



**Social Economy**

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## S3 AS A TOOL FOR REGIONAL GROWTH: THE SAMPLE OF SOCIAL ECONOMY

MIKEL IRUJO  
COR MEMBER FOR NAVARRA

EU Values (art. 1, 2 ad 3 TEU)	Social Economy Values (Social Economy Europe)
Respect for human dignity and promotion of well-being of its people	Individual and the social objective over capital
Democracy, decisions are taken as openly as possible and as closely as possible to the citizen	Democratic control by the membership
Equality, pluralism, non-discrimination	Combination of the interests of members, users, and general interest (society)
Solidarity	Reinvestment of the surplus to carry out sustainable development objectives, services of interest to members or of general interest
Any Member State may decide to withdraw from the Union in accordance with its own constitutional requirements (art. 50)	Voluntary and open membership



# S3 & Social Economy

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Regional  
Growth

S3

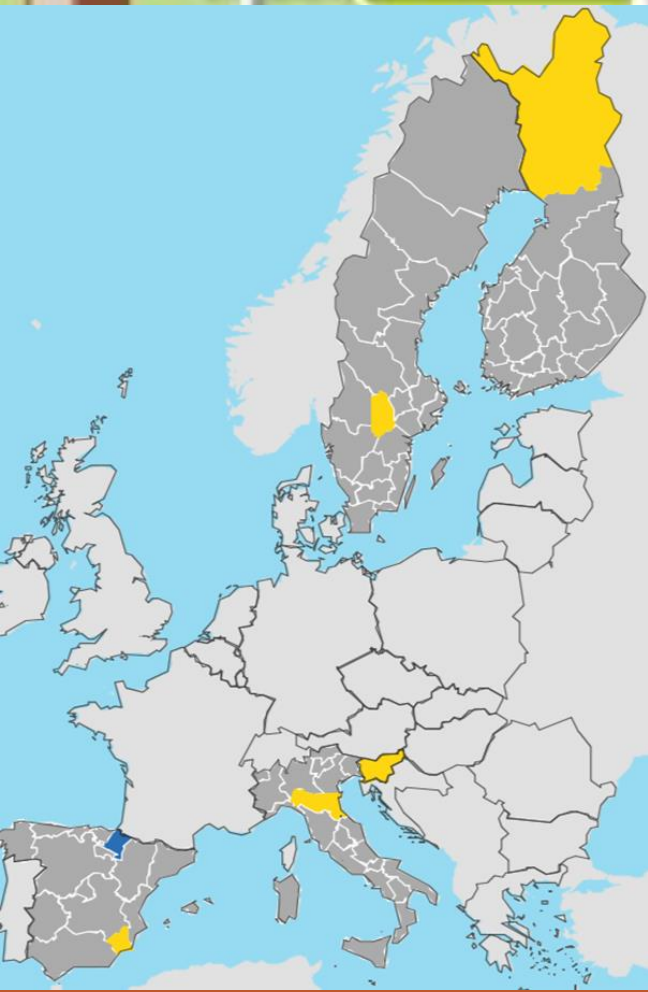
EU  
Priorities



*2 million social economy enterprises in Europe, representing 10% of all businesses in the EU. More than 11 million people – about 6% of the EU's employees – work for social economy enterprises.*



# Social Economy S3 Thematic Partnership



## Aim of the partnership:

- **Improve the competitiveness of Social Economy companies** through the increase of the added value provided, in an interregional cooperation perspective
- Explore the **embedding of the social economy sector in the region's S3**
- Improve a **better cooperation among the social economy enterprises** in Europe in order to strengthen the social economy sector. Explore the S3 as a tool to foster that cooperation
- Stimulate **cross-border operations** to enable them to use the full potential of the Internal Market
- Create **European value chains** of social economy enterprises belonging to different regions in Europe and improve the cooperation between them and how can S3 act as a link between social economy enterprises all over Europe
- Develop **social economy clusters**, developing more holistic and cohesive approaches to S3 by fully embracing the (interregional) 'quadruple helix' approach
- Foster the ability to **attract talent** to sector companies
- Promote the **internationalisation** of the business fabric of the Social Economy with size and capacity for management and responsiveness to the market



# European Business School of Social Economy – EBSSE

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*Why?* ... a significant challenge for the sector lies in its **fragmented nature**, making it difficult to position the social economy agenda clearly on the EU policy 'map'

