Support Structures for Social Economy

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Support Structures for Social Economy

❑ **Social Economies can only thrive in an ecosystem with conditions that support their development**

❑ **We call this set of conditions "Support Structures"**

❑ **This module aims at presenting the plurality and connections of the support structures necessary for the emergence and reinforcement of social economy.**

Module Outline

❏ **Hybrid Module between:**

1. Theoretical input on support structures (lectures)

2. An experiential educational material to assist students in better understanding the multiple layers and connections

Module Outline

Theoretical Input

❑ **Introducing Support Structures**

❑ **(i) Top-down supporting mechanisms (2x)**

❑ **(ii) Support structures from the bottom-up (2x)**

❑ **(iii) Local Conditions (2x)**

❑ **Connections and relationships**

❑ **Visioning**

UPSTREAM Board Game

❑ **Introducing the Board**

❑ **Phase A**

❑ **Phase B**

❑ **Phase C**

Theme 1 - An analytical framework for SE support structures

❑ **Introduction to the analytical framework used to categorise and assess the main SE support structures:**

(i) Top-down supporting mechanisms

(ii) Support structures from the bottom-up

(iii) Local conditions

❑ **This session will explain and initiate the Phase A of the board game**

Theme 2 - First Pillar: Top-down supporting mechanisms (2 sessions)

❑ **The first pillar refers all those actors and institutions that support the social economy from a position outside the field. Examples include:**

- **National legislation and legislative innovation**

- **Supporting schemes provided by the local authorities**

- **EU and other international supporting mechanisms**

- **Private foundations**

- **University and other HEI's supporting schemes**

- **Non-SE civic society organizations and financial support schemes**

Theme 3 - Second Pillar: Support structures from the bottom-up (2 sessions)

❑ **The second pillar includes all supportive structures that are being created from the bottom up, from the SE organizations for the development and strengthening of the social economy. Examples include:**

- **Local and regional networks**

- **SE Incubators**

- **Cooperative and ethical banking**

- **Informal solidarity hubs**

- **Crowdfunding campaigns**

Theme 4 - Third Pillar: Local conditions (2 sessions)

❑ **The third pillar includes context-specific physical or cultural conditions historically developed in a place that can support or hinder the development of Social Economy. Examples:**

- **Traditional forms of cooperative provisioning and local commons**

- **Imaginaries of frugal abundance and gift-exchanging customs**

- **Physical geography that can foster cooperation (e.g. insularity)**

- **Crises, social movements and mobilizations**

- **Broader political change, favourable political conditions**

Theme 5: Connections and relationships

❑ **This theme will try to bring those threads together, by focusing on the connections between the individual structures and policies**

❑ **Support structures cannot be viewed as a sum of distinct entities but as an emerging whole with multiple, and at times contradictory dynamics.**

❑ **Theme 5 is complemented with a move to the Phase B of the Board Game**

Theme 6: Looking ahead

❑ **Theme 6 looks into the future and introduces elements of deliberative visioning**

❑ **Using real case examples, we will move beyond the description of a present situation, into exploring the transgressive dynamics of reshaping the future**

❑ **Theme 6 is complemented with moving to the final Phase C of the Board Game**

Learning Outcomes

❑ **Understand the multiplicity of conditions that foster or hinder the development of Social Economy.**

❑ **Familiarise with the main types of support structures following the analytical framework provided and critically evaluate strong points and shortcomings.**

❑ **Identify the connections between structures and policies that involve different and often contradictory dynamics.**

❑ **Move beyond the description and understanding of a present situation, into exploring the dynamics of reshaping the future.**

Thank you for your attention!