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From Schools of Thought to a Tentative Typology of Social Enterprise Models

Jacques Defourny and Marthe Nyssens (ICEM Working Papers, 2015, forthcoming)





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- I. Review of Social Enterprise Classifications
- II. Finding « Logics of Action »
- III. Logics of Action generating Social Enterprise Models
- IV. Analysing SE Models through EMES Lenses

I. Social Enterprise Classifications

- 1. Alter (2007) analyses the <u>level of integration</u> of SE's business activities in social programs: mission-centric, related, unrelated.
- 2. Kerlin (2009, 2012) identifies various macro (country-level) institutional frameworks but not SE models at a micro-level
- 3. Defourny and Nyssens (2010) identified 3 SE schools of thought:
 - A. Earned Income school involving
 - the Commercial Nonprofit Approach (Trading NPO)
 - the Mission-driven Business Approach (Social Business)
 - B. Social Innovation school (ex. Ashoka social entrepreneurs)
 - C. EMES Approach allowing for a wide diversity of SE models while stressing governance as an important dimension as in Cooperatives and many Associations

4. Spear et al. (2009): classification of SE based on their origins

- **A.** Trading charities
- **B.** Public sector spin-offs
- **C.** New-start social enterprises
- D. Mutuals

5. Teasdale (2012): classification of SE according to <u>discourses</u>

- A. Earned income
- **B.** Delivering Public Services
- C. Social business
- **D. Community Enterprise**
- F. Co-operatives

6. Gordon (2015, ICSEM Working Paper) identifies various « traditions » representing distinct <u>purposes</u> and <u>values</u>

- A. Altruistic purpose: Charity and philanthropy
- B. Public statist purpose: Public social enterprise
- C. Private market purpose: Business and enterprise
- D. Community purpose: Community and voluntary association
- E. Mutual purpose: Co-operation and mutuality
- F. Ethical purpose: Alterity and radicalism

II. Finding "logics of action" (1)

- « Public sector spin-offs » (Spear et al.)
- « Delivering public services » (Teasdale)
- « Public statist purpose » (Gordon)
- General interest pursued by the State and by state-controlled organisations
- « Trading charities» (Spear et al.) «
- « Delivering public services » (Teasdale)
- « Altruistic purpose » (Gordon)
 - General interest (at all levels) pursued by NPOs

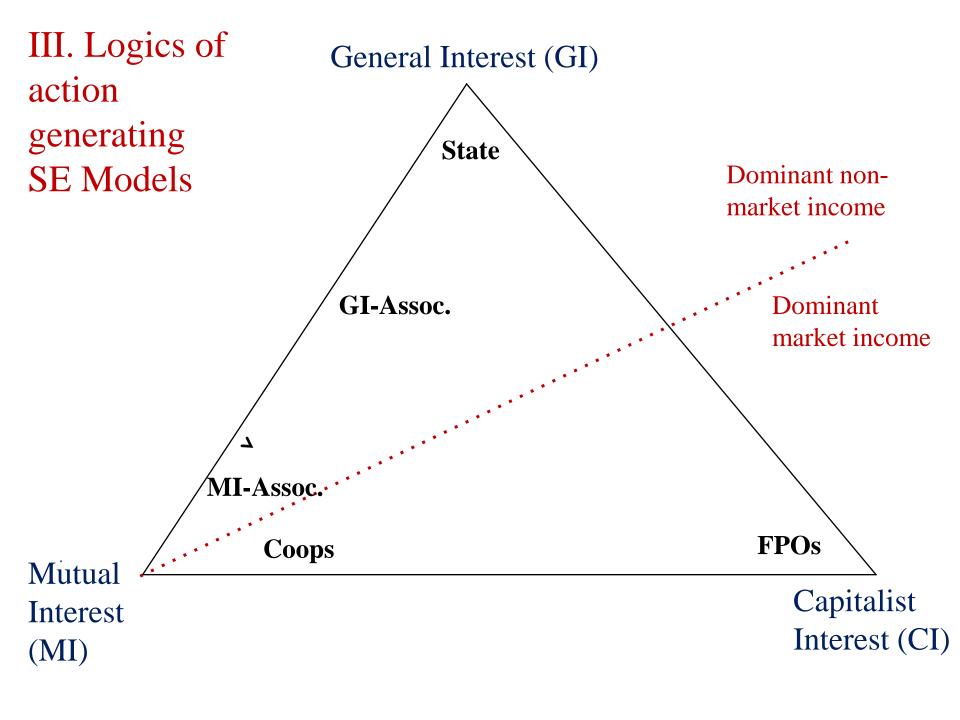
II. Finding "logics of action" (2)

