



## EMPOWER - Social Enterprises' Sustainability Tools

### Project Result 1

### Training Package for Sustainability in Social Enterprises

### COMPENDIUM

Country: Greece

Developed by KMOP



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## Project Information

**Key Action 2:** KA220-YOU - Cooperation partnerships in youth

**Project number:** 2021-1-BG01-KA220-YOU-000029024

**Period of the project implementation:** 02/01/2022 - 02/01/2024 (2 Years)

**Consortium:** BRCCI (BG); SERN (IT); KMOP(GR); Future in Perspective Ltd (IE); CARDET (CY); Innovade LI (CY); MINDSHIFT Talent (PT).

### COUNTRY GREECE

## Legal Framework

The Greek law has developed the concept of social enterprise based on the threefold criteria based on the EU operational definition; social, economic and inclusive governance criteria. The legal evolution of the Greek social enterprises can be presented based on three fundamental moments. The first one is in 2011, when social economy and social entrepreneurship were formally institutionalized for first time under Law 4019/2011. 2011 was an intense year for Greece since it was dealing with the debt crisis, the appearance of new social movements, the born of solidarity efforts, and alternative economies. Then it followed a 'transitional' phase in which there was a significant increase in social enterprises and implementation of broader activities in every economic sector. This new reality created legislative gaps and new needs, which led to the third core moment for the social entrepreneurial sector in 2016 with the introduction of Law 4430. Law 4430/2016 gave a more economic identity to the social enterprises, recognized their consolidation as alternatives to the business-as-usual model, and brought in new terms to Greek legislation and new tools to measure the impact of social enterprises (Varvarousis & Tsitsirigkos, 2019).

The legal entities of social enterprises in Greece are the following:

**KoinSEp; Law 4430/2016:** Civil cooperative with a social purpose that legally possesses the commercial status. The reasons behind establishing a KoinSEp are the social and economic inclusion of vulnerable and special groups and the offering of goods and services in favour of the social interest. A KoinSEp is consisted of at least five members, while the profits are not shared among the members unless they are employees.

**KoiSPE; Law 2716/99:** Legal entities under private law with the limited liability of their members. They aim at the socioeconomic integration and professional integration of people with serious psychosocial problems, contributing to their treatment and their possible financial self-sufficiency, and they have a commercial status. In each Mental Health Sector, only one KoiSPE can be established.

AMKE; Civil code articles 741-758: Non-profit civil companies which can have economic activities and develop educational, charitable, scientific and research work. Its activities should not aim at a profit; any profit made should not be distributed to the members.

Women Agro-tourist cooperatives; Law 1541/1985: The initiative came from the General Secretariat for Equality of the Ministry of the Presidency as a solution to promote sex equality, facilitate social inclusion of women and reinforce their economic role in the field of agro-tourism while at the same time creating jobs and promoting alternative tourism (Borzaga et al. 2020).

## Strategic Framework

In Greece, social entrepreneurship has been significantly supported by the European Structural and Investment Funds of the European Union. Currently, there is an Open Call for training in the social entrepreneurship targeting interesting parties in South Attica. It will provide consultation to all beneficiaries with the aim of exploring needs, personal and professional assessment, and the preparation of an individual action plan (5 individual sessions per beneficiary). The beneficiaries will attend training courses on different topics related to Social Economy & Entrepreneurship, such as: Social Economy - Entrepreneurship & Tourism, Social Economy - Entrepreneurship & Culture (Ministry of Development and Investments, 2022).

Moreover, the promotion of entrepreneurial and innovative practices in Higher Education has become a top priority in Greece. Based on the national policy agenda, many Greek HEIs have introduced teaching and learning opportunities in entrepreneurship based on formal and non-formal education. The aim is to broaden the curricula to modules, such as Leadership, Design Thinking, and Intrapreneurship, etc, complementing the typical business and management courses (OECD/European Commission, 2021). However, zooming in on the promotion of social entrepreneurship in Higher Education there are still a lot of policies that should be adopted and the government should invest in the creation a specialized research center for social economy (Sarris, 2016).

## Good practices

KMOP has conducted desk research on the function and impact of social enterprises in Greece. The following good practices are a great example of social enterprises that serve the objectives and the values of social entrepreneurship.

### Name of the social enterprise

**Myrtillo**

### Short description of activities

Myrtillo is a Social Cooperative Enterprise with main aim to promote innovative practises for the work integration of vulnerable groups that they are systematically socially excluded, but also to raise awareness of the community in topics of inclusion and acceptance of all people. It provides the

opportunity to people with disabilities to work and get trained in real conditions (SKKA A LIFE PLAN, 2022). Myrtillo is a cafeteria and arts centre and organizes numerous events, such as seminars, conferences, theatrical performances etc (Myrtillo,2022).

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## Name of the social enterprise

**Black Light** (The blind side of view)

## Short description of activities

Black Light is a Cooperative Enterprise of Collective and Social Benefits (Koin.S.Ep) with main aim to support and encourage people with disabilities in general and visual impaired in particular through educational seminars and workshops in various organizations, businesses and schools throughout Greece. Its programmes and activities are designed and implemented by people with visual impairments (Black Light, 2022).

## Contacts

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## Name of the social enterprise

**Wise Greece**

## Short description of activities

Wise Greece is a non-profit social enterprise with has a double mission; it provides support to small farmers and producers of Greek products across country and uses the profit to buy food supplies for people in need. It offers high food supplies to Social Groceries, Soup Kitchens and Orphanages. Additionally, Wise Greece organises educational programmes to equip people with soft and hard skills for the job market, promotes entrepreneurship and the Sustainable Development Goals, focusing on sustainable production and consumption (Wise Greece, 2022).



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