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# **IDEANNOVASHIP**

“Innovate and Ideate for Social Entrepreneurship”

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# **SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN SPAIN**

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## **1. SOCIAL INNOVATION: AN ANSWER TO WELFARE STATE LOSS**

In Spain welfare state loss is already evident due to financial and economic crisis. This situation has been the trigger to mobilize civil society in relation to the pressing problems arising from it. The truth is that Social Innovation had hardly been approached in Spain from the political point of view, highlighting only the regions of the Basque Country, Catalonia and Andalusia, where programs for Social innovation have been established.

As in other European regions, "social enterprises" are also emerging in Spain, like a way of doing business with a strong ethic base and with values that emphasize the social purpose of the activity and not only the economic performance, taking always into account that they are companies economically sustainable. In this type of business, economic activity must be profitable, but above all, should have a positive impact on society, since they are created to solve a social problem that affects a group.

In Spain it is increasing the number of public institutions that are beginning to work around social innovation, through studies on this area and analysis of social innovation projects in order to limit, define and show what it is.

## **2. LEGAL FRAMEWORK**

The predominance of the individual entrepreneur in Spain, with poor penetration of foreign capital, induces a context in which personal entrepreneurship is the essential engine of development and employment. It is for this reason that both entrepreneurship education and the promotion and support of entrepreneurial activity itself has become a key point for policy.

In the field of promotion of entrepreneurship we can find a broad range of performances ranging from the claim to generate an entrepreneurial culture or integrate it in the early stages of education to technical or operational facilitation for different kinds of start-up companies or projects, through many and various plans and programs embedded in the education system, vocational guidance or business training.

Promoting entrepreneurial culture and facilitating the implementation of some kind of entrepreneurship have become inexcusable causes for any public institution in charge of the promotion of economic and productive activities. The probabilities that many people become entrepreneurs of economic success and social recognition have also led to no few financial institutions to sponsor some kind of support program or facility to them.

Almost all measures to promote and support entrepreneurship are grouped around two main poles: on one hand, those relating to the factors that determine the opportunities of the employer, such as the elimination of obstacles and regulations that hinder the entry and traffic on the markets or to facilitate associating movements between companies, actions that might be called type "pull" and on the other hand, those measures affecting the supply of entrepreneurs, such as strengthening their skills and technical and commercial knowledge or favor development of entrepreneurship and business initiatives, measures that can be considered "push".

With greater or lesser intensity, almost all advanced countries, and indeed all of the EU, which share a market and largely upcoming cultural traditions, have assumed the need to support their small and medium enterprises and entrepreneurs that are launched. Spain has joined this political and economic action to promote entrepreneurship in different areas of public action, either at the local, educational, labor or industrial development, and it has also been done from the different regional or national political and administrative levels.



Many initiatives born from the private sector or semi-public have been added in recent years to political and public, whose volume and intensity show the collective conviction about the importance of caring specially for the development of entrepreneurship, both business as socially oriented.

In education, Spain assumed from the Lisbon European Council in 2000 the commitment to promote entrepreneurship in the education system. The Organic Law of Education (LOE) 2006 includes within its goals and objectives entrepreneurship training.

While measures of educational or training purposes and, in general, of the promotion of entrepreneurship (push) are necessary and important, the most important measures are related to legal and economic features of entrepreneurship, to companies performance frame or to market in which they have to compete (pull).

Some policies have not been yet properly deployed; the existing decentralization in Spain in many of these matters and lack of coordination and clearly defined strategies have brought a proliferation of measures of a very different kind aimed at promoting economic development in each territory by facilities, grants and subsidies. Many of them, more than a promotion of entrepreneurial, involve the perpetuation of a protectionist economic policy that encourages captive markets and weakens productivity and competitiveness of enterprises.

Most of these measures have their origin in the Business Development Plan (PFE), launched in 2006, following the relaunch of the Lisbon objectives proposed in 2005 by the EU. This program was created from National Reform Programme (NRP) and has been developed by the Ministries of Finance and Industry, Trade and Tourism, covering more than 50 measures to enhance entrepreneurship and entrepreneurship.

