



Scenarios towards the co-creation of a transition pathway for a resilient, innovative, sustainable and digital proximity and social economy ecosystem

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

[The update of the EU Industrial Strategy](#) highlights the need to accelerate the green and digital transitions of EU Industry. Among the various instruments, the Commission proposed to co-create, in partnership with industry, public authorities, social partners and other stakeholders, transition pathways for ecosystems, where needed. The proximity & social economy ecosystem was identified among those ecosystems to develop such a transition pathway.

The Commission services have prepared a Staff Working Document to outline possible scenarios for a transition pathway towards a more resilient, green and digital proximity and social economy industrial ecosystem. Through collaborative efforts, the aim is to co-create concrete actions and commitments with all stakeholders of this ecosystem to step up its green and digital transition and strengthen its resilience to future shocks.

These efforts will build upon the EU Industrial strategy update, which highlighted the need to accelerate the green and digital transitions of EU Industry and identified needs and challenges of 14 industrial ecosystems.

They will also build on the Action Plan on the Social Economy, which proposes a series of actions for the period 2021-2030 to support the development of the social economy.

Based on the results of the consultation, the EC will organise further meetings with stakeholders to deepen the discussions towards finalising the proximity & social economy pathway during 2022.

You are invited to engage in this process by contributing to this survey that will run until 28 February 2022.

In case of questions about this consultation, please send an email to GROW-SOCIAL-ENTERPRISE@ec.europa.eu

1 Organisation and personal information

* 1.1 First name

20 character(s) maximum

Corinna

* 1.2 Surname (family name)

Hartrampf

* 1.3 Which organisation do you represent

20 character(s) maximum

AIM

* 1.4 Main location of operations (city)

20 character(s) maximum

Brussels

* 1.5 Country of origin of the organisation or the headquarters of a network

- AT - Austria
- BE - Belgium
- BG - Bulgaria
- HR - Croatia
- CY - Cyprus
- CZ - Czechia
- DK - Denmark
- EE - Estonia
- EU - EU level
- FI - Finland
- FR - France
- DE - Germany
- EL - Greece
- HU - Hungary
- IE - Ireland
- IT - Italy
- LV - Latvia

- LT - Lithuania
- LU - Luxembourg
- MT - Malta
- NL - Netherlands
- PL - Poland
- PT - Portugal
- RO - Romania
- SK - Slovak Republic
- SI - Slovenia
- ES - Spain
- SE - Sweden

* 1.6 What kind of organisation do you represent

- Social economy entity
- Social economy representative organisation
- Social economy sector federation
- Social economy cluster
- Social economy support organisation
- Academic / Research institution
- Public administration
- International Organisation
- EU Institution
- Mainstream business
- Trade Union
- None: EU citizen
- Other

* 1.7 Your organisation is mainly active at...

- EU level
- Member state level
- Regional level
- Local level

1.8 I consider my organisation as part of the

- Proximity economy

Social economy

* 1.9 The competences of your organisation are mostly related to...

Green transition

Digital transition

None

2 Consultation questions

You are invited to reflect the different issues and scenarios presented in the Staff Working Document for the key dimensions of Resilience, Sustainability and Digitalisation. You may choose which questions you answer, and leave others empty. Please, in particular, propose concrete actions and targets. Quantifiable evidence is very much welcome.

Please read and reflect the issues and scenarios proposed in the Section III of the Staff Working Document.

2.1 Fully enabling the ecosystem as agent for the green transition

* 2.1.1 What output scenarios for 2030 would benefit the development of a green proximity and social economy industrial ecosystem, in line with the priorities of the EU Industrial Strategy and the social economy action plan?

2000 character(s) maximum

- The International and European umbrella organisation of mutual benefit societies (AIM) welcomes the European Social Economy Action Plan and its actions. However, it emphasizes an ambitious implementation of these measures are crucial to support the Social Economy
- Mutuels are a key model, which should be supported and fostered regarding the series of actions, announced by the European Commission, such as promoting and supporting social economy in rural areas . Rural areas have a central role to play in the European Green Deal, especially when it comes to climate change and circular economy. AIM is glad that the Vision recognises that role and puts forward initiatives to allow rural areas to operate the necessary transitions. Those actions should, in synergy with the Common Agricultural Policy and the Farm to Fork Strategy , contribute to achieving more resilient and sustainable food systems.
- AIM emphasizes that the European Commission should continue working on access to efficient, accessible and affordable healthcare and long-term care services without inequalities as a main aspiration of its vision on rural areas. Many other initiatives aiming for example at better connecting rural areas or making them more attractive will also contribute to improving access to those essential services.
- EU air quality standards have a clear potential in reducing and preventing air pollution. The EU Ambient Air Quality Directives (AAQD) should set high standards for air quality, with the ultimate goal of protecting people's health. AIM recommends a strengthening of EU air quality standards in those directives and their alignment with WHO guidelines and the latest scientific evidence on the health and environment impacts of air pollution. AIM calls for the inclusion of additional air pollutants within the scope of those guidelines.

