



European Economic and Social Committee

Strengthening Partnerships for Successful Social Policy Innovation

Social Policy Innovation Conference
Brussels 19-20 May 2014



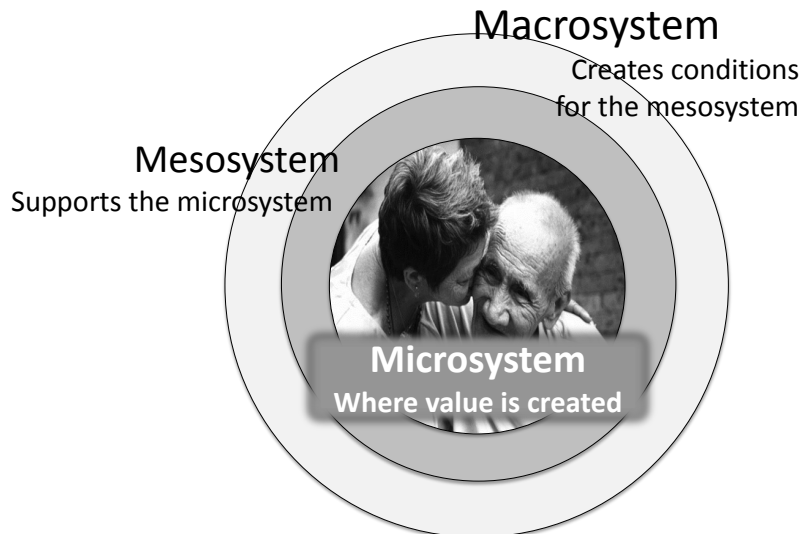
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- **Providers of non-profit health and social care**
- **Värdeforum – Value Forum**
- Creating a culture for continued improvement in the social and health care sector
- Builds on research and experiences in social enterprise sector



- **Umbrella for social civil society organisations**
- **Partnerships to support social innovation**
- Regional partnership (university, private sector, public authorities and civil society)
- Method “Partnership and research circles”
- National knowledge centre to share knowledge learning





The need for systemic innovation

- Unprecedented **societal challenges** and **crisis aftermath**
- **Changes to welfare** systems are emerging
- **These complex** issues call for:
 - a social investment approach when reforming of social protection systems and social services
 - systemic non-linear models of social innovation
 - co-operation and mobilisation of all sectors
- **Partnerships** is central in social innovation for systemic change



Partnerships for social investment – our experiences

- Partnership - a **work method for innovation**
- **Knowledge** exists → partnerships facilitates innovation
- **Need** is the starting-point
- Form partnerships with the **most relevant actors** for the issue
- Requires **new ways to work** - multi-disciplinary team, multi-ministerial



Partnerships for social investment – our experiences

- Spans from “**street-level activity**” to **policy** level
- From **experiment** to **provision**
- Aim is **improvement/development** making the learning visible
- Key resource is **knowledge** → key process is **learning**
- Create a **culture of trust** → define common language, agreed measurements, mutual interpretation of results
- “**Open source**” is key



The social economy enterprises perspective

- **Drivers of social change** → socially mission-driven
 - Now and historically
 - Locally rooted, flexible, innovative
 - Connects user and policy perspectives
 - Service providers and advocacy work
- **Recognise and learn** from their specific operating models and **logic**
 - In DNA to challenge definitions, systems, structures
 - Social movements can help understand and achieve large scale change
- Need enabling **policy support**
 - Still underdeveloped sector
 - Need specific policy support for growth and development



Challenges, opportunities, questions?

- **Systemic change** = new structures and thinking
 - Capacity building
 - Intermediaries
- **Effects on welfare systems** → rights vs. “efficiency”
- **Financing and funding** policy and systems → from projects to sustainability
- **Partnerships** → discussion of roles and motives
- **Social impact measurement**
 - Outcome to impact
 - Qualitative vs. quantitative



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Thank you for your attention