



UNECE

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**POLICY FRAMEWORKS FOR SOCIAL  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND SOCIAL  
ECONOMY**

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# SOCIAL ECONOMY AND SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP : EVOLVING LANDSCAPES

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MANY  
DEFINITIONS

MANY  
REALITIES  
ON THE  
GROUND



COMMON  
FEATURES  
AND GOALS



## WHY PUBLIC POLICIES SHOULD SUPPORT SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP ?

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- SE bring **ADDED VALUE** : they **address social, economic and environmental challenges**, foster inclusive growth and increase social inclusion, while **pursuing the general interest and benefitting the communities as explicit mission. THIS REPRESENT A SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC VALUE**
- Supporting SE creation and development allow public policies to better meet employment, social and economic challenges **while better spending public money.**



# CONDUCTIVE POLICY FRAMEWORKS FOR SOCIAL ECONOMY ENTITIES AND SOCIAL ENTERPRISES

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# LEGAL AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

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- Legal and regulatory frameworks bring clarity on the definition of SE, its mission and activities and help to open up opportunities for fiscal relief, provision of forms of support and access to market and public procurements. **Policy makers and investors need clarity**
- In countries where no appropriate legal framework is in place, social enterprises may struggle to have their dual bottom line (social and economic activities) recognised and find themselves subject to legal and regulatory frameworks that are inappropriate.
- Although an appropriate legal framework is needed, it is important to carefully evaluate whether new legislation is needed or the adaptation of the existing framework can be a better solution. \*



