



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



Social Entrepreneurship Support Europe

Current Status of Social Economy in Cyprus

Lublin - Poland, 6th of June 2017

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission under the Erasmus+ Programme. This publication [communication] reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein. - 2014-1-PL01-KA202-003633





The context of Cyprus

Definitions and concepts

- The concept of social enterprise is rather new and under-developed. It first appeared on the Government's policy agenda in 2013
- Related concept of the cooperative movement has a long and strong tradition in the country
- In May 2014 the European Social Fund (ESF) Unit initiated the dialogue with stakeholders to examine how a policy or legal framework for social enterprises could be developed in the country

Dynamic of Social Entrepreneurship

- Increasing recognition of the importance of social economy at European & national level
- Resilient in years of economic crisis
- New way of doing business

The current system

- New dynamic partly in response to the social effects of the economic crisis BUT
- Lack of clear policy and legal framework for social enterprises, currently in the process to develop the legal framework

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission under the Erasmus+ Programme. This publication [communication] reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein. - 2014-1-PL01-KA202-003633





The context of Cyprus

Aim of the new legislation

- Provide clear definition
- Distinguish SE from conventional business
- Overcome fragmentation
- Increase its visibility

Basic provisions of the draft bill

- No restriction on the legal form of entities
- Definition of SE
- Definition of special purpose registry for enterprise that comply with the definition and the set criteria
- Monitoring body for social enterprises ensuring that social enterprises continue to comply with the definition and monitor the yearly reports submitted by them

Next steps

- Legislation has to be complemented by the right policy actions
- Drafting of the policy document on the development of a successful ecosystem for social enterprises in Cyprus is currently under way and funded by the EU

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission under the Erasmus+ Programme. This publication [communication] reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein. - 2014-1-PL01-KA202-003633





Best Practices

✓ Anakyklos Perivallontiki

- Is a non-for-profit company that was established in 2010
- Most important project is **textile recycling of used clothes, shoes, linen and other items** that are collected through the use of **collection banks** (more than 415) that are placed in public spaces around Cyprus
- Anakyklos collection and recycling project contributes to the reduction of the volume of garbage that is a significant problem for Cyprus
- Creation of “solidarity shops” to provide clothes to **people who cannot afford** buying new ones as well as provide clothes for free to those in need
- Anakyklos employs 28 persons, placing special emphasis to employing people from **vulnerable** groups of the society

<http://www.anakyklos.org/en/>

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission under the Erasmus+ Programme. This publication [communication] reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein. - 2014-1-PL01-KA202-003633

The poster features a purple hanger icon at the top with the text 'CYPRUS WIDE TEXTILE COLLECTION CAMPAIGN'. To the right is the Anakyklos logo and the years '2016 - 2017'. Below the title, it says 'All Cyprus Collects And Offers!'. A list of collection points includes Schools, Institutions, Social Foodbanks, Charities, Associations, and Companies. Contact information is provided: 99 72 21 24, info@anakyklos.org, and www.anakyklos.org. A circular icon lists items accepted: Clothes, Shoes, Household Textiles, Handbags, and Belts. The bottom half of the poster shows a woman and a child holding boxes labeled 'I DONATE I HELP'.

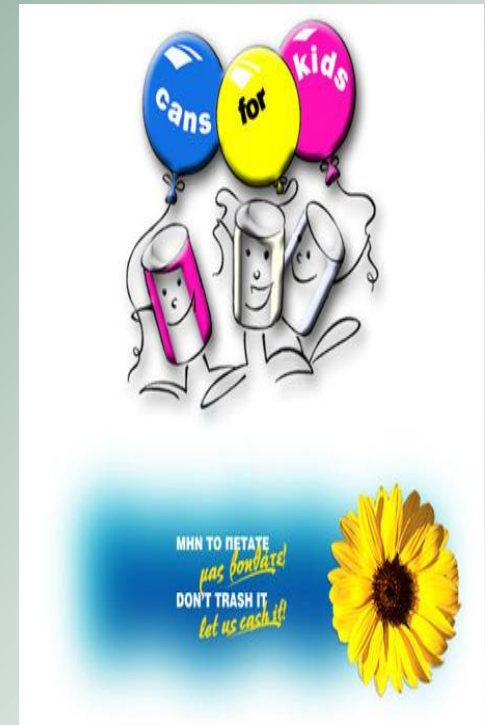




Best Practices

✓ Cans for Kids

- Registered **charity** that was formed in 1990
- Organises the **collection and recycling of aluminium cans** using the proceeds from selling the cans to **purchase medical equipment for the children's wards at Cypriot hospitals**
- Rationale behind this idea is that by saving cans for Cans For Kids people not only help the environment, but they are also giving something back to the community



<http://www.cansforkids.org/>

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission under the Erasmus+ Programme. This publication [communication] reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein. - 2014-1-PL01-KA202-003633





Best Practices

✓ We Hug A Cause

- **Crowdfunding platform** that aims to introduce the concept of **crowdfunding** to Cyprus and to enable financing of “anyone with a cause”
- **Support for individuals** with innovative ideas, start-ups, artists, entrepreneurs etc.
- The main motive for the founders was the creation of a platform that offers value to society and brings a social change
- Offering the lowest fees in the market



<http://www.wehug.org/>

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission under the Erasmus+ Programme. This publication [communication] reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein. - 2014-1-PL01-KA202-003633





Best Practices

✓ Agia Skepi Organic Products

- Registered as a non-for-profit organisation
- Occupies 50 acres of land that is owned by a Cypriot Monastery
- Established in 2011 when a small **organic bakery** was created in the **context of occupational therapy for confronting substance dependence and cease substance abuse**
- The creation of a **production and packaging unit** of organic eggs followed
- **Today Agia Skepi operates packaging units for fruits, vegetables, pulses, herbs, cereals, dried fruits, pasta, rice etc.**
- All these products are **produced by the members of the community** and are sold under the brand name Agia Skepi Bio



<http://www.agiaskepi.com/>

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission under the Erasmus+ Programme. This publication [communication] reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein. - 2014-1-PL01-KA202-003633





Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union




Thank you for your attention

Giorgos Giorgakis
Managing Director

Eurosucces Consulting Ltd

Karyatides Business Center
56, Stavrou Avenue
Block A2 – Office 205
Strovolos
2055, Nicosia

www.eurosc.eu

 +35722420110

 george@eurosc.eu

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission under the Erasmus+ Programme. This publication [communication] reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein. - 2014-1-PL01-KA202-003633

