

## **The 5 principles of the Code Social Enterprises**

The Code Social Enterprises is “principle based”: meaning that the responsibility for implementation lies with the social enterprise itself. This gives the enterprise the freedom and space to grow the practical implementation of the principles along with the company. However, this does not alter that a number of criteria must be met (see the admission criteria).

### **Principle 1 – Mission: Guaranteed and measurable**

“Impact first” – that is what this principle is all about. What is your mission? How do you expect to achieve this goal? The social enterprise establishes its social mission in accordance with the articles of association, provides clear insight of its objectives and realises its goals.

### **Principle 2 – Stakeholders: Decision and dialogue**

The social enterprise decides who the stakeholders are in the light of the mission. Subsequently, the enterprise enters a constant dialogue with those stakeholders. This dialogue will lead to system change and creates more support.

### **Principle 3 – Finance: In consultation and careful consideration**

Monetary profit is not the main goal for a social enterprise. Therefore, the enterprise has a statutory policy that imposes restrictions on the settlement to the shareholder(s).

### **Principle 4 – Implementation: Registration and reflection**

The enterprise shall be registered in the Register of Social Enterprises. Also, the enterprise is willing to actively participate in the community of social enterprises. Meaning that the enterprise is always open to receive and provide constructive advice.

### **Principle 5 – Transparency: Active and accessible**

The company pursues an active information policy based on maximum openness. The enterprise displays how it will fulfil its mission, what the achieved impact is, what the financial structure looks like, etcetera. All information should be easy to find, clear, and explained easily upon request.