The Business Development Plan WAS structured around five guidelines that provide solutions to the problems detected and already outlined: to promote entrepreneurship in society; encourage the creation of new businesses and business growth; increase the capacity for innovation and knowledge transfer; simplify administrative procedures and promote the internationalization of companies.

At this moment, there is a set of initiatives compiled in 11/2013 Law of 26<sup>th</sup> of July “Measures to support entrepreneurs and promote economic growth and employ generation”

<http://www.boe.es/boe/dias/2013/07/27/pdfs/BOE-A-2013-8187.pdf>

<http://www.empleo.gob.es/es/estrategia-empleo-joven/>

The law includes the following points:

- Quote to social security applicable to the young free-lancers
- Measures relating to unemployment payment
- Incentives for newly created entities
- Incentives for new entrepreneurs
- Stimulus to recruitment in entrepreneurship projects
- Incentives for inclusion of young to entities of the social economy

Besides, in Law RD 16/2013 20<sup>th</sup> December compiles a set of measures to promote stable employment in the article 4 “Permanent work contract to support entrepreneurs”.

<http://www.boe.es/boe/dias/2013/12/21/pdfs/BOE-A-201313426.pdf>



The traditional measure to support entrepreneurship is to capitalize the unemployment benefit.

<http://www.sepe.es/contenido/prestaciones/pdf/GuiaCapitalizacion.pdf>

<http://www.sepe.es/contenido/prestaciones/ag00e.html>

<http://www.sepe.es/contenido/prestaciones/ag00e00.html>

There are other support measures for entrepreneurs for internationalization in Law 14/2013 27<sup>th</sup> of September.

<http://www.boe.es/boe/dias/2013/09/28/pdfs/BOE-A-2013-10074.pdf>

- special regime
- tax incentives in corporate tax
- tax incentives in the personal tax
- incentives in the field of social security

The definition of social enterprise at national level varies across Europe. This is because social enterprises can take many forms, are involved in many areas of activity and because legal structures vary from one country to another.

There is frequent confusion between social enterprises and social economy enterprises. Social enterprises are part of the Social Economy, which also includes Foundations, Charities and Cooperatives. But the concept of social company is not recognized in Spanish legislation.

The current configuration of the Spanish Social Economy is marked by the adoption of Law 5/2011 of 29 March, on Social Economy, which undoubtedly marked a turning point for recognition, visibility and development of the sector, both within the State itself and the European Union. Recently, the approval of Law 31/2015, of 9 September, amending and updating the rules on self-employment and proposing measures for support and promotion of self-employment and social economy are adopted, has come to complete this regulatory framework establishing measures for development and promotion of the Spanish social economy.

According to the law, the following entities take part of this business and diverse concept that is Social Economy:

- cooperatives
- labor societies
- mutual
- special employment centers
- foundations
- associations
- brotherhoods
- insertion companies

In the specific case of **social entrepreneurs**, there is the “Promotion and boosting program of Social Economy” 2015-2016.

It is a project that includes promotion and support policies for social economy that the Ministry is going to implement to strengthen the companies involved in social economy.

It is a program that responds to the stipulations of Law 5/2011 of Social Economy where the need to design a program to promote the social economy organizations is highlighted, paying



particular attention to the entities that generate employment in the most disadvantaged sectors.

This Program for Social Economy includes a set of measures aimed at contributing to the development of the social economy in Spain. Its specific objectives are four:

- Objective 1. To improve the operating conditions for entities in the social economy.
- Objective 2. Internationalization of the social economy.
- Objective 3. To increase the role of the social economy.
- Objective 4. Promotion of social responsibility in the social economy.

### 3. PUBLIC SUPPORT AND INICIATIVES

Services to support entrepreneurship related to SME promotion.

