



Report on funding sources: Belgium > Flanders

B-WISE: T6.2 Creation of map of funding opportunities for implementation of the Sectoral Skills Strategy (Blueprint) for WISEs sector

2024



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This report should be cited as follows:

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In Belgium, the responsibilities of Employment and Social Economy have been fully regionalised and transferred from the federal level (Belgium) to the regional level (Flanders, Wallonia, Brussels).

For reasons of readability, 2 separate regional reports have been compiled for Belgium:

- 1 report focusing on Flanders;
- 1 report focusing on Wallonia-Brussels.

This report focuses on Flanders.

Expected outcome of the national report

The aim of conducting a national report in each participating country in the framework of B-WISE project is to create, at project level, a map of funding opportunities / funding sources that targets the social economy / WISEs sector and can support the sector skill strategy's implementation. The map will be presented in a Paper on funding opportunities which will also include information and recommendations on possible EU funding related with the implementation of the Sectoral Skills Strategy (Blueprint) for WISEs sector (D6.4).

The Paper will indicate how EU funding opportunities, as well as national and regional funding, can support (digital) skills strategies in the WISEs sector taking also into account national and regional smart specialization strategies.

The Paper on funding opportunities (D6.2) will feed and be part of the Sectoral Skills Strategy for WISEs including milestones, clear activities, an action plan as well as guidelines on implementation on local level (D6.4).

Some additional information for the data collection:

We would like you to focus on those funding sources which either 1) **have a degree of regularity / continuity** and **significance / impact on resourcing the sector** or 2) there are **good practices that could be developed / used in other countries**.

Please, present **national / regional** funding sources depending on the level on which your organisation operates and has good knowledge - we do not expect you to cover all regions but the region in which you operate and of which you have good knowledge. If you have information on a particular region which can constitute a good practice, please share those too in the template.

As you can see in the template, you can add other categories / type of sources or write next to those sources which do not exist in your country / region that it is non applicable. We want this document to be useful for the sectoral strategy, so feel free to share any recommendations in the document. As we want this document to be useful for local stakeholders, we are planning to create an extract for each country that can be shared at local level.



Flemish report on funding sources for WISEs and their skill strategy

Country: Belgium > Flanders

Partner: P5 Lichtwerk

Contact person: Lieven Bossuyt

Email: lieven.bossuyt@lichtwerk.io

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1. Funding opportunities / sources at national and regional level

1. Are there any of the following funding sources available for Work Integration Social Enterprises (WISEs), Social Enterprises (SEs), federation of WISEs, Vocational Education Training providers for disadvantaged workers (VET providers) in your country? Please mark all those that apply. Please refer to the current, or in case of, multi-annual programmes.

Table 1 - Non-repayable - public funding sources

Non-repayable - public funding sources			
No	Funding sources	YES / NO	Eligible stakeholder(s) (e.g WISEs, WISE federations, SEs, VET providers)
1	<p>State aid programmes / public grants - national / regional budgets</p> <p>For WISEs and SEs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Call "Social Entrepreneurship – Establishment of a Social Enterprise" <p>For WISEs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - One-off thematic calls - Managerial Recommendation - Specific Managerial Support <p>For WISEs and partnerships with WISEs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Call "Social Entrepreneurship – Innovation" 	YES	WISEs, SEs



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Call "Social Entrepreneurship" – Grants for projects promoting access to employment for people with a large distance to the labour market in the province of Flemish Brabant - Grant to promote innovation and professionalisation through cooperation between traditional enterprises and WISEs in the province of East Flanders 		
2	<p>Specific state aids for employment</p> <p>For WISEs, SEs, federations of WISEs, VET providers and traditional enterprises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Federal Target Group Reduction First-time Hires 	YES	WISEs, WISE federations, SEs, VET providers, traditional enterprises
3	<p>Subsidies for jobs of workers with support needs (WSN) / incentives for the recruitment of WSNs</p> <p>For WISEs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collective Customized Job <p>For SEs, federations of WISEs, VET providers and traditional enterprises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Individual Customized Job for employers <p>For WISEs, SEs, federations of WISEs, VET providers and traditional enterprises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Federal Target Group Reduction First-time Hires 	YES	WISEs, WISE federations, SEs, VET providers, traditional enterprises
4	<p>Subsidies for support services to WSNs</p> <p>For WISEs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collective Customized Job <p>For SEs, federations of WISEs, VET providers and traditional enterprises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Individual Customized Job for employers 	YES	WISEs, WISE federations, SEs, VET providers, traditional enterprises
5	<p>Specific funding for training for the development of (digital) skills of workers in WISEs / guidance before recruitment</p> <p>For WISEs and SEs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Work-based Activities in the Social Economy <p>For WISEs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training Subsidies for WISEs 	YES	WISEs, WISE federations, SEs, VET providers, traditional enterprises
6	<p>Funding for the adjustment of the workplace (in terms of accessibility, digitalization, etc.)</p> <p>For WISEs, SEs, federations of WISEs, VET providers, traditional enterprises and self-employed entrepreneurs:</p>	YES	WISEs, WISE federations, SEs, VET providers, traditional enterprises, self-



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Workplace Adjustment Reimbursement for Employers and Self-employed Entrepreneurs - Workability Voucher 		employed entrepreneurs
7	<p>Financial support for individual professional activity of WSN (self-entrepreneurship)</p> <p>For self-employed entrepreneurs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Individual Customized Job for Self-employed Entrepreneurs 	YES	self-employed entrepreneurs
8	<p>National Operational Programmes with EU funds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - European Social Fund - European Regional Development Funds - European Rural Development Fund - Other European funds managed at national level <p>For WISEs, SEs, federations of WISEs, VET providers and traditional enterprises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EFRO Interreg calls - EFRO Flanders calls - Europe WSE calls 	YES	WISEs, WISE federations, SEs, VET providers, traditional enterprises

Table 2 - Non-repayable private funding sources

Non-repayable - private funding sources			
No	Funding sources	YES / NO	Eligible stakeholder(s)
1	<p>Private philanthropic funds (e.g. funds from non-profit foundations)</p> <p>For WISEs, SEs, federations of WISEs and VET providers, depending on the type of call:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thematic calls from King Baudouin Foundation - Fund SD Worx via King Baudouin Foundation - Corporate Fund Impact Together by BNP Paribas Fortis via King Baudouin Foundation - Fund ING for a more Circular Economy via King Baudouin Foundation - Fund ING for a more Digitally Inclusive Society via King Baudouin Foundation - Fund VINCI via King Baudouin Foundation - Digital Belgium Skills Fund 	YES	WISEs, WISE federations, SEs, VET providers
2	<p>Private sponsors (e.g. funds from for-profit companies)</p> <p>For WISEs, SEs, federations of WISEs and VET providers, depending on the type of call:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thematic calls from King Baudouin Foundation - Fund SD Worx via King Baudouin Foundation - Corporate Fund Impact Together by BNP Paribas Fortis via King Baudouin Foundation - Fund ING for a more Circular Economy via King Baudouin Foundation 	YES	WISEs, WISE federations, SEs, VET providers



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Fund ING for a more Digitally Inclusive Society via King Baudouin Foundation- Fund VINCI via King Baudouin Foundation		
3	Donations (from individuals through fundraising activities)	YES	WISEs, WISE federations, SEs, VET providers
4	Voluntary contributions	NO	
5	Own income - economic activity	YES	WISEs, WISE federations, SEs, VET providers



Table 3 - Repayable resources subsidies from public / private sources at reduced fees

Repayable resources -subsidies from public / private sources - at reduced fees			
No	Funding sources	YES / NO	Eligible stakeholder(s)
1	<p>Loans</p> <p>For WISEs, SEs, federations of WISEs and VET providers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trividend - Hefboom - Socrowd <p>For WISEs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Loans for WISEs for Renewable Energy 	YES	WISEs, WISE federations, SEs, VET providers
2	Guarantees	NO	
3	<p>Crowdfunding platforms</p> <p>For WISEs, SEs, federations of WISEs and VET providers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Socrowd 	YES	WISEs, WISE federations, SEs, VET providers

Table 4 - Others

Others			
No	Funding sources	YES / NO	Eligible stakeholder(s)
1	<p>Investments – equity</p> <p>For SEs and traditional enterprises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trividend 	YES	SEs, traditional enterprises
2	<p>Fiscal advantages: e.g. tax advantages for hiring / training disadvantaged workers</p> <p>For WISEs and employers in "non-market" sectors such as health care, social services, etc.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Social Maribel <p>For WISEs, SEs and traditional enterprises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Service Vouchers <p>For WISEs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduced Patrimony Tax for WISEs 	YES	WISEs, SEs, traditional enterprises
3	<p>General state aids for small-medium size enterprises (SMEs) to which WISEs are eligible</p> <p>For WISEs, SEs, federations of WISEs, VET providers and traditional enterprises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Federal Target Group Reduction First-time Hires - Federal Structural Reduction of Employer Contributions for all Private Sector Employees Fully Subject to Social Security 	YES	WISEs, WISE federations, SEs, VET providers, traditional enterprises
4	<p>Public community assets (such as buildings, land)</p>	NO	

2.1 How would you assess the access of the relevant stakeholder (WISEs, SEs, federation of WISEs, VET providers) to the existing funding opportunities / sources for your sector in your country?

- WISEs: Very good
- SEs: Rather good
- Federations of WISEs: Very good
- VET providers: Rather good

2.2 Please, explain your assessment here.

In general, **Flemish WISEs and their federations** have a **very good** access and good knowledge about the specific funding opportunities they are eligible for both on regional, national, and European level.

In terms of accessibility, the following websites, which serve as a first point of information, certainly deserve merits:

- Online Subsidy Database curated by the Flemish Agency of Innovation and Entrepreneurship (VLAIO), which contains an overview of and deep link to all main grants and all other main funding opportunities from the provincial, Flemish, federal (national) and European authorities, for all kinds of business types active in Flanders;
- Website of the Flemish Department of Employment and Social Economy (DWSE), which lists specific support measures for cooperatives, local authorities, proximity services, social enterprises, traditional enterprises and WISEs;
- Website of the King Baudouin Foundation (KBS), which contains an overview of the project calls and programmes organised by KBS, an independent and pluralist Belgian public utility foundation.

However Flemish **SEs and VET providers** can also use the abovementioned websites, we rate access and knowledge for them as **rather good**. This is mainly because of the following:

- SEs: In Belgium, a traditional enterprise can only be officially recognised as a social enterprise if it is a cooperative society (legal form "erkende cvso") that has the International Cooperative Principles in its articles of association, including the absence of a dominant shareholder and the absence of an economic or social profit as its main goal to satisfy the professional or personal needs of its shareholders. Of course, non-profit associations (legal form "vzw") are considered to be social.
 - VET providers: In Belgium, VET providers can take many legal forms and organisational structures, ranging from traditional educational institutions to private training providers, and from non-profit associations to commercial companies.
-

Because, unlike WISEs and their federations, SEs and VET providers can take different legal forms and organisational structures and find themselves working at the crossroads of several policy areas (e.g., education, employment, environment, etc.), SEs and VET providers sometimes have a little less knowledge of the funding opportunities or "fall between two chairs" when applying for specific support.

2.3 What would you recommend to improve the access to the existing funding opportunities / sources among WISEs in your country?

Compared to other regions, access of the relevant stakeholder (WISEs, SEs, federations of WISEs, VET providers) to the existing funding opportunities / sources is good to very good, especially due to the presence of first point of information websites.



3. For each above-mentioned non-repayable - public and private funding sources, please complete the following table (if any of the rows are not applicable, please write N/A).

Table 5 - Details on non-repayable public and private funding sources

Non-repayable - public funding source	
General information	
Type of the funding source	State aid programme from regional budget
Name of the programme / call for proposal	Call "Social Entrepreneurship – Establishment of a Social Enterprise" (Oproep "Sociala Ondernemen - Oprichting")
Regularity and time period of the call (annual, every two years, twice in a year, specific budgetary periods such as those referring to EU multi-annual programming periods etc.)	4 times / year
Website / platform for the publication of the call	https://www.socialeconomie.be/nl/ondersteuning/oproepe/n/oproepe-sociala-ondernemen-oprichting
Description	
Activities / costs supported	<p>Individuals or organisations that have a project idea with social impact and wish to set up a social enterprise can benefit from this grant. Every starting social enterprise that does not yet have their articles of association can apply.</p> <p>Consultancy costs when setting up the new social enterprise, e.g.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Writing the articles of association; - Accounting and financial advice; - Legal advice and notary fees; - Management advice; - Advice and guidance on membership recruitment. <p>Set-up costs when effectively establishing the social enterprise, e.g.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Costs of publication in the Belgian Official Journal; - Management accounting costs; - Notary fees; - Marketing costs: costs for preparing the marketing plan, costs for designing promotional material (e.g., banner) and costs for designing and developing a website or webshop.

	<p>Costs for subscriptions for the duration of the grant period.</p> <p>Costs for filing annual accounts.</p> <p>Compensation for the time that applicants have invested in the project.</p>
Expected outcomes / results	Filing of the social enterprise's articles of association for publication in the Belgian Official Journal
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Flemish Department of Employment and Social Economy (DWSE)
Size of funding / grant (min. -max. amount)	<p>Max. EUR 20,000 + 30% co-financing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Max. EUR 14,000 for project costs (consultancy costs, set-up costs, costs for subscriptions, costs for filing annual accounts) - Lump sum of EUR 6,000 as compensation for the time that applicants have invested in the project
Total budget allocated (EUR equivalent)	Not known
Conditions	
Eligibility criteria / requirements	The grant application is submitted in the name of the candidate founder(s) of the social enterprise. This can be either a natural person or an existing legal entity. At the time of submission, the potential social enterprise must not yet have articles of association filed for publication in the Belgian Official Journal. The social enterprise to be established must have a place of business in Flanders.
Project / funding duration	Max. 6 months
Application	
Application process	<p>Application through an online platform:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Questions considering relevance of the social enterprise to be established: mission / vision, societal challenges, activities, social impact, (indirect) creation of social employment (inclusion of disadvantaged groups) (50%). - Business plan - strength and feasibility: environmental analysis, market strategy, profitability, solvency, operational plan (40%). - Project management and budget: plan of action, budget, co-financing, overview of funding sources (10%). <p>Pitch</p>



Overall assessment

Brief assessment of the accessibility and appropriateness of this funding source for the SEs and WISEs needs

- Accessible, but need for co-financing.
- The calendar of deadlines for the full year is released at the beginning of the year, allowing applicants to prepare well in advance.
- If an application is not approved, there is the option to resubmit. Applicants are given feedback why their application was or was not approved.
- Applicants should already have a very good quantitative and qualitative outline of what they want to do and how they will create positive social impact and employment for disadvantaged workers on the long term, which makes this grant mainly an aid to establishment costs, and less a support programme for early-stage social entrepreneurs.

