



Mapping Project's Working Definition of "Social Economy"

“The social economy is an entrepreneurial, not for profit sector that seeks to enhance the social, economic and environmental conditions of communities. Social economy enterprises are a component of the social economy that are run like businesses, producing goods and services for the market economy, but manage their operations and redirect their surpluses in pursuit of social and environmental goals.”

- Government of Canada Working Definition of the Social Economy

For the Mapping Project we've added:

- Includes more than Social Enterprise.
- Social economy activity helps to break down silos between business and nonprofits, and within the nonprofit sector.
- There tends to be a cultural shift from seeing people as "clients" to seeing them as "workers/owners/contributing community members".
- Decision making favours participatory and democratic processes.

For more, see [The BIG Think](#).