

## Activity 8.1: Growth, employment and competitiveness in a knowledge society – the European case

### Area 8.1.3 Strengthening policy coherence and coordination in Europe

#### **SSH.2011.1.3-1 „New Innovation Processes including Social Innovation”**

“Research and Innovation policy is high on the EU policy agenda. The new Europe 2020 strategy is driven by global challenges. The ERA vision 2020 and the Innovation Union flagship initiative as well as the "Inclusive growth" pillar of the Europe 2020 strategy are expected to have a strong influence on Research and Innovation policy. Social sciences and humanities (SSH) will play a decisive role in this context: they help to understand the development of our societies and to identify the evolution of their behaviour and needs in terms of innovation at economic, technological, environmental, and social policy levels. Research and Innovation policies will play their role if the currently declining European industrial activity is reversed. Service innovation has also a crucial role to play in this context. In a first phase, it would be necessary to identify what would be the most efficient and promising processes in Europe aiming at generating investment flows in industry, boosting output and generating innovative products and processes, directly creating employment. Incremental innovation (innovation focusing on research and entrepreneurship) and systemic innovation (considering the whole process from funding research to real world outputs) should be considered. The role of the public sector will be analysed in this context. Social innovation and social entrepreneurship are also promising changes to better address societal needs and improve social cohesion, well-being, and efficiency in society and the economy. Research is needed to define the methodological principles and tools upon which they may operate and produce operational outcomes.

Social innovation can be defined as a new answer to societal issues through participatory and citizens' empowering systems. Social innovators identify and deliver new services that improve the quality of life of individuals and communities using innovative processes aiming for instance at new labour market integration, social inclusion, finding new ways to address health care, education delivery, resource efficiency and environmental challenges.

Social entrepreneurship can be defined as endeavours that aim to provide innovative solutions to unsolved social and societal challenges. Social entrepreneurs work at the crossroad of market, state and civil society and often with considerable input from public sector and third sector capacity.

Research should address the following issues (by focusing also on related methodologies and tools):

- How to measure social innovation for a better assessment of its effectiveness and impact on economic growth and social well-being (ex ante and ex post analysis);
- How to overcome financial, regulatory, recognition barriers for the development and scaling up of social innovation in and for social entrepreneurship in Europe;
- Validation and monitoring methods for the assessment of social innovation initiatives;
- Promotion of effective capital market instruments and development of models for public private partnerships to support social innovation and social entrepreneurs;
- Identification of the role and importance of societal engagement and creativity in this context;
- Comparison of scaling and learning patterns of social entrepreneurship between Europe other regions of the world;
- Understanding and measuring the social innovation enabled by the new networking and collaboration tools made available over the Internet.

**Funding scheme: Collaborative project (small or medium-scale focused research**

project)

Für dieses Förderthema ist als Förderinstrument ein **Collaborative project**<sup>1</sup> (**small or medium-scale focused research project**) vorgegeben.

Die **maximale Fördersumme für Projektanträge in diesem Topic liegt bei 2,7 Mio. € pro Antrag.**

Diese Summe stellt eine Höchstgrenze dar. Projektanträge, die eine finanzielle Unterstützung der Europäischen Kommission oberhalb dieser Grenze beantragen, werden nicht zur Evaluierung zugelassen.

An Projektanträgen mit diesem Förderinstrument müssen mindestens 3 voneinander unabhängige Partner aus mindestens 3 Mitglieds- oder Assoziierten Staaten beteiligt sein.

Dieses Topic ist unter dem **Call-Identifizier FP7-SSH-2011-2** ausgeschrieben.

Projektanträge müssen bis zum **02. Februar 2011, 17:00 Uhr** (Ortszeit Brüssel) per [EPSS](#) („[Electronic Proposal Submission Service](#)“) eingereicht werden.

Alle notwendigen Unterlagen zur Einreichung von Anträgen zu diesem Topic finden Sie auf der [Cordis-Webseite](#).

Bitte wenden Sie sich bei Fragen zur Antragstellung jederzeit an die Nationale Kontaktstelle Sozial-, Wirtschafts- und Geisteswissenschaften!

Unsere Kontaktdaten finden Sie unter:

<http://www.nks-swg.de/de/ansprechpartner.php>

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<sup>1</sup> Verbundprojekte („*Collaborative Research Projects*“, CP) sind Forschungsprojekte, die von Konsortien mit Partnern aus verschiedenen Ländern und dem Ziel durchgeführt werden, neues Wissen, neue Technologien, Produkte, Verfahren oder Dienstleistungen zu entwickeln. Größe, Gegenstandsbereich und interne Organisation der Projekte können je nach Förderbereich und thematischem Schwerpunkt unterschiedlich gestaltet sein. Prinzipiell unterscheidet man zwischen kleinen bis mittelgroßen Verbundprojekten („*small or medium-scale focused research projects*“) und großen integrierten Projekten („*large-scale integrating projects*“)