

WORKSHOP 2
THE NEED FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF SUPPORT SERVICES FOR SOCIAL COOPERATIVE ENTERPRISES

A.A. Vorloou
Ministry of Labour and Social Security
4 Korai str.
Athens, Greece

ABSTRACT

Social Cooperative Enterprises (KoinSEp in Greek) have been established in Greece with the Law 4019 of 2011. KoinSEp are categorized in three main types, which are Inclusion, Social Care and Productive Purpose and have to register in the Social Economy Registry. By early 2013 more than 100 KoinSEp have been registered but the distribution between the 3 categories has been uneven. More than 75% were registered as Productive Purpose, just over 20% as Social Care and less than 3% as Inclusion. In order to determine the needs of the emerging sector, the Ministry of Labor has distributed a questionnaire to the registered KoinSEp so as to identify the maturity of the business models being developed and implemented. Initial findings indicate that although the majority of the Cooperatives which have answered the questionnaire had specific business ideas, they lacked the ability to develop this initial idea into a viable business model and an implementable business plan which would include a marketing plan. These findings justify the necessity for the development of support services for social entrepreneurs at Start-up level.