Table 6 - Details on non-repayable public and private funding sources

Non-repayable - public funding source	
General information	
Type of the funding source	State aid programme from regional budget
Name of the programme / call for proposal	Call "Social Entrepreneurship – Innovation" (Oproep "Sociaal Ondernemen - Innovatie")
Regularity and time period of the call (annual, every two years, twice in a year, specific budgetary periods such as those referring to EU multi-annual programming periods etc.)	4 times / year
Website / platform for the publication of the call	https://www.socialeconomie.be/nl/ondersteuning/oproepe/n/oproepe-sociaal-ondernemen-innovatie
Description	
Activities / costs supported	<p>This grant offers financial support to WISEs (and partnerships with at least 1 WISE) that want to explore innovation opportunities and seek answers to societal challenges. This can involve both conceptualising and developing innovative activities and optimising and innovating existing business processes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consultancy costs related to the innovation process; - Consultancy costs regarding appropriate methodologies; - Consultancy costs regarding internal and external project communication; - Accounting and financial consultancy costs; - Costs for legal advice; - Staff costs related to the elaboration, follow-up, internal stakeholder management and implementation of the innovation process; - Staff costs related to the input of strategic knowledge for the project; - Staff costs associated with input, participation in workshops, idea generation during the process; - Staff costs of WSNs and supporters are out of scope.
Expected outcomes / results	<p>The final outcomes do not have to be known yet. However:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The service or product innovation must have a sufficiently innovative character;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The intended end situation must be sufficiently fundamentally different from existing activities, processes or services; - The chosen processes must have sufficient impact on core processes to have an innovative impact on the entire business operations of the WISE; - The envisaged collaboration must be sufficiently innovative, e.g., by bringing in new partners and/or sufficiently breaking the traditional customer-supplier relationship.
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Flemish Department of Employment and Social Economy (DWSE)
Size of funding / grant (min.-max. amount)	<p>Max. EUR 50,000 + 30% co-financing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Min. 30% for project costs (consultancy costs, accounting costs, costs for legal advice) - Max. 70% for staff costs
Total budget allocated (EUR equivalent)	Not known. The Flemish Minister of Employment and Social Economy distributes the available grant budget among the best ranked applications, in descending order, until the available budget has been used up.
Conditions	
Eligibility criteria / requirements	The grant is open to WISEs, proximity services and to partnerships between those enterprises and third parties. Applicants must meet de-minimis conditions.
Project / funding duration	Max. 12 months
Application	
Application process	<p>Application through an online platform:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Questions on relevance: The project proves itself as relevant. It demonstrates how innovation will be used to create social added value, which preconditions will be guaranteed to ensure impact on employment and how the project will contribute to the Flemish policy objectives (30%). - Questions on feasibility: The project applicant identifies the necessary steps in the process to bring the innovation to fruition, involves the stakeholders, defines correct milestones and sets a correct path to innovation during the various phases of the innovation process (40%). - Project management and budget: The project applicant demonstrates efforts in a realistic and sufficiently detailed

	<p>schedule, where the necessary costs are realistically estimated and sufficiently shown in detail (30%).</p>
<p>Overall assessment</p>	
<p>Brief assessment of the accessibility and appropriateness of this funding source for the SEs and WISEs needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accessible, but need for co-financing. - The calendar of deadlines for the full year is released at the beginning of the year, allowing applicants to prepare well in advance. - If an application is not approved, there is the option to resubmit. Applicants are given feedback why their application was or was not approved. - Social enterprises that are not a WISE can't apply for this funding opportunity, except if they partner with a WISE. - Interesting funding source for innovative projects considering digitisation, circular economy, new business models, etc. - Quite tough evaluation: All project proposals are ranked according to the score obtained on the evaluation criteria (relevance, feasibility, project management and budget). Project proposals that obtain less than 60% of the total points score are not eligible for a grant. Project proposals scoring less than 50% on 1 of the above-mentioned criteria are placed at the bottom of the ranking.



Table 7 - Details on non-repayable public and private funding sources

Non-repayable - public funding source	
General information	
Type of the funding source	State aid programme from regional budget
Name of the programme / call for proposal	<p>One-off thematic calls, e.g., on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Green mobility in WISEs (Oproep "Investerings in een duurzame en groene mobiliteit in de sociale economie") - Digital transformation of WISEs (Oproep "Digitale transformatieprojecten voor maatwerkbedrijven") - Experimental partnerships between WISEs and healthcare institutions (Oproep "Proeftuinen samenwerking sociale economie en Vlaamse en geregionaliseerde zorg- en welzijnsvoorzieningen) - Etc.
Regularity and time period of the call (annual, every two years, twice in a year, specific budgetary periods such as those referring to EU multi-annual programming periods etc.)	Undetermined, but in the past often annually or every two years
Website / platform for the publication of the call	<p>https://www.socialeconomie.be/nl/ondersteuning/oproepe n/oproep-investerings-een-duurzame-en-groene-mobiliteit-de-sociale-economie</p> <p>https://www.socialeconomie.be/nl/ondersteuning/oproepe n/oproep-proeftuinen-samenwerking-sociale-economie-en-vlaamse-en</p> <p>https://www.socialeconomie.be/nl/ondersteuning/oproepe n/oproep-digitale-transformatieprojecten-voor-maatwerkbedrijven</p> <p>https://www.socialeconomie.be/nl/ondersteuning/oproepe n/oproep-open-innovatie-en-strategische-transformatie-de-sociale-economie</p>
Description	
Activities / costs supported	<p>This grant offers one-time financial support to WISEs for specific topics. Multiple types of costs are often funded, depending on the type of call:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investments (whether or not limited to the depreciation period); - Consultancy costs; - Project costs;

	- Staff costs, except for the costs of WSNs and supporters.
Expected outcomes / results	Filing of the social enterprise's articles of association for publication in the Belgian Official Journal
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Flemish Department of Employment and Social Economy (DWSE)
Size of funding / grant (min.-max. amount)	Depending on the type of call: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In general, between EUR 50,000 and EUR 200,000 - Between 20% and 40% co-financing
Total budget allocated (EUR equivalent)	Depending on the type of call
Conditions	
Eligibility criteria / requirements	Depending on the type of call, but in general only for WISEs. Applicants must meet de-minimis conditions.
Project / funding duration	Depending on the type of call, but in general between 12 and 24 months
Application	
Application process	Application through an online platform: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Questions considering economic and social relevance, feasibility, innovation and sustainability, etc. (depending on the type of call) - Project management - Budget
Overall assessment	
Brief assessment of the accessibility and appropriateness of this funding source for the SEs and WISEs needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accessible, but need for co-financing. - Often the submission time is very short, and the topic is not known in advance, so there is sometimes no match between the topic of the call and the strategic challenges of a specific WISE. - No possibility for resubmission

Table 8 - Details on non-repayable public and private funding sources

Non-repayable - public funding source	
General information	
Type of the funding source	State aid programme from regional budget
Name of the programme / call for proposal	Managerial Recommendation ("Managementadvies")
Regularity and time period of the call (annual, every two years, twice in a year, specific budgetary periods such as those referring to EU multi-annual programming periods etc.)	Open call throughout the year
Website / platform for the publication of the call	https://www.socialeconomie.be/nl/managementadvies
Description	
Activities / costs supported	<p>This grant offers financial support to the management of WISEs to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Obtain an informed written advice; - Improve business operations; - Strengthen, grow or transform the business of the WISE. <p>Managerial Recommendations can be about the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strategic business management; - Human resources management; - Financial-legal management; - Communication management; - Innovation and quality control management; - Stakeholder management; - Feasibility studies. <p>Out of scope are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Legally required advice (all advices regulated within a legal framework, e.g. on environment, energy, quality, etc.); - Advice of a permanent or periodic nature (services such as routine tax advice, regular legal services, routine advice on selection, recruitment or personnel policy), the drawing up of a business plan for a start-up enterprise and advice related to usual operating expenditure (e.g., site surveys for land remediation and land protection);

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Services relating to grants. <p>Costs supported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Personnel and operating costs of the external consultant; - Travel expenses of the external consultant.
Expected outcomes / results	<p>A Managerial Recommendation must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clearly describe and analyse the problem; - Make a well-defined recommendation; - Propose a specific approach to put the recommendation into action.
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Flemish Department of Employment and Social Economy (DWSE)
Size of funding / grant (min.-max. amount)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 50% of the total eligible cost of the Managerial Recommendation - With a max. of EUR 10,000
Total budget allocated (EUR equivalent)	N/A
Conditions	
Eligibility criteria / requirements	<p>Applicants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Must be a WISE; - Should not be an enterprise "in difficulty"; - Can only request 1 Managerial Recommendation per 2 calendar years; - Can't apply for Managerial Recommendation if they have already applied for Specific Managerial Support earlier that year; - Must meet de-minimis conditions.
Project / funding duration	N/A
Application	
Application process	<p>Application through an online platform:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Step 1: Filling out the application form; - Step 2: Adding the proposal and quote of an external consultant.
Overall assessment	



B-WISE

Skills for the future : WISEs ready!

Brief assessment of the accessibility and appropriateness of this funding source for the SEs and WISEs needs

Accessible, but need for co-financing and only for WISEs.



Table 9 - Details on non-repayable public and private funding sources

Non-repayable - public funding source	
General information	
Type of the funding source	State aid programme from regional budget
Name of the programme / call for proposal	Specific Managerial Support ("Specifieke Managementondersteuning")
Regularity and time period of the call (annual, every two years, twice in a year, specific budgetary periods such as those referring to EU multi-annual programming periods etc.)	Open call throughout the year
Website / platform for the publication of the call	https://www.socialeconomie.be/nl/specifieke-managementondersteuning
Description	
Activities / costs supported	Costs supported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Personnel and operating costs of the external consultant; - Travel expenses of the external consultant.
Expected outcomes / results	A Specific Managerial Support must be a report containing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The complete set of management recommendations, with a clear analysis of the problem and well-defined guidelines for each recommendation; - An action plan, with an overview of actions to be taken and a timing with deadlines to realise each of those actions. WISEs should report in writing to the Flemish Department of Employment and Social Economy (DWSE) on the progress of the action plan, 6 months, 12 months and 18 months after finalising the Specific Managerial Support.
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Flemish Department of Employment and Social Economy (DWSE)
Size of funding / grant (min.-max. amount)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 100% of the first EUR 10,000 cost of the Specific Managerial Support - 50% of the second part of the cost of the Specific Managerial Support, with a max. of EUR 5,000

Total budget allocated (EUR equivalent)	N/A
Conditions	
Eligibility criteria / requirements	<p>Applicants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Must be a WISE; - Must be financially or economically loss-making; - Must meet de-minimis conditions.
Project / funding duration	N/A
Application	
Application process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Step 1: Notifying the Flemish Department of Employment and Social Economy (DWSE) via e-mail, providing an interpretation of the economic or financial loss and attaching financial statements; - Step 2: Filling out the digital application form, adding the proposal and quote of an external consultant and adding attach the report of the WISE's Board showing that the Board endorses the request for Specific Managerial Support and makes a commitment to provide all information and cooperation to the external consultant so that they can properly execute the order.
Overall assessment	
Brief assessment of the accessibility and appropriateness of this funding source for the SEs and WISEs needs	Accessible, but need for co-financing and only for WISEs that are financially or economically loss-making.

Table 10 - Details on non-repayable public and private funding sources

Non-repayable - public funding source	
General information	
Type of the funding source	State aid programme from regional budget
Name of the programme / call for proposal	Call "Social Entrepreneurship" – Grants for projects promoting access to employment for people with a large distance to the labour market in the province of Flemish Brabant (Oproep "Sociaal Ondernemerschap" – Subsidies voor projecten die de toegang tot de arbeidsmarkt bevorderen voor mensen met een grote afstand tot die arbeidsmarkt in Vlaams-Brabant)
Regularity and time period of the call (annual, every two years, twice in a year, specific budgetary periods such as those referring to EU multi-annual programming periods etc.)	Twice in a year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - By April 1: applications are assessed by the end of the second quarter; - By November 1: applications are assessed by the end of the fourth quarter.
Website / platform for the publication of the call	https://www.vlaamsbrabant.be/nl/premies-en-subsidies/sociaal-ondernemerschap
Description	
Activities / costs supported	This grant offers financial support to projects that contribute to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The professionalisation and strengthening of the social economy; - The development of new social economy initiatives; - Inclusive entrepreneurship in the traditional economy. Activities / costs supported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Staff costs; - Operational costs; - Depreciation costs of investments.
Expected outcomes / results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishing the employment of persons with a distance to the labour market (both quantitatively and qualitatively); - Filling a gap (e.g., geographically, in terms of target groups, etc.); - Strengthening the social economy or promoting inclusive entrepreneurship; - Innovation;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Valorisation and dissemination of the results; - Added value for all partners involved.
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Province of Flemish Brabant
Size of funding / grant (min.-max. amount)	<p>The grant amount depends on whether a minimum of 3 organisations are involved in the application or not, and whether there is cooperation between social economy and regular economy or not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Less than 3 organisations involved (individual application) and no collaboration between social economy and regular economy: max. EUR 5,000 - At least 3 organisations involved (collective application) and no cooperation between social economy and regular economy: max. EUR 10,000 - Less than 3 organisations involved (individual application) and collaboration between social economy and regular economy: max. EUR 20,000 - At least 3 organisations involved (collective application) and cooperation between social economy and regular economy: max. EUR 40,000 <p>The jury scores the projects and makes a proposal of grant amount based on the scores awarded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A score between 91 and 100 receives 100% of the maximum grant amount; - A score between 81 and 90 receives 90% of the maximum grant amount; - A score between 71 and 80 receives 80% of the maximum grant amount; - A score between 61 and 70 receives 70% of the maximum grant amount; - A score between 51 and 60 receives 60% of the maximum grant amount; - A score equal to or less than 50 receives no grant.
Total budget allocated (EUR equivalent)	N/A
Conditions	
Eligibility criteria / requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Applicants must be legal entities under private or public law or de facto associations. - Projects must be carried out within the province of Flemish Brabant. - Applicants must meet de-minimis conditions.

Project / funding duration	Max. 18 months
Application	
Application process	<p>Application through an online platform:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project description - Timing - Budget - Partnership agreement in the case of a cooperation between social and traditional economy and in the case of at least 3 organisations are involved in the application
Overall assessment	
Brief assessment of the accessibility and appropriateness of this funding source for the SEs and WISEs needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accessible without need of co-financing, although cooperation between at least 3 partners and between social en traditional economy is recommended to receive a significant grant. - Applicants do not have to be from the province of Flemish Brabant, although projects must be carried out within the province of Flemish Brabant, which makes this call particularly interesting for interregional partnerships. - Unlike most other public funding sources, investment costs are also funded, which makes this call particularly interesting. - The calendar of deadlines for the full year is released at the beginning of the year, allowing applicants to prepare well in advance. - If an application is not approved, there is the option to resubmit. Applicants are given feedback why their application was or was not approved.

