European Commission
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

Awareness raising and networking activities on the Guide for Social Consideration in Public Procurement

Service Contract N° VC/2011/0062

November 2011

BERNARD BRUNHES INTERNATIONAL
BPI group

The context of social policy in/and the EU

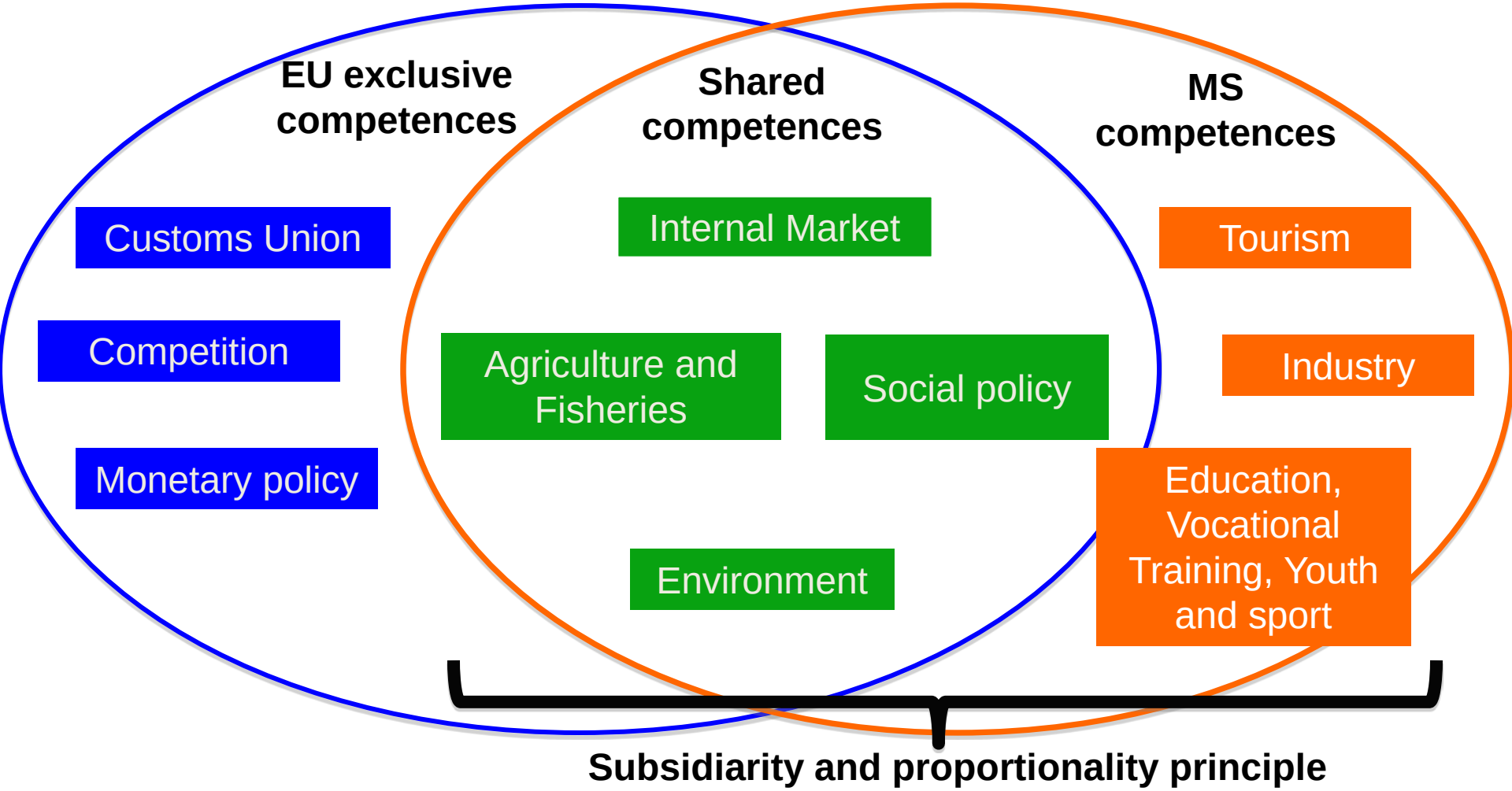
Europe 2020 strategy

- Smart, sustainable and inclusive economy as interlocked overall objectives
- 5 headline targets
  - 75% employment rate
  - 20 million out of poverty (-25%)
  - School drop out rates below 10% + 40% tertiary education
  - 3% of GDP invested in R&D
  - ‘green’ targets : 20/20/20
- Integrated surveillance mechanism

National Reform Programmes

NRF	Employment rate target	Poverty target	School drop out target
CY	75-77%	27.000	10%
EL	70%	450.000	9,7%
IT	67-69%	2.000.000	15-16%
MT	62,5%	6.560	29%
RO	70%	580.000	11,3%

EU – MS competences



‘Social policies’ in EU

- ‘Shared’ but primarily Member State competence
- Exceptions:
  - EU (primary and secondary) Legislation
    - TEU and TFEU
    - Regulation, Directives,…
    - International treaties and instruments
  - EU ‘Social Policy’ strategies and documents
  - Open Method(s) of Co-ordination : OMCs
  - EU Social Dialogue
  - ESF

EU ‘Action’

EU primary Legislation (TEU-TFEU) & social policy

- ‘Social objectives’ of EU
- Fundamental Rights
- ‘Mainstreaming’ of social policy
- Free movement of ‘workers’ (EU citizens) and co-ordination social security
- Equal treatment and non discrimination (nationality and 6 grounds)
- Equal pay for equal work and work of equal value (gender)

EU secondary Legislation & social policy

- Free movement of workers, services and related domains
- Information and consultation of Workers
- Working conditions
- Health and safety at work
- ‘Equal Treatment Directives’
  - Gender
  - Race
  - Disability & religion & age & sexual orientation

International instruments

- ILO Conventions
  - Core labour standards
  - Social protection
- UN
  - UNCRPD
  - UNCSE

Other EU ‘actions’ in social policies

- OMCs, ESF, Staff working papers, Green/white papers, Communications => brought under the umbrella of the overall Europe 2020 strategy
- Europe 2020 strategy is based on premise that all stakeholders (not only the public sector) in the EU societies have a role to play, (if not the ‘social’ headline targets cannot be achieved)
  - Development of the ‘Social economy’
  - Corporate Social Responsibility

CSR and Europe 2020

- EU strategy CSR 2011-2014
- CSR = responsibility of companies for their impact on societies
- WBCSD: “Business cannot survive in a society that fails”
- EU Commission: Enterprises must be given the flexibility to innovate and to develop an approach to CSR that is appropriate to their circumstances.

CSR & sustainable supply chains

- Companies increasingly cooperate with their suppliers to tackle the challenging task of meeting social, environmental and governance standards in their operations
- Respect e.g. for human rights, working conditions, equal treatment and non-discrimination are key requests to suppliers
- Mainstreaming CSR = integrating it into strategy, ensuring mutual benefit for company and society, and creating transparency through reporting

= CSR is crucial for sustainable society!

Social considerations & EU public procurement

Different 'Angles'

- EU public procurement (= internal market) in support of Europe 2020
- Social considerations in EU public procurement (2004 Directives)
  - Subject-matter or contract performance
  - Sheltered employment
  - 'Social services'
- Social considerations in national public procurement
  - in support of 'national' social policies while respecting core EU (social and procurement) acquis

Thank you
for your attention!