



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME)

A.1. COSME
Head of Unit

Brussels,
ARES(2017)

Subject: Survey and data collection on the Co-operation between Social Economy Enterprises and Traditional Enterprises

To whom it may concern

The Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME), acting under the powers delegated by the European Commission, has contracted a consortium¹ led by Technopolis Group to execute the study "Social Business Initiative (SBI) Follow-Up: Co-operation between Social Economy Enterprises and Traditional Enterprises".

The social economy is addressed in the European Commission's Social Business Initiative². Co-operations between traditional and social economy enterprises are now clearly recognised as a means of scaling up social economy enterprises and the place of social innovation and entrepreneurship within the economy. The outcomes of this study will be used by the European Commission, member states and local authorities, in order to develop public policies for the development of social economy enterprises via their co-operation with traditional profit-making enterprises.

We would ask you kindly to support the consultants and researchers in performing this study, which will draw on a variety of data collection tools, including an online survey and interviews. Their aim is to collect data on collaboration between social economy enterprises and traditional enterprises. This data will be further analysed with an aim of proposing recommendations to policy makers for the fostering of cooperation between the above groups of enterprises.

Should you have any further question regarding the project, please contact the research team (Mr. Helmut Fryges, +49 69 348 767980, helmut.fryges@technopolis-group.com or Mrs. Rebecca Allinson, +44 1273 204320, rebecca.allinson@technopolis-group.com, both responsible for the study at Technopolis).

I am pleased to provide the present letter as support in the development of the study.

Thank you very much in advance and best regards

José Puigpelat

¹ The consortium responsible for the study consists of the Austrian Institute of Technology AIT (Vienna), i-propeller (Brussels), Institutul de Prospectiva (Bucharest), Lama Development and Cooperation Agency (Florence), Q4I Consulting (Madrid), Technology Partners (Warsaw), Technopolis Group (Brighton), and VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland (Helsinki).

² Communication "Social Business Initiative", COM(2011) 682 of 25.10.2011