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MEXICO CITY 2021
GLOBAL SOCIAL
ECONOMY FORUM

100 STRONG IDEAS: SOCIAL AND SOLIDARITY ECONOMY



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GSEF2021 GLOBAL FORUM

**Local governments and Social Economy:
co-creation of paths for a green and inclusive economy**

Mexico City

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Local governments and Social Economy:
co-creation of paths for a green and
inclusive economy

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This is a public program which is not connected to any
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100 strong ideas: Social and Solidarity Economy

The Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) stands as a path allowing for a better transition towards a state of collective well-being, since it is a model based on the principles of cooperation, solidarity, equality and democratic self-governance in the implementation of strategies, methodologies, actions and practices carried out by collective property enterprises, non-governmental organizations, collectives, governments, academia and civil society.

Under the current circumstances, it is fundamental to think back on the role played by all actors in the orchestration of the collective organization, in designing, developing and encouraging multisectoral strategies aiming to build a future society of common well-being.

The synergy in multisectoral relations is more important than ever, therefore, in this 5th edition of the GSEF2021 Global Forum, we made an open call for people to join us on our search for alternative paths in the construction of a better world.

This document gathers the most inspirational ideas arisen from the sessions of our 5 exhaustive days of Forum, which took place from October 4th through 8th 2021. We believe in the power of their diffusion, comprehension and expansion.

These strong ideas are more than simple words, they are calls for action: to take into consideration the access to decent work, to incite collective entrepreneurial practices, to stimulate the economic proximity of products, to reinforce strategies of natural conservation, to take a better look at ethical and solidarity financial practices, as well as working on a more inclusive world.

We invite you to take part in history, in getting to know and appropriate these strong ideas brought by the GSEF2021, where the Social and Solidarity Economy is our best option for the common good.

**GSEF2021 Global Forum, Mexico City
Local governments and Social Economy:
co-creation of paths for a green and inclusive economy**

November 2021, Mexico City



Introduction by the GSEF Secretariat

Laurence Kwark

Secretary General of the Global Social Economy Forum

Warm greetings from the GSEF Secretariat.

I would like to welcome everyone to the 5th edition of the GSEF2021 Forum, Mexico City. There were round table discussions and learning sessions, discussions and debates at this forum hosted for the first time in the region of Latin America and the Caribbean. GSEF2021 was a space to link visions from all around the world on important topical issues for co-creation and co-operation between governments and Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) actors on the ground. These synergies will allow us to together take steps toward a future in which no one is left behind.

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic and the distance, GSEF2021 is a celebration of our lives of struggle, work and hope based on the values of the Social and Solidarity Economy. We are far away from each other but united by the same spirit, the same hope, and the same determination to make tomorrow a better day. At a time of great changes, we gather to share best practices, experiences, and innovation.

As part of the preparatory activities for the Forum over the past year, a number of events and meetings toward GSEF2021 were held. This was only possible thanks to the tremendous dedication and collaboration of the National Institute of Social Economy in Mexico (INAES) and the Government of Mexico City. This allowed GSEF2021 to provide opportunities for all actors, including governments of all levels, civil society organizations, cooperatives and all types of SSE organizations, as well as for individual stakeholders, academia and international organizations and policy-makers to meet for the first time in the history of the GSEF in a hybrid format and share experiences, challenges, solutions and visions for a future based on the principles and values of the SSE.

We might be quicker on our own, but together we can go further and become stronger. GSEF2021 is proof of this and becomes the dream of many. With so many new challenges to face on the way, we experienced these five days as daily gifts to discover the passions, peaceful coexistence, and wisdom of the SSE actors, and together we are building the path for a better future.

The spirit of solidarity is here, and each and every one of you is a testament to that. We will continue down our path and beyond GSEF2021. We hope that everyone remains in good health and spirit. We will see you at GSEF2023 in Dakar.

Sincerely, Laurence Kwark.



Presentation by the National Institute of Social Economy

Juan Manuel Martínez Louvier
Director General of INAES and President of the GSEF2021 Organizing Committee

It is a matter of a common effort between the National Institute for Social Economy (INAES), the government of Mexico City and the Global Social Economy Forum (GSEF), the celebration of the GSEF2021 in Mexico City, a forum providing a space for visibility and stimulation of strategies aiming the well-being of societies.

Today more than ever, we have to think back on the current economical dynamics. The social and solidarity economy stimulates the communitarian development with a productive inclusion and an ecological perspective, and this articulation must come from the communities and from all of its members, hence the importance of the participation of local governments.

The Global Social Economy Forum was planned for Fall 2020, however, the public health crisis of COVID-19 forced us to anticipate new scenarios. Thus, in 2020, making its *début* on digital platforms, the foreword to this major event took place.

This year, we met under a hybrid format and, extraordinarily, Mexico City was the global center of social and solidarity economy for five days. A place of interaction to discover the approaches and experiences from all five continents, pointing out the certainty that represents this economic model if we want to attain a better future.