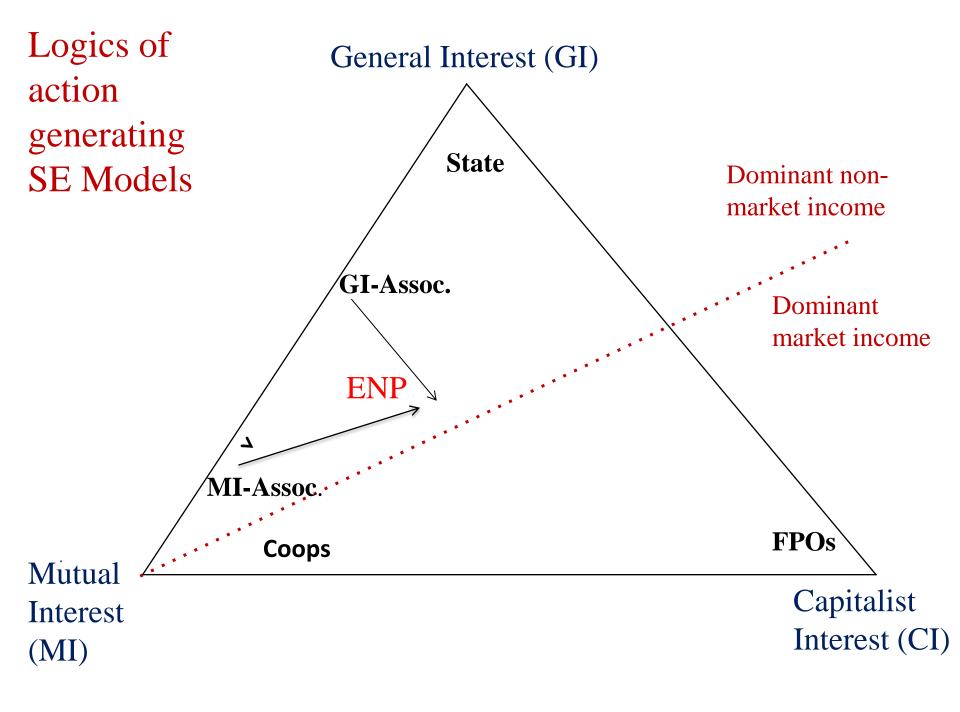
- « Mutuals » (Spear el al.)
- « Cooperatives » (Teasdale)
- « Mutual purpose » (Gordon)



Mutual interest pursued by member-based not-for-profit enterprises

General Interest (GI) and Mutual Interest (MI) as two « logics of action » quite distinct from shareholders' « Capitalist Interest » (CI)