Table 11 - Details on non-repayable public and private funding sources

Non-repayable - public funding source	
General information	
Type of the funding source	State aid programme from regional budget
Name of the programme / call for proposal	Grant to promote innovation and professionalisation through cooperation between traditional enterprises and WISEs in the province of East Flanders (Subsidie voor de bevordering van innovatie en professionalisering door samenwerking tussen reguliere ondernemingen en maatwerkbedrijven in Oost-Vlaanderen)
Regularity and time period of the call (annual, every two years, twice in a year, specific budgetary periods such as those referring to EU multi-annual programming periods etc.)	Annual
Website / platform for the publication of the call	https://oost-vlaanderen.be/werken-en-ondernemen/ondernemen/subsidies/subsidie-voor-de-bevordering-van-innovatie-en-professionaliserin.html
Description	
Activities / costs supported	This grant offers financial support to deliver a product or service from the cooperation between traditional enterprises and WISEs. Activities / costs supported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investments; - Staff costs; - Operational costs.
Expected outcomes / results	The end result should have a creative and innovative character and contribute to the professionalisation of knowledge and skills at both traditional companies and WISEs.
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Province of East Flanders
Size of funding / grant (min.-max. amount)	Max. EUR 25,000, of which max. EUR 125,00 for investments
Total budget allocated (EUR equivalent)	N/A

Conditions	
Eligibility criteria / requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Applicants must be a partnership between at least 1 WISE and 1 traditional enterprise working jointly on innovation and professionalisation in the social economy; - The submitting applicant must be a legal entity and must have its registered office or activities on the territory of the province of East Flanders; - The project must be fully implemented, ending on December 31 of the year following the application; - The project must have a provincial or supra-local scope and/or importance; - This grant may not be cumulated with another grant from the province of East Flanders; - This grant may be combined with a grant from another government on condition that the total sum of the project grant does not exceed the total cost of the project; - Applicants must meet de-minimis conditions.
Project / funding duration	1 year
Application	
Application process	Filling out the digital application form and adding a Letter of Intent of the partnership between at least 1 WISE and 1 traditional enterprise working jointly on innovation and professionalisation in the social economy.
Overall assessment	
Brief assessment of the accessibility and appropriateness of this funding source for the SEs and WISEs needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accessible without need of co-financing. - Cooperation between at least 2 partners and between social en traditional economy is mandatory. - Only the submitting applicant has to be from the province of East Flanders, which makes this call particularly interesting for interregional partnerships. - Unlike most other public funding sources, investment costs are also funded, which makes this call particularly interesting. - If an application is not approved, there is the option to resubmit. Applicants are given feedback why their application was or was not approved.

Table 12 - Details on non-repayable public and private funding sources

Non-repayable - public funding source	
General information	
Type of the funding source	Specific state aids for employment Subsidies for jobs of WSNs / incentives for the recruitment of WSNs
Name of the programme / call for proposal	Flemish Target Group Reduction for Persons without Recent Sustainable Employment Experience ("Vlaamse Doelgroepvermindering voor Personen zonder Recente Duurzame Werkervaring")
Regularity and time period of the call (annual, every two years, twice in a year, specific budgetary periods such as those referring to EU multi-annual programming periods etc.)	Open throughout the year
Website / platform for the publication of the call	https://www.vlaanderen.be/doelgroepvermindering-voor-persoon-en-sonder-recente-duurzame-werkervaring
Description	
Activities / costs supported	Via the Flemish Target Group Reduction for Persons without Recent Sustainable Employment Experience, employers can obtain a Social Security reduction of maximum EUR 1,000 per employee without recent sustainable employment experience per quarter, for the first 4 quarters after hiring.
Expected outcomes / results	Sustainable employment of employees without recent sustainable employment
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Flemish Government
Size of funding / grant (min.-max. amount)	Max. EUR 1,000 per employee without recent sustainable employment experience per quarter, for the first 4 quarters after hiring
Total budget allocated (EUR equivalent)	N/A
Conditions	

<p>Eligibility criteria / requirements</p>	<p>This measure applies to any private, non-profit or public sector employer with a business unit in Flanders.</p> <p>The employee must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - be at least 25 years old and younger than 58 years old on the last day of the quarter in which they start working; - be registered at the Flemish Employment Service (VDAB) the day before hiring; - have been registered at VDAB as a non-working jobseeker for at least 2 years prior to entering employment; - work on at least a half-time employment contract; - have a reference quarterly wage of less than EUR 10,000 per quarter. <p>The Flemish Target Group Reduction for Persons without Recent Sustainable Employment Experience may be combined with the following aid measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Individual Customized Job for employers; - Federal Structural Reduction of Employer Contributions for all Private Sector Employees Fully Subject to Social Security. <p>The combination of the Flemish Target Group Reduction for Persons without Recent Sustainable Employment Experience and the Federal Structural Reduction of Employer Contributions for all Private Sector Employees Fully Subject to Social Security can never amount to more than the social security contribution employers would have to pay.</p> <p>The Flemish Target Group Reduction for Persons without Recent Sustainable Employment Experience may not be combined with the following aid measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Federal Target Group Reduction First-time Hires
<p>Project / funding duration</p>	<p>1 year</p>
<p>Application</p>	
<p>Application process</p>	<p>Online application via the multifunctional declaration to the National Social Security Office:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Step 1: Verifying the conditions - Step 2: Indicating the reduction in the multifunctional declaration - Step 3: Confirming the employee's work performance - Step 4: Applying for a decision from the National Social Security Office



Overall assessment	
Brief assessment of the accessibility and appropriateness of this funding source for the SEs and WISEs needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- The Flemish Target Group Reduction for Persons without Recent Sustainable Employment Experience is in place since 01/10/2023, making it too early to make any statements on this measure.- The previous similar and financially even more favourable measure Flemish Recruitment Incentive for Long-term Job Seekers had a rather limited success, with about 600 Social Security reductions per year.



Table 13 - Details on non-repayable public and private funding sources

Non-repayable - public funding source	
General information	
Type of the funding source	<p>Subsidies for jobs of WSNs / incentives for the recruitment of WSNs</p> <p>Subsidies for support services to WSNs</p>
Name of the programme / call for proposal	Collective Customized Job ("Collectief Maatwerk")
Regularity and time period of the call (annual, every two years, twice in a year, specific budgetary periods such as those referring to EU multi-annual programming periods etc.)	A call will only be opened according to the available employment credits, each time for a limited call period.
Website / platform for the publication of the call	https://www.socialeconomie.be/nl/collectief-maatwerk
Description	
Activities / costs supported	<p>A WISE that hires a WSN is entitled to an Employment Support Package ("werkondersteuningspakket" – WOP). This package consists of a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wage Subsidy: an aid in the wage costs of 40% to 75% to compensate for the reduced employment potential of the WSN; - Individual Support Subsidy: an aid to support the skills development and coaching of the WSN, whether or not in function of a transfer to the open labour market. <p>A WISE can also benefit from an Organisational Support Subsidy, compensating the cost of adapting the production processes to the needs of the WSNs.</p>
Expected outcomes / results	Sustainable employment of WSNs in WISEs
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Flemish Department of Employment and Social Economy (DWSE)
Size of funding / grant (min.-max. amount)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wage Subsidy: an aid in the wage costs of 40% to 75% of the WSN (amount determined after assessment of the WSN by the Flemish Employment Service VDAB) - Individual Support Subsidy: variable, depending on WSN (amount determined after assessment of the WSN by the Flemish Employment Service VDAB)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organisational Support Subsidy: variable, depending on WISE
Total budget allocated (EUR equivalent)	N/A
Conditions	
Eligibility criteria / requirements	<p>WISEs with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At least 20 FTE equivalent employed WSNs on an annual basis; - An employee base that consists of at least 55% people with a long-term work-limiting disability (people with a work-limiting disability or a psychosocial disability); - The legal form of a non-profit organisation or a social enterprise; - The work integration of WSNs as their main activity; - A registration as a service provider within the quality and registration framework of the Flemish Department of Work and Social Economy.
Project / funding duration	Unlimited in time
Application	
Application process	<p>The application is divided into two steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The application for a WISE label: the purpose of this step is to identify companies eligible for "Collective Customized Jobs", regardless of the resources available. - The application for a quota of subsidisable jobs: WISEs with a label "Collective Customized Jobs" can subscribe to this call for quota. That quota indicates how many employment places a WISE can offer to WSNs. Such a call will only be opened according to the available credits, each time for a limited call period.
Overall assessment	
Brief assessment of the accessibility and appropriateness of this funding source for the SEs and WISEs needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accessible for mature and established WISEs only, not for WISE start-ups. - Early-stage social enterprises with work integration of WSNs as their main activity, social enterprises with a main activity other than work integration of WSNs, VET providers and WISE federations can use "Individual Customized Job" instead.

Table 14 - Details on non-repayable public and private funding sources

Non-repayable - public funding source	
General information	
Type of the funding source	<p>Subsidies for jobs of WSNs / incentives for the recruitment of WSNs</p> <p>Subsidies for support services to WSNs</p>
Name of the programme / call for proposal	Individual Customized Job for employers ("Individueel Maatwerk voor werkgevers")
Regularity and time period of the call (annual, every two years, twice in a year, specific budgetary periods such as those referring to EU multi-annual programming periods etc.)	Open throughout the year
Website / platform for the publication of the call	https://www.vlaanderen.be/individueel-maatwerk/individueel-maatwerk-voor-werkgevers
Description	
Activities / costs supported	<p>Employers can apply for a grant to hire or employ a WSN. The grant compensates for any additional costs or potentially lower productivity of the employee and consists of a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wage Subsidy; - Individual Support Subsidy.
Expected outcomes / results	Sustainable employment of WSNs outside the context of a WISE
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Flemish Department of Employment and Social Economy (DWSE)
Size of funding / grant (min.-max. amount)	<p>Wage Subsidy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Calculated as a % of the wage of the WSN (minimum 20% and maximum 75%); - Intended to meet the potential additional costs or lower productivity that the work restriction may entail; - Amount decreases over a 2 or 5-year period. <p>Individual Support Subsidy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lump-sum financial compensation (minimum EUR 1,030 and maximum EUR 2,480 on a quarterly basis); - Intended for support on the workplace provided by a qualified supporter and a colleague coach;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Takes into account an additional (start-up) cost during the first year; - Amount decreases over a 2 or 5-year period.
Total budget allocated (EUR equivalent)	N/A
Conditions	
Eligibility criteria / requirements	Employers can apply for "Individual Customized Job" if the WSN involved lives in Flanders and has received a recommendation for "Individual Customized Job" from the Flemish Employment Service VDAB.
Project / funding duration	Decreasing in time (2 or 5 years) and renewable if necessary
Application	
Application process	<p>Online application:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Checking whether all the conditions are met; - Completing the application form and attaching supporting documents.
Overall assessment	
Brief assessment of the accessibility and appropriateness of this funding source for the SEs and WISEs needs	"Individual Customized Job" is in place since 01/07/2023, making it too early to make any statements on this measure.

Table 15 - Details on non-repayable public and private funding sources

Non-repayable - public funding source	
General information	
Type of the funding source	Funding for training for the development of (digital) skills of workers in WISEs / guidance before recruitment
Name of the programme / call for proposal	Work-based Activities in the Social Economy ("AMA WSE")
Regularity and time period of the call (annual, every two years, twice in a year, specific budgetary periods such as those referring to EU multi-annual programming periods etc.)	Open throughout the year
Website / platform for the publication of the call	https://www.vlaanderen.be/sociale-economie/arbeidsmatige-activiteiten-in-de-sociale-economie
Description	
Activities / costs supported	<p>Work-based activities in the social economy are unpaid activities that allow participants to experience the latent functions of work, such as meaningfulness and structure. Through support, barriers are lowered at the medical, mental, psychological, psychiatric or social level. The target group of this programme are people who cannot find paid work because of medical, mental, psychological, psychiatric and/or social problems, but who are able to participate in work-based activities for at least 12 hours a week.</p> <p>WISEs (and partnerships with at least 1 WISE) can apply for the allocation of a quota of work-related activities in the social economy and get a subsidy per participant in the programme.</p>
Expected outcomes / results	Employment of the participant in a WISE or in the open labour market at the end of the programme
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Flemish Department of Employment and Social Economy (DWSE)
Size of funding / grant (min.-max. amount)	WISEs can receive a subsidy up to EUR 2,650 per participant per year.
Total budget allocated (EUR equivalent)	N/A

Conditions	
Eligibility criteria / requirements	<p>The WISE and the organisations / partners working in the partnership have the following obligations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - They employ at least 1 skilled supporter (having at least a social, psychological or pedagogical degree at bachelor level or at least two years of relevant experience) who is responsible for the guidance during the work-based activities; - They have a registration as a service provider within the quality and registration framework of the Flemish Department of Work and Social Economy; - Before the start of the work-based activities, they take out the necessary insurance policies that protect the participant against physical accidents and against civil liability; - At the start of the work-based activities, they sign a support agreement with the participant.
Project / funding duration	Unlimited in time
Application	
Application process	Application via the Flemish Department of Employment and Social Economy (DWSE)
Overall assessment	
Brief assessment of the accessibility and appropriateness of this funding source for the SEs and WISEs needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As of 01/07/2023, over 80 WISEs were offering work-based activities in the social economy with a total quota for more than 1,900 participants. - 2,5 years after the start of the programme on 01/04/2021, more than 50% of WISEs have already joined, making this measure a success.

Table 16 - Details on non-repayable public and private funding sources

Non-repayable - public funding source	
General information	
Type of the funding source	Funding for training for the development of (digital) skills of workers in WISEs / guidance before recruitment
Name of the programme / call for proposal	Training Subsidies for WISEs ("Opleidingssubsidies voor maatwerkbedrijven")
Regularity and time period of the call (annual, every two years, twice in a year, specific budgetary periods such as those referring to EU multi-annual programming periods etc.)	Open throughout the year
Website / platform for the publication of the call	https://www.vivosocialprofit.org/opleidingssubsidies-voor-maatwerkbedrijven
Description	
Activities / costs supported	<p>WISEs can submit subsidy applications for reimbursement of training courses they have organised.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Only training costs are reimbursed: wage, travel and subsistence costs are not; - All training is eligible, including operational or technical training.
Expected outcomes / results	As many employees as possible (WSNs, supporters, enablers) in WISEs engage in lifelong learning.
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Sector Fund for the Social Profit (VIVO Social Profit)
Size of funding / grant (min.-max. amount)	<p>Subsidy option 1: "External trainer"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This option can be used if an external trainer gave a training course in a WISE, or if an employee of a WISE followed a training course with an external trainer. - All training costs are reimbursed. <p>Subsidy option 2: "Internal employee"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In many WISEs, supporters are providing training to WSNs or peers. WISEs can also apply for a subsidy for these training actions.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A subsidy of EUR 12.50 per training hour and per participant is reimbursed.
Total budget allocated (EUR equivalent)	N/A
Conditions	
Eligibility criteria / requirements	<p>Subsidy option 1 ("External trainer"): To take advantage of this grant opportunity, WISEs must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Register some data, e.g., the duration of the training and participant data; - Upload the training invoice as proof. <p>Subsidy option 2 ("Internal employee"): To take advantage of this grant opportunity, WISEs must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Record some data, e.g., the name and position of the internal employee who gave the training, the duration of the training and the data of the participants; - Upload an attendance list with all names and signatures of the participants as proof. There must be min. 3 participants.
Project / funding duration	N/A
Application	
Application process	<p>Online application:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Checking whether all the conditions are met; - Completing the application form and attaching supporting documents.
Overall assessment	
Brief assessment of the accessibility and appropriateness of this funding source for the SEs and WISEs needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Very accessible for all kinds of WISEs and all kinds of training initiatives. - Similar opportunities are available for social enterprises.