I'm glad to announce that we reached a wide physical and virtual audience this year because, unlike some people may think, the social and solidarity economy is an outstanding element of the global economic system, and its participation is considerable. I witnessed all this on October 4th through 8th, watching the rising interest from the population and the passion in the work of each one of the participants.

This document gathers the most powerful ideas from the more than 300 panelists who articulated the global message of the GSEF2021 by expressing themselves during the sessions.

This document sought to respect the space where these ideas were expressed and to engrave on a synthetical document the great intellectual, critical and reflexive talent of the interventions made from the practices and vocations of all of our alliances.

To sum up, the COVID-19 pandemic emphasized a distinguishing feature of our times: the world is full of interrogations concerning the greatest uncertainties surrounding us. I hope this document, these 100 strong ideas, these tiny little pieces put together, will serve as a guiding light to help us find the great answers we are looking for.



My biggest wish is for this tool to serve all the people working daily on building a new world and straighten it, to all whom, like me, aspire to make grow the exercise of an economy at the service of the people, of a Social Economy everywhere and for everybody, and I know for a fact that our common work will successfully transform our realities.

I wish this will harbor the hope to meet again and share all the positive benefits of this great transformation in Dakar 2023.





Prologue by the Government of Mexico City

Diana Alarcón González
*General Coordinator of Advisers and International
Affairs Government of Mexico City*

With this publication, we sought to recall on this process dating back to 2018, when Mexico City was chosen as host for the GSEF after receiving the relay from Bilbao. Since then, enthusing, we have assumed this commitment to carry out the 5th edition of the Forum -and for the first time in Latin America and the Caribbean-, convinced more than ever that the Social and Solidarity Economy should be stimulated more and also be local, national and internationally recognized.

In despite of the COVID-19 pandemic and the stop to all of our daily activities and work schedules, our commitment and enthusiasm were not affected in any way, rather we convinced ourselves more about the importance of having alternative models of development in our countries and cities, placing people at the core of programs and public policies.

Thus, we adapted to the virtual world to keep alive the Forum, at least until we could meet again in a hybrid format, like the one which took place from October 4th trough 8th of this year entitled “Local Governments and social economy: co-creation of paths to a green and inclusive economy”.

Together from Mexico City, we have passed the message that different paths are possible and that in order to make progress, we should think back on ourselves as human beings, as collectives and as cities. Our city project aims to become a more inclusive and sustainable city in both economic and environmental fields.

On behalf of Mexico City’s Government, we hope we had contributed to meet the main goals we had fixed for this edition: opening a few doors to the GSEF in Latin America from its biggest Spanish speaking city, drawing attention to the most important international Forum for Social Economy and to the good social economy practices conceived inside Latin American cities since years, decades or even centuries as well.

It was a great privilege for us in Mexico, to give free rein to this important project, alongside the General Secretariat of the GSEF, the National Institute for Social Economy of Mexico and the Organizing Committee. From the Co-Presidency of the GSEF2021, we’d like to thank all of you!

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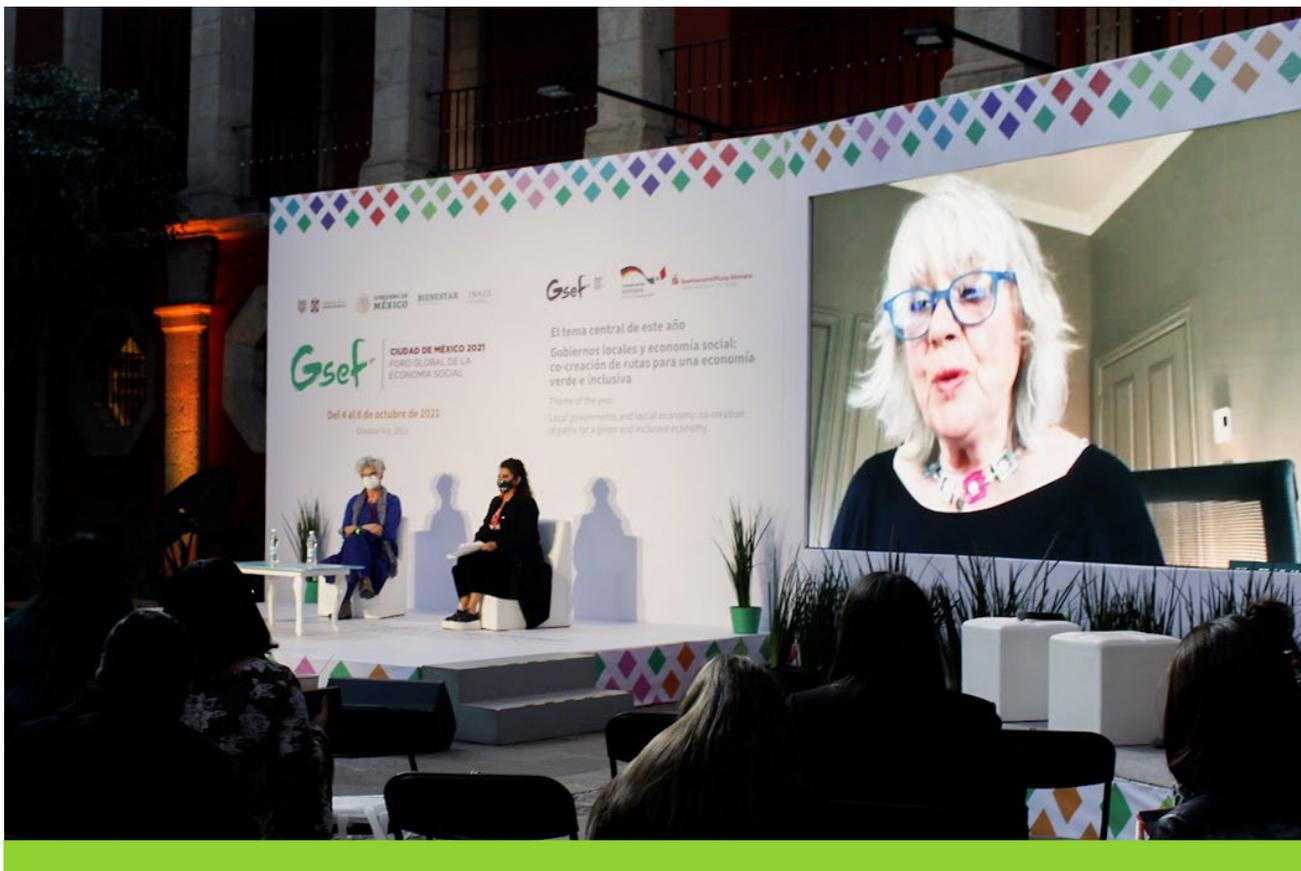
Ph.D. Diana Alarcón González

