

THE INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK WITH AN IMPACT ON SOCIAL ECONOMY

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Abstract

The article makes a review of the international and national institutions with an impact on the field of social economy. The research question that served as a base for this scientific undertaking is: what are the institutions that have responsibilities in the specific activities regarding the set up, the operation and last but not least the support of the activities performed by the social economy entities. From the methodological point of view, the research^[2] is based on the analysis of the public social documents, quality and quantitative methods. The main methodological limit of such an undertaking is that it does not capture the care of good owner degree and the efficiency of the activities performed by the identified institutions. This subject can represent without any doubt a research subject for the future.

Key words: *social economy, institutional framework, public administration*

I. International institutional framework

The first part of the institutional analysis makes a review of the main institutions from global and European level. For each of them there is an emphasis placed on the specific ways in which there is a direct or indirect effect on the field of SE. The main objective of this international analysis is to emphasize the amplitude that this phenomenon has in the entire world and the attention that it receives especially in the last

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period of time marked by economical and social crisis. A secondary objective of the international institutions analysis represents the issue of SE in a larger spectre than our country.

I.1. World institutions

I.1.1. United Nations

The United Nations (UN), the most important international organization represents an institutional player whose activity has an impact on the field of social economy (SE) as a whole and also on the people who are active in this field. Although social economy does not represent explicitly one of the objectives directly viewed by UN the activities and the programs performed at global level contribute to reach the economical and also the social desideratum undertaken by SE.

Hereinafter we analyse the dimensions through which UN has an impact on the SE of the world and implicitly in Romania: institutional construction, conventions of the state members and information campaigns regarding the acknowledgement of the role of the social economy entities.

Institutional framework

The first dimension that we analysed represents the institutional construction. Of the 15 specialized agencies^[1] and 10 programs, funds and other organisms^[2], the World Bank and the United Nations Pro-

^[1] The International Organization of Civil Aviation (ICAO); International Fund for the Development of Agriculture (IFAD); International Office for Labor (ILO); International Monetary Fund (FMI); International Maritime Organization (IMO); International Union for Telecommunications (ITU); Organization for Agriculture and Food (FAO); United Nations Organizations for Education, Science and Culture (UNESCO); United Nations Organizations for Industrial Development (UNIDO); Universal Union of the Post Offices (UPU); World Health Organization (WHO); World Organization for Intellectual Property (WIPO); World Organization of Meteorology (WMO); World Organization of Tourism (WTO); World Bank (WB). http://www.onuinfo.ro/despre_onu/onu_in_cifre/.

^[2] United Nations Conference for Commerce and Development (UNCTAD); United Nations Program for Drugs Control (UNDCP); United Nations Program Development (UNDP); United Nations Fund for Population (UNFPA); United Nations Program for

gramme for Development support and promote the development of economical activities with social purpose. The **World Bank** represents “one of the main sources of assistance in the field of development for the countries of the world”^[1].

In many countries around the globe, the World Bank in collaboration with representatives of the central public administration has supported the development of the equivalent in Romania of the Romanian Fund for Development. The implementation of grants lines specific for the “income generating activities” has contributed to the efficient use of the local and community development resources with a direct impact on the specific way in which the key factors coagulate in the social solidarity field. This last one represents one of the key conditions for promoting SE and in Romania still not sufficient developed levels (Stănescu *et al*, 2011, p. 65). With reference to our country, the communities where FRDS projects were implemented have won the experience of working together for a common cause (building a road, sewage system, various other infrastructure works, etc.) Such an achievement represents one of the key conditions favourable for creating the good context for promoting and supporting the entrepreneurial initiatives at local level. Creating and developing the initiative group at local level and also identifying and relating during the entire duration of the project with the institutional players from local level represent the common conditions for success of the ES initiatives.

With reference to the small rural infrastructure projects and to the income generating activities, among other useful effects on the beneficiary communities, we mention: “positive evolutions regarding social solidarity, social relationships, the trust of the population in the various local players (mayors, local counsellors, professors, doctors and nurses, people of the same nationality, police, store owners), the availability (at the level of statement) of the beneficiaries to get involved in community

Environment (UNEP); United Nations Program for Human Dwellings (UN-HABITAT); The UN High Commissioner’s Office for Refugees (UNHCR); United Nations Fund for Children (UNICEF); United Nations Agency for Helping the Palestinian and Middle Eastern Refugees (UNRWA); World Programme for Food services (WFP). http://www.onuinfo.ro/despre_onu/onu_in_cifre/.

^[1] <http://www.mae.ro/node/1471>.

projects, their level of involvement in the local government, the social inclusion of some disadvantaged categories” (Metro Media Transilvania, 2006, p. 1).

The United Nations Development Programme implements programmes in „four large areas: reduction of poverty and reaching the Development Objectives of the Millennium, democratic government, prevention of crisis and reconstruction, environment and sustainable development”^[1].