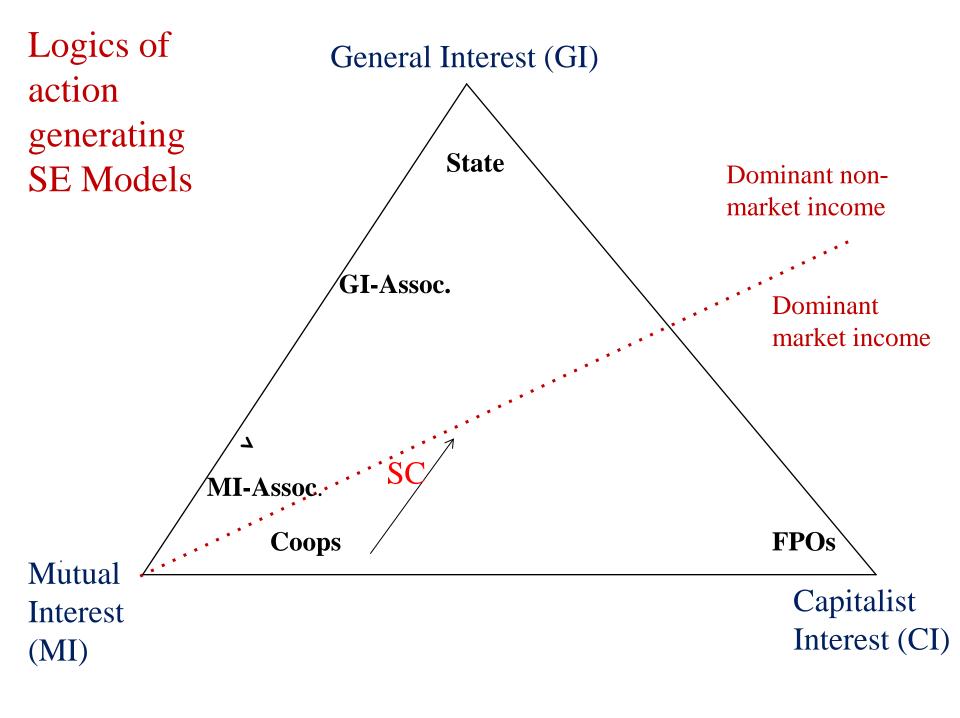




Model 1: Entrepreneurial NPO

NPO developing any earned-income business or/and other entrepreneurial strategies in support of its social mission

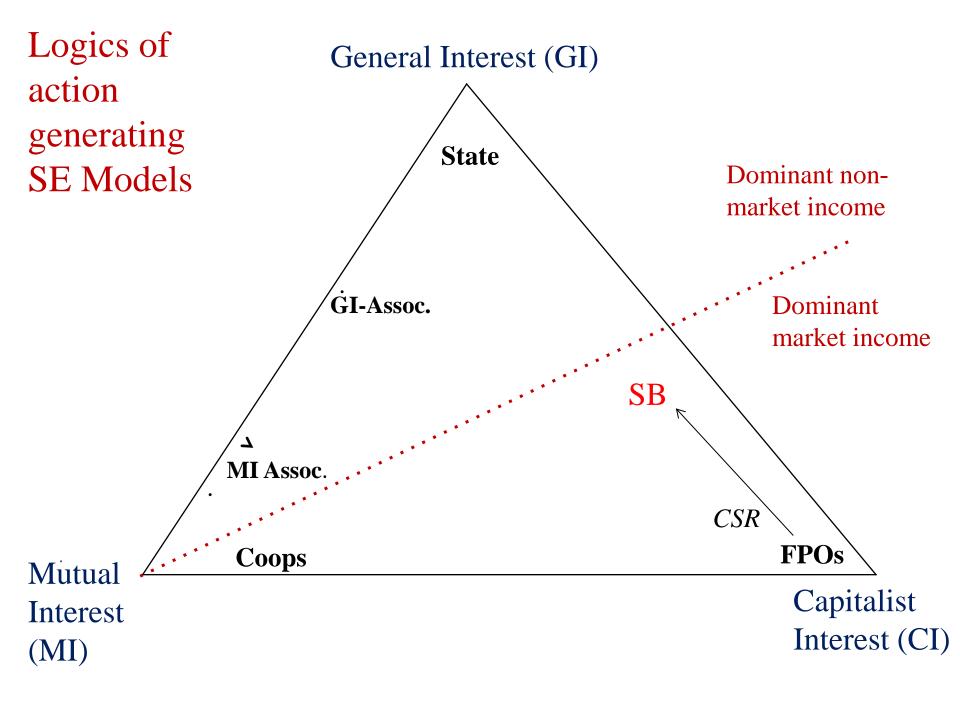
- NPO with a mission-unrelated trading activity (trading charities: a shop whose surplus finances the social service...)
- NPO's subsidiary with a trading activity
- NPO with mission-centric economic activities developing entrepreneurial strategies (WISE...)