Build and rebuild an inclusive community



Opening

- 1. Certainty of a better future.** The GSEF2021 is a space of interaction to get to know the different approaches and experiences of the social and solidarity economy from all over the world, especially those exposing the certainty that this economic model represents if we want to reach a better future.
- 2. The spirit of the SSE.** The GSEF2021 provides the opportunity to spread the spirit of the social and solidarity economy as well as its message of solidarity and cooperation to all the world's population.
- 3. A challenge of civilization.** “The efforts supporting the social and solidarity economy come with a real challenge of civilization”. José Mujica, Former President of Uruguay.
- 4. Promoting for a wider participation.** We shall promote a new model of consumption and production, aiming for SSE organizations to participate more in it.



Mayors Panel

5. A dialogue to strengthen cooperation. It is a critical time for local governments to start an active dialogue in order to strengthen cooperation between all actors, as well as reinforcing the capacity of the SSE to overcome the challenges cities from all over the world have been facing.

6. Stimulate new scenarios. The current crisis sets down a series of challenges for local governments which, collaborating with SSE's agents, could stimulate new scenarios, like fostering a society in an eco-social transition to achieve a social and sustainable development.

7. Cities as innovation laboratories. Local governments have to engage in starting the transformation, so cities shall be conceived as laboratories for innovation and experimenting new solutions.

Plenary 1. Build and rebuild an inclusive community



8. Transforming the labor market. Promoting decent work is fundamental to transform the labor market into a space capable of articulating a more equal society, and the SSE can contribute to it by adjusting public policies and adapting them to the citizenship's preferences and needs. This would make possible the solution to territorial diversity and in keeping the communities united, as well as reinforcing social and productive integration processes.

9. An approach focused on rights. “In order to transit to a more equal world where nobody would be left behind, we need a multidimensional perspective on inequality with a big approach on rights”. Alberto Arenas, *Director for the Social Development Division of the ECLAC, Chile*.

10. The SSE is the only possible path. “We must rely on Social Economy, it's the only approach we could take on if we seek to reach a sustainable society and planet”. Shigeru Tanaka, *Executive Director of PARC and Co-coordinator of RIPESS, Japan*.

11. The inclusion of everybody. The nature of the cooperative movement and the social and solidarity economy is to be inclusive; they suppose the inclusion of all social sectors and of women and men regardless of their religion, race, color, preferences or political ideology.

12. Globalize solutions. “If problems and conflicts are global, then we have the duty to globalize all solutions”. Albert Maurilio Chan, *Interdisciplinary Center of Research and Alternative Development U Yich Lu'um Ac, Mexico*.

“If problems and conflicts are global, then we have the duty to globalize all solutions”.

Albert Maurilio Chan

Inclusion models from the Social Economy

13. Promotion of justice and social inclusion. “The SSE is an efficient way for promoting justice and social inclusion in every region of the world”. Barbara Franchini, *European Research Institute on Cooperative and Social Enterprise (EURICSE)*, Italy.

14. Bonds to exchange knowledge. “The bonds between local organizations to exchange knowledge must be provided”. Mercedes Carrizo, *Project Qom Alphi*, Argentina.