The Development Objectives of the Millennium are:

1. reduction of extreme poverty,
2. universal access to primary education,
3. promoting gender equality and the assertion of women,
4. reduction of children death rate,
5. improving mothers` health,
6. fighting HIV/SIDA and tuberculosis,
7. ensuring the environment sustainability,
8. creating a global partnership for development.^[2]

For more details regarding the Development Objectives of the Millennium, please consult Annex 1 Millennium Development Goals.

The international publications written by the UNDP reflect the constant interest for the field of social economy and of the entities specific for their functioning.

The research report *„Social enterprise: a new model for poverty reduction and employment generation – an analysis of the concept and practice in Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States”* was published in 2008 by the UNDP in collaboration with one of the most active research collective of SE: the European Network Research (EMES). The publication represents a reference for those interested in the emergence and the evolution of social enterprises as active entities of SE. The book includes international comparisons between the specific forms of social enterprises in countries from Central and Eastern Europe and those from the Community of Independent States.

^[1] <http://www.mae.ro/node/1471>.

^[2] <http://www.onuinfo.ro/odm/>.

The research report „*A framework for action: social enterprise & impact investing*” was published by the United Nations Global Compact in collaboration with the Rockefeller Foundation in 2012. Concrete examples of successful social enterprises from all around the globe represent sources of inspiration for all those concerned to have an economical change with social connections.

We observe a detailed presentation of the economical activities in the report called „*Empowering Lives, Building Resilience – development Stories from Europe and Central Asia*” published by the UNDP in 2012. The work includes also two success stories from Moldavia and Romania (the business incubator from Braşov).

Last but not least, the research report “*Profit for people – opening report within the Social Economy Model in Romania project*” (2012) has proposed a conceptual separation of the SE field. The definition proposed represents an originality element towards other research reports drafted in the last period of time in Romania. Confronting the risks involved in proposing a definition for a field where there is no unanimous accepted definition, the report proposes also an analysis of each of the SE entities from the perspective of the general principles recognized as being specific for the SE field. This represents also an originality element among the profile publications from our country.

“Social economy is the type of economy that efficiently blends individual responsibility with collective responsibility in order to produce goods and/or service deliveries, that has in view the economical and social development of a community and whose main purpose is the social benefit. It has at its core a private, voluntary and solitary initiative, with a high degree of autonomy and responsibility and it involves an economical risk and a limited distribution of the profit” (Stănescu *et al*, 2011, p. 13).

As an acknowledgement of the contribution to the development of the SE field in Romania, we mention the use of the above mentioned definition in the SE bill launched for public debate by the Ministry of Labor, Family and Social Protection^[1] in September 2012. Regardless of

[1] We use this name of the Ministry of Labor because of the one used at the moment when the law was launched for public debate. Starting with the 1st of

the form in which this definition will be used and processed in the final version of the law, we believe that, being taken into consideration for the drafting of a document with strategic importance at national level and also in the bill regarding SE, represent a form of acknowledgement of the proposed definition's quality and of its ability to catch the essence of this field that is still unrecognized in all the world states and is even slightly controversial due to its mixture of social and economics.

Conventions of the UN member states

The conventions to which the member state joined represent the undertaking at national level of some international commitments to protect the common values regarding the dignity and the respect for human beings. Their transposing process from idea to clear regulation measures goes through a pre-set road reflected also in the UN procedures. Once discussed in the form of Statements and Conventions, the provisions are implemented at national level once they are approved by each member state.

From the point of view of the human being, the most representative document adopted by the UN is the **Universal Declaration of the Human Rights** (the 10th of December 1948). This declaration has marked the opening of a new era from the point of view of caring for the fellow men.

A second lever for relating with SE represents the protection of vulnerable groups. Before making a list of the declarations and the conventions relevant from this point of view, we mention the fact that we undertake the reality according to which SE represents more than the professional insertion of vulnerable groups. It is true that their issue continues to wake the most interest in the study of SE but reducing the entire field to this involves a limited understanding and analysis of the complex and innovative area that SE represents.

Although there is no unanimous accepted definition of the vulnerable groups, we have selected from the UN Bills and Conventions those that refer to the protection of some groups exposed to a high risk of social

January, the name Ministry of Labor was modified to the Ministry of Labor, Family, Social Protection and Elderly. www.mmuncii.ro

exclusion: children, women and persons with disabilities. These vulnerable groups are relevant also for the specific issue of vulnerable group insertion on the labor market and the evaluation of the potential that SE has in this sense.

