

# Gdansk social economy conference

## Cluster: Social and health services

Gdansk, 28th June 2008

1. Presentation of the European Think tank  
*Pour la Solidarité*

- Our philosophy: Understand in order to act, with increased mutual cooperation;
- Our mission: To give actors the necessary keys to understand the European environment within which they operate;
- Our aim: To provide our partners with the necessary tools to anticipate and act effectively on European issues.

## Five main issues:

- Social cohesion
- Social economy
- Diversity and CSR
- Citizenship and participatory democracy
- Territorial sustainable development

## Three major competences:

- « Resources »
- « Expertise - Consultancy »
- « Networking »

## 2. Presentation of the European Network of social economy providers of proximity and social services

## Why a European network?

- To link social economy providers of social and proximity services together;
- To show that a social aim may be a guarantee of quality and efficiency;
- To defend the principles and values of Social economy in the field of social and proximity services

## Which objectives for the network?

- To prepare a common definition of social and proximity services and make it recognized at the European level;
- To develop exchanges of best practices between the members;
- To inform on European and national legislations;
- To lobby at the European level;
- To find new members across Europe;
- To answer European calls for proposals

## Which activities for the first year?

- September: Preparation of a report on European policies in the field of social and proximity services;
- October 2008: Meeting in Bologna with Italian actors of social cooperatives;
- November 2008: Conference in Marseille on the quality of work in the social and proximity services sector;
- November 2008: Intervention during a European meeting on Social economy in Strasbourg;
- February 2009: Public conference in Barcelona

## Which sources of funding?

- Contribution of the members
- European funding opportunities: answer to a PROGRESS program called « Promoting quality of Social Services of Social Interest »

**Thank you for your attention!**

Any further information:

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