15. Reinforcement of the local economy and employment. “We must foster competitive advantages and the most unique features of all localities if we seek to reinforce local economy and employment”. Valeska Sarmiento, *Economic and Solidarity Circuits Commission RIPPES LAC*, Guatemala.

16. The importance of local knowledge. “We must listen to the territorial knowledge to create public policies adapted to the traits of each region”. Rocío Moreno, *Secretary for Social Development in Quintana Roo*, Mexico.

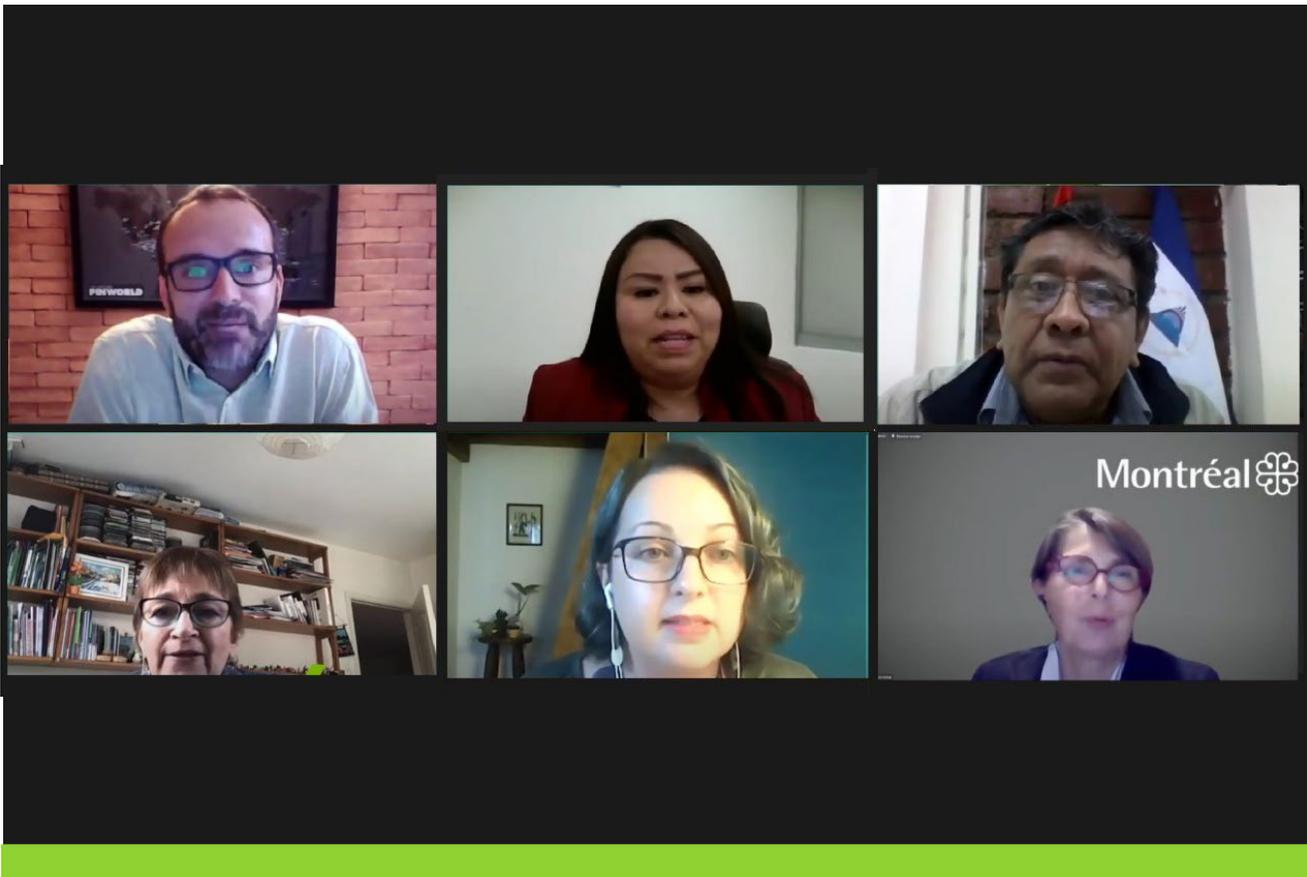


Building Social and Solidarity Economy organizations and enterprises to foster inclusive and sustainable work models and societies.

17. Growth from a collective logic. By encouraging the inclusion of the communities in the solution, not only are we promoting participation in the economy but also stimulating the growth of the community from a collective and collaborative logic.

18. Reinforcement of the organizational facets. The SSE provides spaces of socialization, of construction and deconstruction (both individual and collective), and to reinforce its organizational facets, we must foster the senses of co-ownership, joint responsibility and participation. These factors may help to build a collective identity.

19. The SSE and the SDGs. At the United Nations there's a great faith in the power of cooperatives to meet the Sustainable Development Goals. Together we can reach prosperity for the people and protect our planet, together we can meet the SDGs.



