

### Aim of this document:

The goal of this document is to create a short catalogues of what municipalities can do to support the development of social economy organisations (and especially WISEs) active in the “Green transition” (circular economy / decarbonisation / short food supply chain) to ensure a just transition. This is a list of policies that have already been implemented by some municipalities, mostly partners in the JustGreen project but also from all over Europe.

Indeed, local authorities can have a key role in driving the green transition in the economy. They are responsible, depending on the country and on their competencies, local authorities can have an impact in: territorial planning, waste management and recycling, consumer information and awareness, industrial symbiosis in collaboration with chambers of commerce and the planning of industrial zones, supporting R&D, developing socially responsible public procurement. They are also at the right scale as they are close to the general public, to businesses and workers.

### Main areas of activities:

There are three main ways by which municipalities can be active to support the Just transition in their territories. They can:

- Support social economy organisation already working in the green transition sector so they can develop;
- Encourage the creation of new social economy organisation active in the green transition sector;
- Encourage enterprises working in the green transition sector to support social economy organisations or even become one.

### Recommended actions

#### 1. Citizens dialogue

Citizens dialogue is a great way to identify the needs of a territory. There are various ways to engage with citizens to exchange on what municipalities can do to enhance the green transition and encourage the actors, especially from the social economy. It is also a way to raise awareness on the importance of the issue among citizens.

- **Participatory budget:** where the citizens can vote for ideas.
- **Internet consultations:** with a proposition phase, a voting phase and funding for the winner to implement its proposal.
- **Contests** to promote social economy, with mentoring for start-ups. The money can come from local big companies from their CSR policies such as in [JUMP](#) (Contest for new business) in Familicao, Portugal.
- **Strategic planning involving the citizens:** example of [the yellow couch from Familicao](#).

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- **Co-planning with social economy organisations:** [Solidarity Social Economy District](#) of Bergamo (Italy) – you can find a [short video presentation here](#).

Those examples are not all specifically designed to support social economy organisation in the green transition. However, they can be used with this goal by municipalities.

### 2. Organisational support :

Municipalities can also provide various organisation support to social economy organisations so they can work in the green transition. Again, the examples given are not specific to improving the role of the social economy in the green transition, but they could be if designed this way:

- **Providing specific training or guidance** for social economy organisations on the territory to reinforce the local actors on a territory. For example, 20 years ago in Portugal, development programmes have been implemented in every municipality in which where all the social economy organisations from a same municipality gathered under the guidance of a municipality and social security. Some municipalities organised some trainings in this framework.
- **Supporting the creation of networks of social economy organisations active on a territory:** to develop cooperation between the local organisations, short (food) supply chains. This is the case, for example, in Italy with the [Eco-Social mapping](#) in Bergamo.
- **Mapping the social economy actors** active on the territories in order to facilitate the communication between them and develop cooperation / short (food) supply chains. For example, the [municipality of Torres Vedras](#) in Portugal produced an "atlas" of the social economy organisations in its territory. It is also possible to use the social cartography to allow the construction of territorial knowledge, enabling the development of participatory mapping of qualitative research.
- **Mapping some good practices:** in Portugal, the [ODS local platform](#) monitors the evolution of Portuguese municipalities in relation to the SDG, through progress indicators. It also maps innovative and sustainable practices that both municipalities, civil societies and companies are implementing and measures their impact.