Model 2: Social cooperative

Cooperative or cooperative – like enterprise implementing economic democracy and combining mutual interest with the interest of the whole community or with the interest of a specific target group

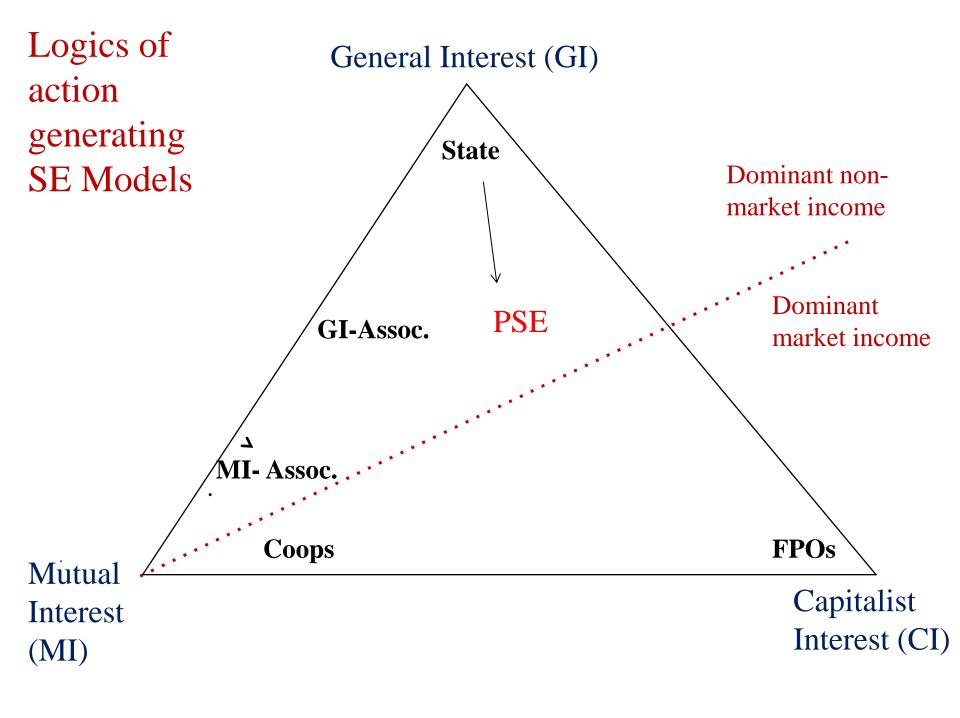
- Single stakeholders coop. (popular economy labor managed firms, renewable energy citizens' coop., etc.)
- Multiple stakeholders coop. (short circuits coop. with producers and consumers, Italian social coops)



Model 3: Social business

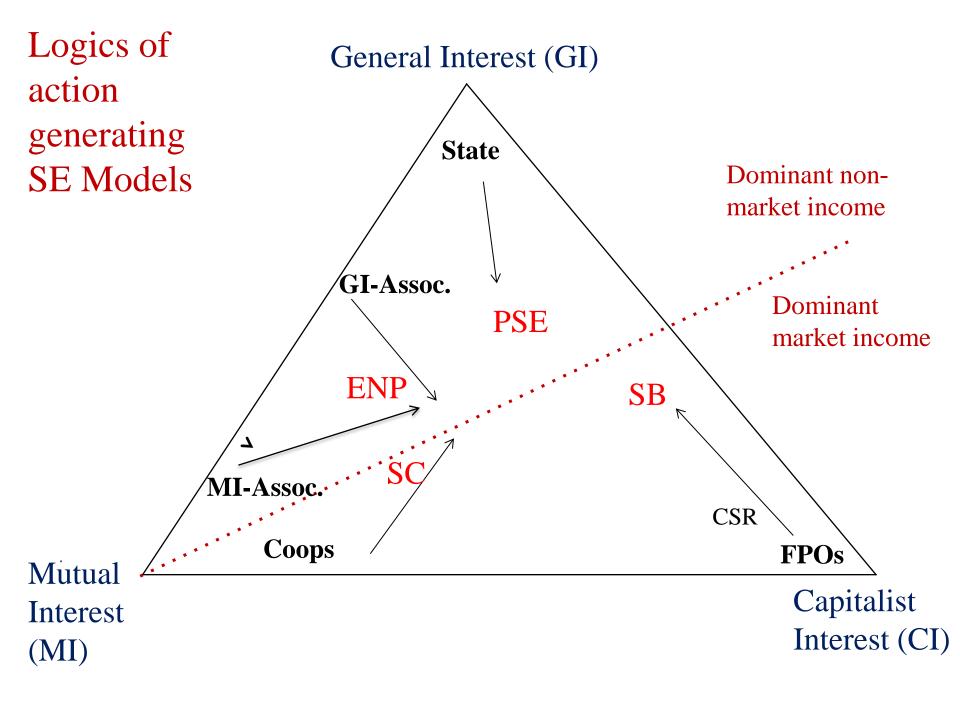
Shareholder company combining business activities with the primacy of a social mission:

