

This work deals with the phenomena of social economy and social undertaking and its subjects – social enterprises and firms within the group of non-governmental nonprofit organizations. Attention is paid to the preparation phase – establishment of the social enterprise and methods for lowering the risk of failure in the early stages of its activity. Theoretical part of this work clarifies the idea of social economy and social undertaking and presents its actors the social enterprises. The second theoretical part describes strategic planning, business plan and feasibility study as possible methods for lowering the risk of failure in the preparatory phase of enterprise development. By using the methods of qualitative research the empirical part is trying to find out what approaches have been taken to an account by existing social enterprises in the Czech Republic in preparatory phase and how they evaluate them now. Some good practices are presented and the work indicates a possible path for organizations and individuals that are about to setup a social enterprise.