The UN conventions and bills relevant from the point of view of the disadvantaged groups mentioned above are:

- Convention of the Political Rights of Women (20th of December 1952);
- Bill of Children`s Rights (20th of November 1959);
- Bill for Eliminating the Discrimination against Women (7th of November 1967);
- Bill of Rights for Persons with Mental Retard (20th of December 1971);
- Bill of Rights for Persons with Disabilities (9th of December 1975);
- Convention to Eliminate all Forms of Discrimination against Women (18th of December 1979);
- Convention on the Children`s Rights (20th of November 1989);
- Proclamation regarding Ageing (16th of October 1992);
- Bill regarding the Elimination of Violence against Women (20th of December 1993);
- Convention to Eliminate all Forms of Discrimination against Women – optional protocol (6th of October 1999);
- Convention on the Children`s Rights: optional protocol on selling of children, child prostitution and child pornography (25th of May 2000);
- Convention on the Children`s Rights: optional protocol regarding the involvement of children in armed conflicts (25th of May 2000);
- Convention on the Rights for the Persons with Disabilities (13th of December 2006)^[1].

The effort made to materialize an aspect that was signalled and adopted by an UN Bill into the text of a Convention is remarkable. In the case of the child matter, the time that passed between the specific bill (1959) and the convention is 30 years. In a similar way, in the case of the persons with disabilities, it was necessary to pass 35 years in order to have clear common approach from the part of the UN member states.

[1] http://www.un.org/documents/instruments/docs_en.asp?year=1969.

Table 1. *Chronological table representing the passing of some bills and conventions regarding children, women, persons with disabilities and elderly*

Nr.	Issue	Bill	Convention	Number of years
1.	Child	1959	1989, 2000 (protocol optional)	30
2.	Woman – political rights	1948	1952	4
3.	Women – discrimination	1967	1979, 1999 (protocol optional)	12
4.	Women – violence	1993		
5.	Person with disabilities	1971	2006	35
6.	Aged person	1992		

Analysing all the above data, we observe an increased interest for resolving the problems that women are facing, especially the political rights, discrimination and violence.

The most recent bill refers to the aged persons (1992). The most recent convention refers to the persons with disabilities (2006). We very much wonder which of the two vulnerable groups shall receive a convention in the shortest time – women, for ceasing the different forms of violence in this area or the aged persons.

Information campaigns for acknowledging the role of the social economy entities.

Last but not least, UN has recognized the role that the cooperative societies, one of the most representative SE entities play at world level.

From this point of view, the year 2012 was declared by UN as being the International Year of the Cooperatives. The General Secretary of UN, Ban Ki-moon stated that „the cooperatives are a reminder for the international community that it is possible to pursue both economical viability and social responsibility”^[1].

Numerous international and national organizations have organized during the year 2012 a series of events dedicated to the cooperative societies. The approach of the logo proposed by UN in these events represents a unanimous acknowledgement of the role they play at global level. In the same time, we emphasize the fact that among the SE

[1] <http://social.un.org/coopsyear/>.

entities, the cooperative societies are the only ones that enjoy an approved status at European level.

Also we mention here the constant interest given to the study of the social enterprises from the international compared perspective. The dissemination of the good practices examples represent one of the most relevant ways of information with the purpose of supporting some similar entrepreneurial undertakings considering the national specific.

1.1.2. Non-profit Enterprise and Self-Sustainability Team

NESsT is one of the accompanying initiatives for the development of SE entities in Romania, being implemented by a social enterprise NESsT Consulting. The third edition of the Social Enterprises Competition was launched in 2011. Being known as NESsT in the SE field from everywhere, it represents one of the promoting principles of social enterprises.

As an international non-profit organization, NESsT is active on two continents (Latin America and Europe) in ten countries but the global impact is felt in almost 50 countries around the globe. The first office was open in 1997, in Budapest and serves five countries: Croatia, the Czech Republic, Romania, Slovakia and Hungary. The office opened in 1999, in Santiago, Chile is active in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador and Peru.^[1]

Of the most recent initiatives we mention the organizing of the first edition of the Social Enterprises Day (7th of November 2012, Bucharest). Within the event, there were several lectures given by guests from the country and from abroad and there were disseminated examples of good practices of some social enterprises supported by the NESsT all around the world. The people that were present had the opportunity to purchase the products of the participant social enterprises within the Social Enterprises Fair that was organized in parallel with the sessions of the conferences. The social enterprises that exhibited products have represented both winners of the previous editions of the Social Enter-

[1] <http://www.nesst.org/>.

prises Competition and also other cases of good practices interested to participate in the event. The winners of the NESsT edition from 2011 awarded within the 2012 conference are: Agapis (Zalău), Village Life (Bucharest), Mai Bine (Iași), Ruhama (Oradea), Gaspar, Baltasar & Melchior (Piscu, Ilfov) and Together for Them (Baia Mare)^[1].

The sustainability offered to the active social enterprises from Romania through complementary financial mechanisms is welcomed. Of the six winners, two of them (the Sweet Health initiative managed by the Agapis Foundation, Zalău and the Workshop for weaving hampers managed by the Ruhama Foundation from Oradea) represent entrepreneurial initiatives established through the FSE support. The two social enterprises have benefited from a grant with a value of approximately 20.000 Euro, representing the award won within the national Competition "Economical benefits from social investments" (2011)^[2].

