November 25, 2022

10.00- 12.00 EET 9.00 - 11.00 CET

Parliament of Lithuania



NATIONAL DIALOGUE OF SOCIAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Initiated by **Lithuanian Social Business Association** in cooperation with **Diesis Network**.

Under auspices of the Chair of the Committee on Economics, Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania







Concept of the event





The Government of the Republic of Lithuania already in 2017 passed a Resolution Nr. 167 "Regarding the approval of the program implementation plan of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania", where action 1.1.5 of work package Nr. 1 "Initiation and adoption of the Social Business Law in order to define social business criteria, forms and methods of obtaining support" was provided, but no decisions were made in the legal regulation.

In 2018, a Draft of the Law was prepared for the transfer of public services to social business entities, applying individual partnership measures (public procurement, concession, partnership between public and private entities). The main goal of this measure was to encourage the development of social business by making the process of public service provision more efficient, i.e. i.e. that public services are provided not only by budgetary and public institutions, but that the state or municipality purchases them on the market from social business entities. In the absence of legal regulation of social business, this measure was not popular.



Concept of the event

In 2019, Lithuania received the recommendations of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (hereinafter - OECD) and the main tasks that have been considered to create a sustainable environment for the growth of social businesses in the country.

Today in Lithuania, the regulation of social business is still in the initial stage of its forming – it has not been defined yet what social business is by law, therefore it is difficult to promote its sustainable development, while over 2 million social businesses operate in Europe. OECD recommendations for Lithuania include the adoption of a unique official definition of social business aligned with international standards.

6 years have passed since the adoption of the "Concept of Social Business" where a clear ecosystem development plan, but there is still no official legal definition and appropriate conditions for the harmonious and sustainable development of the social business ecosystem.

National Dialogue on Social Business Development (a hybrid event) is initiated and organised by the Lithuanian Social Business Association in cooperation with the Diesis Network's Policy Lab under auspices of the Chair of the Committee on Economics, Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania the Mr Kazys Starkevičius to discuss international good practices of legal frameworks and prepare the ground for a dialogue among key stakeholders of the ecosystem in Lithuania to accelerate social enterprise sector development.

"Lithuanian Social Business Association" - is a national umbrella organisation uniting social enterprise organisations. It was established in 2018 to create an environment favourable for social business, increase the awareness of social business and promote the implementation of international best practices. This is achieved through advocacy, capacity building and ecosystem development activities.

"Diesis Network" - is one of the widest networks specialised in supporting social and solidarity economy and social enterprises covering more than 20 countries through major national federations and support networks associating over 90,000 organisations and 1.2 million jobs.

Event Goals

To create an environment favourable for social business, increase the awareness of social business and promote the implementation of international best practices. This is achieved through advocacy, capacity building and ecosystem development activities.

LiSBA represents the interests of social enterprises in state and municipal institutions, evaluates programs and measures implemented by state institutions, contributes to the formulation of public policy and makes specific proposals to municipal institutions regarding the involvement in the decision-making processes.





10.00 - 12.00 EET - 9.00-11.00 CET

10.00 - 10.05: Welcome: LISVA (5 min)

- Welcoming message Mr Kazys STARKEVIČIUS, Chair of the Committee on Economics, Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania
- Agenda + Time

10.05 - 10.20 : Setting the Scene

Multi- stakeholders' dialogue for Social Business (15 min)

Importance of Legal Frameworks for the Ecosystem Development and what are the key elements leading in the process of its forming to achieve a desirable result, fitted to the context of the given country.

- Mr Vic Van VUUREN, Director Enterprise Department ILO / United Nations Task Force Social Solidarity Economy (video)
- Mr AmalCHEVREAU: Policy Analyst of the Social Economy and Innovation Unit at the Center for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities of the OECD

10.20- 11.00 - Ecosystem Development Lithuania versus other European countries (40 min)

MODERATION: Mr Gianluca PASTORELLI, Executive President at Diesis Network

Presentations of country cases:

- Ms Viktorija BRAŽIŪNAITĖ, Director of the Lithuanian Social Business Association
- Tim van WIJK, Founder & CEO of "Pirmas blynas"
- Mr Chris GORDON, Director of the Irish Social Enterprise Network
- Ms Regita ZEILA, Executive Director at Social Entrepreneurship Association of Latvia
- Ms Julia Hoxha and Ms Klotilda Tavani: PARTNERS ALBANIA, Albania

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11.00- 11.50 - Let's walk the talk!

Next steps for sustainable development of Social Business in Lithuania (55 min)

MODERATION: LISVA

Presentation of the Key Recommendations for Lithuania: Diesis Network: (5 min)

Floor to EC representatives; Patrick Klein (DG GROW) and Miia Rossi- Gray (DG EMPL)

- What are the enabling factors to put in place those recommendations?
- How can the EC tools be used (if) to facilitate realisation of those recommendations?

Floor to Lithuanian Policy- Makers: (20 min)

- Mr Inga BURLĖGIENĖ, Head of Business Policy Division at Ministry of the Economy and Innovation of the Republic of Lithuania
- Ms Justina LUKAŠEVIČIŪTĖ, Advisor of NGO Development Division at Ministry of Social Security and Labour
- Why to support Social Enterprises development?
- Why is now the right time to regulate Social Enterprises?
- How policy- makers can help to enable the favourable environment for development of the legal frameworks? (Crafting policy-making process and raising the profile of Social Enterprises- also among youth)
- How can the consensus be achieved between different ministries and why it is important?
- How can we make sure that the policy-making process will have a participatory character (including all stakeholders)
- What shall be the next steps (1st steps) to start the developmental phase?

11.50 AM- Comments of other speakers (10 min)

11.55 AM - Conclusion: Good Bye- LISVA / Diesis Network (5 min) Short announcement of feasibility study to be published and next steps.

How to Contact Us



If you are interested in creating a partnership with us, you can connect via these contact details:

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