Government actions for inclusion from the SSE

20. Taking responsible actions to reduce inequality. “To keep up with international treaties subscribing a new economic model, we must take responsible actions in the territories by reducing the economic inequality gap between the underprivileged groups and the big capitals. Only this way, governments could meet with the 2030 agenda goals: eradicate poverty and encourage prosperity, sustainable production and build a more inclusive and less unequal society”. Nancy Yadira Santiago, *Federal Deputy, Mexico*.

21. The transformative power of differences. Some public policies seek to homogenize territorial aspects, however it's in the differences that the SSE's changing and transforming reality resides.

22. Cities are responsible for innovative development.. “Local governments have great possibilities to behave in a traditional way by assuring the promotion and support of these measures so cities can assume their responsibility to develop innovative approaches”. Johanne Lavoie, *Montreal City, Canada*.

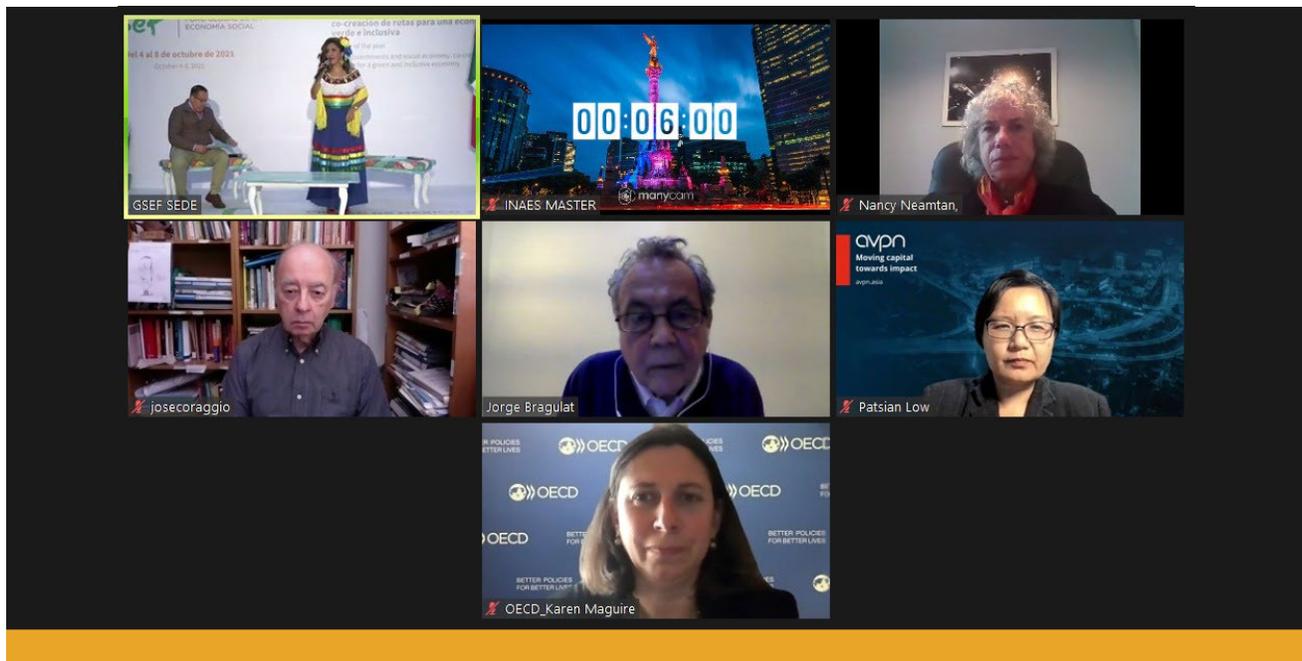
The Social Economy and care

23. People's need must be placed at the core. Care systems must completely adapt to the people's needs and not the other way around; we must design flexible models because each sector, rural or urban, is unique. Furthermore, we must emphasize the importance of the proximity services supply so an effective access can be guaranteed.

24. The mercantilist care trend can be overcome through the SSE. There are 3 main features of care today: strongly feminist, family centered and a trend of commodification. The latter could be overcome by the incursion of the SSE in the sector. Care is one of the sectors stimulating the economy and it deserves to be encouraged by public institutions too.

25. Participation of everybody for a best suited schooling. For a suitable schooling, we need universities, municipalities and provincial authorities to join their efforts with the communitarian organizations, which must be free, so they don't become a limitation.

Education, Learning and Research for Social and Solidarity Economy



Plenary 2. Education, Learning and Research for Social and Solidarity Economy

26. Teaching is not neutral. Before we start asking ourselves how to teach, we should have a clearer notion on how reality is built. The education on social and solidarity economy is not neutral because it belongs to the fight against hegemony, against the systematically learnt notions of the dominant ideology.

27. Education on the SSE is a deconstruction. “Education means the deconstruction of the neoliberal perspective of the world, of ethics, of what is rational, of what is possible or impossible and of all the things impregnating our minds”. José Luis Coraggio, *José Luis Coraggio, Emeritus Professor of the National University of General Sarmiento, Argentina.*

28. Education on SSE is one of the ways. Teaching social and solidarity economy is a path we must take, not only to have another perspective on economy but another social perspective on the causes of inequality, injustice and the irrationality of what’s rationalized, and to develop a critical thinking too.

