

# SEDLEX – Launch Event

31/01/2024

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**HIVA – KU Leuven**



# Details of research and analysis

The SEDLEX project is based on the following **main research question**:

*“How are large social economy enterprises already implementing the duties included in the proposal for a Directive on corporate sustainability due diligence to the social economy model and values?”*

- Such question is based on the hypothesis that social economy models are based on a culture that **allows to achieve the full potential of corporate sustainability**. Social economy entities are indeed **value driven businesses**.

The project will also have actions to **include actively mainstream companies** via peer learning project events to find an answer to the following question: *“How can practices from the social economy inspire mainstream companies to implement these duties?”*



# Details of research and analysis

Investigated through:

## 1. **A conceptual introduction** based on an in-depth literature review:

- Reviewing existing literature on corporate sustainability and due diligence in general
- Reviewing literature specific to social economy and corporate sustainability or value driven business practices (with a focus also on social dialogue in this area)



# Details of research and analysis

Investigated through:

**2. National background reports and case studies** of large social economy enterprises in five EU member states:

Based on a desk research, semi-structured interviews and the peer-learning events (WP3), each partner will prepare:

- **A national background report:** Partners will take a broad perspective on social dialogue and large social economy organisations in their country (using the conceptual framework as a guide), focusing on issues such as ongoing challenges related to the current polycrisis context (post-Covid recovery, climate change, energy transition, etc.).
- **A case studies report:** Case studies will be conducted on 15 social economy organisations. Case studies allow for in-depth examination of these organizations.



# Details of research and analysis

## ■ The case studies

- **Sectors:** Case study selection for the SEDLEX project is based on **three sectors** – financial services, wholesale and retail trade, and agriculture. Other sectors can also be considered as well
- **Companies:** the large social economy organisations would be mainly cooperatives, without however closing the door to other types of organisations assimilated to the social economy (mutual societies, foundations, associations, etc)
- **Potential candidates** for the interviews are selected among the relevant (key) players in the given company' decision making committee or general council or/ and key professionals e.g., head of staff or member responsible for sustainability / CSR as well as members of the supervisory board or board of directors according to the industrial relations context



# Details of research and analysis

Investigated through:

## **3. A comparative final report**

Including transferable best practices, developed by researchers from HIVA KU Leuven, will be based on the previous findings and written materials of the project as well as the outcomes of the peer-learning events.

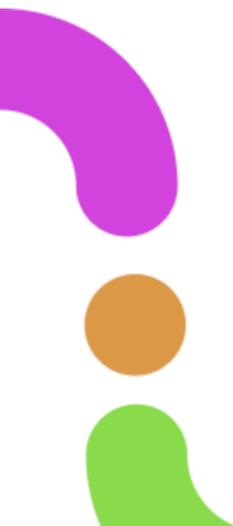
→ By 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025



# THANK YOU

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