



6. Are social enterprises the ones providing social services?

As with the grandmother and socks, social enterprises can provide social services (of course, by registering in a special social service provider register), but this is not a prerequisite for the existence of a social enterprise. Social enterprises are also successful in other areas not related to the provision of social services, when social goals are achieved in other ways.

7. What is social impact and how to measure it?

Social impact is the positive changes created by social enterprises that can be expressed in particular, measurable indicators. Measuring social impact is an integral part of social enterprise activity, and serves as a tool for evaluating, representing, improving, and attracting clients and investors. There is no one correct method for assessing social impact in the world or in Latvia; every company chooses the most suitable and appropriate for its activities.



8. What business support and development tools are available for social enterprises in Latvia?

Until 2022, there is available the Ministry of Welfare and ALTUM' financial support program, which is designed to start and develop social entrepreneurship. But in addition, social enterprises can also use other support tools such as municipal grants or opportunities offered by LIAA. Similarly, social enterprises can also use non-financial support tools, such as business incubators, accelerators, mentors, knowledge and skills support, which could be particularly useful during the start-up stage of a social enterprise.



9. What should I do if I want to start a social enterprise?

First of all, it would be worth putting your idea on paper and answering the questions "what do I already have?" and "what do I need?" It would also be useful to create a schematic drawing of your business model (for example, using a business canvas method) to understand what parts are missing to be paid attention to. Secondly, we recommend to explore the state and local government business support opportunities - LIAA and ALTUM's offers, various business skills training activities, municipal support measures. It is also worthwhile to have a look at the nearest LIAA business incubator where you can get support and advice on starting a business.



10. How not to miss the most important developments in the field of social entrepreneurship in Latvia?

One of the tasks of the Social Entrepreneurship Association of Latvia is to inform in various ways about the latest developments and the most important events in the sector, so we recommend that you subscribe to our newsletter and follow the news on Facebook page. If you want to be the first to know not only the news but also the inside information that is not published anywhere else.

