Is there a common definition of cooperative and social economy enterprise or can national definitions be used?

The definition of the indicator on “number of supported micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (including cooperative enterprises, enterprises of the social economy)” includes a general definition of an enterprise "*An enterprise is considered to be any entity engaged in an economic activity, irrespective of its legal form*". The common indicator therefore covers all SMEs that benefit from direct support irrespective of their legal form and no breakdown is required. If a Member State wishes to establish a programme-specific indicator that distinguishes enterprises of particular legal forms, such as cooperatives, then a definition based on the relevant national legislation should be used.

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