It is extremely relevant from view point of the objective undertook by this document (the analysis of the institutional framework) the fact that the two SE initiatives presented above are implemented with the indispensable and direct support of the local public administration representatives. In this way, the processing of the dried fruits within the project of the Agapis Foundation is strongly supported with space and consultancy by the city hall from Valea Barcăului. In a similar way, the hampers factory based on wattles was possible due to the fact that the city hall of the Avram Iancu commune, county of Bihor offered the Ruhama Foundation a space for the best performance of their economical activity of weaving.

In both cases, the public-private partnership between a state institution from local level and a private economical player such as a social

[1] <http://www.nesst.org/blog/2012/11/13/a-avut-loc-prima-editie-a-zilei-intre-prinderilor-sociale/>.

[2] Within the project co-financed through the FSE „Social economy – innovative model for promoting the active inclusion of the vulnerable groups” implemented by FES co-financing. The project was implemented during the period 2008-2011 by the Ministry of Labor, Family, Social Protection as the beneficiary in collaboration with.

Bernard Brunhes International, European Network of Social Enterprises, the General Directorate for Social Assistance and Child Protection, district 1, Bucharest, Integra Romania, Directorate for Community Assistance from Timișoara and the City hall of Piatra Neamț.

enterprise has led to a good usage of the human and economical local resources. The effects came out soon. Besides the recognition given by winning the two competitions and the invitations to participate at various events and fairs, the incomes obtained by the members of the social enterprises members contribute to the improvement of their life`s quality^[1].

Also on the occasion of the Social Enterprises Day, the NESsT representatives submitted to all those present the preliminary results of some researches regarding social economy in the world and the situation of the social enterprises. The final results shall be made available to all those interested, in a book that will be published by a prestigious printing house from abroad. The launching of the book is foreseen to take place during the year 2013.

The newest NESsT initiative is the support of the corporative social responsibility initiative of Petrom „The country of Andrei”. The total amount of the available financings for this social enterprises competition is 350.000 Euro.^[2]

I.2. European institutions

At European level, among the main institutional players with an impact on the SE field, we mention the European Commission, the Economical and Social European Committee, the European Parliament and the European Council. Besides these, there is a series of active networks in the field of SE.

I.2.1. European Commission

The European Commission has played and continues to play an extremely active role for SE from the view point of its institutional struc-

^[1] The two examples of social enterprises shall be promoted also by publishing in the papers Social enterprises model for the Roma people and Social enterprises model for the beneficiaries of the minimum guaranteed income. The two papers are published by the UNDP, within the project co-financed through the FSE „The model of social economy in Romania” (2011-2014).

^[2] www.profitpentruoameni.ro.

ture. Practically, it was the institution that hosted a General Directorate intended for the specific issues of SE. "In the context of the SE` s social valorisation at the end of the 1980s and following the reports on SE submitted to the European Commission by the European Parliament and the CESE, in 1989 was created the Department for social economy within the General Directorate (DG) XXIII of the EC. (...) The department was coordinating the European actions with an impact on SE and was providing contribution for: enhancing the cooperatives sector, mutual societies, associations and foundations; the study of the SE sector and the approach of the specific issues; the analysis of the EU policies coherence with a direct impact on SE; maintaining the contact with the existent federations; reaching and attracting unorganized players and sub-representatives of SE; reaching the decision factors in relation with the SE forms and the representation of the Commission on this matter in the relation with other European institutions. The department was disbanded in 2000, and the responsibilities were transferred to the DG Enterprises and Industry and the DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities. The responsibilities for the SE specific forms were divided between the two structures^[1], fact that lead to a divided and non-unitary approach of the SE sector" (MMFPS 2010, p. 21).

On the other hand, the European Commission continues to play an active role in promoting SE at European level by the FSE financings that include SE among their priorities. In our country, we refer to the projects co-financed through the FSE Priority Axis 6 Promotion of Social Inclusion, major intervention field 6.1 Development of social economy. The activities performed through these projects have contributed to the information of the population, of the key institutions and also of all those interested in the benefits of SE, have allowed the participation at information training sessions on SE and have allowed the financial support for initiating some entrepreneurial undertakings.

^[1] Within the DG Enterprises and Industry was set up the department B3 *Small Craft Enterprises, Cooperatives and Mutual Societies* in order to take a special care of the enterprise matters of the cooperatives, mutual societies, associations and foundations, while the DG Social Affairs took over the responsibility for associations and foundations.

I.2.2. The Economic and Social European Committee

The Economic and Social European Committee (CESE) is a „consultative organism with the role to facilitate and promote civic dialogue, CESE is one of the most active players and supports of participative democracy” (MMFPS 2010, pp. 21-22).

Although SE represents an interest theme for CESE, we observe the complete absence of its approach at the level of the national Economic and Social Council. Although this was formulated as a recommendation since 2010, there haven't been any undertakings in this direction.