The axis on which the support lines are articulated of the General Direction depending on the Ministry of Industry, Energy and Tourism are:

- Entrepreneurship and support for business creation.
- Support for competitiveness
- facilitate access of SMEs to financing
- Internationalization of sectors with high technological content

National incentives and funding for entrepreneurs (including regional):

<http://www.ipyme.org/esES/creaciondelaempresa/Paginas/ListadoAyudasCreacionEmpresas.aspx>

Information and support to entrepreneurs:

- ICO Instituto de Crédito Oficial  
Línea ICO Emprendedores.  
<http://www.ico.es/web/contenidos/0/171/index>
- Dirección General de Política de la PYME  
<http://servicios.ipyme.org/emprendedores/>
- ayud@tec  
Ministerio de Industria, Turismo y Comercio.  
<http://www.mityc.es/PortalAyudas/ServiciosActuales/Index.htm>
- CIRCE  
Ministerio de Industria, Turismo y Comercio. Dirección General de Política de la pequeña y Mediana Empresa.  
<http://www.circe.es/Circe.Publico.Web/pub/Default.aspx>
- ICEX. Instituto español de Comercio Exterior  
Plan de iniciación a la Promoción Exterior. PIPE  
[http://www.portalpipe.com/icex/applications/PIPE2000/cda/controller/pagePIPE/0,4651,5112418\\_5113044\\_5114606\\_0,00.html](http://www.portalpipe.com/icex/applications/PIPE2000/cda/controller/pagePIPE/0,4651,5112418_5113044_5114606_0,00.html)



- INJUVE. Instituto de la Juventud  
Portal emplea joven  
<http://www.emancipacionjoven.es/index.php?id=33>
- Instituto de la Mujer  
Programa PAEM  
<http://www.migualdad.es/mujer/programas/empleo/asesoramiento.html>
- Instituto de la Mujer  
Complejo Virtual para empresarias  
[http://www.soyempresaria.com/aplicacion/AF.php?clave\\_f=soyemp](http://www.soyempresaria.com/aplicacion/AF.php?clave_f=soyemp)
- e-empresarias.net  
<http://www.e-empresarias.net/index.php>
- Emprendemos juntos  
<http://www.emprendemosjuntos.es/index.aspx>
- Consejo Superior de Cámaras. Fundación INCYDE  
<https://www.camaras.org/publicado/incyde/presentacion.html>
- 060 Servicio telemático  
Tramites On line, Gobierno de España  
[http://www.060.es/060\\_empresas/crear\\_una\\_empresa/Tramites\\_Administrativosidesidweb.html](http://www.060.es/060_empresas/crear_una_empresa/Tramites_Administrativosidesidweb.html)
- CDTI. Centro para el Desarrollo Tecnológico Industrial  
<http://www.cdti.es/index.asp?MP=8&MS=129&MN=2>
- Ventanilla Única Empresarial. VUE  
[http://www.060.es/060\\_empresas/crear\\_una\\_empresa/Tramites\\_Administrativosidesidweb.html](http://www.060.es/060_empresas/crear_una_empresa/Tramites_Administrativosidesidweb.html)
- Web de la mujer emprendedora  
<http://www.autoempleomujer.com/>
- ENISA. Empresa Nacional de Innovación, S.A.  
<http://www.enisa.es/index.asp>

In 2015 different grants were offered to finance the costs of carrying out activities of support and promotion of self-employment, the social economy and social responsibility of companies, as well as partial funding of the operating costs of associations of self-employed, cooperatives, labor companies, insertion companies and other representative bodies of the social economy at state level to facilitate the compliance with their aims.

<https://www.boe.es/boe/dias/2015/05/26/pdfs/BOE-A-2015-5777.pdf>

<http://www.ipyme.org/esES/creaciondelaempresa/Paginas/ListadoAyudasCreacionEmpresas.aspx>



Some of the most important initiatives to promote and support social innovation and social entrepreneurship are described below.