29. Education focused on the communities. “A holistic education centered on community could have a lot of positive results on a nation’s potential and on economic development”. Patsian Low, *Asian Venture Philanthropy Network*, Singapore.

30. Changing paradigms. “We can see there’s a tendency on the rise to change paradigms, to change perspectives. Social and solidarity economy went from being a minor topic to be a lot more widespread, it has become more and more important in political agendas and it carries out many transformations within education systems”. Karen Maguire, *Head of the Local Employment Division*, OECD.

31. Capability of resilience in the SSE. The Social and Solidarity Economy stands out because of its capability to create resilience in our economies and societies; by creating jobs, for example, and preserving them better than other actors from the economy.



Learning and monitoring experiences for SSE

32. Generating change factors. “We must stop devaluing learning and education because it’s in the classrooms that factors of change could be generated for our society”. Karla Melissa Barrera, *Chiapas Polytechnic University, Mexico*.

33. A new direction for society with the SSE. “Because of the atypical COVID-19 pandemic situation we are currently facing, we have become more and more aware of the role played by the SSE, a role it will keep playing in the search for a new direction for our society. We have put to the test our experimentations with the campus in some South-Korean cities, and I think we shall keep doing it like that; promoting SSE experimentations for the future”. Sunkyung Han, *Cdot, South Korea*.

34. Learning processes allowing for human management. Having a perspective on auto-evaluation may lead to new learning processes making easier the design and management of human actions, the promotion of interests and needs, the challenges identification, the critical and creative thinking development, as well as new bonds with other institutions and the alternation.

35. Promotion of ethical finances. Ethical finances must be promoted, especially those allowing for populations or sectors excluded from the traditional financial models to access financial resources and steer these resources to the stimulation of local economies.

36. The future we wish for: thriving societies. With these so particular conditions, we must think back on human relationships, on our own relationship to technology, to the environment and to the features of the system we make part of. From this context and thoughts, people should generate new capacities fostering resilience and thriving societies. For this task, we identified 3 key practices: a) dogmatic thinking; b) collective narratives; and c) problem identification through social imaginary. All this would allow us to create new narratives for the future we wish for.



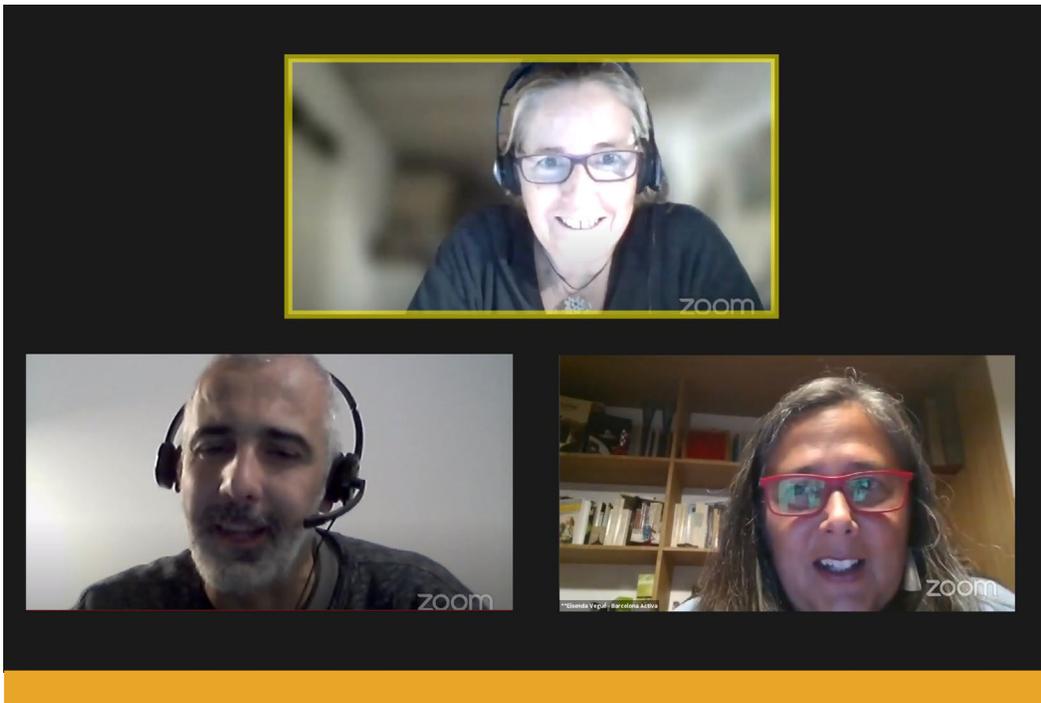
Catwalk of Initiatives

37. Solidarity education. Education must be an agent for different local actors to rally, and us, the different local actors, we must take on the solidarity education perspective.

