

Conf 18 November 2011 / Social Business Questions for Participants

SUMMARY:

Out of a total of 131 responses, there were 126 responses from conference participants, 4 responses from viewers of the web-stream and 1 response sent to DG MARKET via the email address publicised on the Social Business website. At least 22 respondents ticked more boxes than they were supposed to, which impacts on the percentages below. 12 respondents seem to not have realised that they ought to turn the page of the questionnaire (the questionnaire was printed double-sided), resulting in high percentages of 'NO ANSWERS'.

Session 1

1) Can social entrepreneurship offer a role model that will make you want to engage in society? (*1 answer only*)

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | 99% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No | 1% |
| NO ANSWERS | 2% |

2) What are the main barriers to start and develop innovative social enterprises in your country? (*2 answers max*)

- | | |
|--|------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of awareness on social impact | 38% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of funding | 50% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of skills and competences | 23% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of a supportive environment | 53% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resistance of established organisations | 25% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> There are no barriers | 2% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I have no idea | 2% |
| NO ANSWERS | 0% |

Session 2

3) Which source of finance for social enterprises needs to be strengthened to improve access to finance for social enterprises? (*2 answers max*)

- | | |
|--|------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social investment funds | 67% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social stock exchanges or shares | 11% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> European Social Fund and European Regional Development Fund | 44% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Venture philanthropy funds | 22% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ethical banks/state banks | 35% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No need to improve access to finance | 1% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I have no idea | 3% |
| NO ANSWERS | 4% |

4) Which key action of the SBI Communication do you regard as the most important? (*1 answer only*)

- | | |
|--|------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A European regulatory framework for social investment funds. | 28% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The development of Microfinance. | 16% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A European financial instrument to boost social investments. | 24% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Member States and regions use the Investment priority for social enterprises in the Structural funds (ESF and ERDF) in the next programming period. | 43% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I have no idea | 4% |
| NO ANSWERS | 5% |

Session 3

5) Do you think a label for social businesses will boost the social enterprise sector? (*1 answer only*)

- | | |
|---|------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, a label at EU level | 40% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, a label at national level | 12% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Not at all | 26% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I have no idea | 9% |
| NO ANSWERS | 14% |

6) In your country, what type of public support is most needed to develop the social enterprise sector? (*2 answers max*)

- | | |
|---|------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Creating a transparent picture of the social enterprise sector | 14% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Capacity building for national and regional administrations in promoting social Entrepreneurship | 31% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> An integrated strategy and action plan to support social enterprises, especially via the Structural Funds | 43% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Platforms and networks for social investors and entrepreneurs for sharing good practices and promising business models across national borders | 33% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business development services and incubators for social entrepreneurs | 41% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No public support needed | 2% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I have no idea | 1% |
| NO ANSWERS | 11% |

Session 4

7) Which key action of the SBI Communication to improve the regulatory framework for social enterprises do you regard as the most important? (*1 answer only*)

- | | |
|---|------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Development of European statues for social enterprises, cooperatives or foundations | 33% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Enhancement of the element of quality in awarding public contracts. | 28% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Simplification of the implementation of rules concerning State aid to social and local services. | 34% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No changes in the regulatory framework needed | 1% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I have no idea | 3% |
| NO ANSWERS | 12% |