Table 17 - Details on non-repayable public and private funding sources

Non-repayable - public funding source	
General information	
Type of the funding source	Funding for the adjustment of the workplace (in terms of accessibility, digitalization, etc.)
Name of the programme / call for proposal	Workplace Adjustment Reimbursement for Employers and Self-employed Entrepreneurs ("Recht op een tegemoetkoming in arbeidsgereedschap of -kledij en arbeidspostaanpassingen voor werknemers en zelfstandigen")
Regularity and time period of the call (annual, every two years, twice in a year, specific budgetary periods such as those referring to EU multi-annual programming periods etc.)	Open throughout the year
Website / platform for the publication of the call	https://werkgevers.vdab.be/arbeidshandicap/arbeidspostaanpassing.shtml https://www.vdab.be/arbeidshandicap/znarbeidsgereedschap.shtml
Description	
Activities / costs supported	Employers that need to adapt an employee's workplace because of a work restriction or health problem can get the costs reimbursed under certain conditions. Also self-employed entrepreneurs can benefit from this measure.
Expected outcomes / results	Workplace adjusted to the specific needs of a (self-employed) WSN
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Flemish Employment Service (VDAB)
Size of funding / grant (min.-max. amount)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Refund of purchase and installation costs for the adjustments made to an individual workplace. This is anything in the enterprise that cannot be moved. E.g., a light signal on a machine with sound signals, an inclined surface, adapted plumbing, a stair elevator, etc. - Refund of the difference between adjusted equipment and standard equipment. E.g., for an ordinary door that opens automatically, the cost of the automation and not the cost of the door will be refunded, etc.

Total budget allocated (EUR equivalent)	N/A
Conditions	
Eligibility criteria / requirements	<p>The following requirements must be met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The WSN is entitled to reimbursement for a workplace adjustment; - The adjustment is not yet available in the enterprise and not common; - The adjustment is necessary for the worker and the benefit is in proportion to the costs; - It is not an adaptation that the employer has to provide anyway based on the law on prevention and well-being at work; - The employer receives no other allowance for the adjustment and the employee is given priority in using the adjustment; - VDAB has the opportunity to examine the workplace and assess whether the adjustment is necessary; - The employer doesn't enter the allowance as a business expense on the enterprises tax return; - The employer applied for reimbursement before the purchase has been done or the installation has been made.
Project / funding duration	N/A
Application	
Application process	<p>Online application:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Step 1: Filling out the application form; - Step 2: Providing VDAB with a quote; - Step 3: The employer will be contacted by an expert of VDAB; - Step 4: Purchasing the equipment for the workplace adjustment.
Overall assessment	
Brief assessment of the accessibility and appropriateness of this funding source for the SEs and WISEs needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accessible and usable for individual workplace adjustments. - However, VDAB is currently receiving few applications with the use of VR, AR or cobots in workplace adjustments. One of the limitations for VDAB to reimburse the costs of the workplace adjustments is that these aids are exclusively reserved for a specific person with a work-



	<p>limiting disability and that these aids do not be part of a policy on prevention and ergonomics. E.g., an exoskeleton that provides ergonomic benefits for many employees in the construction or logistics sector isn't considered a workplace adjustment. It is a different matter when the exoskeleton is used exclusively for an employee with reduced strength or a less severe paralysis.</p>
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Table 18 - Details on non-repayable public and private funding sources

Non-repayable - public funding source	
General information	
Type of the funding source	Funding for the adjustment of the workplace (in terms of accessibility, digitalization, etc.)
Name of the programme / call for proposal	Workability Voucher ("Werkbaarheidscheque")
Regularity and time period of the call (annual, every two years, twice in a year, specific budgetary periods such as those referring to EU multi-annual programming periods etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Open call throughout the year - In 2024 between January 1 and July 31 or until annual funds are exhausted
Website / platform for the publication of the call	https://www.vlaanderen.be/werkbaarheidscheque-en-verhoging-kmo-portefeuille
Description	
Activities / costs supported	<p>With the workability voucher self-employed entrepreneurs, SMEs and large companies from the profit sector as well as organisations from the social profit sector can get financial support to identify and tackle bottlenecks around "workable work" within the organisation.</p> <p>With the workability voucher, applicants can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Purchase a workability scan or risk analysis to identify the workability level in the organisation or purchase guidance on conducting such a workability scan; - Purchase guidance on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reporting on workability; - Drawing up a workability plan and prioritising the actions or improvement projects included in such a plan; - Monitoring changes in workability; - Developing a telework policy; - Purchase advice, guidance and/or training, which must always focus on the psychosocial wellbeing of the workers, and more specifically on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adjustments to the workplace and the work organisation, which benefit the workability and safety of the workers; - Skills strengthening necessary for workability; - Addressing a policy around the psychological wellbeing and/or mental resilience / energy of employees and employers.

Expected outcomes / results	Sustainable improvement of working conditions
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Flemish Department of Employment and Social Economy (DWSE)
Size of funding / grant (min. -max. amount)	Max. EUR 9,000 + 40% co-financing
Total budget allocated (EUR equivalent)	EUR 3 million (2024)
Conditions	
Eligibility criteria / requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Applicants must employ at least 1 worker through an employment contract. - Applicants must meet de-minimis conditions. - Applicants must not have used their workability voucher in the past. - The workability scan must include an employee survey with a focus on various components of workable work, such as stress, motivation, learning opportunities and work-life balance. - The services offered within this call can only be performed by quality-registered service providers. - As a result of the scan, analysis or guidance, applicants must commit to implementing actions and/or improvement projects in the field of workability. - Workability vouchers can't be used to meet legal obligations.
Project / funding duration	Max. 8 months, with a deadline of August 31 2024
Application	
Application process	<p>Online application (ESF):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Step 1: Filling out the application form; - Step 2: Adding the proposal and quote of a quality-registered service provider.
Overall assessment	
Brief assessment of the accessibility and appropriateness of this funding source for the SEs and WISEs needs	Accessible and usable for adjustments to the workplace and the work organisation, which benefit the workability and safety of the workers. Also usable for skills strengthening of workers necessary for workability.

Table 19 - Details on non-repayable public and private funding sources

Non-repayable - public funding source	
General information	
Type of the funding source	Financial support for individual professional activity of WSN (self-entrepreneurship)
Name of the programme / call for proposal	Individual Customized Job for Self-employed Entrepreneurs ("Individueel Maatwerk voor zelfstandigen")
Regularity and time period of the call (annual, every two years, twice in a year, specific budgetary periods such as those referring to EU multi-annual programming periods etc.)	Open throughout the year
Website / platform for the publication of the call	https://www.vlaanderen.be/individueel-maatwerk/individueel-maatwerk-voor-zelfstandigen
Description	
Activities / costs supported	Self-employed WSNs can apply for a grant to compensate for any additional costs or potentially lower productivity.
Expected outcomes / results	Sustainable self-employment of WSNs (as a main occupation if a WSN does not work in any other job or as a secondary occupation if the WSN combines it with another paid employment)
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Flemish Department of Employment and Social Economy (DWSE)
Size of funding / grant (min.-max. amount)	The amount of the subsidy is determined based on the guaranteed average minimum monthly income ("Gewaarborgd Gemiddeld Minimummaandinkomen" GGMMI). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minimum EUR 391 per month (20% of GGMMI); - Maximum EUR 1,075 per month (55% of GGMMI); - Amount decreases over a 2 or 5-year period.
Total budget allocated (EUR equivalent)	N/A
Conditions	
Eligibility criteria / requirements	Self-employed WSNs can apply for "Individual Customized Job" if:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The self-employed WSN involved lives in Flanders; - (S)he has received a recommendation for "Individual Customized Job" from the Flemish Employment Service VDAB; - (S)he became self-employed in a main or secondary occupation after 01/10/2008 or obtained a recognized work restriction after that date; - (S)he proves an annual taxable income as a self-employed person that exceeds at least the annual minimum social security contribution for self-employed persons in a main occupation.
Project / funding duration	Decreasing in time (2 or 5 years) and renewable if necessary
Application	
Application process	<p>Online application:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Checking whether all the conditions are met; - Completing the application form and attaching supporting documents.
Overall assessment	
Brief assessment of the accessibility and appropriateness of this funding source for the SEs and WISEs needs	"Individual Customized Job" is in place since 01/07/2023, making it too early to make any statements on this measure.

Table 20 - Details on non-repayable public and private funding sources

Non-repayable - public funding source	
General information	
Type of the funding source	National Operational Programmes with EU funds: European Regional Development Funds
Name of the programme / call for proposal	<p>Mainly one-off thematic EFRO Interreg calls, e.g., on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A smarter Europe: innovation and skills for smart transformation - A more sustainable and greener Europe: climate, environment and nature - A more social Europe: inclusive labour market, education and sustainable leisure
Regularity and time period of the call (annual, every two years, twice in a year, specific budgetary periods such as those referring to EU multi-annual programming periods etc.)	7-year programme with annual calls
Website / platform for the publication of the call	<p>https://www.interregeurope.eu/next-call-for-projects</p> <p>https://interregvland.eu/</p> <p>https://www.interregemr.eu/home</p> <p>https://www.interreg-fwvl.eu/nl</p> <p>https://www.interregnorthsea.eu/</p> <p>https://www.nweurope.eu/</p> <p>https://urbact.eu/</p>
Description	
Activities / costs supported	<p>Flanders participates in the governance of 9 Interreg programmes: 3 cross-border programmes, 2 transnational programmes and 4 interregional programmes covering the whole of the European Union.</p> <p>Interreg grants offer one-time financial support to WISEs, social enterprises, federations of WISEs or VET providers for specific topics. Multiple types of costs are often funded, depending on the type of call:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investments; - Consultancy costs; - Project costs;

	- Staff costs.
Expected outcomes / results	Depending on the type of call
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Flemish Agency of Innovation and Entrepreneurship (VLAIO) – EFRO Interreg
Size of funding / grant (min.-max. amount)	Depending on the type of call
Total budget allocated (EUR equivalent)	Depending on the type of call
Conditions	
Eligibility criteria / requirements	Depending on the type of call, but in general open for all kinds of enterprises, research institutions, etc. Applicants must meet de-minimis conditions.
Project / funding duration	Depending on the type of call
Application	
Application process	Application through an online platform
Overall assessment	
Brief assessment of the accessibility and appropriateness of this funding source for the SEs and WISEs needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accessible, but need for co-financing and interregional partnerships. - The often extensive application process and stringent reporting requirements can discourage smaller organisations. Although, this is sometimes offset by the help of an intermediary such as a research institution or a province.

Table 21 - Details on non-repayable public and private funding sources

Non-repayable - public funding source	
General information	
Type of the funding source	National Operational Programmes with EU funds: European Regional Development Funds
Name of the programme / call for proposal	<p>Mainly one-off thematic EFRO Flanders calls, e.g., on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A smarter Flanders: strengthening innovation capacity and developing skills for smart specialisation, industrial transition and entrepreneurship - A more sustainable Flanders: promoting renewable energy and sustainable urban mobility
Regularity and time period of the call (annual, every two years, twice in a year, specific budgetary periods such as those referring to EU multi-annual programming periods etc.)	7-year programme with calls throughout the year
Website / platform for the publication of the call	https://www.efro-projecten.be/nl/
Description	
Activities / costs supported	<p>Multiple types of costs are often funded, depending on the type of call:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investments; - Consultancy costs; - Staff costs; - Operating costs; - Overhead costs.
Expected outcomes / results	Depending on the type of call
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Flemish Agency of Innovation and Entrepreneurship (VLAIO) – EFRO Vlaanderen
Size of funding / grant (min.-max. amount)	<p>Depending on the type of call:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 40%-60% co-financing - Co-financing is provided by the Flemish Government, local authorities and the private sector.
Total budget allocated (EUR equivalent)	Depending on the type of call

Conditions	
Eligibility criteria / requirements	Depending on the type of call, but in general open for all kinds of governments (local, regional, national), research institutions, universities, universities of applied sciences, innovation centres, SMEs, non-profits, partnerships, etc. Applicants must meet de-minimis conditions.
Project / funding duration	2 or 3 years, depending on the type of call
Application	
Application process	Application through an online platform
Overall assessment	
Brief assessment of the accessibility and appropriateness of this funding source for the SEs and WISEs needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accessible, but need for co-financing. - The often extensive application process and stringent reporting requirements can discourage smaller organisations. Although, this is sometimes offset by the help of an intermediary such as a research institution or a province.

Table 22 - Details on non-repayable public and private funding sources

Non-repayable - public funding source	
General information	
Type of the funding source	National Operational Programmes with EU funds: European Social Fund
Name of the programme / call for proposal	<p>Mainly one-off thematic Europe WSE calls, e.g., on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Social innovation - Lifelong learning - Integration - Workability - Corporate social responsibility - Social inclusion
Regularity and time period of the call (annual, every two years, twice in a year, specific budgetary periods such as those referring to EU multi-annual programming periods etc.)	7-year programme with calls throughout the year
Website / platform for the publication of the call	https://www.europawse.be/praktische-info/openstaande-oproepen
Description	
Activities / costs supported	<p>ESF grants offer one-time financial support to WISEs, social enterprises, federations of WISEs or VET providers for specific topics. Multiple types of costs are often funded, depending on the type of call:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project costs; - Staff costs.
Expected outcomes / results	Depending on the type of call
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Europe WSE, part of the Flemish Department of Employment and Social Economy (DWSE)
Size of funding / grant (min. -max. amount)	Depending on the type of call
Total budget allocated (EUR equivalent)	Depending on the type of call
Conditions	

Eligibility criteria / requirements	Partnerships between diverse organisations can apply for grants. Applicants must meet de-minimis conditions.
Project / funding duration	Depending on the type of call
Application	
Application process	Application through an online platform
Overall assessment	
Brief assessment of the accessibility and appropriateness of this funding source for the SEs and WISEs needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Not very accessible for individual organisations and often need for co-financing. - The often extensive application process and stringent reporting requirements can discourage smaller organisations. - Europe WSE focuses mostly on partnerships between large Flemish stakeholders, making this kind of funding opportunity more suitable for partnerships with WISE federations and VET providers.

Table 23 - Details on non-repayable public and private funding sources

Non-repayable - private funding source	
General information	
Type of the funding source	<p>Private philanthropic funds</p> <p>Private sponsors</p>
Name of the programme / call for proposal	<p>Thematic calls from King Baudouin Foundation (Koning Boudewijnstichting), e.g., on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Climate, the environment and biodiversity - Education and development of talents - Health - Heritage and culture - Social engagement - Social justice and poverty
Regularity and time period of the call (annual, every two years, twice in a year, specific budgetary periods such as those referring to EU multi-annual programming periods etc.)	Open calls throughout the year
Website / platform for the publication of the call	https://kbs-frb.be/en
Description	
Activities / costs supported	<p>The King Baudouin Foundation is an independent and pluralist public utility foundation, which has been working to improve society for over 45 years. The King Baudouin Foundation encourages effective philanthropy among individuals and businesses in Belgium, Europe and around the world.</p> <p>Every year, the King Baudouin Foundation launches 200 calls for projects and supports over 5,000 organisations (such as non-profit organisations, cultural organisations, universities and local governments) and citizens who serve the community in fields such as health, the fight against poverty, the environment, and heritage, in Belgium and internationally.</p> <p>Multiple types of costs are often funded, depending on the type of call:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investments; - Consultancy costs; - Project costs;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Staff costs. <p>The King Baudouin Foundation's support is generally financial, but may also be in the form of coaching, guidance and networking.</p>
Expected outcomes / results	Depending on the type of call
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	King Baudouin Foundation
Size of funding / grant (min. -max. amount)	Depending on the type of call
Total budget allocated (EUR equivalent)	Depending on the type of call
Conditions	
Eligibility criteria / requirements	Depending on the type of call
Project / funding duration	Depending on the type of call
Application	
Application process	Application through an online platform
Overall assessment	
Brief assessment of the accessibility and appropriateness of this funding source for the SEs and WISEs needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Very accessible for individual non-profit organisations, depending on the type of call. - No need for co-financing. - No de-minimis conditions.