38. Decent work for all the vulnerable groups. Let's not forget the handicapped people and the neuronal diversity; we are all seeking decent work.

39. Empowerment mechanisms. Empowering the representatives and adapting to the beneficiaries with a series of different mechanisms.

40. Putting back people in first place. Together we work, together we walk and together we dream of putting people back in first place and with fair incomes.



Match-Impulsa: business promotion program for the digitization and platformization of the SSE

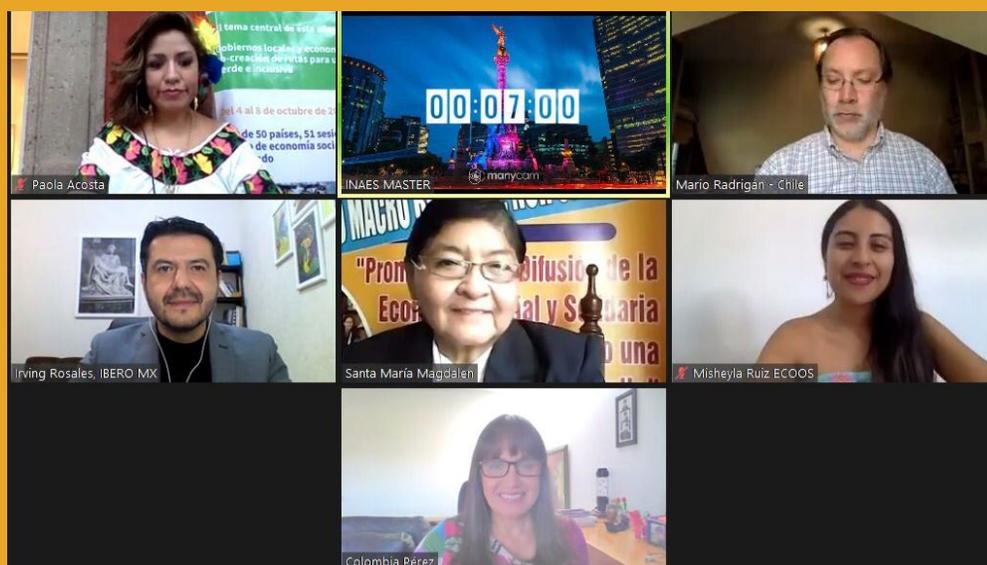
41. Minimizing the digital gap. Digitization of solidarity enterprises must happen right now because, if they don't, they'll stay behind.

42. Target the important points. We would better have nothing and target what we could have. We are not aiming a short term, but it could certainly happen.

43. Digital goods should be at disposal of the greatest number of people and without barriers. Digital sustainability is a complex element, the inter-cooperation capacity could have two projects working simultaneously, creating synergies or withdrawal.



Paths for education and training in SSE



44. Taking down the obstacles restricting opportunities.

We must boost the reinforcement of capacities to face the obstacles, not only physical but institutional obstacles restricting education and work opportunities.

45. Education with a social projection. We must think back on learning taking into account that the world has become more complex and where precariousness still dominates.

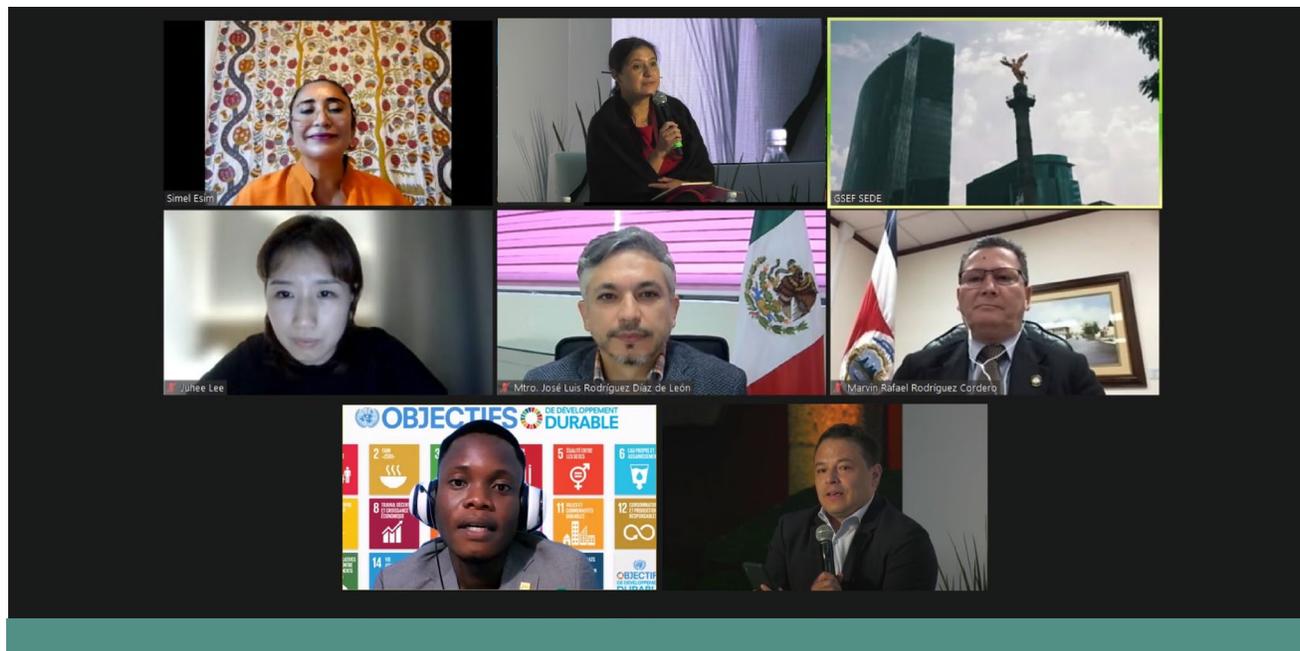
46. People should be at the center of the economy. “I think it’s awful to talk about ‘human capital’, to talk about people as if they were just another factor in production and not the center of economy”. Mario Radrigán, *Santiago University, Chile*.