I.2.3. European Parliament

One of the main institutional players to whom we owe the recent re-launch of the SE field and the international interest towards this field is the European Parliament. The inter-group for SE represents a key factor. This is a “monitoring and information organisms over the SE field that promotes the idea of building a competitive Europe and that is based on solidarity (...) The activity that has entered a shading cone got improved starting with 2005 when there was a request from the European Parliament on SE. The request was accepted in 2008” (MMFPS, 2010: 21).

The public presentation of the Report made by the SE Intergroup in front of the European Parliament has represented a new momentum for SE at European level and has ensured the visibility of the field and of the active entities. Known as the “Toia Report” (after the name of the Italian Euro-parliament member Patrizia Toia who presented the report) the document was approved and has contributed to the increase of the SE visibility.

I.2.4. European Council

The concerns of the European Council in the field of SE have become concrete in the actions performed by the Division of development and research for social cohesion. These have promoted SE from the perspective of the coagulating factor played in the promotion of social

cohesion, active citizenship and social responsibilities. One of the most important achievements is represented by the creation of the European Platform of Ethical and Solidary Initiatives IRIS.

In Romania, the European Council has supported the successful implementation of the project viewing the awareness-raising of all the relevant players for ensuring their own welfare. The project “responsible territory” has had success in Timișoara (the initiative was supported by the Cries Association in partnership with the City Hall of the County of Timișoara and the Prefecture of Timiș.)

1.2.5. European networks for promoting social economy

Without any doubt, the most active SE network from the European level is Social Economy Europe. The role played in launching the SE active Inter-group attached to the European Parliament cannot be contested. Taking the sustentation of this inter-group’s secretary position gives it credibility and responsibility at European level.

Other active networks in the field of SE at European level are:

AMICE Association of Mutual Insurers and Insurance Cooperatives in Europe <http://www.amice-eu.org/>

AIM International Association of Mutual Health Funds <http://www.aim-mutual.org>

CECODHAS European representative organization of Social housing service www.cecodhas.org

CECOP European Confederation of Workers’ Co-operatives, Social Co-operatives, Social and Participative Enterprises (since 1979) www.cecop.coop

CEDAG European Council of Associations of General Interest (since 1989) <http://www.cedag-eu.org>

COGECA General Confederation of Agricultural Co-operatives in the European Union (since 1959) www.copa-cogeca.be

COOPERATIVES EUROPE Common platform of the cooperatives within Europe (since 2003) <http://www.coopseurope.coop>

EACB European Association of Co-operative Banks (since 1970) www.eurocoopbanks.coop

EFC European Foundation Centre (since 1989) <http://www.efc.be/>
EUROCOOP European community of consumer cooperatives (since 1957) www.eurocoop.net

SOCIAL ECONOMY EUROPE (ex CEP-CMAF) (since 2000) www.socialeconomy.eu.org

The SE entities from Romania are weakly connected to the international networks. Nevertheless, we notice the appurtenance to the main networks in the field of SE of the representations structures for SE at national level:

- National Union of Crafting Cooperatives (UCECOM);
- National Union of Consumers Cooperatives CENTROCOOP;
- National Union of the Employees `Mutual Aid Funds (UNCARS).

One of the main reasons that the SE entities or their forms of representation at national level are not connected to the European networks is the lack of visibility regarding the advantages of such an association. Plus, the affiliation of a SE entity from our country to such a network involves a series of material costs (subscription tax, annual member tax, costs related to the participation at different international events) and human resources that some entities cannot afford.

The obvious advantages of being open to international networking for SE entities from Romania should be promoted through some information and awareness campaigns intended to this subject. Plus, the financial support of some undertakings could contribute to a better correlation to the international and European relationships. Another advantage would represent the possibility of a good practices exchange and the support with new commercial markets for the products obtained in the SE entities. At the same time, such international partnerships allow to access some various financing sources from several countries or from the European level.

II. National institutional framework

We present hereinafter the institutional framework from Romania with emphasize on the connections with the SE entities from our country.

We specify that we have taken into consideration the following forms of organization:

- a) associations or foundations;
- b) nonprofit organizations organized under the form of mutual organisations:
 - of the retired persons;
 - of the employees;
- c) credit cooperatives;
- d) cooperative societies of rank 1 regulated by Law nr. 1/2005 on organization and functioning of cooperatives:
 - crafts cooperative societies;
 - consumers cooperative societies;
 - capitalization cooperative societies;
 - agriculture cooperative societies; benefiting also of a special legislation, being regulated by Law no. 566/ 2004 of the agriculture cooperation, including the subsequent amendments and additions;
 - housing cooperative societies;
 - fishing cooperative societies;
 - transportation cooperative societies;
 - forestry cooperative societies;
 - other forms of cooperative societies. (MMFPS, 2010: 38).

Due to the relevance for the SE field, we have included in the analysis also the authorized protected units (UPA) and also the collectivities and the compossessorates (Stănescu *et al*, 2011:pp. 51-52). We are also highlighting the fact that the UPAs were taken into consideration to the extent to which they are publicly managed not by public institutions (DGASPC). The argument in this sense is the private prerogative of the SE field.