Table 24 - Details on non-repayable public and private funding sources

Non-repayable - private funding source	
General information	
Type of the funding source	Private philanthropic funds Private sponsors
Name of the programme / call for proposal	Fund SD Worx via King Baudouin Foundation ("Fonds SD Worx via Koning Boudewijnstichting")
Regularity and time period of the call (annual, every two years, twice in a year, specific budgetary periods such as those referring to EU multi-annual programming periods etc.)	Annual
Website / platform for the publication of the call	https://kbs-frb.be/nl/sd-worx-fonds
Description	
Activities / costs supported	The Fund SD Worx aims to promote developments and improvements in the field of human resources, employment and the relationship between employers and employees, including the integration of as many people as possible, including people from disadvantaged groups, in the open labour market and/or the temporary work market, as well as promoting other forms of work and economic activities both in Belgium and abroad. The specific target group of the call can shift each year.
Expected outcomes / results	Through the guidance or training offered to the persons with a distance to the open labour market, the funded organisations ensure sustainable integration into the open labour market of these individuals.
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Fund SD Worx, managed by the King Baudouin Foundation
Size of funding / grant (min.-max. amount)	- Around EUR 50,000 - Organisations supported as part of this call may, after the end of the first year, apply for the same amount for additional support in the following year.
Total budget allocated (EUR equivalent)	Around EUR 350,000

Conditions	
Eligibility criteria / requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Applicants must be Belgian non-profit organisations specialised in the job placement of persons with a distance to the open labour market (i.e., persons whose employment rate is structurally lower than the average employment rate, such as NEET youth, persons in poverty, women with a migration background, etc.). - Applicants must be a liaison within a broader cooperation with private or public actors, aiming to increase the target group's access to the open labour market. Specifically, applicants should be in contact with other actors (companies, job placement organisations, VET providers, etc.) in order to allow their target group to move on to the open labour market. - The support from Fund SD Worx must contribute to the already existing operation of the applicant around the guidance to employment. Only applicants that guide at least 100 people within this operation on an annual basis are eligible. Fund SD Worx wishes to contribute to the training / coaching of at least 30 people. - Applicants must be able to make clear the impact of their operation, on the one hand in the terms of guidance towards employment or self-employment, on the other hand on the competences, skills, talents and self-confidence of the assisted persons. - Applicants must be able to demonstrate their professionalism by having, e.g., a quality label, a recognition by the appropriate authority, a train-the-trainer programme or professional support for the (volunteer) staff of the organisation, etc.
Project / funding duration	1 year
Application	
Application process	<p>Application through the online platform of the King Baudouin Foundation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project description - Timing - Budget
Overall assessment	
Brief assessment of the accessibility and appropriateness of this funding source for the SEs and WISEs needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Very accessible for mature Belgian non-profit organisations specialised in the job placement of persons with a distance to the open labour market (i.e., persons



whose employment rate is structurally lower than the average employment rate, such as NEET youth, persons in poverty, women with a migration background, etc.). However, as Flemish WISEs are mainly productive WISEs in which training for employment in the open labour market is not the main objective, no Flemish WISEs have been able to benefit from this funding so far. The same applies to federations of WISEs and traditional VET providers.

- No need for co-financing.
- No de-minimis conditions.

Table 25 - Details on non-repayable public and private funding sources

Non-repayable - private funding source	
General information	
Type of the funding source	Private philanthropic funds Private sponsors
Name of the programme / call for proposal	Corporate Fund Impact Together by BNP Paribas Fortis via King Baudouin Foundation ("Impact Together (bedrijfsfonds BNP Paribas Fortis) via Koning Boudewijnstichting")
Regularity and time period of the call (annual, every two years, twice in a year, specific budgetary periods such as those referring to EU multi-annual programming periods etc.)	Annual
Website / platform for the publication of the call	https://kbs-frb.be/nl/impact-together
Description	
Activities / costs supported	To increase its positive impact, BNP Paribas Fortis created Impact Together (formerly known as Venture Philanthropy Fund): its own philanthropy fund linked to sustainable and responsible investments. The aim of Impact Together is clear: to provide financial support to local organisations working every day for a better future, for both social and environmental purposes. Activities / costs supported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Financial support of up to EUR 80,000 spread over 3 years (with a minimum of 50% consultancy); - Extra-financial support (advice, network, etc.).
Expected outcomes / results	Impact Together aims to support both organisations with significant development opportunities as well as organisations facing the challenge of maintaining their current social outcomes. For some organisations, ensuring their continuity (e.g., employment) will already be a great outcome.
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Corporate Fund Impact Together by BNP Paribas Fortis, managed by the King Baudouin Foundation
Size of funding / grant (min.-max. amount)	Max. EUR 80,000

Total budget allocated (EUR equivalent)	N/A
Conditions	
Eligibility criteria / requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Applicants must be Belgian non-profit associations or enterprises in the social economy. - Applicants founded less than 3 years ago must have at least one project being started and a staff of min. 1 FTE. - Applicants founded more than 3 years ago must have a staff of min. 3 FTEs, with a formal contract. - Applicants must have either described powerful development opportunities or must have described how they intend to maintain the social purpose embodied in their mission.
Project / funding duration	3 years
Application	
Application process	<p>Stage 1: Application through the online platform of the King Baudouin Foundation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Eligibility check - Organisational information (mission / target group / activities / impact) - Financial information - Requested support <p>Stage 2: After an in-depth evaluation by an independent Investment Committee (jury), the selection process proceeds in several stages, including visits to the retained applicants and interviews with their leaders. Besides the social impact of the organisation, important elements are the leadership capacities and openness to change of the key persons (management, board of directors) that must embody and drive change within the organisation.</p>
Overall assessment	
Brief assessment of the accessibility and appropriateness of this funding source for the SEs and WISEs needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accessible, although the extensive application process and the stringent reporting requirements can discourage smaller organisations. - No need for co-financing. - No de-minimis conditions.

Table 26 - Details on non-repayable public and private funding sources

Non-repayable - private funding source	
General information	
Type of the funding source	Private philanthropic funds Private sponsors
Name of the programme / call for proposal	Fund ING for a more Circular Economy via King Baudouin Foundation ("ING Fonds voor een meer Circulaire Economie via Koning Boudewijnstichting")
Regularity and time period of the call (annual, every two years, twice in a year, specific budgetary periods such as those referring to EU multi-annual programming periods etc.)	Annual
Website / platform for the publication of the call	https://kbs-frb.be/nl/ing-fonds-voor-een-meer-circulaire-economie-1
Description	
Activities / costs supported	<p>Fund ING for a more Circular Economy supports projects for training and employment in professions that make it possible to preserve natural resources within an entire value chain.</p> <p>The supported initiatives should target the top steps on Lansink's ladder but should also strengthen and upskill locally based workers with a large distance to the labour market.</p> <p>Applicants planning to revise a product or service to reduce or, if possible, eliminate waste generation are encouraged to submit a proposal. Eco-design and reuse play a key role in this phase of both qualitative and quantitative waste prevention.</p> <p>The call also focuses on proposals that emphasise reuse, shared use, repair, repackaging, conversion, etc. To this end, collection, disassembly, sorting, cleaning, quality control, inventory management, filing, sales and transport, among others, are needed to extend the life of goods and their components or intensify their use.</p>
Expected outcomes / results	Both the socio-professional inclusion of people and cooperation between partners to achieve a continuous cycle of material use
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Fund ING for a more Circular Economy, managed by the King Baudouin Foundation

Size of funding / grant (min.-max. amount)	Between EUR 25,000 and EUR 50,000
Total budget allocated (EUR equivalent)	EUR 250,000
Conditions	
Eligibility criteria / requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Applicants must be non-profit associations, social enterprises, small businesses (start-ups), individuals, groups, neighbourhood committees, schools and other educational institutions, training centres. - Partnerships between these actors are indispensable and are also possible with public authorities and commercial enterprises.
Project / funding duration	1.5 years
Application	
Application process	<p>Application through the online platform of the King Baudouin Foundation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project description - Timing - Budget
Overall assessment	
Brief assessment of the accessibility and appropriateness of this funding source for the SEs and WISEs needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Very accessible, although the budget seems to be rather limited compared to the high ambitions of the call (partnerships and top steps on Lansink's ladder). - Very appropriate for WISEs and SEs with ambitions in the circular economy. Several WISEs and SEs already used this funding in the past. - No need for co-financing. - No de-minimis conditions.

Table 27 - Details on non-repayable public and private funding sources

Non-repayable - private funding source	
General information	
Type of the funding source	<p>Private philanthropic funds</p> <p>Private sponsors</p>
Name of the programme / call for proposal	<p>Fund ING for a more Digitally Inclusive Society via King Baudouin Foundation ("ING Fonds voor een Digitaal Inclusievere Samenleving via Koning Boudewijnstichting")</p>
Regularity and time period of the call (annual, every two years, twice in a year, specific budgetary periods such as those referring to EU multi-annual programming periods etc.)	<p>Annual</p>
Website / platform for the publication of the call	<p>https://kbs-frb.be/nl/ing-voor-een-digitaal-inclusievere-samenleving-fonds</p> <p>https://kbs-frb.be/nl/ing-fonds-voor-een-digitaal-inclusievere-samenleving-2023</p>
Description	
Activities / costs supported	<p>Fund ING for a more Digitally Inclusive Society aims to promote a social and inclusive digital society in which, thanks to the necessary digital skills, people can make the most of digital technology, and in which no one is excluded from the digital world because of a lack of access or skills.</p> <p>The call is addressed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Social organisations that have already built up expertise on digital inclusion; - Training actors or umbrella organisations wishing to develop training and coaching for organisations and workers in direct contact with people in a socially vulnerable position. In this way, these organisations and employees receive the necessary tools and know-how to support their target audience.
Expected outcomes / results	<p>ING Fund for a more Digital Inclusive Society aims to strengthen digital inclusion by raising digital skills of people in vulnerable positions (low income and/or low education level) and ensuring that digital services are or become accessible to them as well.</p>

	<p>Fund ING for a more Digitally Inclusive Society focuses specifically on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reducing the digital divide with specific approaches tailored to regional needs; - Best practices and innovation solutions developed by the sector; - Long-term investment and long-term service delivery; - Autonomy and empowerment of individuals and full participation in society ("no one left behind"); - Sustainable, real and measurable impact (incl. number and profile of people reached); - Integration of economic, social and environmental aspects into the overall strategy; - Customisation and sustainability of actions and impact; - Capable of promoting multiplier effects and social, scientific or cultural innovation. <p>In this way, ING Fund for a more Digital Inclusive Society aims to leverage the number of "digital helpers" in Belgium.</p>
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Fund ING for a more Digitally Inclusive Society, managed by the King Baudouin Foundation
Size of funding / grant (min.-max. amount)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Between EUR 25,000 and EUR 50,000 - Organisations supported as part of this call may, after the end of the first year, apply for the same amount for additional support in the following year.
Total budget allocated (EUR equivalent)	EUR 350,000
Conditions	
Eligibility criteria / requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The call is addressed to social organisations that have already built up expertise on digital inclusion, training providers or umbrella organisations wishing to develop training and coaching for organisations and workers in direct contact with people in a socially vulnerable position. - Applicants may not be local government or purely commercial organisation. However, they can act as partners.
Project / funding duration	1 year
Application	



Application process	Application through the online platform of the King Baudouin Foundation: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Project description- Timing- Budget
Overall assessment	
Brief assessment of the accessibility and appropriateness of this funding source for the SEs and WISEs needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Very accessible and appropriate for non-profit organisations that have already built up expertise on digital inclusion and VET providers or federations of WISEs wishing to develop training and coaching for organisations and workers in direct contact with people in a socially vulnerable position.- No need for co-financing.- No de-minimis conditions.



Table 28 - Details on non-repayable public and private funding sources

Non-repayable - private funding source	
General information	
Type of the funding source	Private philanthropic funds Private sponsors
Name of the programme / call for proposal	Fund VINCI via King Baudouin Foundation ("Fonds VINCI via Koning Boudewijnstichting")
Regularity and time period of the call (annual, every two years, twice in a year, specific budgetary periods such as those referring to EU multi-annual programming periods etc.)	Annual
Website / platform for the publication of the call	https://www.fondsvinci.be/ https://kbs-frb.be/nl/vinci-fonds https://kbs-frb.be/nl/projectoproep-van-het-fonds-vinci-0 https://kbs-frb.be/nl/projectoproep-van-het-fonds-vinci-1
Description	
Activities / costs supported	<p>Fund VINCI aims to support, by human and financial means, organisations that pursue a social goal in order to fight together against any form of exclusion and to be able to give everyone in our society their own place, role and dignity.</p> <p>Fund VINCI offers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A grant for investments; - Group VINCI employees the opportunity to make a voluntary commitment (in the form of a mentorship) to the supported organisations. They commit themselves by making their professional competences available to strengthen the supported organisations. <p>The specific target group of the call can shift each year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organisations promoting access to the labour market, by carrying out one of the following actions in favour of people in a situation of socio-economic disadvantage: inclusion in the labour market; training and qualification; facilitating mobility; - Organisations promoting coexistence, by carrying out one of the following actions in favour of people in a

	situation of socio-economic disadvantage: sensitising young people to greater citizenship; social reintegration; access to housing.
Expected outcomes / results	Fund VINCI aims to strengthen the sustainability of the projects and actions of supported organisations.
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Fund VINCI, managed by the King Baudouin Foundation
Size of funding / grant (min.-max. amount)	- Min. EUR 5,000 - Max. EUR 25,000
Total budget allocated (EUR equivalent)	Around EUR 275,000
Conditions	
Eligibility criteria / requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The projects must comply with the principles of the Fund VINCI and fit within the themes "Promoting access to the labour market" or "Building a better society". - The mentors are essential key figures for the Fund VINCI and want to use their competences to support the project. Only projects where the voluntary commitment of employees of the VINCI group is possible can be selected. - The projects are carried out in Belgium, in the districts where Group VINCI companies or employees are active. This proximity guarantees the efficiency and relevance of sponsorship. - The financial support requested goes towards expenditure on investments in material or intangible needs. Recurring costs cannot be covered. - The financial support must be used in the year following the selection. Mentorship, on the other hand, is unlimited in time. Projects provide a realistic calendar for their implementation. - The initiatives aim to be sustainable and create permanent jobs or activities. Temporary projects are not eligible. - The applicant is willing to devote time and energy to the further development of the project.
Project / funding duration	1 year
Application	



Application process	Application through the online platform of the King Baudouin Foundation: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Project description- Timing- Budget
Overall assessment	
Brief assessment of the accessibility and appropriateness of this funding source for the SEs and WISEs needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Accessible for Belgian non-profit organisations, although a close connection to Group VINCI (e.g., geographical, Board of Directors, staff, etc.) is an important condition to get selected.- No need for co-financing.- No de-minimis conditions.



