment during the Coronavirus Crisis. The goal was to call the European institutions as well as Member States to support the most disadvantaged people during the Coronavirus Crisis. It was also an opportunity to make some proposals and to showcase good examples from various European countries.

In these difficult times, when lot of political speeches are often made in vague terms about the future, ENSIE can only agree with Ursula von der Leyen's speech where she puts solidarity at the heart of the political answers to the crisis. We do not hear such words so frequently at EU level. ENSIE and its European partners now need to ensure that they will be translated into concrete actions.

"In this Coronavirus Crisis, only the strongest of responses will do. We must use every means at our disposal. Every available euro in the EU budget will be redirected to address it, every rule will be eased to enable the funding to flow rapidly and effectively. With a new solidarity instrument, we will mobilise €100 billion to keep people in jobs and businesses running. With this, we are joining forces with Member States to save lives and protect livelihoods. This is European solidarity.” Ursula von der Leyen.

ENSIE would like to underline the measures taken by the European Commission in the last few days and weeks to propose solutions and to attenuate the Coronavirus Crisis in Europe.

The Commission has adopted the Coronavirus Response Investment Initiative, which gives Member States access to €37 billion of cohesion money and the State Aid Temporary Framework. The Commission also created the SURE (Support to mitigate Unemployment Risks in an Emergency) initiative doted of €100 billion. Overall, all the EU institutions are mobilised. The ECB created a Pandemic Purchase Programme, the EIB developed a guarantee access to finance for all SMEs and mid-caps doted of €20 billion and the Council activated of the General Escape Clause of the Stability and Growth Pact.

Regarding the Coronavirus Crisis, ENSIE also had a look at what initiatives the European Commission is taking in favour of the social economy with seminars and open source collection of good practices.
The Coronavirus Crisis will affect the EU and its citizens, their economy and their societies in the long term. Therefore, economic solutions should rely on these aspects and in this regards, the European Commission proposed to use the MFF to act on the economic and social consequences of the current crisis in the long term.

# GENERAL NEWS - PUBLICATIONS

The European Commission published a follow-up of the SBI report mapping Social enterprises and their Ecosystems in Europe.

The ILO and the European Commission published two interesting reports on Finance for the Social Economy.

The OECD launched a tool measuring the distance to SDGs in regions and cities.

# ENSIE NEWS

ENSIE was involved in the European Semester process through its analysis of the “Autumn package” published by the European Commission in December 2019. ENSIE analysed the “Annual Sustainable Growth Strategy” (ASGS) that sets general economic and employment priorities of the European Commission for the coming year and the Proposition for a Joint Employment Report (JER) from the Commission and the Council. In addition, ENSIE invited its members to analyse their country reports and contact their competent national and European authorities.

You will find our analysis here.

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Gender Equality Strategy

Gender equality is a key issue throughout Europe and WISEs are part of the solution. ENSIE reviewed the European Commission Gender Equality Strategy to ensure if their proposals are in line with the
examine if their proposals are measuring up with the challenge ahead.

Industry and SME Strategies
WISEs are part of the economy and some of them are SMEs. ENSIE looked at the Industry and at the SME strategies published by the European Commission and checked if WISEs specificities were taken into account.

The New Circular Economy Action Plan
Some WISEs are working in the waste management sector and will be impacted by the new Circular Economy Action Plan published by the European Commission. ENSIE assessed the document and evaluated the impact.

For a Just Transition
We all know that we are facing three transitions in the next decades, Green, Digital and Demographic. The European Commission published its guide for a "Just Transition" and ENSIE evaluated how it measures to our expectations for a more social Europe.

European Commission Work Programme
ENSIE went deep in the European Commission Work Programme to evaluate which debates and decisions will occur this year that will have an impact on WISEs.

# MEMBERS NEWS
France - RSEi Label
La fédération des entreprises d’insertion launched, on February 5th a new Corporate Social Responsibility label for inclusive enterprises (RSEi). Its aim is to acknowledge not only enterprises active in the field of inclusion, but also traditional enterprises placing inclusion at the heart of their business project.
More information here.

Moldova - Project EU4Youth
Eco Razeni, our member from Moldova is participating to an EU4Youth project on "Unlocking the potential of young social entrepreneurs in Moldova and Ukraine". This is a very interesting project that aims to develop the sector in those countries, where it is still underdeveloped.
More information here.

Austria - Innovation Labs events
Our Austrian member, arbeit plus held a series of Innovation Labs event during winter 2019-2020. It was an opportunity to cover various topics around WISEs and to exchange with a wider public.
More information here.

Poland - IN SITU Project
Our Polish member, SWR, participated in February to a study visit in Stuttgart in the framework of the IN SITU Project - Intergenerational Social Innovation Support Scheme. Which aims to develop 6 Social Innovation Hubs throughout the Central Europe Region to help the creation of new Social enterprises.
More information here.

Poland - Paths of cooperation
Our Polish member, SWR participated to another project launch, the "Paths of cooperation - support for entities implementing international cooperation" which aims to...
Encourage cooperation between different European regions to address issues in the field of professional activation, lifelong learning, creation and implementation of public policies.

More information here

# PROJECT NEWS

In need of tips to grow your WISE?
Try our MOOC!

We can finally open our INNO-WISEs MOOC on "Business for WISEs"! Over the last few months, the project partners and other collaborators worked hard to be able to present you this MOOC.

What is it?

- A course tailor-made for WISEs and social enterprises
- An innovative way to improve your competences whenever and wherever you like
- Quality of content on fostering innovation and developing a business and marketing strategy
- You’ll be able to check your understanding through quizzes and self-assessment
- At the end, request your final certificate to validate your learning.

For more info!

Buying for Social Impact - Final Report

The partners of the Buying for Social impact project are proud of two new European Commission publications, namely a Brochure, which is presenting the main results of the project, and the Report presenting 22 examples of good practices, in the area of socially responsible public procurement. We hope you will be able to find inspiration in those documents.

# AGENDA

TO DO IN APRIL

9 April: OECD and Euclid Network webinar on "OECD Global Action to promote the social and solidarity economy" (online).

21 April: Social Economy Europe Board of Directors (online)

29 April: GECES Third meeting of the expert group (online)

TO DO IN NOVEMBER

26-27 November: European Social Economy Summit in Mannheim (Germany)


Become a member!
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The information contained in this publication does not necessarily reflect the official position of the European Commission.