

Description of the social enterprise – information sheet

Mikrofonden Väst Economic Association



A. Identification data	
1. Name of the enterprise	Mikrofonden Väst
2. Location/Address of the enterprise	Packhusplatsen 2, 411 13 Göteborg
3. Website of the enterprise	www.mikrofondenvast.se
4. Legal organisational form	Economic Association
B. Good practice of the social enterprise	
Aspects that recommend the social enterprise as a good practice in the particular sector.	Mikrofonden Väst is an organisation in the region of Västra Götaland (West Sweden) which offers guarantees and other financial support to social economy. Mikrofonden Väst is the financial instrument owned by social enterprises. Mikrofonden Väst offers credit guarantees to social enterprises
C. Context:	
1. Year of Founding	2007
2. Context of start-up – problem that the enterprise was set up to solve, economic social rationale	Solves the problem of finance of social enterprises in for example rural areas.
3. What are the Main Activities of the entity?	Offering guarantees when a social enterprise needs a bank loan.
4. Who are the Main stakeholders (i.e. members, clients, producers, etc.)?	The members are the social enterprises. Clients are social enterprises.
5. Geographic coverage with respect to:	
i) to production of services and/or goods and	Region West of Sweden.
ii) market/consumers or beneficiaries, clients, etc.	
D. Ownership Structure	
1. What is the ownership structure of the entity: i.e., does the entity have shareholders, owners/members, donors, trustees, investors, etc.?	It is a cooperative, 55 members, other cooperatives, and social enterprises. The investors are other cooperatives, banks, municipalities.
2. If membership, is membership open or closed? Is exclusivity required?	Open membership.

3. Is a capital contribution required? If so, how much? Is equity capital unallocated or individualised?	Membership is 1000 SEK. The capital is unallocated.
4. Describe in a few words the voting distribution (e.g. one member-one vote; proportional to equity contribution; proportional to use, etc.).	One member, one vote.
5. Describe in a few words the main benefits for members or owners.	To have the possibility to get guarantee when they need a loan (from a bank).
6. Indicate any <u>main changes</u> in ownership over the lifetime of the entity.	The number of members increases each year. Now we have 55 members.
E. Governance	
1. Describe the governance structure of the entity (board, management, committees, etc.), number of members and method of selection (appointed or elected and by whom).	55 members, 13 members of the board. A managing director The Nomination Committee prepares proposals for the Annual General Meeting.
2. Is there an entity or process for oversight of the board?	Yes, there are 1 -2 certified public accountants.
3. Are there external independent board members?	Yes
4. Are there term limits for board members?	No
5. What is the gender composition of the board?	Mixed. 50/50 in general
6. Describe management and board salary/ compensation policies and how they are decided/determined?	No board salary - decided by the members.

F. Profit/ benefits/ surplus distribution policies	
1. Describe briefly the distribution policies and procedures for profits / benefits / surplus	N/A
2. Are members/owners liable for losses of entity? Describe how liability is shared.	
G. Strategy: highlight approaches adopted to address the identified challenges	
1. Describe briefly the business strategy looking at aspects like: main products/services, market niche, market share, quality and pricing/costs and <u>main changes</u> occurred in time.	The business strategy is to market and offer guarantees. We have a market plan. Is marketed to both rural areas and urban areas. No cost of the capital, for the customer we charge 3.5 %.
2. Describe briefly the relation between the business strategy and the social mission of the enterprise.	The social mission is to help social enterprises grow and therefor do well for society.
3. Please describe briefly the strategic partners or alliances that the enterprise has.	The strategic partners is social banks, such as Ekobanken and JAK and public bank such as Almi. Also municipalities e.g Bengtsfors and the City of Gothenburg and of course our owners; cooperatives, social enterprises, NGOs.
4. Please describe briefly the methods and practices of communication/relationships with Stakeholders (members, community, donors, NGOs, etc.).	Through web, Facebook, email, meetings
5. Innovation and key performance factors	We are developing new financial products, such as crowdfunding, pooling of public finance etc.
6. Human resources - personnel	
- No. of employees	1
- No. of volunteers	20
- No. of members	55 (Board consist of 13 persons)

H. Outcomes: results achieved and lessons learned	
- Yearly social and economic results – every 5 years since start-up, and/or the last 3 years	Last 7 years we have implemented 35 guarantees, to 35 clients.
- Assets (raw numbers)	Assets: 5.6 Million SEK
- Capital (raw numbers)	Capital: 5.6 Million SEK
- Production	35 guarantees
- Turnover /sales	Profit: 500 000 SEK/year
- Profit/loss	The social benefit is that social enterprises can grow.
- Social benefits - describe the benefit to members (membership), indicators used to evaluate the enterprise.	
I. Describe in a few words the broader social / environmental impact in your community – spill-over effects, in the last 3-5 years.	More people employed. Better environment.
J. Discussion Points: questions readers may want to consider and to discuss about it	
Social enterprises need special solution concerning finance. And this we offer through Mikrofonden väst	
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