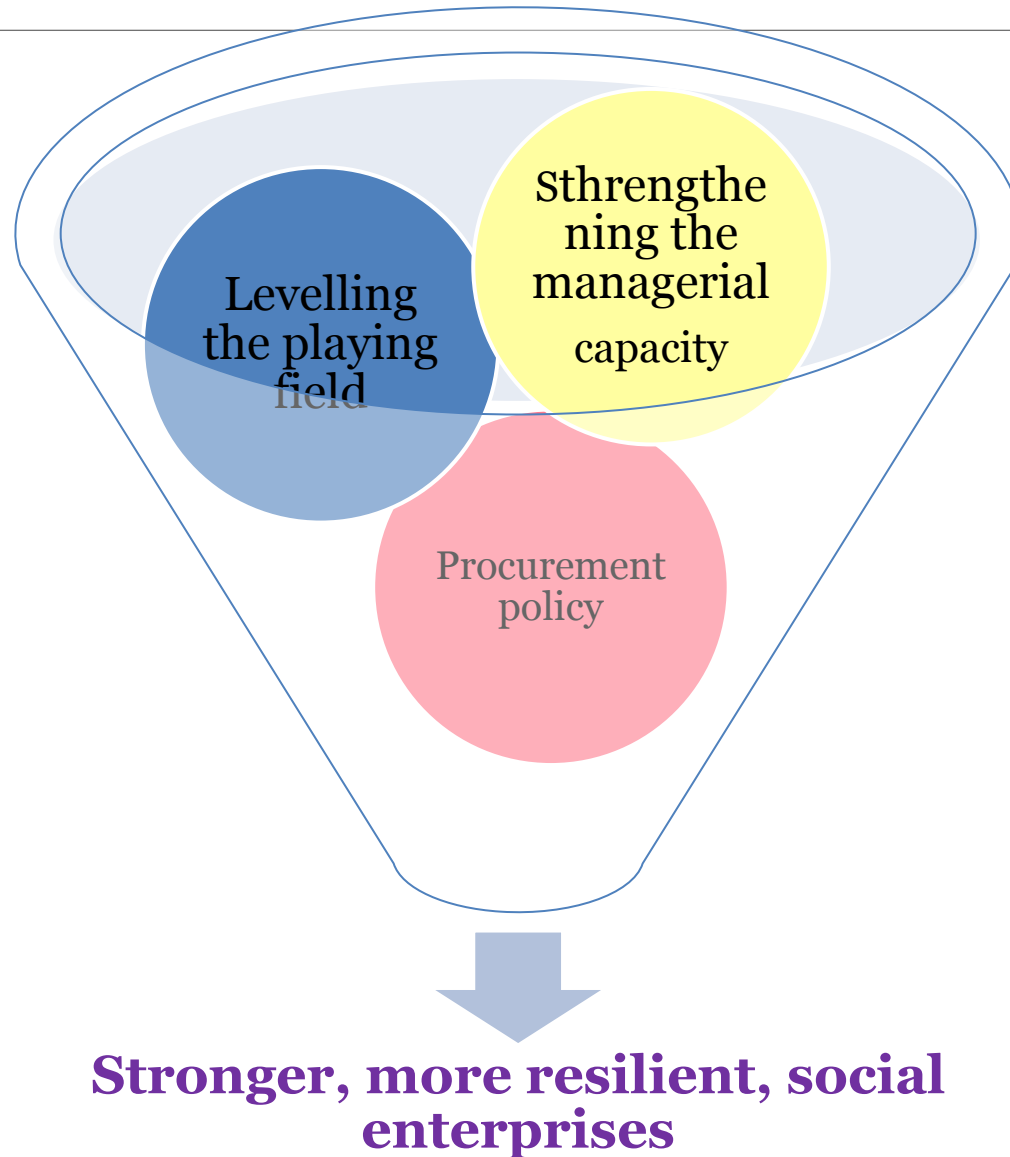
## ACCESS TO CAPITAL

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- SEs are financed by a combination of resources ( market, non market, non monetary)
- Financing from Governments might be required in the short and medium terms to help sustainability : this should be see as investments rather than costs...
- Evolving landscape for social enterprises finances\*
- Range of different financing tools needed:
  - Debt, equity and quasi-equity instruments, patient capital
- Government can contribute through:
  - Credit guarantees
  - Fiscal incentives for investors
  - Partnerships with social finance intermediaries and investors



# ACCESS TO MARKETS





# BUSINESS SUPPORT STRUCTURES

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- Social enterprises, like conventional enterprises, benefit from the existence of integrated support strategies and structures. Social enterprises have specific features which create complex needs demanding diversified solutions
- A 'braided' system of support, which includes both generic business and specialist social enterprise components, could be an interesting model to be developed (Daniele et al., 2009).
- Hubs and incubators need to be spread and supported