II.1. Central public administration

The main institutional player representatives of the central public administration are:

- Ministry of Labor, Family, Social Protection and Elderly (MMFPSPV):
 - NGOs;

- UPA;
- Ministry of Economy (ME):
 - crafts cooperative societies (SCMs);
 - consumer cooperative societies;
- Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MADR):
 - agriculture cooperative societies;
- Ministry of Justice (MJ);
- Ministry of Finance (MF).

If the first three ministries play a role in the activity of certain SE entities, the MJ and MF are involved in the activity of all SE entities.

To this we add the National Bank of Romania to which converge all the financial situations and the reports made out by CARS and the CARP as non-banking financial institutions and also by the loan cooperatives.

The relationship between each SE entity and the central public administration is mirrored in the general image presented in Annex 2 Overview of the institutional framework from central level with an impact on the social economy entities.

As it can be observed in the graph included in Annex 2, not all SE entities have an institutional correspondent at central level.

II.2. Local public administration

At local level, the relation between public administration and entities of SE follow general institutional framework. In comparison with MMFPSPV represented in each county, the local branches of the Ministry of Economy are eight Territorial Office for Small and Medium Enterprises subordinated to Department of Implementing Programs for Small and Medium Enterprises^[1]

The relationship between each SE entity and the local public administrations is mirrored in the general image presented in Annex 3 Overview of the institutional framework at local level with an impact on the social economy entities.

[1] OTIMMC Braşov, OTIMMC Cluj Napoca, OTIMMC Constanţa, OTIMMC Craiova, OTIMMC Iaşi, OTIMMC Ploieşti, OTIMMC Târgu Mureş, OTIMMC Timişoara.

II.3. The private institutional players with of SE representation

At national level, representatives of SE entities are mentioned since second half of XIX century. As each SE entity can decide to join or not such a SE network, we notice relatively few newly established networks. These initiatives are focus on agriculture are and partially supported by activities implemented in ESF co-financed projects. Still, not all SE entities have national networks.

The relationship between each SE entity and private institutional players with of SE representation at central level is mirrored in the general image presented in Annex 2 Overview of the institutional framework from central level with an impact on the social economy entities.

Conclusions

At international and national level there is an increasing interest towards social economy. Regulation of SE by adopting a framework law, coherent revision of various regulation with impact on SE entities and setting up a national SE strategy would merge actions done by central and local public administration and SE representatives organizations with a long term impact on SE in Romania.

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ANNEXES

Annex 1 Millennium Development Goals^[1]

Objective 1 – Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

Target 1.A (global): Reducing by half, during 1990-2015, the number of people whose income is less than 1 dollar per day

Indicator 1.1 – Percentage of the population whose purchase power is under one dollar per day^a

Indicator 1.2 – Poverty disparity rate

Indicator 1.3 – Proportion of the poorest fifth in the national consumption

Target 1.B (global):

Reaching the total and productive employment in work, and also ensuring a decent job to all persons, including the women and the young people

Indicator 1.4 – The growth of the GDP rate per employed person

Indicator 1.5 – The number of employees from the total population rate

Indicator 1.6 – Proportion of the employed person and whose purchase power is under one dollar per day

Indicator 1.7 – Proportion of the families formed by active persons in the total number of employees

Target 1.C (global) – Reducing by half, between 1990-2015, the percentage of people who suffer from hunger

Indicator 1.8 – The incidence of small sized children under the age of five years old

Indicator 1.9 – Proportion of population who has a caloric consumption under the minimum level of the diet that ensure the necessary of energy

[1] <http://www.onuinfo.ro/odm/>.

Objective 2 – Achieve universal primary education

Target 2.A (global) – Ensuring that, until the year 2015, the children everywhere, regardless they are boys or girls, will be able to close a complete primary cycle of studies

Indicator 2.1 – Net rate of enrolling in the primary cycle of education

Indicator 2.2 – Proportion of pupils who enrolled in the 1st grade and have finished the 4th grade

Indicator 2.3 – Rate of reading and writing of the young people with ages between 15 and 24 years old, men and women

Objective 3 – Promote gender equality and empower women

Target 3.A – Elimination of the gender disparities from the primary and secondary cycle of education, preferably until 2005, and from all forms of education not later than 2015

Indicator 3.1 – Rate of girls to rate of boys from the primary, secondary and tertiary education cycles

Indicator 3.2 – Rate of employment of women in the non-agriculture sectors of activity

Indicator 3.3 – Proportion of the number of women members of the Parliament from the total number of members

Objective 4 – Reduce child mortality

Target 4.A – Reducing with two thirds, during 1990-2015, of the child death rate among children under the age of five

Indicator 4.1 – Child death rate among children under the age of five

Indicator 4.2 – Rate of infantile death rate

Indicator 4.3 – Proportion of children under the age of one year vaccinated against measles

Objective 5 – Improve maternal health

Target 5.A – Reduction with three quarters, during 1990-2015, of the maternal death rate