*** 2.1.2 What are the main challenges to ensure the green transition of this industrial ecosystem, as part of this pathway? Can you provide relevant data or evidence?**

2000 character(s) maximum

- Visibility of social economy's actors and its best practices and activities.
- Investments for the social economy green projects under the Next Generation EU (mostly managed by Member States), under the InvestEU and other funding and financial instruments as the SMP, the ESF Plus, the ERDF, Life program and Horizon Europe.
- Investments in the upskilling and reskilling of social economy employees and entrepreneurs.
- Attracting young talents to the social economy, foster social economy entrepreneurship education as well as fostering women in leading positions.

*** 2.1.3 On which challenges are you ready to work jointly with other stakeholders for the green transition of this industrial ecosystem, as part of this pathway?**

2000 character(s) maximum

- With regards to air quality, AIM joins HEAL's and many others' in their call for air quality standards and monitoring requirements for those pollutants too .
- In the framework of the EU Rural Pact, AIM aims to submit its contribution to organize a workshop either on "Tackling medical deserts – Achieving a stronger commitment from all actors, at all levels" or "Boosting Digital Literacy to improve access to care and tackle isolation". Each actor will be invited to share its views. A series of commitments from all actors could be published as a follow up to the event.

* 2.1.4 What pledges and/or actions towards the green transition of the ecosystem, do you intend to present, as part of this pathway?

2000 character(s) maximum

- Foster the development of policy and legal frameworks by the OECD and the EU institutions to facilitate the development of national measures of our members in this area
- Engage in the re- and upskilling of our members by participating the EU Pact for Skills .

2.2 Digitalising the ecosystem

* 2.2.1 What output scenarios for 2030 would benefit the development of a digital proximity and social economy industrial ecosystem, in line with the priorities of the EU Industrial Strategy and the social economy action plan?

2000 character(s) maximum

- Digital developments and tools such as a common health data space, AI, telemedicine etc. provide little value, if the intended users do not have the skills use information technology to promote health and eHealth. E-Health requires a skill set, or literacy of its own. The ability “to seek, find, understand, and appraise health information from electronic sources and apply the knowledge gained to addressing or solving health problems” is not sufficient there. The EU should promote the development of a basic understanding of e-health literacy and recommendations for Member States.
- Digital tools have a clear potential in improving access to health and long-term care in rural areas. Here as well, to make the most of those developments for individuals, the digital literacy of the general population, vulnerable groups, health and care professionals, carers but also all actors in the health and care sector needs to be improved.
- An important output scenario is also to make sure that when the European Commission develops legal frameworks that patient centeredness as well as ethical standards will be kept. For this we also refer to our position on AI and ‘Sharing of health data’.

* 2.2.2 What are the main challenges to ensure the digital transition of this industrial ecosystem, as part of this pathway? Can you provide relevant data or evidence?

2000 character(s) maximum

- Access to finance and tailored support services.
- Need to upskill and reskill social economy employees and entrepreneurs, notable in the field of digital health
- Lack of visibility and scale of social economy solution in the digital economy.
- Challenges in exchange health data, balance of security and innovation is important, trust must be raised
- Digital health literacy as mentioned in our answer to question 2.2.1.

* 2.2.3 On which challenges are you ready to work jointly with other stakeholders for the digital transition of this industrial ecosystem, as part of this pathway?

2000 character(s) maximum

- AIM members participate actively in the ehealth stakeholder group of the European Commission.
- It raises awareness of the above-mentioned problems among its members and fosters the exchange of best practices in the different countries to learn from each other
- AIM will work on recommendations in the field of digital health
- AIM is as well member of THEDAS to work on the implementation of the European Health Data Space

* 2.2.4 What pledges and/or actions towards the digital transition of the ecosystem, do you intend to present, as part of this pathway?

2000 character(s) maximum

See question 2.2.4

3 General comments

3.1 What other comments would you like to give?

2000 character(s) maximum

4 Communication

Whom should we contact regarding your contribution and possible further involvement in the P-SE Transition Pathway process? We use this contact information when launching a Call for Interest for potential participants in the Stakeholder consultation workshops in Februari - June 2022.

4.1 First name

Corinna

4.2 Surname (family name)

Hartrampf

4.3 Function

Senior Office Manager

4.4 Organisation

AIM

4.5 Email

50 character(s) maximum

corinna.hartrampf@aim-mutual.org

Contact

[Contact Form](#)