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PARTNERSALBANIA
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You Impact! From Citizen Involvement to EU Policy Impact

Social Enterprises' development - Between definition, local approaches and European developments

February 26th 2016 Tirana, Albania

Tirana International Hotel

- 9:30 - 10:00 Registration of Participants
- 10:00 - 10:15 **Arjola Agolli** – Partners Albania, Director of Programs
- Welcoming speech – introduction of the project and the structure of the debate
- 10:15 – 11:00 **Discussions' panel 1** – Recent developments and trends of practices and legal initiatives affecting Social Enterprises' Development
- Merita Xhafaj** – General Director of Social Policies Directorate, Ministry of Social Welfare and Youth
- “What is the MSWY’s approach and prospective toward SEs developments in Albania? What are the latest developments on the legal framework of SE’s development in the country? At what extent SE’s and civil society actors are informed and involved in the decision making process of drafting regulations and procedures on SE’s development?”
- Arben Shamia** – Executive Director, YAPS – Social
- “How are SE’s developing and cooping in Albania within the existing regulatory framework? What’s the understanding on social entrepreneurship among stakeholders and practitioners? Do we need to replicate international SE’s model or build upon local practices? SE’s challenges ahead?”
- 11:00 – 11:15 Q&A and open discussions
- 11:15 – 11:45 **Coffee break**



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11: 45 – 12: 30

Discussions’ Panel 2 – Social enterprises’ trend of development in Europe.

Jaan Aps, Jaan Aps, Chairman, Estonian Social Enterprise Network - Estonia

Petko Georgievc - ProInfo – Bulgaria

Flora Graioni - IREX Europe – France

Jos Sterckx - Knowledge Centre Social Europe - Belgium

“What is the local understanding and institutions’ approach toward SEs? Is there a dedicated legal framework that regulates SE activities in respective countries? Are SE’s perceived as forms of enterprises offering employment opportunities only to disadvantaged and minority citizens’ groups or are they perceived as baseline practices of the social economy developing?)

12: 30 – 12: 45

Q&A and open discussions

12: 45 – 13: 45

Networking Lunch

13: 45 – 15: 00

Discussions’ Panel 3 – Presentation from SEs’ representatives operating in the country.

What are some of the achievements and challenges of newly established social enterprises in Albania? At what extend they are exposed to national, regional and European networks or platforms of SEs?

- Youth Center “Borderless”
- Gjirokastra Foundation
- Albanian Disability Rights Foundation

The debate is a part of the project **From Citizen Involvement to Policy Impact** funded under the Europe for Citizens Program of the European Commission. Partners of the project are non-profit organizations active in promoting citizens’ participation at European level from Albania, Belgium, Cyprus, France, Estonia, Italy, Romania, Spain, and Bulgaria