

# De Punt

*breeding ground for entrepreneurs with care for people and the environment*

Info Day FP7

Networks of Incubators for Social Innovation

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# What do we do

## ***Mission***

De Punt supports (starting) entrepreneurs in their sustainable growth, with a special focus on job creation.

## ***Activities***

De Punt runs a social business center, is an incubator in the social economy, stimulates enterprises to start projects with long term employment and helps job-seekers to start a business of their own.

# What do we offer

De Punt has two concepts to incubate **cooperative forms** of social enterprises :

- **Startpunt:** ('starting point') offers job-seekers a 'safe environment' (by temporarily taking over entrepreneurial risk) to start a business of their own. Startpunt also offers the candidate-entrepreneurs joint services such as coaching, accountancy, IT, etc. In 2011 we accepted 43 job seekers. 23 had a positive outcome (17 to entrepreneurship, 6 to employment).
- **Social incubation:** offers a methodology, instruments, coaching and (if necessary) risk capital for starting cooperations. Focus lays on the creation of jobs for vulnerable groups (at least 5 FTE in 4 years time). In 2010-2011 De Punt assisted in the creation of 8 innovative cooperative enterprises who actually employ 26 persons (18 FTE).

# What do we look for

- A **European network** of likewise organizations to create a learning platform, exchange methodologies and experiences, start joint projects, ...
- The **funding** of projects with focus on social entrepreneurship and/or job creation for vulnerable groups on the labor market
- (Innovative) **cooperative forms** to stimulate social entrepreneurship while also reducing risk and costs

# Contact details

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