Table 29 - Details on non-repayable public and private funding sources

Non-repayable - private funding source	
General information	
Type of the funding source	Private philanthropic funds
Name of the programme / call for proposal	Digital Belgium Skills Fund
Regularity and time period of the call (annual, every two years, twice in a year, specific budgetary periods such as those referring to EU multi-annual programming periods etc.)	Annual
Website / platform for the publication of the call	https://bosa.belgium.be/en/themes/digital-administration/digital-strategy-and-policy/digital-belgium-skills-fund
Description	
Activities / costs supported	<p>Digital Belgium Skills Fund supports projects designed to boost digital skills, particularly among socially vulnerable young people and (young) adults. It therefore focuses primarily on social and socio-economic integration.</p> <p>Activities / costs supported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Staff costs (both of internal and external staff); - Operating costs (consumables and support materials, rental and/or leasing for the use of infrastructure, training costs, marketing costs); - Investments with a depreciation period longer than 3 years (e.g., installation works, furniture, high-tech equipment, etc.). <p>The specific target group or focus of the call can shift each year.</p>
Expected outcomes / results	<p>The aim is to make vulnerable (young) groups more resilient in a rapidly evolving digital world, to trigger their interest so that they want to take up an offer to increase their digital skills (measured on the basis of DigComp), and to even bring them up to a high level of expertise, that will make them consciously choose an education aimed at further developing the knowledge they have acquired or consciously choose a "digital" profession.</p>

	Projects that demonstrate that they can be continued both socially and financially in a sustainable manner, without continued support from the Digital Belgium Skills Fund, are given preference.
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Belgian government
Size of funding / grant (min.-max. amount)	- Min. EUR 100,000 - Max. EUR 1 million
Total budget allocated (EUR equivalent)	Around EUR 5 million
Conditions	
Eligibility criteria / requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Applicants must be a legal entity with a registered office in Belgium. - Public administrations (municipalities and Public Social Welfare Centres) and government departments are not eligible for this call. - Schools, universities of applied sciences, universities and other educational institutions are not eligible for this call. - No grants are given for for-profit projects. The intelligence collected in the project may not be commercially exploited. - Applicants must describe their efforts to work towards co-financing or to building up auto-financing. Digital Belgium Skills Fund wants to avoid a continued dependence on grant funding of the projects by the Digital Belgium Skills Fund as much as possible.
Project / funding duration	1 year
Application	
Application process	<p>Application through an online form:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project description - Action plan - Financial plan - Co-financing plan
Overall assessment	
Brief assessment of the accessibility and appropriateness of this funding source for the SEs and WISEs needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accessible for Belgian organisations that focus on boosting the digital skills of vulnerable young people. - Although there is no need for co-financing, projects that demonstrate that they can be continued after the



funding duration both socially and financially in a sustainable manner (co-financing or auto-financing), without continued support from the Digital Belgium Skills Fund, are given preference.

- No de-minimis conditions.



4. For each above-mentioned repayable resources - subsidies from public / private sources grants - at reduced fees, please complete the following table.

Table 30 - Details on repayable resources subsidies from public / private sources grants at reduced fees

Repayable resources -subsidies from public / private sources - at reduced fees	
General information	
Type of the funding source	Loans
Name of the funding source	Trividend
Website of the funding source	https://www.trividend.be/
Description	
Activities / costs supported	The loan can be used for different types of activities and costs.
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Trividend, with support from the Flemish Government, or co-financing from Social Investment Fund ("Sociaal Investeringsfonds" – SIFO) or guarantee from Guarantee Management ("Waarborgbeheer nv")
Size of funding per enterprise	Trividend prefers to invest amounts between EUR 50,000 and EUR 150,000, with a max. of EUR 450,000. This can be done via: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A subordinated loan; - A convertible subordinated loan if there is potential for substantial financial added value; - A capital participation; - A subordinated bullet loan.
Repayment procedure (installments, interest, deadline, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Subordinated loan: in the case of a subordinated loan, the term is between 4 and 10 years (usually 5 to 6 years), with an interest rate of 3% to 8% per year. For loans where SIFO co-finances, the maximum amount can reach EUR 450,000; - Capital participation: always via a minority participation with an exit horizon of 5 to 6 years, aiming for a capital gain of 6% per year;



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Subordinated bullet loan: a loan whereby the capital is repaid at the end of the term (5 to 6 years), with an interest rate starting at 5% per year.
Total budget allocated (EUR equivalent)	EUR 6.5 million
Conditions	
Eligibility criteria / requirements	<p>Trividend invests primarily in companies that create employment for people distanced from the labour market. This employment can be done in-house or via a cooperation with a WISE.</p> <p>In addition, Trividend also invests in other impact-driven companies, with a focus on circular economy or scalable social innovation, from the moment a product or service can demonstrate an initial validation by the market.</p> <p>Trividend is a partner for small and medium-sized companies and non-profit organisations that are starting up, are in a growth phase or need capital after a difficult period to strengthen the further development of their business (working capital).</p> <p>Depending on the kind of funding, applicants must meet de-minimis conditions.</p>
Application	
Application process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Step 1: Online request for funding - Step 2: Kick-off meeting with an expert from Trividend - Step 3: Analysis and co-creation of an investment case with Trividend's expert - Step 4: Presentation of the investment case to the investment committee of Trividend - Step 5: Contracting

Table 31 - Details on repayable resources subsidies from public / private sources grants at reduced fees

Repayable resources -subsidies from public / private sources - at reduced fees	
General information	
Type of the funding source	Loans
Name of the funding source	Hefboom
Website of the funding source	https://hefboom.be/
Description	
Activities / costs supported	<p>The loan can be used for different types of activities and costs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investing in property, renovation or equipment (investment loan): for the purchase and renovation of real estate, for investments in making buildings energy efficient, for investments in sustainable mobility (electric bicycles, vehicles, vans, etc.), for the purchase of equipment, machinery or installations, etc.; - Financing working capital (working capital loan): to finance the enterprise's working capital, to bridge payment deadlines between suppliers and customers or to pre-finance e.g., end-of-year bonuses and holiday pay; - Bridging grants or other future income (bridging loan): to bridge the period from the granting of local, regional, federal or European subsidies until when the enterprise actually receives them or for future guaranteed revenues; - Loan for vulnerable (starting) entrepreneurs (impulse loan).
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Hefboom, with co-financing from Social Investment Fund ("Sociala Investeringsfonds" – SIFO) or EU Programme for Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI)
Size of funding per enterprise	Enterprises can get loans of up to around EUR 800,000.
Repayment procedure (installments, interest, deadline, etc.)	- Investment loan (medium- or long-term): repayment term up to 20 years with market-oriented fixed or variable interest rate;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Working capital loan (medium-term): repayment term up to 10 years with market-oriented fixed or variable interest rate; - Bridging loan (short-term): repayment term up to 1 year with market-oriented fixed interest rate; - Impulse loan (short- and medium-term): repayment term up to 5 years with a fixed interest rate of 8.5% and a maximum loan of EUR 25,000.
Total budget allocated (EUR equivalent)	N/A
Conditions	
Eligibility criteria / requirements	<p>Hefboom addresses organisations and enterprises in the social-profit and non-profit sectors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Social economy: WISEs, proximity services, SEs, etc.; - Welfare, care, health and equal opportunities sector; - Ecology and sustainable innovation: circular economy, circular shops, mobility, renewable energy, environment, social innovation, organic farming, community supported agriculture, etc.; - Inclusive and social housing: community land trust, forms of cohousing such as cohousing, inclusive and cooperative living, etc. <p>Hefboom does not exclude legal forms.</p> <p>Depending on the kind of funding, applicants must meet de-minimis conditions.</p>
Application	
Application process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Step 1: Online request - Step 2: Kick-off meeting with an expert from Hefboom - Step 3: Analysis and co-creation of a funding case with Hefboom's expert - Step 4: Contracting

Table 32 - Details on repayable resources subsidies from public / private sources grants at reduced fees

Repayable resources -subsidies from public / private sources - at reduced fees	
General information	
Type of the funding source	Loans
Name of the funding source	Loans for WISEs for Renewable Energy ("Leningen voor maatwerkbedrijven voor hernieuwbare energie")
Website of the funding source	https://www.socialeconomie.be/nl/leningen-voor-hernieuwbare-energie
Description	
Activities / costs supported	<p>The loan can be used for different types of investments in renewable energy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Photovoltaic system (solar panels); - Geothermal heat pump; - Solar water heater; - Other renewable energy installations.
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Participation Fund Flanders ("Participatiefonds Vlaanderen")
Size of funding per enterprise	The loan can cover the full amount of the investment, provided it does not exceed the WISEs maximum annual energy requirement.
Repayment procedure (installments, interest, deadline, etc.)	<p>The loan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is granted at a fixed interest rate of 1%; - Has a repayment term of 10 years, with monthly repayments; - Can be applied per WISE or per WISE site.
Total budget allocated (EUR equivalent)	EUR 5 million
Conditions	
Eligibility criteria / requirements	<p>Applicants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Must be a WISE; - Must meet de-minimis conditions.



Application

Application process

Filling out the digital application form, adding a feasibility study on renewable energy measures, a quote of the installer, a written report of the market consultation in accordance with the Public Procurement Act, a statement on the de-minimis aid, the articles of association of the WISE, the most recent profit and loss account and the most recent financial balance sheet of the WISE.



Table 33 - Details on repayable resources subsidies from public / private sources grants at reduced fees

Repayable resources -subsidies from public / private sources - at reduced fees	
General information	
Type of the funding source	Loans Crowdfunding platforms
Name of the funding source	Socrowd
Website of the funding source	https://socrowd.be/
Description	
Activities / costs supported	Socrowd is an innovative funding platform that sets up crowdfunding for organisations or projects with a positive impact on society. The money the applicant raises from its supporters, is multiplied by three by Socrowd, in the form of an interest-free loan. The applicant can use that interest-free loan to finance different types of activities or investments. Once the loan is paid off, the supporters can also get out.
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Socrowd
Size of funding per enterprise	Min. EUR 1,000
Repayment procedure (installments, interest, deadline, etc.)	The loan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is interest-free but has an annual cost-covering administrative fee of 1.3% on the total amount lent; - Has a repayment term of max. 10 years, with monthly repayments.
Total budget allocated (EUR equivalent)	N/A
Conditions	
Eligibility criteria / requirements	Socrowd only supports organisations that prioritise social or societal objectives over financial gain. Examples of eligible sectors include the welfare sector, social employment, people- and environment-friendly enterprises, international solidarity, ecology (environment), culture, etc. Socrowd also



	<p>assesses how the applicant achieves its objectives. In an ideal case, the applicant aims to operate on the following principles: participatory entrepreneurship, transparency, socialisation of returns, cooperation, and expertise. With a financial investigation, Socrowd also assesses the repayment capacity of the applicant and the financial feasibility of the project. Individuals or self-employed people cannot apply to Socrowd for a loan.</p>
Application	
Application process	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Step 1: Online application with budget, project description, organisational details and contact details.- Step 2: Socrowd's credit cell assesses the eligibility of the application and decides.- Step 3: The applicant gets a separate page on Socrowd's crowdfunding platform to raise funds from its supporters.- Step 4: Socrowd triples the crowdfunding amount raised.



5. In case of each above-mentioned other funding sources, please complete the following table.

Table 34 - Others

Other funding sources	
General information	
Type of the funding source	Investments - equity
Name of the funding source	Trividend
Website of the funding source	https://www.trividend.be/
Description	
Activities / costs supported	The convertible subordinated loan or capital participation can be used for different types of activities and costs.
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Trividend, with support from the Flemish Government, or co-financing from Social Investment Fund ("Sociaal Investeringsfonds" – SIFO) or guarantee from Guarantee Management ("Waarborgbeheer nv")
Size of funding per enterprise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Convertible subordinated loan if there is potential for substantial financial added value: in the case of a subordinated loan, the term is between 4 and 10 years (usually 5 to 6 years), with an interest rate of 3% to 8% per year. For loans where SIFO co-finances, the maximum amount can reach EUR 450,000; - Capital participation: always via a minority participation with an exit horizon of 5 to 6 years, aiming for a capital gain of 6% per year.
Conditions	
Eligibility criteria / requirements	<p>Trividend invests primarily in companies that create employment for people distanced from the labour market. This employment can be done in-house or via a cooperation with a WISE.</p> <p>In addition, Trividend also invests in other impact-driven companies, with a focus on circular economy or scalable social innovation, from the moment a product or service can demonstrate an initial validation by the market.</p>



B-WISE

Skills for the future : WISEs ready!

	<p>Trividend is a partner for small and medium-sized companies and non-profit organisations that are starting up, are in a growth phase or need capital after a difficult period to strengthen the further development of their business (working capital).</p>
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Table 35 - Others

Other funding sources	
General information	
Type of the funding source	Fiscal advantages: tax advantages for hiring workers in the non-profit sector
Name of the funding source	Social Maribel ("Sociale Maribel")
Website of the funding source	https://werk.belgie.be/nl/themas/werkgelegenheid-en-arbeidsmarkt/werkgelegenheidsmaatregelen/algemene-verlaging-van-de
Description	
Activities / costs supported	<p>Social Maribel is a social security tax break which aims to promote the creation of employment in the non-profit sector. Employers in "non-market" sectors such as health care, social services, etc. get funding from a Social Maribel Fund for the wage costs of new jobs.</p> <p>The measure is not specific to WISEs, but can be used by WISEs, SEs and other non-profit enterprises active in sectors such as health, education, culture, social services, etc.</p>
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Social Maribel Fund
Size of funding per enterprise	<p>For each job allocated, the employer receives a financial contribution from the competent Social Maribel Fund which may not exceed the wage cost of the additional employee hired.</p> <p>However, this does not include costs not directly related to the employee's remuneration (e.g., workplace accidents insurance, workplace medical care, etc.).</p>
Conditions	
Eligibility criteria / requirements	<p>Only employers who have applied to the relevant Social Maribel Fund can enjoy the benefits of the Social Maribel. The Social Maribel Funds provide funding according to predetermined criteria.</p> <p>Social Maribel is therefore an indirect and conditional contribution reduction since the employer does not</p>



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	automatically and systematically benefit from funding under the Social Maribel.
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Table 36 - Others

Other funding sources	
General information	
Type of the funding source	Fiscal advantages: tax advantages for hiring / training disadvantaged workers
Name of the funding source	Service Vouchers ("Dienstencheques")
Website of the funding source	https://www.vlaanderen.be/vlaamse-dienstencheques
Description	
Activities / costs supported	<p>The Belgian Service Voucher system is a scheme not restricted to, but commonly used by proximity services executed by WISEs in Flanders, Brussels and Wallonia.</p> <p>Any natural person willing to get housework services can buy service vouchers (EUR 9.00 per voucher (1 hour) – Flanders 2023, with an additional tax reduction.</p> <p>The difference with the real labour cost is compensated by a governmental grant, directly paid to the employer.</p> <p>Employers also receive a lump-sum subsidy for the guidance and competence building of the of the disadvantaged worker, the achievement of transition to the open labour market and the qualitative management of the enterprise.</p>
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Flemish Government
Size of funding per enterprise	<p>The difference with the real labour cost (EUR 27,52 per hour – Flanders 2023) is compensated by a governmental grant, directly paid to the employer.</p> <p>Employers also receive a lump-sum subsidy for the guidance and competence building of the of the disadvantaged worker, the achievement of transition to the open labour market and the qualitative management of the enterprise.</p>
Conditions	
Eligibility criteria / requirements	<p>Basically, any enterprise can become a Service Voucher enterprise, i.e., traditional enterprises as well as non-profit organisations, Public Social Welfare Centres, etc.</p> <p>Service Voucher enterprises can:</p>



- | | |
|--|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Either exclusively carry out activities with Service Vouchers;- Or carry out other activities besides Service Voucher activities. In this case, enterprises are obliged to set up a "sui-generis department" within the enterprise. This department must have a specific manager, must register Service Voucher activities separately from other activities, and must have separate accounts for Service Voucher activities. |
|--|---|



Table 37 - Others

Other funding sources	
General information	
Type of the funding source	Fiscal advantages: reduced taxes
Name of the funding source	Reduced Patrimony Tax for WISEs ("Vermindering van de patrimoniumtaks voor maatwerkbedrijven")
Website of the funding source	https://financien.belgium.be/nl/vzws/belastingen-btw/jaarlijkse-taks-vzws
Description	
Activities / costs supported	<p>Non-profit organisations don't have to pay corporation tax. Instead, they have to pay an annual patrimony tax on all their assets. It is a progressive tax:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EUR 0 - EUR 50,000 of assets: 0% - EUR 50,000 - EUR 250,000 of assets: 0.15% - EUR 250,000 - EUR 500,000 of assets: 0.30% - EUR 500,000 - ... of assets: 0.45% <p>A few sectors, including the healthcare sector and WISEs' sector, benefit from a reduction in the patrimony tax. For all these sectors, the value of their assets is reduced by 62.3%, so that only 37.7% of the value of their assets is taxed. As a result, these institutions will never pay more than (rounded) 0.17% on their assets.</p>
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Belgian Government
Size of funding per enterprise	The value of a WISE's assets is reduced by 62.3%, so that only 37.7% of the value of its assets is taxed. As a result, WISEs will never pay more than (rounded) 0.17% on their assets.
Conditions	
Eligibility criteria / requirements	All WISEs established or recognised by the authorised regional government or institution, without any turnover condition.