- SMEs combining a for-profit motive with the primacy of their social mission
- "Yunus type" social business: a non-loss, nondividend, fully market-based company dedicated entirely to achieving a social goal
- Social intrapreneurship strategies developed by large companies well beyond instrumental CSR strategies



Model 4: Public Sector Social Enterprise

Public sector spin-off: a WISE developed by a local public welfare centre, social services delivered by a local public body on a quasi-market...)



IV. Analysing SE models through EMES lenses

- An economic project
 - A continuous production
 - Some paid work
 - An economic risk
- A social mission
 - An explicit social aim
 - Limited profit distribution reflecting the primacy of social aim
 - A initiative launched by a group of citizens or TSO
- A participatory governance
 - A high degree of autonomy
 - A participatory nature, which involves various parties affected by the activity
 - A decision-making power not based on capital ownership

THE EMES DEFINITION AS AN « IDEAL-TYPE »

- These criteria are not conditions to be strictly met to deserve the label of social enterprise
- They rather define an « ideal-type » (abstract construction) like a star within the « galaxy » of social enterprises



The ICSEM questionnaire relies on the hypothesis that these 3 major dimensions would particularly inform the diversity of SE models and be relevant to develop typologies

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An explicit social mission Logics of action	Work integration	Access to health or social services	Ethical consumption /production Ecological and social transition	Fighting poverty and social exclusion	
Entrepreneurial nonprofit	WISE implemented by a charity	Association providing home care services for elderly	Associative Fair trade shop	Neighbourhood association (régies de quartier)	
Public sector SE	WISE implemented by a local public service	Local public body providing social services on a quasi-market			
Social cooperative Single stakeholder Multiple stakeholder	Popular economy LMF Social coop. type B (Italy)	Coop of health care professionals	Renewable energy citizen coop. Coop. in short circuits	Coopec (IMF) Community development coop.	
Social Business > SME > Yunus type > Project developed by large companies	A company developing a call center with the primacy of its social mission: hiring handicapped people	A social worker starting a residential care institution Aravind eye hospital	fair trade	Grameen Danone social business Bottom of the pyramid strategies	

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Features of profit distribution Logics of action	No sharesDistribution of profit prohibited	Cap on distribution of profit + asset lock	Cap on distribution of profit	None
Entrepreneurial nonprofit	X (NPO or NPO's subsidiary with a trading activity)			
Public sector SE	X	X		
Social cooperative		X		
Social Business				
> SME		X	X	
Yunus' type		X		
Project developedby largecompanies		non dividend company) X	X	

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Governance	Democratic	Bureaucratic	Independent	Capitalist
Logics of action				
Entrepreneurial nonprofit	X - Trustees - Members			
Social cooperative	X Members as co-owners			
Public sector SE		X		
Social Business				
> SME			X	X
Yunus' type				X
Projectdeveloped bylarge companies				X

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Economic risk	Mix of resources	Quasi- market resources	Fully market based resources
Logics of action			
Entrepreneurial nonprofit	X	X	
Public sector SE	X	X	
Social cooperative	X	X	X
Social Business			
> SME	X	X	X
> Yunus' type			X
Project developed by large companies	X	X	X