### Regional initiatives.

- Programa@EmprenSocial, promoted by Catalonia Regional Government, to support social entrepreneurship projects, strengthening their environment and make them visible for Catalan society.  
<http://www.emprenedoriasocial.cat/>
- Social Innovation Strategy for Euskadi from the Basque Country, the region where social innovation and social entrepreneurship is most supported by regional government. Together with this strategy they have undertaken Innobasque or Innovation Basque Agency that is a non profit private association created to boost and coordinate the Strategy for Social innovation in Euskadi.  
Social innovation is approached as an opportunity to create value in a horizontal way in Euskadi. The challenges to be faced are population ageing, globalization, technology evolution, digital world, information society, clean technologies and sustainability. The strategy is focused on social transformation in which social innovation addresses systemic vision and private-public collaboration.  
[http://www.innobasque.eus/microsite/innovacion\\_social/](http://www.innobasque.eus/microsite/innovacion_social/)

### Networks and associations.

- CEPES. Social Economy Spanish Business Confederation. Confederación Empresarial Española de Economía Social (CEPES)  
[www.cepes.org](http://www.cepes.org)  
It is the largest Social Economy institution in Spain and a platform for institutional dialogue with public authorities.
- Social Innovation Spanish Network. Red española de Innovación Social REIS. The Spanish Network for Social Innovation aims to become a national and international reference in the study and formulation of social innovation practices in the public, private and third sector. The implementation of these practices, connecting researchers' findings with the public, private and social, is vital for social progress and welfare.
- Spanish Social innovation Association  
<http://aeinnovacionsocial.blogspot.com.es/2011/12/asociacion-espanola-deinnovacion.html>
- Social Entrepreneurs Spanish Association. It boosts the entrepreneurs activity at the first stage by means of training and networking. It a network of contacts, support and motivation.  
[www.socialemprende.org](http://www.socialemprende.org)  
It promotes the ecosystem of social entrepreneurship promoting projects, disseminating ideas, recognizing trends and connecting the best talent.
- Social Innovation Basque Centre, DENOKINN. It an innovation factory for social progress. Denokinn promotes Social innovation Park that promotes social innovation projects and the transfer of ideas and technologies to new business.  
<http://denokinn.eu/>  
<http://www.socialinnovationpark.com/>



There a high number of private initiatives. Many citizens have taken responsibility for solving their most pressing problems, unemployment, school failure, population ageing, housing, etc ..., and have undertaken innovation projects.

#### 4. OTHER NETWORKS AND SUPPORT PLATFORMS

Other agents in social entrepreneurship are the incubators and accelerator programs focused on entrepreneurs, that have an important role in the growth of businesses and other featured actors featured as consultants, financing platforms or coworking spaces.

Some of the most important are described below.

**Capazia.** It is a shuttle to entrepreneur projects leaded by disabled people. Its services include training, coaching, mentoring and partner search for entrepreneurs.

**El Hueco.** It is a co-working centre that offers working space for entrepreneurs and has an incubator for social entrepreneurship to develop social projects.

**Ez-Start.** It is an online accelerator and incubator focused on social entrepreneurship democratization

**Socialnest.** It is a Pioneer incubator in Spain. It supports entrepreneurs for social and environmental business projects in order they have a high social impact and can be self-sustainable.

**Tandem Social.** It is a non-profit cooperative for social initiatives with experience in business strategy and third sector to mentor and support social entrepreneurs.

**Te hago eco.** It supports social initiatives, helping organizations to be more sustainable and designed to suit its challenges and needs.

**Movimiento Idun.** It helps to set up start-ups and organizations promoting social innovation sustainable solutions. It develops projects in Ecuador, Spain and United Kingdom.

**Work for Social.** Non-profit association that links social projects (ONGs, foundations or social entrepreneurs) needs with companies resources to promote social change.

**UpSocial.** It was founded by a group of entrepreneurs to promote social innovation and its scalability as an answer to social critic problems

**UnLtd Spain.** It is a British foundation with headquarters in Spain. It supports social entrepreneurship by means of three programs: IDEA, ARRANCA and CRECE. It offers mentoring, specialized consultancy, seed capital and access to a wide network of supporting.

