

Answers to Frequently Asked Questions concerning REVES membership



a) **The procedure:** The interested organisation/authority has to fill in and sign the attached [Membership form](#) and send it to the REVES secretariat together with an extract of an official document proving that there was a decision to be part of the network (council decision, minutes of an official meeting or similar documents).

b) **Membership fees:** see [Membership form](#).

c) **Meetings:** The General Assembly comes together usually once a year (in Brussels or in a member city/region). Board meetings (that are open to all REVES members) are held 3-4 times, mostly in Brussels. REVES seminars and conferences are often organised in connection with the GA or a board meeting.

d) What members "get out" of the network:

- **Contacts to and exchange of experiences** with local/regional authorities and social economy structures in 17 EU member states

- **Information on all EU policies/initiatives that are of relevance for social economy and partnership between local/regional authorities and social economy and the possibility to deliver inputs in the phase of the conception and implementation of policies:**

Four REVES members are part of the European Commission's expert group on social entrepreneurship GECES; two staff members have been selected for the European Commission's expert group on the European Structural and Investment Funds; we are part of the Structured Dialogue around the European Platform against Poverty and Social Exclusion, but also work with other EC DGs;

REVES works with the European Parliament, in particular its intergroup on Social Economy (which has been reestablished in December 2014 under the lead of Jens Nilsson, MEP and first president of REVES) and the intergroup "Common Goods and Public services";

collaboration also exists with the Committee of the Regions (through [Social Economy Europe](#) we have been/are involved, for example, in the work of the jury for the "European Entrepreneurial Region") and with the European Economic and Social Committee);

REVES also realises joint initiatives with the OECD LEED programme and the ILO.

Members are usually consulted before meetings and have, where possible, also the occasion to take part in meetings.

- **Visibility:** Through the organisation of or participation in public events and through publications REVES also seeks to give visibility to its members and their initiatives;

- **Projects:** Possibility to take part in projects (reserved in most cases to REVES members) - be they EU-financed projects or initiatives such as the REVES-fund for local development around the social economy;

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- **Possibility to launch own projects/initiatives and ask for the support of REVES and/or its members;**
- **Possibility to set up** - together with a minimum of three other members - **working groups on specific topics;**
- **Possibility to organise, with REVES' assistance, seminars on topics around the social economy in the own city/region (or in Brussels)** (even though, in this case, depending on the context and dimension of the event, the member might have to cover extra costs);
- **Possibility to take part in REVES training sessions (in the past REVES has organized training on the new European public procurement and state aid rules, or on the new rules regarding Structural Funds...);**
- **Possibility to ask for REVES advise in the elaboration and implementation of a specific local/regional initiative** (in this case - that goes beyond usual network activities - however, an extra fee is requested).