

 **DIJANA ŠTRBAC****Social entrepreneurship and social economy in the Republic of Serbia - evaluation of policies, resources and key actors****ABSTRACT**

Social entrepreneurship is a global phenomenon which has an important role in addressing social, economic and environmental development as well as in increasing social inclusion and democratic participation. The policy makers consider social entrepreneurship as a growing sector which offers different opportunities for economic growth, implementing innovation and creating new jobs. There are different examples of policies which support creation of social enterprises and development of an enabling ecosystem for social economy on national and international level. The main objectives of this research are to explore the existing social entrepreneurship landscape in Serbia, evaluate public policies in this field and identify gaps which could be addressed by future policy actions related to social enterprises. The framework used for evaluation of policies focused on social entrepreneurship is based on the OECD approach. According to the OECD, there are six key areas for supporting social entrepreneurship on a national and local level: promotion; building enabling legal, regulatory and fiscal frameworks; providing sustainable finance; offering business development services and support structures; supporting access to markets and support to further research in this field. The research methodology includes analysis of statistical data, legal acts, policies, programmes and organisations in this field.