**Fundación INNOVES.** It manages the needs of social economy in Andalucia. It leads the development and set up of innovation, intercooperation and internationalization projects.

**Fundación Ship2B.** It boosts high social impact companies to solve social and environmental challenges.



**GAWA Capital.** It is the first social investment firm in Spain. They manage more than 40 M€ in funds for developing countries.

**Ashoka.** It is the most important international entrepreneurs network. A global independent non-profit organization that leads the bet for innovation and social entrepreneurship, building a society of changemaker citizens. In Spain it is supporting 29 initiatives.

**Creas.** They are pioneers in Spain in using social venture capital as an investment instrument ensuring social impact and economical profitability. They offer two investment instruments: Cras Inicia (seed stage) and Creas Desarrolla (growing companies).

**UEM Awards.** The European University Foundation in collaboration with International Youth Foundation and Sylvan/Laurate Foundation organizes the awards for social entrepreneurs rewarding most innovative companies with 30000 €.

**Colaborabora.** It is a little social innovation cooperative focused on designing, promote and develop collaborative processes

**Creadores por el Mundo.** It was born as a live radio program and a blog where the podcasts are uploaded. The topics are Innovation, Creativity and Entrepreneurship.

**Vivergi Social Impact Fund.** It is the first social impact fund in Spain registered in the CNMV (National Stock Market Commission) and one of the largest in Europe.

**Anima Ventures.** It is the first 'company builder' in Spain, focused on social projects. It meets a model company between an incubator and investment fund, with a clear objective of entrepreneurship promotion.

**Think Big.** A project of Fundación Telefónica that helps young social entrepreneurs between 15 and 25 years from all over Spain to transform their ideas into social projects over six months with the help of mentors who guide them and advise.

**BBVA Open Talent.** Start-up competition to capture new business ideas based on technology. It is not specifically aimed at social entrepreneurs, but if you have an idea of social technology-based business you can opt for the awards.

**The Momentum Project of BBVA- ESADE** is an initiative of ESADE and BBVA aimed at promoting social entrepreneurship. Momentum has two lines to fulfill this purpose: the development of a program to consolidate and increase the impact of these projects and the creation of an ecosystem to support social entrepreneurs.

**Socialnest** is a pioneer in Spain where "We help to transform ideas into companies that improve the world. For this we have a community of entrepreneurs, professionals, universities and business schools committed to improve our society and the world, providing their knowledge and experiences to social entrepreneurs to launch their social enterprises.

**UEIA.** It is an accelerator for social enterprises specialized in social support and incubate technology-based entrepreneurs.

**Impact HUB MADRID.** Since its birth in 2010, the community of Impact Hub Madrid is composed of professional freelance social enterprises, entrepreneurs, start-ups, social investors, or artists working on challenges locally and globally. In this ecosystem there are



resources, inspiration and collaborations to grow their project and promote their ideas in each of the phases in which they find themselves.

**Repsol Foundation - Entrepreneurs Fund.** The Repsol Foundation Entrepreneurs Fund is part of the portfolio of projects aimed at strengthening the foundation of social energy, with particular attention to initiatives to save and manage energy and improve efficiency.

## **5. SPECTRUM OF SOCIAL ENTERPRISE AND MARKETS**

The enterprises of social economy in Spain represent:

- 10% of GDP
- 12.5% of employment

The social economy creates stable employment with 80% of permanent contracts and the 40% of the employment is for people under 40 years. There companies in all sectors and with a wide range of sizes (29000 new companies and 190000 new jobs in last 8 years).

The companies follow a model that bets for people: Social Economy has destroyed 6.5% less jobs than other companies.

