







Great Challenges, Greater Solidarity Power of Community and SSE as a Path for Transformation

GSEF Global Virtual Forum 19 – 23 October 2020

Title of the session: Community Resilience and Social Inclusion through SSE in the post COVID-19 Era

Type of session Workshop session

Language: English, Korean

Date: 22nd of October Time: 90 minutes

Participants Zoom participation: 55

Name of moderator

Dr. Denison Jayasooria, Chair of Asian Solidarity Economy Council (ASEC)

Speakers

- 1. Harb HOUN, Director of Operations, Phare Performing Social enterprise PPSE, Cambodia
- 2. Dr. KIM Do Hun, Researcher of Environmental Planning Institute, Seoul National University Seoul National University Environmental Planning Institute, Korea
- 3. Jean-François Parent, Operations Manager, Conseil de la Cooperation de l'Ontario, Canada
- 4. PARK Yeojin, Project Manager, Daegu Social Economy Centre (DSEC), Korea
- 5. Nawa Raj Koirala, Conflict Victim and Single Women Development Center, Nepal











Screenshot of the zoom session













Summary of presentations:

1. Harb HOUN, Phare Performing Social enterprise PPSE

Mr. Houn has presented the Phare Performing Social Enterprise (PPSE), an award winning and pioneering Cambodian social business. PPSE is a for-profit company, but the profit goes towards social benefit. Revenue generated supports Phare Ponleu Selpak non-profit school, which provides free education and social support to 1200 students and their families daily. PPSE strives to reduce poverty through training & employment in the creative industry. PPSE creates, produces and disseminates live performances, graphic designs, animation and other cultural products in Cambodia and abroad. PPSE artists come from difficult social and economic backgrounds and trained at Phare Ponleu Selpak non-profit school, established in 1994. PPSE believes creativity contributes to social development and a vibrant economy.

It creates high-quality jobs, secures tourism benefits for the local population, strengthens the Cambodian cultural identity and improves access to education for at-risk youth.

2. Dr. KIM Do Hun, Seoul National University Seoul National University Environmental Planning Institute

After the passenger ship Sewol sank in the waters on April 16, 2014, Ansan citizens suffered more pain and grief than anyone else. In this regard, in April 2015, Ansan established a public-private governance to promote social inclusion by building social capital. It also launched an organization called Community Resilience Center — City of Ansan. Establishing a community inclusion system to heal the pain of the bereaved families and form a sustainable community that would embrace all residents and citizens. It intended to develop the power of promoting social inclusion to return to everyday life by improving the psychological stability of the bereaved families who are suffering and came up with plans to gradually lead them back to their old selves by having residents from the same living space talk and communicate with them. Taking into account the experiences from these cases, Dr. Kim has explained how the social capital formation and support project carried out by Ansan for promoting social inclusion enabled the community to perceive their common future through the network. This can be a model of regional innovation activities based on participation and independence to overcome disasters.

3. Jean-François Parent, Conseil de la Cooperation de l'Ontario

Linguistic minority communities in Canada have had to deal with numerous societal changes in recent decades that limit their potential for economic growth, development and affirmation of identity. Shortage of skilled labor in some regions, brain drain syndrome from rural communities to urban communities are just a few macroeconomic examples. It is therefore difficult for linguistic communities to assert themselves and legally claim their right to a healthy existence and development without external financial support. Faced with these imperatives, a greater degree of financial empowerment is crucial for these communities. In this regard, the creation of social impact investment initiatives may be a solution adapted to regional realities. Thus, Mr. Parent has presented a case study of the Francophone Community in Ontario, analyzing the current situation, the shortcomings felt on the ground and proposing new avenues for future









development for the sector. The intervention has reviewed the intensive literature, an evolving mapping of the various economic and organizational actors in place, as well as a detailed analysis of several programs held over the past 10 years, including the famous Federal Government's Investment Preparation Program (PPI).

4. PARK Yeojin, Daegu Social Economy Centre (DSEC)

Ms. Park's presentation has shown what Daegu social economy actors did for socially excluded groups in response to COVID-19 crisis and how and why. Daegu was the epicenter of Korea's outbreak. Despite their own business difficulties, social entrepreneurs did not sit behind. They individually and collectively behaved in order to add more hands to overcoming the crisis at the regional level. We need to examine systematically their respective and collaborative activities in order to record their voluntary contributions for our society as well as explain the importance of social economy in an era of new normal.

5. Nawa Raj Koirala, Conflict Victim and Single Women Development Center

Mr. Raj Koirala has deepened into the work of Nepal Conflict Victim and Single Women Development Center (CVSWDC), a non-profit organization and local NGO of Kanchanpur district established in July 2008. It has a total of 905 Single women in their network as members who lost their husband during a decade civil war between State and then rebel party Maoist (1996-2006). Since the establishment of CVSWDC in 2008, single women have also operated a cooperative under CVSWDC with saving and credit activities. In this regard, a training program will be conducted in commercial production of sanitary pads with their collaboration to be started to work together. A total of 20 single women will be benefited from this training directly. This process will be an example and also benefit indirectly to other women and their children with school girls as outcome of this project. Bedkot Municipality and District Chapter of Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FNCCI) will be the key stakeholders of this project. After forming the group, single women from nearby areas will venture into the production of sanitary pads that would give them a means of livelihood and also enable them to make regular savings. They are provided a small tailoring shop at her house before starting the venture. This project will support them to acquire additional skills and expand their income to become financially independent.

Relevant Questions and Answers from Audience:

Question 1: from Dr. Denison Jayasooria

How your community project has helped social inclusion?

Answer: Nawa Raj Koirala

Our platform, CVSWDC, works directly to activate the income of our community, especially, reinforcing the role of women as economically independent actors and give them new means of livelihood.









Add summary or conclusion of the moderator at the end of the session in case there was no closing remarks per presenter/speaker Laurence Kwark, Korea:

- This crisis has not only affected decision-makers' decisions but most remarkably, victims and communities have been the actors most vulnerable. Thus, this crisis has empowered the importance of SSE; and how we should work together in order to respond to a concrete need.
- The summary of this session could be that at moments of crisis, tragedy, disasters like COVID, people have been forced to come together and find common solutions, gathering different actors from different sectors to make a rebuilding process and help the community.
- Dr. Denison Jayasooria, Chair of Asian Solidarity Economy Council (ASEC)
 - In sum, the crisis has triggered greater need for solidarity, and as we have seen, there's sizable actors on the ground enhancing their communities while mobilizing different actors.