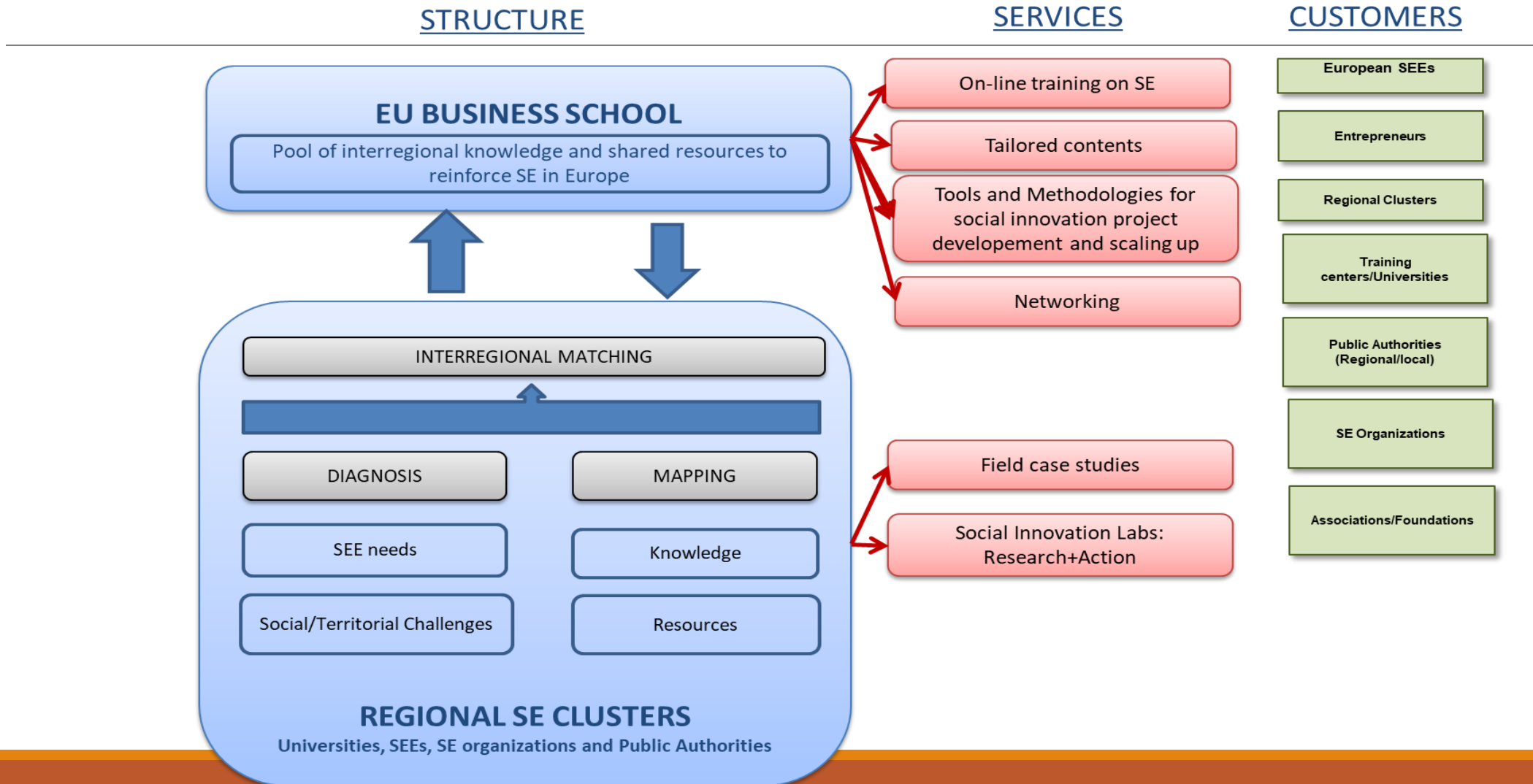
*What?* ... access to **professional support** by SE enterprises/decision makers and organisations, **capacity-building of SE enterprises**, availability of networks and platforms for mutual learning and experience exchange, access to digital and physical spaces for cooperation and interactions between SE stakeholders, circulation of knowledge transfer between academia and SE and research and development

*Who?* ... EBSSE will involve and engage **social economy key stakeholders** such as enterprises, business training centres, entrepreneurs of new products/services addressing social/territorial challenges, Universities and Public Authorities and **Regional SE Clusters**. These clusters will make their knowledge and resources available through the new European Business School

*How?* ... tailored contents made by a **European Platform** providing specialized **online training**, methodologies and tools, networking, scaling up of social innovation projects. **Regional Social Economy Clusters to complement the Platform with field case studies, social innovation labs** for research and action processes. A **structured process** to build innovative solutions to common challenges and their European scaling up



# EUROPEAN BUSINESS SCHOOL OF SOCIAL ECONOMY – EBSSE



# S3 & Social Economy

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“What’s good about the cooperative movement is that it tries to urge people to face their problems not alone but with support, with other people’s help”

“Today, participation is revolutionary. The constant element of the cooperative formulation, both theoretical and practical, is solidarity.”

José María Arizmendiarrreta, founder of Mondragon Corporation, largest industrial cooperative of the world

