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## TEMPLATE FOR COLLECTION OF BEST PRACTICES

### Code of the good practices

Country	Progressive number	Value chain code
Sweden	02	F

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This template is a tool developed within the project Express: EXchange of Practices for Refugees and migrants' Self-entrepreneurship, an Erasmus + project, under Key Actions 2/Exchange of best practice. The aim of the project is to empower young migrants and refugees, creating and/or strengthening - where existing - supporting services for the development of self-enterprises by this target population.

The practices collected within the project will be shared with practitioners/organisations working with young refugees and migrants and will constitute the content of a Learning, Teaching and Training Activity to be delivered to partner organisations.

### STEP REPRESENTED IN THE VALUE CHAIN FOR SELF-ENTREPRENEURSHIP

*(please select 1 or more field in which the practice can be considered as representative. It is important to select the prior field, but others can be selected as secondary)*

**A. Competence assessment of young migrants/refugees**

**B. Training on self-entrepreneurship**

**C. Mentoring scheme**

**D. Informative campaign**

**E. Networking activities**

**F. Support to access financing/social financing**

**G. Other: (specify) \_\_\_\_\_**



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### GENERAL “TECHNICAL” INFORMATION

<b>TITLE:</b>	Ekobanken - a cooperative bank
<b>COUNTRY:</b>	Sweden
<b>TYPE OF INITIATIVE:</b>	Bank
<b>ACTORS:</b>	2 000 members, All shareholders have to be approved as members
<b>BUDGET:</b>	2019: Turnover of 1,093 BSEK,
<b>FINANCING SOURCE:</b>	Members/shareholders through its different activities with the bank
<b>DURATION:</b>	Ongoing
<b>DATE /YEAR:</b>	Started in 1996
<b>GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE:</b>	Sweden
<b>SDG COVERED:</b>	Ekobanken itself is working with SDG´ 3, 10, 12. Via the lending business Ekobanken indirectly supports more SDGs based on the business activities of the lenders. Impact is a criteria when making decisions on loans and each loan is connected to one or several SDGs. By example: Pling, a last mile service provider use delivery bikes to fight climate change - Goal 13.
<b>SOURCE:</b>	Ekobanken.se
<b>MOTIVATION/SELECTION CRITERIA:</b>	It's the only Ethical Bank in Sweden with 40% of its ledning targeting the social economy. The social economy is a sector where many immigrants get´s help, education, on the job training or a first job. Working together with Mikrofonden makes it easier for people with a weak economy to start and run a business. The combination of Ekobanken and Mikrofonden is sometimes the only way for some businesses to get the needed capital to start or grow their business.



### “CONTENT” INFORMATION

<b>ADDRESSED NEEDS (VALUE/MAIN GOAL):</b>	In part access to capital for social economy and its stakeholders
<b>TARGET POPULATION/BENEFICIARY:</b>	Individuals and enterprises interested in ethical banking and are willing to place money with an actor that have clear goals on impact and sustainability.
<b>LOCAL CONTEXT:</b>	Works only in Sweden
<b>SHORT DESCRIPTION OF THE PRACTICE/MODEL:</b>	Bank owned by its customers. Has a special focus on sustainability. Since they operate under the Swedish Bank law they operate very much like any Bank but with an emphasis on sustainability.
<b>MONITORING PROCESS:</b>	The members elect a Board of Representatives and an election committee. The Board of Representatives elect the Board, proposed by the election committee.  Ekobanken operates under Swedish Bank law
<b>IMPACT &amp; RESULTS:</b>	Each yearly report has sustainability reporting in it. All loans are connected to one specific SDG. The social impact is reported to GABV (Global Alliance for Banking on Values)
<b>SUSTAINABILITY/VIABILITY</b>	The business model is long term with profits reinvested in the company why risks are low.
<b>SUCCESS FACTORS:</b>	Close cooperation with the target groups they want to work with as well as close work with other value driven organizations like Coompanion, HSSL etc.
<b>NETWORKS/ACTORS SUPPORTING THE PRACTICE:</b>	Actors in the Social Economy, Mikrfonden, ordinary banks to make combined loans, ALMI and others
<b>ASSOCIATED RISKS:</b>	Operational risks are associated with giving out bad loans. With no big shareholders or banks backing it could become hard to meet demand if it grows fast and capitalisation is slow.

#### Notes for collectors:

1. Please, catalogue your practice in the file name as follows: Country acronym \_ letter of the value chain represented \_ nr. of the practice \_ name of the practice. (e.g. SE\_A\_1\_aaaa). This will support in the reporting phase.
2. Please indicate the working methodology used to collect the practice (e.g. interviews, web research, direct compiling of selected organisation, etc.)