Indicator 5.1 – Maternal death rate

Indicator 5.2 – Proportion of the number of births assisted by qualified medical staff

Target 5.B – Obtaining, until 2015, universal access to reproduction health services

Indicator 5.3 –Prevalence rate of contraceptive methods

Indicator 5.4 – Rate of birth among teenagers

Indicator 5.5 – Pre-natal care services (at least one visit to the doctor and at least four visits to the doctor)

Indicator 5.6 – Covered need of family planning services

Objective 6 – Combat HIV/SIDA, malaria and other diseases

Target 6.A – Stopping, until 2015, and afterwards starting the recovery of HIV/SIDA spread

Indicator 6.1 –HIV Prevalence rate among the population aged 15 and 24 years old

Indicator 6.2 – Usage of condom in the last sexual intercourse with risk

Indicator 6.3 – Proportion of population aged between 15 and 24 years old that has a good understanding of what is HIV/SIDA

Indicator 6.4 – Rate of enrollment in school courses of the orphans at the enrollments in the school courses of the children having a family, for the age category 10-14 years old

Target 6.B – Obtaining universal access to HIV/SIDA treatment for all those who need it until the year 2010

Indicator 6.5 – Proportion of the population who has an advanced stage of HIV infection and has access to antiretroviral treatment

Target 6.C – Stopping, until 2015, and afterwards starting the recovery of the malaria and other major infectious diseases incidence

Indicator 6.6 – Death rate and incidence rate, associated with malaria

Indicator 6.7 – Proportion of children under 5 years old who sleep in bed covered with mosquito nets and the proportion of children of this age having fever and treated with adequate anti-malaria medication

Indicator 6.8 – Incidence, prevalence and death rates associated to tuberculosis

Indicator 6.9 – Number of tuberculosis cases identified and treated under direct observation on short term

Objective 7 – Ensuring environmental sustainability

Target 7.A – Integrating the sustainable development principles in the policies and the programmes of the states and recovering the waste of natural resources

Indicator 7.1 – Proportion of the land area covered by forests

Indicator 7.2 – Total of carbon dioxide emissions per capita and per 1 dollar GDP (purchase power), and also the consumption of substances that affect the ozone layer

Indicator 7.3 – Proportion of fish stock living in safety within the biological limits

Indicator 7.4 – Proportion of the total used waters resources

Target 7.B – Reduction of the biodiversity losses and obtaining, until 2010, a significant decrease in the losses rate

Indicator 7.5 – Proportion of the terrestrial and maritime protected areas

Indicator 7.6 – Proportion of the species on the edge of extinction

Target 7.C – Reducing by half the number of people who do not have access to a drinking water source and to sewing basic services, until 2015

Indicator 7.7 – Proportion of population who use a safe drinking water source

Indicator 7.8 – Proportion of population who use an improved sewage service

Target 7.D – Significantly improving, until 2020, the life of minimum 100 million inhabitants of the slums

Indicator 7.9 – Proportion of urban population who lives in the slums^b

Objective 8 – Develop a global partnership for development

Target 8.A – Creating a financial and commercial system that is non-discriminatory, predictable, open and based on regulations. It includes a firm commitment to apply the rules of good government, development and fighting poverty, both at national and international level.

Some of the indicators mentioned below are separately monitored for the countries less developed, for the states of Africa, for the ones without direct access to the sea and for the developing small islands.

Target 8.B –Resolving the special problems of the less developed countries. Includes also tariffs and free market access quotas for the states with extremely high external debt and even writing off this debt and official assistance for a more generous development intended to reduce poverty.

Target 8.C – Meeting the special demands of the countries that do not have direct access to the sea and of the developing countries from the islands (through the Action Programme for Sustainable Development of these countries and the result of the 22nd special session of the UN General Assembly).

Target 8.D – Resolving on long term the general problems linked to the external debt of the developing countries through measures taken at national and international level.

Official assistance for development (ODA)

Indicator 8.1. Net, total assistance intended to the less developed countries, as a percentage from the gross internal income of the donor countries from the OECD/DAC area

Indicator 8.2 – Ratio between the bilateral Sectorial ODA of the donors from the OECD/DAC area and the basic social services (education, primary medical assistance, nutrition, drinking water and sewage)

Indicator 8.3 – Percentage of bilateral official assistance for development from the donors of the OECD/DAC area that is not being used

Indicator 8.4 – ODA accessed by the developing countries without direct access to the sea as a percentage from their gross national income

Indicator 8.5 – ODA accessed by the developing small islands as a percentage from their gross national income

Access to markets

Indicator 8.6. – Percentage from the total imports of the developed countries (as value and excluding the import of weapons) from the developing countries and from the less developed, taxes free

Indicator 8.7 – Average tariffs imposed by the developed countries on the agriculture products, fabrics and textures came from the developing countries

Indicator 8.8 – Agriculture support estimated by the OECD countries as a percentage from their gross income products