In Spain:

- SOCIAL INNOVATION. Social Economy leads business transformations of commercial companies to Social Economy companies.
- Without exception. 128,000 people with disabilities or at risk of exclusion work in the Social Economy

In the past years, from government agencies for promoting entrepreneurship, it has often stressed the need for increasing the presence of entrepreneurial initiatives in strategic sectors related to technologies, internationalization and other businesses able to increase the competitiveness of our business network. As a result of this insistence, the mentality of potential entrepreneurs of our country is changing gradually and data from Observator GEM are demonstrating greater participation in technology-based initiatives, greater investment in the use of cutting edge technologies, increase in participation of graduates in the launch business, a higher average jobs by company and other details that confirm that the average profile of Spanish entrepreneurial initiatives is leading to one of greater competitiveness.

Entrepreneurial activity rate in Spain, contained in the report GEM (Global Entrepreneurship Monitor), was 5.4% in 2014. The rated has not stopped growing since 2010 when it dropped from 7 to 4.3%. Entrepreneurship investment has increased by almost 100%, but it is still the third part of other European countries like Germany or France.

The rate of increase of entrepreneurship in business or activities of social base in Spain is slow, for the moment, showing once again that it a country with difficulties to assume changes in market entrepreneurial opportunities trends compared to other nations of our same level of development.

The social entrepreneurship of 2009 in Spain represented 4.9% of the rate of entrepreneurial Spanish activity.

Two kinds of social companies are considered: non- profit organizations and hybrid organizations (including purely hybrid and profit socially responsible companies).



The 4.7% of social entrepreneurs business were launched for profit, while the remaining 95.3% was born as non-profit activity. A 2.2% of these businesses are NGOs in the traditional sense, while 19.5% are non-profit social enterprises and 13.8% are hybrid companies.

The social companies are expected to solve the problems of society related to these main features:

- Demography: migration and ageing of Spanish population.
- Environment: water, climate change and energy.
- New society trends: solutions for new digital society.
- Poverty: social exclusion and childhood poverty
- Health and wellness
- Goods and ethical services: local production and fair trade.

The 29 Spanish social entrepreneurs that are Ashoka members are involved in these areas:

- Health
- Education
- Human rights
- Citizens participation
- Economic Development
- Environment

Social business ideas described by entrepreneurs include the following:

<p><b>SERVICES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assistance for mentally and physically disabled</li> <li>• Distribution of school meals for children 3 to 10 years</li> <li>• Advertising services for NGOs</li> <li>• Assisting companies in mapping out the environment of its surroundings</li> <li>• Social Graduates Assistance to companies and society</li> <li>• Catering Social services</li> <li>• Production of clinical products against obesity</li> <li>• Association for defense of people affected by accidents</li> <li>• Dental care for people without resources</li> </ul>	<p><b>EDUCATION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educational activities for people with progressive mental and physical deterioration</li> <li>• Foundation for the development of school building projects in poor countries</li> <li>• Training in new technologies for elderly</li> <li>• Investigation</li> <li>• Integration and support to immigrants with adaptation problems to the new environment</li> <li>• Children's playroom with educational support</li> <li>• Higher education for adults</li> </ul>	<p><b>CULTURE AND LEISURE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organization of cultural and sports activities for youth</li> <li>• Cultural and social associations</li> <li>• Cultural centers in various environments to raise awareness on heritage, environment and its preservation</li> <li>• Musical Cultural centers</li> <li>• Foundation for the support of museums</li> <li>• Organization of sports events for people with disabilities</li> <li>• Services for rural tourism</li> </ul>
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There are also ideas related to recycling and management of both energy and the environment in general, as well as other specific support projects for disadvantaged countries regarding the provision of water and other necessities. The land of opportunities for the creation of activities and social business is very wide and completely open to the imagination, since all societies, either in developed or developing countries, have many needs, and especially for developed countries, the increase in life expectancy of the population, generates naturally a wide range of services for the older group demanding increasingly companies specialized in the various aspects related to their attention.

