

Aspects of social economy development in Greece: The initiatives of the Ministry of Labour and Social Insurance.

The current financial outlook imposes several mandatory reforms which must be implemented, in the social policy sphere. Within this context, the Ministry of Labour and Social Insurance sets major goals: tackling unemployment and at the same time building a social net against poverty and social exclusion. The steep increase of the unemployment rate, combined with the impact of the austerity measures designed to tackle the fiscal deficit, as well as the projected decrease of the GDP for the next coming years create a challenging setting regarding social protection and the fight against poverty and social exclusion.

To that end, one of the major policy priorities includes the institutional establishment and full application of social economy in Greece. The policy proposal includes two distinct levels:

- Institution of a new legal entity with social purpose and business activity
- Development of supporting mechanisms and instruments for the reinforcement of social entrepreneurship in collaboration with the local actors involved.