### 3. Financial support:

The support can be financial with money directly given to the social economy organisation or in through providing land or exclusive rights in return of the services of general interests or integration of vulnerable people:

- **Direct financial support:** the municipality of Świętochłowice (Poland) co-established with the Divine Mercy Foundation three social cooperatives (Banderoza, Nudel Kula and Majstry) each consisting of ten members. Those cooperatives support the work integration of long term unemployed with low qualification. They, then employ them for cleaning utility areas, the maintenance of green areas in the city or to provide repair and construction services.
- **Creation of organisations directly funded by the municipality** such as Social Integration Center in Świętochłowice, Poland, that is responsible for the organisation of professional and social reintegration of people at risk of exclusion.
- **Grants for local development**, directed to specific issues: [Bip Zip](#) in Lisbon.
- **Direct contract for actions between a municipalities and a WISE/social enterprise:**

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- **Exclusive opportunity** to collect textiles in boxes, in exchange the enterprise should ensure that around the box, everything is clean, this is the case for [Groupe Terre in Belgium](#); or in Bergamo with [Caritas](#) or the [Ruah cooperative](#).
- **Call for bids** granted to [La Miniera](#) in Italy.
- **Provide land for free** to a social economy organisation and ask, in return for services, such as the integration of vulnerable people ([Porta del Parco](#) & [BioOrto](#), Comune di Mozzo, Italy)

As with the other examples, municipalities can focus those actions on reinforcing the role of social economy organisations in the green transition.

### 4. Public Procurements for green transition actions with social clauses/reserved contracts

Many municipalities are using **public procurement** to support the involvement of social economy organisations in the green transition. There are many good examples, but they should be mainstreamed and municipalities should be more informed of the possibility that public procurement could address the following questions and that they can push to ensure they combine social and ecological goals:

- Maintenance of green areas,
- Renovation of buildings (support the professionals),
- Food and catering services,
- Waste collection and re-use services,
- Cleaning and facility management services,
- Construction.

**Social clauses** can be used in public procurement tendering procedures to prioritise social enterprises employing disadvantaged workers for contracts for certain activities.

For example, the Municipality of Świętochłowice in tenders for catering services, maintenance of municipal green areas and renovation works of the value up to 30 000 euros.

**Reserved contracts** consist of the reservation of markets for specific enterprises. They offer concrete opportunities to support the social and professional integration of persons with support needs.

This is the case, for example the case in Belgium when the PPS SI, a federal agency in Belgium developed a call, which combines three goals. Secure nutritious and healthy products for the most deprived, contribute to the prevention of food waste by using vegetable surpluses and enhance work integration of disadvantaged people (you can find the example in the European Commission "[Making socially responsible public procurement work – 71 good practice cases](#)").

**Social clauses and reserved contracts can be articulated within Green Public Procurement**, therefore combining green and social issues.

In France, since 2014 some public authorities (those with an annual amount of purchases greater than € 100 million excluding VAT) have the obligation to develop SPASER "Schéma de promotion des achats publics socialement et écologiquement responsables" (Schemes to promote socially and environmentally responsible public procurements) that combine social and ecological clauses. You can find [all the information here](#) (in French).

### 5. Labels

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A label is an opportunity for a social enterprises working in the green transition to see its work acknowledge. Provided the labels are known from the public, they are a great way to support the work done by organisations and give them visibility.

There are two possibilities at the local level: **encouraging the local organisations adhering to an established national/international label or creating a local label:**

[Solid'R](#) is an **international label** acknowledging social enterprises working in the field of reusing. This label is granted through external auditor. Municipalities can help the organisations working on their territories to adopt such a label as a way to help them being recognised.

In Portugal, Familicao developed a territorial brand - [Made In Famalicão](#) that identify the products made in the municipality territory.

Poland development also local labels, here are three of them:

- Start-up of positive impact (which has a section for WISEs) is wide known certification for enterprises that, among other things, address the challenges adopted by the UN in the form of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.
- [Pro Social Purchase](#) : the Social Economy Promotional Mark "Prosocial Purchase" is a certification system for products and services provided by WISEs and social enterprises. It is not specifically for social economy entities working in the green sector, but we can imagine such a label based on this one.
- [Social Economy and Solidarity Quality Mark](#). The competition for the award of the certificate Social Economy and Solidarity Quality Mark aims to distinguish those entities that successfully combine economic activity with social commitment. The awarded certificates contributes to brand building of specific entities and the entire social economy sector.