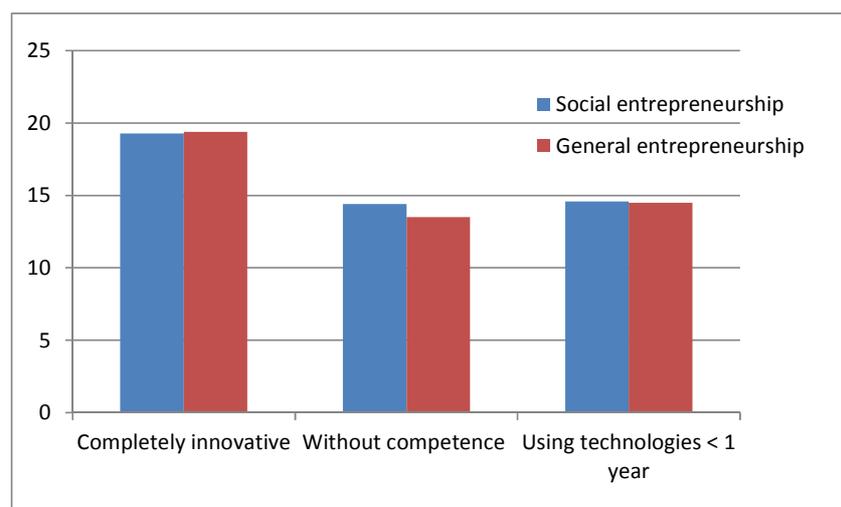


Figure 1. Several characteristics for social and general entrepreneurship.

One feature that differentiates the entrepreneurial activities of social aspects from general entrepreneurship is job creation. Thus, in these companies, 7.3% have 20 or more employees, while only 4.8% of total entrepreneurship responds to this pattern. 22.3% of individual entrepreneurs have faced alone their initiative, while 40.7% have done so in other types of business. It is therefore important to note that these companies are candidates for high growth in employment, increasing their attractiveness from a strategic point of view in the design of public policies to encourage entrepreneurship.

Finally, 32% of social entrepreneurship carries out international activities compared to 28.2% that within the rest of entrepreneurs, which is also favorable to promote its boosting.

### Profile of social entrepreneur

The lowest entrepreneurs rate in Europe considering population from 18 to 64 years old takes place in Spain (0.51%).

The social entrepreneur is today, in the XXI century, in the center of attention, as it was the economic entrepreneur in the last century. In the case of economic entrepreneur the profile is determined, or at least limited, by market conditions and the evolution of technology, in the case of social entrepreneurship, the profile is conditioned and promoted by a particular state of evolution in thinking and collective awareness about development needs and evolution.

The 63.1% of cases of social entrepreneurship were launched by men, while 36.9% were due to women initiatives. Female participation in social entrepreneurship is slightly higher than considering the whole Spanish entrepreneurship.

The average age of social entrepreneurs was 37.5 years, one year above the average age of the total group of Spanish entrepreneurs of 2009.

Most entrepreneurs have a medium level of education. High or low education level entrepreneurs are less represented among social entrepreneurs.

A 70% of these entrepreneurs claim to haven't received any specific training over their lives, a feature in which outperform the overall group of entrepreneurs with a 57% in terms of this type of training.



## 6. MAIN LIMITING FEATURES FOR SOCIAL START UPS

The main difficulties that have been identified for the creation of start-ups or the development of existing social companies are:

- Social company is not covered by legislation. Social economy includes cooperative, associations, foundations and similar entities but not profit companies.
- Too much administrative bureaucracy involving inefficiency
- Financing problems
- Difficulties to assess project feasibility
- Lack of innovation and lack of knowledge about stakeholders.
- General ignorance about social economy value.

### Barriers and facilities.

Several Spanish experts have assessed from 1 to 5 Spanish environment conditions for entrepreneurs and the results confirm that the conditions in Spain are not the best to start business.

Access to physical infrastructure (3.64) and the existence of commercial and professional infrastructure (3.03) have received the best score. Also, some conditions as domestic market dynamics (2.87) and government programs (2.88) have been evaluated very close to the average rating. In contrast, the worst conditions are: education and entrepreneurial training at school age (1.84), financial support (2.14), government policies associated with bureaucracy and taxes (2.40), R+D technology transference (2.45), access barriers to the internal market (2.47) and government policies associated to support (2.50).

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