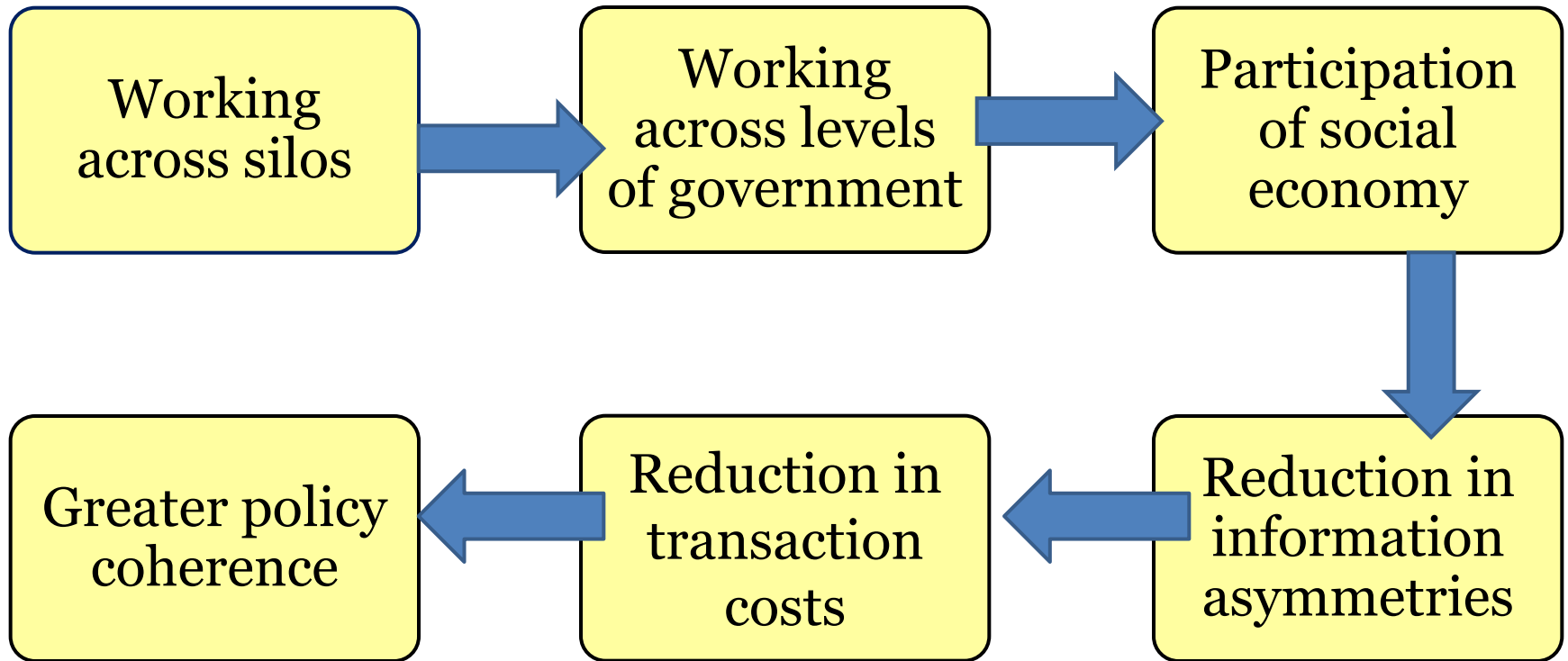
## TRAINING AND RESEARCH

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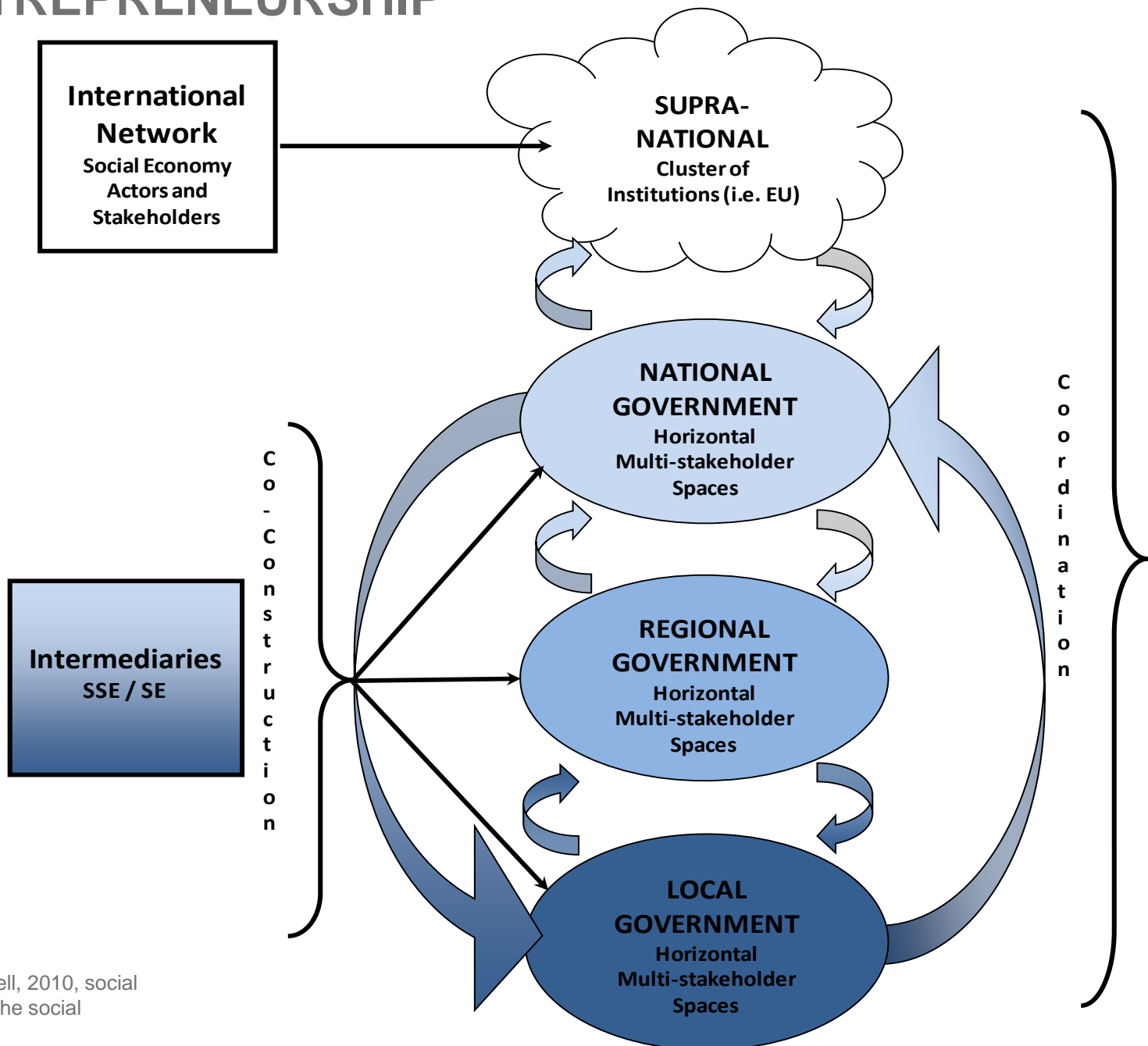
- Social enterprise workers and managers need appropriate training and skills provision if quality jobs are to be created
- Research contributes to the identification and articulation of social economy needs, functions and potential : importance of co -constructed knowledge



# POLICY CO-CONSTRUCTION: COOPERATION AND COORDINATION



# A COHERENT POLICY FRAMEWORK FOR SOCIAL ECONOMY AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP



Source : M. Mendell, 2010, social inclusion through the social economy



# CONCLUSIONS

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- Social entrepreneurship has a significant amount to offer to local communities: inclusion, cohesion and economic development
- It needs a supportive environment to flourish, one underpinned by the co-construction of policy



# THANK YOU    HVALA

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