Table 38 - Others

Other funding sources	
General information	
Type of the funding source	General state aids for small-medium size enterprises (SMEs) to which WISEs are eligible
Name of the funding source	Federal Target Group Reduction First-time Hires ("Federale Doelgroepvermindering Eerste Aanwervingen")
Website of the funding source	https://www.socialsecurity.be/employer/instructions/dmfa/nl/latest/instructions/deductions/structuralreduction_targetgroupreductions/firstengagements.html
Description	
Activities / costs supported	<p>Via the Federal Target Group Reduction First-time Hires, new employers can obtain a Social Security reduction of maximum EUR 3,100 per quarter for their first employee, without any time limitation.</p> <p>For their second and third employee, the Social Security reduction varies between EUR 1,550 to EUR 450, limited to a maximum of 13 quarters.</p> <p>This measure also provides for an intervention in the monthly costs of the Social Administration.</p>
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Belgian Government
Size of funding per enterprise	<p>Employers can freely choose for which employees they use the Social Security reduction. Employers can therefore first check for which employees a Social Security reduction is the most interesting and decide quarterly whether and for whom to apply for the Social Security reduction for first-time hires.</p> <p>First employee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Social Security reduction of maximum EUR 3,100 per quarter, without any time limitation <p>Second employee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Social Security reduction of maximum EUR 1,550 per quarter, for quarters 1 – 5 - Social Security reduction of maximum EUR 1,050 per quarter, for quarters 6 – 9 - Social Security reduction of maximum EUR 450 per quarter, for quarters 10 – 13

	<p>Third employee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Social Security reduction of maximum EUR 1,050 per quarter, for quarters 1 – 9 - Social Security reduction of maximum EUR 450 per quarter, for quarters 10 – 13 <p>A new employer joining a recognised Social Administration is entitled to an intervention in administrative costs amounting to EUR 36.45 for the quarters he applies for the Social Security reduction for first-time hires.</p>
<p>Conditions</p>	
<p>Eligibility criteria / requirements</p>	<p>This measure applies to new private sector employers, including non-profit and de facto associations.</p> <p>An employer who has not employed an employee in the 12 months prior to hiring can be considered a new employer.</p> <p>The employer does not qualify for the Social Security reduction for first-time hires if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The employee was hired by an employer that is part of a Simultaneous Technical Business Unit; - The employee was hired by an employer that is part of a Historical Technical Business Unit in which the number of employees in the Technical Business Unit decreases at the other employer(s) (because, e.g., one or more employees were taken over).

Table 39 - Others

Other funding sources	
General information	
Type of the funding source	General state aids for small-medium size enterprises (SMEs) to which WISEs are eligible
Name of the funding source	Federal Structural Reduction of Employer Contributions for all Private Sector Employees Fully Subject to Social Security ("Federale Structurale Vermindering")
Website of the funding source	https://www.socialsecurity.be/employer/instructions/dmfa/nl/latest/instructions/deductions/structuralreduction_targetgroupreductions/structuralreduction.html
Description	
Activities / costs supported	The Federal Structural Reduction of Employer Contributions for all Private Sector Employees Fully Subject to Social Security is currently an automatic quarterly reduction in employer contributions for all private sector employees fully subject to social security. The amount of the reduction varies according to the category to which the employee belongs, their quarterly wage and the volume of their work.
Institution / organisation who provides the funding	Belgian Government
Size of funding per enterprise	<p>The amount of the reduction varies according to the category to which the employee belongs. The scheme distinguishes between 3 categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Category 1: all blue- and white-collar workers who do not belong to any other category; - Category 2: all workers of employers who can benefit from the Social Maribel, except for family and elderly assistance services and WISEs; - Category 3: all workers employed at WISEs. This category is split into 2 subcategories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Subcategory 3.1: non-WSNs; - Subcategory 3.2: WSNs. <p>The reductions are automatically calculated by the employer's Social Administration.</p>
Conditions	
Eligibility criteria / requirements	This measure applies for all private sector employers.



This measure can be combined with other target group reductions, with a maximum of 1 per employment.

This measure can be combined with employment measures that do not involve a reduction in employer social security contributions.

This measure cannot be combined with any other employer contribution reduction with the exception of the Social Maribel.



6.1 Can you identify good practices at the level of the WISEs funding mechanism (funding instruments, programmes, etc.)?

YES

6.2 If the answer is YES, please describe the good practice(s) / funding mechanism(s). (Please be as specific and descriptive as possible.) Why do you consider this (these) funding mechanism(s) to be good practice? What are the added values / impact of this practice?

In Flanders, several public and private financing schemes have been developed over the last years and together they form a rich supply ecosystem, as detailed abovementioned in tables 1-39. Both WISEs and most SEs can count on funding possibilities tailored to their needs.

In the table below, we describe some good practices on funding, with a focus on strengthening innovation capacity in WISEs, creating sustainable collaboration between WISEs and traditional enterprises, increasing the workability of WSNs, strengthening (digital) skills or particular financial products or tax reductions.

Table 40 - Selection of good practices of funding mechanisms in Flanders

Funding mechanism	Added value / impact	Detailed information
Call "Social Entrepreneurship – Establishment of a Social Enterprise" (DWSE)	<p>Interesting grant, definitely if combined with training programmes for early-stage social entrepreneurs.</p> <p>This funding mechanisms offers individuals or organisations that have a project idea with social impact and wish to set up a social enterprise a grant. Every starting social enterprise that does not yet have their articles of association can apply for funding their consultancy costs, set-up costs and labour costs.</p>	Table 5
Call "Social Entrepreneurship – Innovation" (DWSE)	<p>Interesting grant offering financial support to WISEs and partnerships with at least 1 WISE that want to explore innovation opportunities and seek answers to societal challenges. This can involve both conceptualising and developing innovative activities and optimising and innovating existing business processes. The final outcomes do not have to be known yet, making this grant very suitable for innovation projects in WISEs. In recent years, this grant has been used by a significant number of WISEs.</p>	Table 6

<p>One-off thematic calls (DWSE)</p>	<p>Interesting type of grant offering funding for specific investments and/or strategic transformation or partnerships, e.g.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Green mobility in WISEs - Digital transformation of WISEs - Experimental partnerships between WISEs and healthcare institutions <p>In recent years, these types of grants have been used by a large number of WISEs.</p>	<p>Table 7</p>
<p>Managerial Recommendation (DWSE)</p>	<p>Interesting grant offering financial support to financially or economically profit-making WISEs to hire an external consultant to improve business operations or strengthen, grow or transform the business of the WISE.</p>	<p>Table 8</p>
<p>Specific Managerial Support (DWSE)</p>	<p>Interesting grant offering financial support to financially or economically loss-making WISEs to hire an external consultant to improve business operations or strengthen, grow or transform the business of the WISE.</p>	<p>Table 9</p>
<p>Call "Social Entrepreneurship" – Grants for projects promoting access to employment for people with a large distance to the labour market (province of Flemish Brabant)</p>	<p>Interesting grant offering financial support to projects in WISEs or partnerships with at least 1 WISE. Projects must contribute to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The professionalisation and strengthening of the social economy; - The development of new social economy initiatives; - Inclusive entrepreneurship in the traditional economy. <p>This grants covers staff costs, operational costs and depreciation costs of investments.</p> <p>Local and sustainable (i.e., in the province of Flemish Brabant) is key.</p>	<p>Table 10</p>
<p>Grant to promote innovation and professionalisation through cooperation between traditional enterprises and WISEs (province of East Flanders)</p>	<p>Interesting grant offering financial support to deliver a product or service from the cooperation between traditional enterprises and WISEs.</p> <p>This grants covers investments, staff costs and operational costs.</p> <p>Local and sustainable embedding (i.e., in the province of East Flanders) is key.</p>	<p>Table 11</p>

<p>Training Subsidies for WISEs (VIVO Social Profit)</p>	<p>Interesting grant offering full or partial reimbursement of training courses organised by WISEs. All training is eligible, including operational or technical training. All training costs are reimbursed in case of an external trainer. A lumpsum grant per training hour and per participant is offered in case the trainer is a supporter or other internal employee of the WISE.</p>	<p>Table 16</p>
<p>Workplace Adjustment Reimbursement for Employers and Self-employed Entrepreneurs (VDAB)</p>	<p>Interesting grant offering full or partial reimbursement of purchase and installation costs for the adjustments made to an individual workplace, including reimbursement of the difference between adjusted equipment and standard equipment.</p>	<p>Table 17</p>
<p>Workability Voucher (DWSE)</p>	<p>Interesting grant offering self-employed entrepreneurs, SMEs and large companies from the profit sector as well as organisations from the social profit sector including WISEs financial support to identify and tackle bottlenecks around "workable work" within the organisation.</p> <p>With the workability voucher, applicants can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Purchase a workability scan or risk analysis to identify the workability level in the organisation; - Purchase guidance on reporting on workability, on drawing up a workability plan, on monitoring changes in workability or on developing a telework policy; - Purchase advice, guidance and/or training on adjustments to the workplace and the work organisation, on skills strengthening necessary for workability or on addressing a policy around the psychological wellbeing and/or mental resilience / energy of employees and employers. 	<p>Table 18</p>
<p>Corporate Fund Impact Together by BNP Paribas Fortis via King Baudouin Foundation (KBS)</p>	<p>Interesting grant offering long-term financial support and consultancy to local non-profit organisations, including WISEs. This grant aims to support both organisations with significant development opportunities as well as organisations facing the challenge of maintaining their current social outcomes. In</p>	<p>Table 25</p>



	recent years, this grant has been used by several WISEs and SEs.	
Loans via Trividend	Different types of loans (including a subordinated loan, a convertible subordinated loan or a subordinated bullet loan) with market-oriented interest rate can be used by WISEs and SEs for different types of activities and costs.	Table 30
Loans via Hefboom	Loans with market-oriented interest rate can be used by WISEs and SEs for different types of activities and costs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investing in property, renovation or equipment; - Financing working capital; - Bridging grants or other future income; - Loan for vulnerable (starting) entrepreneurs. 	Table 31
Loans for WISEs for Renewable Energy	This loan with reduced interest rate can be used by WISEs for different types of investments in renewable energy.	Table 32
Loans and crowdfunding via Socrowd	Socrowd is an innovative funding platform that sets up crowdfunding for organisations or projects with a positive impact on society. The money the applicant raises from its supporters, is multiplied by three by Socrowd, in the form of an interest-free loan. The applicant can use that interest-free loan to finance different types of activities or investments. Once the loan is paid off, the supporters can also get out.	Table 33
Equity via Trividend	A convertible subordinated loan or capital participation that can be used for different types of activities and costs.	Table 34
Service Vouchers (Belgian Government)	The Belgian Service Voucher system is a scheme not restricted to, but commonly used by proximity services executed by WISEs in Flanders, Brussels and Wallonia. Any natural person willing to get housework services can buy service vouchers (EUR 9.00 per voucher (1 hour) – Flanders 2023, with an additional tax reduction.	Table 36

	<p>The difference with the real labour cost is compensated by a governmental grant, directly paid to the employer.</p> <p>Employers also receive a lump-sum subsidy for the guidance and competence building of the of the disadvantaged worker, the achievement of transition to the open labour market and the qualitative management of the enterprise.</p> <p>Since the introduction of the Service Voucher scheme in 2004, undeclared work is estimated to have been reduced by 50% in Belgium. The Service Voucher scheme combines the reduction of undeclared work with the employment of low-skilled workers.</p> <p>Although both goals are achieved, improvements are possible. The scheme is costing the Flemish Government about EUR 1.1 billion a year. With that, the government contributes about 70% of the cost of the scheme. On the other hand, around 90,000 low-skilled people are employed within the Service Voucher scheme.</p>	
<p>Reduced Patrimony Tax for WISEs (Belgian Government)</p>	<p>Non-profit organisations don't have to pay corporation tax. Instead, they have to pay an annual patrimony tax on all their assets. It is a progressive tax:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EUR 0 - EUR 50,000 of assets: 0% - EUR 50,000 - EUR 250,000 of assets: 0.15% - EUR 250,000 - EUR 500,000 of assets: 0.30% - EUR 500,000 - ... of assets: 0.45% <p>A few sectors, including the healthcare sector and WISEs' sector, benefit from a reduction in the patrimony tax. For all these sectors, the value of their assets is reduced by 62.3%, so that only 37.7% of the value of their assets is taxed. As a result, these institutions will never pay more than (rounded) 0.17% on their assets.</p>	<p>Table 37</p>

7.1 Do WISEs in your country have access to public procurement contracts through social clauses, work integration clauses and / or reserved markets?

YES

Public authorities at federal and regional levels have become particularly interested in social enterprises as a tool to fulfil their goals. Overall, thanks to the federal regulation and the supporting measures developed by the regions, the use of social and environmental clauses in public procurement is well developed in Belgium and leads to public authorities being an important client for social enterprises. In many cases, public contracts have gradually replaced public subsidies (Huybrechts & Nyssens 2020).

The Belgian legislation allows for the inclusion of social, environmental and ethical clauses in public procurement. A federal decision (circulaire) dating of 2014 specifies the different schemes and avenues through which this can be achieved in practice. Thanks to this evolution, local, regional and federal public authorities have been authorized to require the compliance with a number of social and environmental criteria. In most cases, social enterprises are indirectly encouraged but the contract remains open to any type of provider including conventional enterprises. In some cases, however, contracts can be reserved for certain types of organisations, thereby directly favouring social enterprises (typically WISEs) (Huybrechts & Nyssens 2020).

7.2 If available, please include (maximum) 3 best practices.

N/A

8.1 Are there any other sources of income used by the relevant stakeholders (WISEs, SEs, federation of WISEs, VET providers) for funding their activities and for training of their staff?

