

Legal frameworks for social innovation

Social Innovation and entrepreneurship

Social innovation means developing new ideas, services, and models to better address social issues. A social enterprise is an operator in the social economy whose main objective is to have a social impact rather than make a profit for their owners or shareholders.

Social entrepreneurship is a crucial in several sectors of society and global issues such as unemployment, health, social inclusion, refugee crisis, climate change, education, discrimination and racism, gender inequalities, poverty, democracy, and civic participation that all are addressed in the 17 [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs). [See step 3 on Global perspective in the SE4Y Road Map](#)

Social innovation legal framework in Europe

Social enterprises legal forms vary, forms designed social enterprises and/or via existing or new organizations that may fulfill the social enterprise criteria like, associations, cooperatives, conventional enterprises. Borderlines refer to initiatives and organizations that cannot be regarded as social enterprises because they do not prioritize the pursuit of social aims and/or do not carry out economic activities on a regular basis. See further [Social enterprises and their ecosystems in Europe](#) (Chapter 3, pages 113-120).

Further information can be found in [SE4Y Road map](#), chapter/step 4, for social enterprises and country specific adaptations in translations.

Best practices on social innovation and entrepreneurship in Europe

- [30 under 30 Social entrepreneurs](#) in Europea 2017 publication from Forbes. [Article by Alexandra Wilson](#).
- *Social innovation: [brochure featuring 27 inspirational initiatives in Europe](#). (EU. 2020).*