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| OBJECTIVE: | Increasing the capacity of SE | | State of implementation | |
| Objectives of the National conception of social economy | Aim 3: To serve as a basis for creating a favourable administrative and legal environment for the development of the social economy enterprises (access to funding, social clauses in public procurements, tax concessions etc.) | | Indicator | |
| Results | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing measurable social or ecological effect (increased number of employees, satisfied employees and clients, improved environmental quality) Growth in economic indicators (indicators are declared profits, imported taxes, salaries, social insurances, duration of activity) Growth in the added value (innovations) Increased generated financial resources and support for SE (number of start-ups, donations, programmes for capacity development) | | | |
| Responsible institution | | <i>Ministry of labour and social policy</i> | Assessment | <i>Preliminary¹ Current²</i> |
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| Partners | State institutions | "Living standards, demographic development, policies and strategies" Directorate Council of Ministers Ministry of Finance | NGO's | <i>Members of the interagency working group on the social economics at MLSP The Monitoring Committee of</i> |

¹ Action plan to the National conception of social economy.

² Within the functions of the administrative department which is responsible for planning, coordination and implementation of policies for social enterprises.

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| | | Ministry of labour and social policy Ministry of the economy Agency of the small and middle sized enterprises Agency for people with disabilities Employment Agency | | <i>the OP Social enterprises and partners NGO NAMRB</i> |
| | National assembly | <i>Commission on labour, social and demographic policy Commission on health Commission on European Affairs and European Funds Control</i> | Others | <i>Banks and credit institutions Municipalities</i> |
| Description of the activity | <p>1. Increasing the support for starting an economic activity by individuals or NGOs. It is necessary to set up programmes which are aimed to concrete financial support for start-up businesses. Similar programmes are implemented within the programmes and measures of the Employment Agency, but they target mainly only two vulnerable groups - people with disabilities and unemployed youth under the age of 29. These programmes for employment encouragement should be flexible and to allow annual change of the target groups regarding the unemployment rates for each of them.</p> <p>2. Programs for capacity development of SE – there should be separate starter and developmental programs and introducing, upgrading and continuing trainings for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improvement of the business skills; - Marketing and Management; - Good financial management; <p>These programmes should be easily accessible for potential social entrepreneurs and NGOs which plan to launch a business ideas related to the achievement of their goals. The funding of similar programs could be planned through the “Human Resources Development” Operational Programme and “Innovations and competitiveness” Operational Programme.</p> <p>3. Programs which subsidies the employment of vulnerable groups for a limited period- one of the most successful examples that help in starting a business are namely the programmes which financially encourage the employers to hire certain groups that they wouldn't engage under other equal conditions because of the heavier social price they would have to take as a risk (these groups of specific problems that requires longer period or more severe conditions to be overcome)</p> | | | |

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| | | <p>4. Social innovations supporting programs – social innovations development is the most successful way for support the SP; in order to achieve this result it is necessary to set up a particular program that supports the “piloting” of different ideas to stimulate the demand of the best innovations.</p> <p>5. Easier access to the funds from the operational programs – the resources from the structural funds are a big potential recourse, but in order to provide an initial access it would be necessary to easing the regulations for access to financing, providing a bridge financing, flexibility and adaptability to the specific activity and so on.</p> <p>6. Envisaging a possibility for flexible financing – equity financing, risk financing, further growth and easy loans with low interest rates (to overcome the difference between a bank interest and what the business can actually afford), provision of state securities on loans and credits to SE and others.</p> |
| Implementation plan and budget | 2015 | Incorporation of the Roadmap into the Action Plan for the National Conception of Social Economy by the interdepartmental working group to MLSP Adopting the measures in the Roadmap (as a part of the Action Plan) with a decision of the MLSP. |
| 159 thousand lv. | 2016 | Envisage of schemes for social entrepreneurship in the indicative programs of the operational programs. Discussion of the opportunities for starting specific mechanisms for funding SE and available for various legal forms. |
| | 2017 | Introduction of opportunities for starting specific mechanisms for funding SE and available for various legal forms. |

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| OBJECTIVE: | Introducing the principles of good management in the national policies regarding SE | State of implementation | |
| Objectives of the National conception of social economy | Objective 2: To serve as a current “standard” supporting the development of the social economy, and stimulation of the contractors and supporters to apply and promote the spirit of the social solidarity; | Indicators | |

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| Results | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of a constant and regular policy, based on the real needs of the sector, the participation of interested parties, recognition of successful models and practices • Built capacity of the administrative department for planning, coordination and implementation of policies for SE (indicator - number of regular meetings of the permanent interdepartmental group on social economy) | | |
| Responsible institution | | <i>Ministry of labour and social policy</i> | Assessment | <i>Preliminary³ Current⁴</i> |
| | | <i>"Living standards, demographic development, policies and strategies" Directorate</i> | | |
| Partners | State institutions | Council of Ministers Ministry of Finance Ministry of labour and social policy Ministry of the economy Agency of the small and middle sized enterprises Agency for people with disabilities Agency for employability | NGO's | <i>Members from the interagency working group on social economics at MLSP</i> |
| | National Assembly | | Others | |

³ Action plan to the National conception of social economy

⁴ Within the functions of the administrative department which is responsible for planning, coordination and implementation of policies for social enterprises

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| <p>Description of the activity</p> | <p>1. Establishment of a central office for managing policies for SP The planning and monitoring the implementation of policies in the area of SE is not suitable to be part of the functions of a department to certain directorate at MLSP. It is more convenient to establish an independent administrative unit that can built capacity and have more options to assess, monitoring and prepare proposals, programs and initiatives;</p> <p>2. Ensuring the participation of SE and civic organizations in the process of decision-making on the policies in this area It is necessary to set up a separate mechanism that the inclusion of civic organizations and SP, so they can participate in the process of policies proposing, monitoring and assessment of their implementation in order to ensure involvement and guarantee for transparency and democracy in the process of encouragement of the development of SP. Currently a similar role is performed by the interdepartmental working group on the social economy at the MLSP. It is recommended that the group keeps its functions with a regular mandate and regularly updates its composition with new members, appointed by the group of SE, for example, with the participation of coalitions such as “Social enterprises in Bulgaria” Forum.</p> <p>3. Periodic assessment of the environment, results and tendencies in the development of SE at national level The creation and utilization of instruments for periodic assessments of the environment and development of social entrepreneurship are necessary. The assessments will include an analysis of the negative and positive factors affecting the sector, as well as observing the difficulties and tendencies in the growth and general effect of the work done by the SE. Other than utilizing independent statistical data and sociological studies, this assessment should include the opinions of the interested sides (as mentioned in paragraph 2). The results will be gathered in an Index of the Social entrepreneurship in Bulgaria, which could then be used in further practices for developing the sector.</p> |
| <p>Implementation plan and budget</p> | <p>2015 Preliminary study of the functions of the units in the administration Preparation of legislative proposals.</p> |
| | <p>2016 Public discussions on legislative proposals. Adoption of legislative proposals.</p> |