



European
Commission





What is it?

- New **ideas (products, services and models)** that simultaneously **meet social needs** and create **new social relationships or collaborations.**
- Social in **both their ends** and their **means.**
- Enhance society's **capacity** to act.



Social Innovation is high on the EU agenda



EU Policy framework

- Europe 2020: a Europe based on a social market economy fit for the 21st century and capable of fostering Jobs, Growth and Investment
- Flagships initiatives (Innovation Union, Platform against Poverty)
- Funding Programmes



European Pillar of Social Rights

Adopted on 26 April 2017

- sets out 20 key principles and rights to support fair and well-functioning labour markets and welfare systems.
- designed as a compass for a renewed process of upward convergence towards better working and living conditions in Europe.

Social innovation is the way to match new challenges in the context of diverse situations and changing socio-economic environments.



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European Pillar of Social Rights: the 20 principles and rights

Equal opportunities and access to the labour market

- Education, training and life-long learning
- Gender equality
- Equal opportunities
- Active support to employment
- Secure and adaptable employment

Fair working conditions

- Wages
- Information about employment conditions and protection in case of dismissals
- Social dialogue and involvement of workers
- Work-life balance
- Healthy, safe and well-adapted work environment

Adequate and sustainable social protection

- Childcare and support to children
- Social Protection
- Unemployment benefits
- Minimum income
- Old age income and pensions
- Health care
- Inclusion of people with disabilities
- Long-term care
- Housing and assistance for the homeless
- Access to essential services

Social innovation is the way to match new challenges ⁶

Towards 2025: Current policy papers

- Reflection Paper on the social dimension of Europe (scenario 5):

There are calls to make more funds available at the EU level to support skills development, labour market integration projects, the fight against poverty and the promotion of social innovation. EU funding could be made conditional upon a commitment to reach certain benchmarks or to adopt certain reform measures in order to promote convergence towards the best performers. The EU could also further support social investment through EU level instruments.

Towards 2025: Current policy papers

Reflection paper on Globalisation:

Redistributive policies that ensure benefits for all require significant investments by governments, which in turn can only be financed by a thriving and competitive economy. ... This requires a vision for the future to modernise our economy by embracing digitalisation, technological and social innovation, decarbonisation and the circular economy.

Approach

- To better **mainstreaming innovative actions** into policies and thus better exploiting the systemic potential of social innovation
- To foster a **quick replication and scaling up** of successful and evidence-based experiences between Member States and stakeholders.
- Resources allocated to social policy innovation are channelled through the **European Social Fund** and the **Programme for Employment and Social Innovation**

Employment
1,1 billion



European Social Fund (ESF)

- Special attention to the promotion of social innovation
- Article 9 of the ESF regulation states that social innovation is **mandatory**, should take place **in all areas** falling under the scope of the four ESF thematic objectives and is aimed at **testing and scaling up innovative solutions**.

EaSI: 919 Million EUR

- PROGRESS axis: modernisation of **employment and social policies** (61%)
- Access to **micro-finance** and **social entrepreneurship** (21%)
- EURES axis: job **mobility** (18%)



- **Direct** support to social policy innovation initiatives in Member States
- **Test** and **experiment** social and labour market policy innovations, build up main actors' capacity to design, and implement social policy initiatives.
- EUR **11 million per year**: 15-20% of EaSI Progress axis, increased three times since 2013.

Call 2014

- to encourage **innovation and reforms** in the social services to tackle current social challenges and to **develop innovative responses** corresponding to national, regional and local realities and in line with the social investment approach.
- Variety of services such as childcare, long-term care or services to prevent school drop-out
- 11 million, 7 projects ongoing (2015-2018)

Call 2015

- to promote policy innovation in the organisation and **delivery of social services** aiming at the **integration of service users in the labour market**. Focus on the **integrated delivery** of this type of social services.
- 10,6 million, 8 projects ongoing (2016-2019)

Call 2016

- To promote innovative initiatives for the **integration in the labour market of asylum seekers, refugees** and their family members.
- 9,2 million, 5 projects (2017-2021)

Calls 2018 - 1

- To support innovative **work-life balance strategies in the workplace** facilitating the **reconciliation of work and private life**.
- 4,3 million, 4 projects that started this year.



Calls 2018 - 2

- Call for proposals on social innovation and national reforms - **access to social protection and national reform support**
- 4,8 million, 4 projects



MFF 2021-27 Proposal

- **Key challenges** when considering Europe vis à vis its competitors, as well as its position in global value chains:
 - **Insecurity on the Labour Market (unstable transitions leading to weak employability)**
 - **Social protection systems not adequate for new forms of work**
 - **Skills mismatches and polarisation between highly skilled workers and low-skilled, compounding inequalities in the workforce thus the pressing need to support people with insufficient basic skills (literacy and numeracy, digital)**
 - **Unequal access to education and to social services, modernisation of VET not yet completed**



MFF 2021-27 Proposal

- Focuses on the **implementation of the Pillar**
- **Cross-cutting political priorities** (esp.: training, education, health, culture, and social infrastructure)
- EUR 101.2 billion for European Social Fund + (including 1.2 billion for EaSI and Health)
- Cohesion Policy budget remains the largest share of the MFF
- **The Reform Delivery Tool** as an additional instrument supporting reforms in the labour market, inclusion and education areas

ESF +

Employment, education,
social inclusion
(ESF)

Youth Employment
(YEI)

Support to the most
deprived (EHAP)

Employment and
social innovation
(EaSI)

Health

Shared Management

(In)direct management

Support to social innovation under the ESF+