Indicator 8.9 – Percentage of ODA provided to enhance the trade capacity

Reducing the external debt

Indicator 8.10 – Total number of countries that have decided to reduce the external debt and the number of the states who have written off their external debt (cumulated)

Indicator 8.11 – Level undertaken for reducing the external debt and the mid process evaluation

Indicator 8.12 – External debt as a percentage from the exports of goods and services

Target 8.E – Opening the access of the developed countries to basic cheap medication, in collaboration with the pharmaceutical companies

Indicator 8.13 – Percentage of the population that has constant access to basic medication

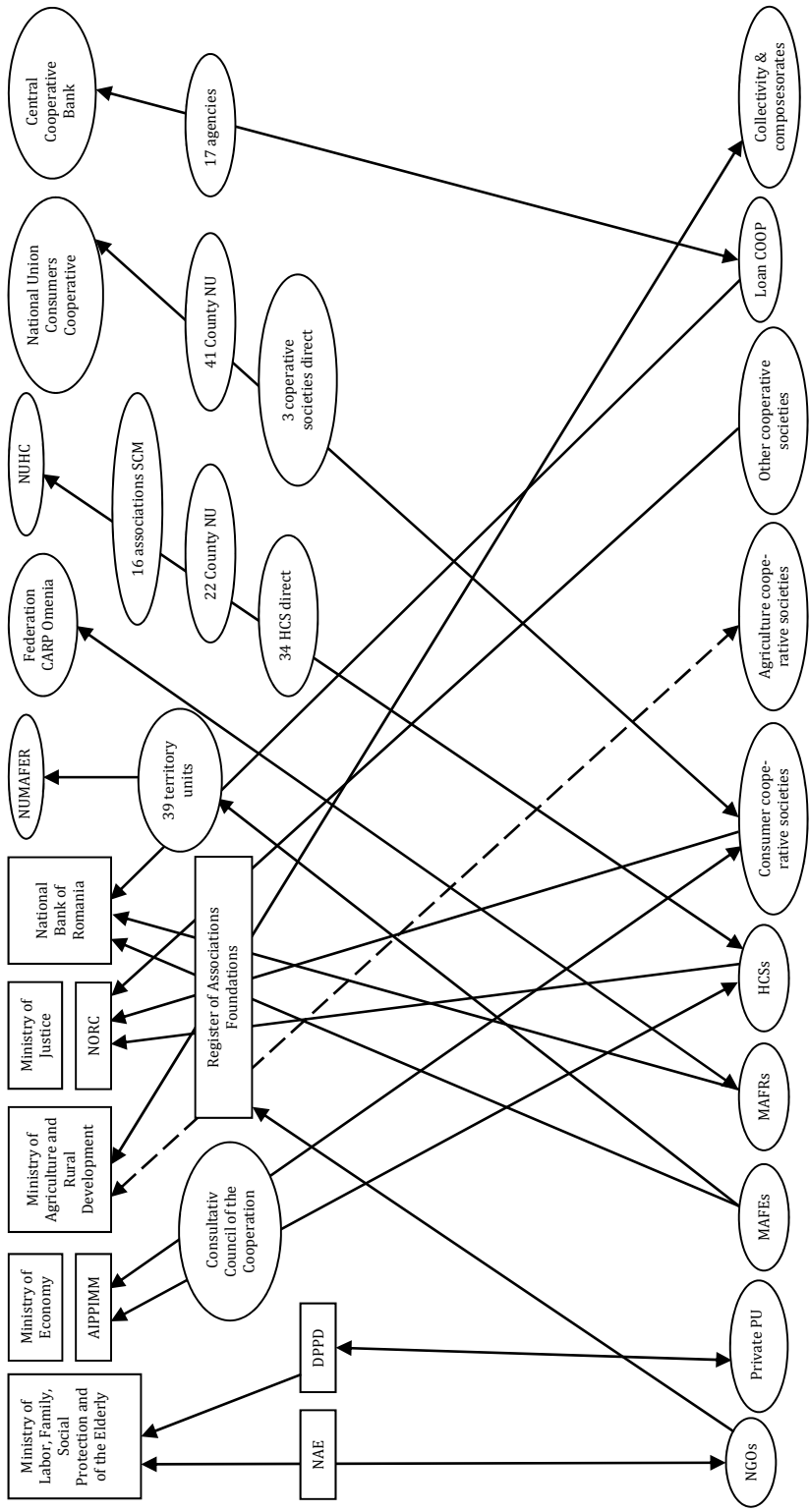
Target 8.F – Opening the access to the benefits brought by the new technologies, especially the information and communication technology, in collaboration with the private sector

Indicator 8.14 – Number of phone lines at 100 inhabitants

Indicator 8.15 – Number of subscribers to the mobile phone services at 100 inhabitants

Indicator 8.16 – Numbers of internet users at 100 inhabitants

Annex 2. Overview of the institutional framework from central level with an impact on the social economy entities



Annex 3. Overview of the institutional framework at local level with an impact on the social economy entities