YES

8.2 If the answer is YES, please describe these sources of income by providing 3 examples from the relevant enterprises.

- WISEs and SEs: economic activities (e.g., manufacturing of goods, provision of services, etc.)
- Federations of WISEs: membership fees
- VET providers: economic activities (e.g., provision of training services, etc.)

9.1 Are you aware of any kind of support structures / information pages in your country on funding opportunities for the social economy / WISEs sector?

YES

9.2 If the answer is YES, please list them here.

<https://www.socialeconomie.be/nl/ondersteuning>

- This website provides an overview of the support offered by the Flemish Department of Employment and Social Economy (DWSE).
- Support measures are listed for each of the following business types:
 - Cooperatives (subpage <https://www.socialeconomie.be/nl/ondersteuning/type-ondernemingen/activiteitencooperatie>)
 - Local authorities (subpage <https://www.socialeconomie.be/nl/ondersteuning/type-ondernemingen/ondersteuning-voor-jou-als-lokaal-bestuur>)
 - Proximity services (subpage <https://www.socialeconomie.be/nl/ondersteuning/type-ondernemingen/ondersteuning-voor-jou-als-lokale-diensteneconomie-onderneming>)
 - Social enterprises (subpage <https://www.socialeconomie.be/nl/ondersteuning/type-ondernemingen/sociale-onderneming>)
 - Traditional enterprises (subpage <https://www.socialeconomie.be/nl/ondersteuning/type-ondernemingen/ondersteuning-voor-jou-als-onderneming>)
 - WISEs (subpage <https://www.socialeconomie.be/nl/ondersteuning/type-ondernemingen/maatwerkbedrijf>)
- Past, current and future calls can be directly found via the subpage <https://www.socialeconomie.be/nl/ondersteuning/oproepen>.

<https://www.vlaio.be/nl/subsidies-financiering/subsidedatabank>

- This online Subsidy Database curated by the Flemish Agency of Innovation and Entrepreneurship (VLAIO) contains an overview of and deep link to:
 - All main grants
 - All other main funding opportunities
 - From the provincial, Flemish, federal (national) and European authorities
 - For all kinds of business types active in Flanders
- Including a monthly digital newsletter on changes and new funding opportunities from the Subsidy Database.

<https://www.vleva.eu/eusubsidies> and <https://www.vleva.eu/subsidiegids>

- VLEVA (Flemish-European Liaison Agency) acts as a bridge between Europe and Flemish local authorities, civil society and the Flemish government.
- The aforementioned websites support VLEVA in achieving its mission:
 - VLEVA detects and identifies EU funding opportunities
 - VLEVA provides a subsidy guide and subsidy database on which all EU subsidy programmes and calls appear
 - VLEVA provides first-line services, in close coordination and cooperation with members and partners
- Including a daily or weekly digital newsletter.

<https://www.subsidiemanager.be/>

- Paid website, aimed at municipal authorities and healthcare and welfare organisations in general, and not specifically at WISEs or SEs.
- Contains an intelligent funding search engine, application monitoring tool and access to articles, cases and the ability to submit questions to an expert.

<https://kbs-frb.be/en/answer-call-projects>

- This website provides an overview of the project calls and programmes organised by the King Baudouin Foundation, an independent and pluralist Belgian public utility foundation.
- Including a search engine and digital newsletter on new funding opportunities.

10. Which activities would be important for your organisation (or the organisations under your umbrella) and the skills needed in the enterprises / training of its staff to be supported by national and regional or private funding opportunities? (Please, mark all those that apply.)

- Equipment
- Training
- Daily operation
- Salaries
- Digitalization
- Other: Strategic transformation

11. How would you assess the funding available for WISEs in general in your country? What are the main obstacles in funding their activities? What changes would you recommend?

Demand for finance (Based on Huybrechts & Nyssens 2020)

WISEs and SEs need financing both to cover operational costs and in terms of capital and loans for investments. These needs are important at the time of establishment but even more in periods of growth and development.

For early-stage SEs it's often challenging to fund e.g., their founder's wage. As innovative SEs often operate in emerging fields with little market maturity (e.g., organic food, fair trade, etc.), the breakeven point is longer to reach. Yet, expenses must be covered whilst waiting for sales to grow. Since social entrepreneurs are not supposed to fully appropriate the future profits, it may be more difficult for them to sacrifice their revenues in the hope of future gains.

Regarding balance funding, according to a recent study (Mertens and Marée 2012), Belgian associations are very cautious in terms of investments and thus credits. Except for a few

activities and investments such as real estate, SEs often take risks similar to other economic activities that make funders cautious. But, because of their social mission, SEs also often need funding for activities that cannot be covered totally by a market price and thus require specific funding.

In Belgium, there has been a trend among non-profit associations such as WISEs and SEs to become more entrepreneurial. Although public grants still constitute an important part of the funding of these organisations (which amounts almost to 50%), the proportion of public grants has slightly decreased over the past 20 years.

More recently, philanthropic funds and foundations, both private and public, have been instrumental in further developing the social economy sector, e.g., through grants for early-stage social entrepreneurs, support for established social enterprises, etc. The support of foundations to social enterprises can be located within a broader trend to move away from "traditional" philanthropy relying on grants towards "social investment" schemes that expect payback and interests. This type of "new philanthropy" is less altruistic and tends to favour social enterprises that are more commercially robust.

Supply of finance (Based on Huybrechts & Nyssens 2020)

The financing needs of WISEs and SEs are not fundamentally different from SMEs and, therefore, classical financial instruments may in some cases be relevant and sufficient for WISEs and SEs. In other cases, however, when the pursuit of the social mission affects the business plan and requires specific non-market resources (such as volunteering and donations), more tailored instruments are needed.

In Flanders, several public and private financing schemes have been developed over the last years and together they form a rich supply ecosystem.

The number and scope of funding opportunities and social finance providers have largely increased over the last years. Beyond the specific needs of SEs in times of growth, it can be said that this increase in social finance was more the result of the willingness of several actors to support SEs in new ways. Hence, the issue is not so much the lack of funding but more the lack of new and convincing projects as well as the growth prospects of existing actors.

Several funding initiatives, instead of just replying to a pre-existing demand, also aim to stimulate the emergence and consolidation of SEs. Other social finance institutions and funds rather target the consolidation and growth of existing social enterprises.

Overall, it is not too difficult for WISEs and SEs to find access to financial support. However, the finance supply does not always entirely fit with their needs. With regard to traditional business funding, WISEs and SEs are required to demonstrate solid economic ground, however internally and with regard to other stakeholders they need to combine their economic development with continuous social added value. This can be challenging to explain to traditional banks and financial institutions, especially for early-stage SEs. With regard to funding for social activities, WISEs and SEs may be hampered by the fact that, unlike non-profit organisations relying totally on grants and donations, WISEs and SEs also generate to a significant extent their own revenue. Hence, when applying for support, SEs may "fall between

two chairs" and may end up with no support at all. However, the supply of specific funding that takes into account this double bottom line has increased significantly over the last years and most SEs can now count on funding possibilities tailored to their needs.

Main obstacles and recommended changes

In Flanders, several public and private financing schemes have been developed over the last years and together they form a rich supply ecosystem, as detailed abovementioned in tables 1-39. Both WISEs and most SEs can count on funding possibilities tailored to their needs.

The recommended changes for the funding opportunities for Flemish WISEs are not so much about the nature of the funding itself, as it is about its size and its indexation:

- Multiple operating funds used by WISEs and SEs to pay their overhead costs have not been indexed since 2012. This non-indexation of operating funds in many social sectors is a "snowball of silent public savings" that is becoming larger and larger. It is logical that this cannot be without consequence for the functioning of WISEs and SEs and the quality of their services.
- Definitely for the Service Voucher enterprises, challenges are significant. Although, according to the relevant government, 66% of Flemish Service Voucher enterprises do not have financial problems, the financing of the sector has long raised concerns. Wages hover only just above the poverty line. Smaller, more socially driven employers, are increasingly struggling financially. Even the major actors, employing most workers, are experiencing significant annual declines in their profit margins.

In addition, there are a number of possible improvements that are often inherent to the type of call or funding:

- Almost all funding has a temporary character but expects embedding in the organisation and sustainability → This is a major challenge, especially for highly innovative projects, new (innovative) partnerships or early-stage SEs;
- Occasionally it is unpredictable when a particular one-off call will become public, sometimes resulting in an extremely short submission time;
- Because, unlike WISEs and their federations, SEs and VET providers can take different legal forms and organisational structures and find themselves working at the crossroads of several policy areas (e.g., education, employment, environment, etc.), SEs and VET providers sometimes have a little less knowledge of the funding opportunities or "fall between two chairs" when applying for specific support.

12. If you have any other comments related to the funding opportunities / sources in national and regional level, please include them here.

N/A

2. Funding opportunities / sources at the EU level (European Funds)

13.1 Are you aware of any European Funds managed at the EU level that have been used or are currently used by the relevant stakeholders (WISEs, SEs, federation of WISEs, VET providers) in your country?

YES

13.2 If the answer is YES, please provide the name of the relevant funds:

- Erasmus+
- Horizon
- European Social Fund+ (ESF+)

14.1 How would you assess these existing funding opportunities / resources managed at EU level in relation to the funding and skills development needs of the social economy sector in your country?

- Rather meet the needs of WISE federations and (large) VET providers
- Rather not meet the needs of WISEs and SEs

14.2 Please, explain your assessment here:

The European Social Funds (ESF) are used at the regional level. In Flanders, ESF is managed by a specialised public agency that launches the calls and coordinates the use of the funds. The contents of the calls are defined by Europe WSE, part of the Flemish Department of Employment and Social Economy (DWSE).

In general, European Funds managed at EU level such as Erasmus+, Horizon or ESF+, seem not very accessible for individual WISEs and SEs, making this kind of funding more suitable for WISE federations and large VET providers. WISEs do, of course, benefit indirectly from the projects executed by their federation:

- The often extensive application process and stringent reporting requirements can discourage smaller organisations or organisations that have no experience or expertise in co-creating extensive project applications.
- The co-financing and/or pre-financing rates and the complexity of applying for co-financing from regional governments can discourage smaller organisations or organisations that have no experience or expertise in co-creating extensive project applications.
- Due to the need for collaboration with different types of partners from different types of EU member states, having a strong network is often an important enabler for participating in

these types of calls. This puts local and smaller organisations at a disadvantage, although, this is sometimes offset by the help of an intermediary such as a research institution or a province.

- Europe WSE focuses mostly on partnerships between large Flemish stakeholders, making this kind of funding opportunity more suitable for partnerships with WISE federations and VET providers, rather than individual WISEs and SEs.

In the recent past, several Flemish WISE federations (e.g., HERWIN, Groep Maatwerk, 4Werk) and VET providers (e.g. Katholiek Onderwijs Vlaanderen) have participated in EU-wide projects.

15. What are the main obstacles or challenges you're facing in accessing EU Funds at national level (mark all those that apply)?

- Co-financing and pre-financing rates
- Administrative burden
- Difficulty to find reliable partners in order to build a solid consortium

16. If you have any other comment, related to the funding opportunities / sources at the EU level, please share it here.

N/A

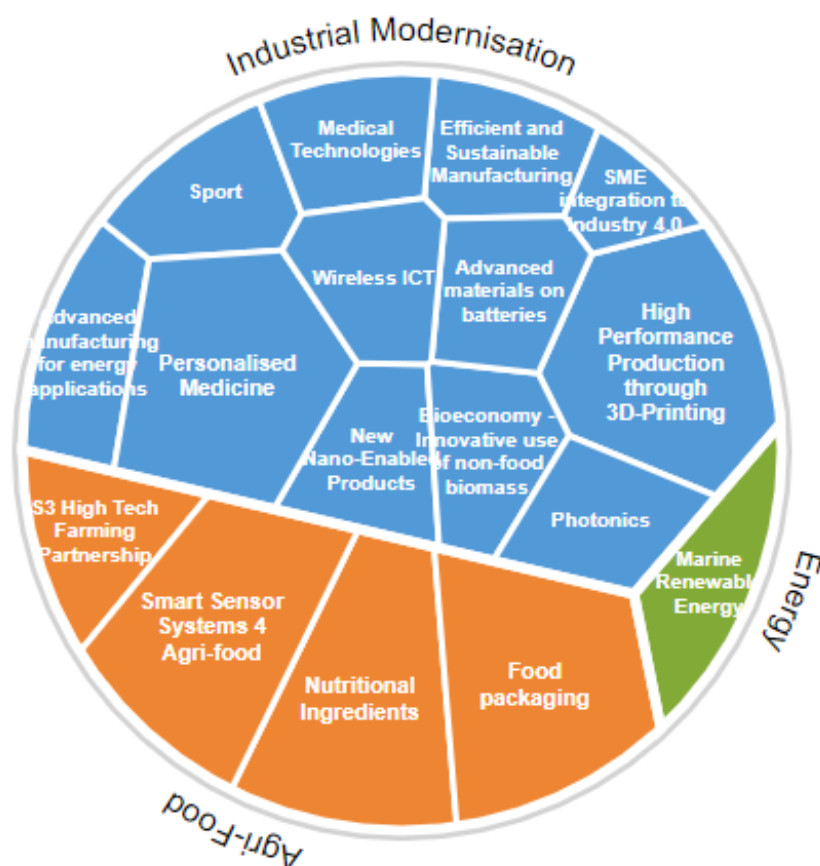
3. Place of WISEs - social economy, social enterprises in national and regional smart specialization strategies

17.1 Please check whether your country / region has adopted a national / regional smart specialization strategy/ies?

YES for Flemish Region (B2) (<https://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/region-page-test/-/regions/BE2>)

17.2 If the answer is YES, please check the S3 Priorities of each strategy (relevant to your country / regions) whether they have a social or/and integration of WSN dimension (look under *Register Countries and Regions / EU Countries Registered in S3P and EU Regions Registered in S3P*).

None of the strategies have a social or/and integration of WSN dimension.



2014-2020	
Name	Description
Smart systems	Micro- and nano-electronics and embedded systems, and mechatronics, micro-optical modules and micro-photonics systems.
Sustainable chemistry	Agricultural and industrial applications of biotechnology and sustainable chemistry, with focus on the development of new bio-based value chains, plastics, technical textiles, etc. Pharmaceutical applications of biotechnology, with focus on clinical trials, neuro-degenerative and infectious diseases, molecular diagnostics, and nanotechnology for medical applications.
Specialised manufacturing solutions	Advanced production technologies and additive manufacturing. Structural materials, nanomaterials, self-healing materials, recyclable materials and materials for energy and light.
Sustainable living	Cradle to cradle, waste management and sustainable production. Sustainable energy technologies with focus on hydrogen, wind energy and electrical vehicles. Eco renovation of buildings Smart grids.
Responsible entrepreneurship and innovative work organisation	Responsible entrepreneurship and innovative work organisation.
Value-added logistics	Specialised industrial value chains and logistical services for food, pharma, recycling, offshore maintenance, etc.
Personalized cure and care	Personalized medical and social care.
High-quality agro-food	Healthy food and sustainable food production and processing.
Industrial design and creative industries	Industrial design and creative industries.
Smart services	Media and digitalisation of cultural heritage. ICT research and development.

17.3 If the answer is YES, please describe how these dimensions are reflected.

N/A