47. The SSE can be found where people are living. As opposed to the capitalist logic of going where the biggest profits are, the SSE goes to the people to improve their quality of life; furthermore, the SSE could be an answer to the migratory flow phenomenon.

“I think it’s awful to talk about ‘human capital’, to talk about people as if they were just another factor in production and not the center of economy”.

Mario Radrigán

Contribution to Ecological Transformation from SSE



Plenary 3. Contribution to ecological transformation from SSE

48. Human beings at the center. “The pandemic has taught us that human beings must be at the center of our attention”. Kevin Ossah, *Directeur Executive Director OJEDD International, Togo*

49. An economy of life. Against the current crisis, it is time for us to make a productive transformation and transform the principles and values from a more humane economic perspective, an economy of life guaranteeing the protection of our planet; and the SSE is the ideal mechanism to achieve it.

50. The relationship between the environment and human beings at the center. We must address the economic, social and environmental issues through public policies and strategies framed by rationality and human rights, and where people and their relationship to the environment is put back at the center of our attention.

51. Recognizing our interrelations. To build again our ecosystems, we must take into consideration our planet limitations, we must recognize the multiple relationships between individuals and the ecosystems to reach balance, we must live in sufficiency, we must learn the ethics of sharing and be careful of our forms of production.

Practices for sustainability from the SSE

52. Development and conservation, indisputably united. “We can no longer think about conservation without development and we shall neither think about development without the consevation of the ecosystems”. Nahúm Sánchez, *Ejidos lobo Network*, Mexico.

53. Strengthening the social fabric. We must work and strengthen the SSE and cooperativism, which in practice is its own backbone, through formation, education and training aiming a communitarian impact to strengthen the social fabric.

54. There are still some changes to make. “Not all Social Economy enterprises think about the environment and this must change. The SSE has a great potential of transformation because it respects the limitations of the ecosystems by seeking the greater good and not economic profits”. Gaëlle Généreux, *TISS*, Canada.





Network of Governments for the SSE in Latin America and the Caribbean

55. Creator of future. “The SSE techniques promote decent work more than other types of economy, and we should look at the SSE as a promoter of the creation of future from a decent treatment in work”. Juan Manuel Martínez Louvier, *Director General of INAES, Mexico*.

56. The SSE as a generator of opportunities. The enterprises from the SSE create decent work opportunities which leads to the creation of productive and inclusive employment, to labor rights, to social protection and dialogue and, moreover, they contribute to a greater resilience in communities because they put back the people at the center of the attention.

57. The SSE as a range for diversity. The Social and Solidarity Economy is a more diverse sector and with wider dimensions than we could imagine; The SSE is about a new style of development with 2 main features: equality and sustainability. The SSE deeply contributes to the creation of decent jobs having for transversal axis sustainability, equality, inclusion and circular economy; nevertheless, there are still some support and bonding structures to put back in place so the SSE can reach its full development.

58. Extend the deployment of SSE principles. The productive enterprises with low inequality gaps should be the norm in the whole economy and not only a feature of the social and solidarity economy. It's not only about reinforcing and developing the Social Economy potential, but to find how to extend the deployment of its principles to the rest of the economic and social structure too.

Develop territorial and international alliances: the Social and Solidarity Economy as people-centered and a planet-sensitive economy



59. United we can make the SSE grow. “To develop and strengthen the SSE we have created some support structures for the enterprises and social movements engaged to the goals of the Social Economy. In this way, all these actor reunite to imagine and develop new tools to make the SSE grow, may it be by contributing to extend the already existent enterprises or by developing new ones in the sectors where there’s a need tied to the new, more sustainable and equalitarian societies”. Beatrice Alain, *Director General of the Chantier de l’économie sociale, Canada.*

60. Reinforcing the SSE’s potential. Actors and networks from the SSE are more conscious of the UN’s work on the SSE and they wish to involve more directly their strategies to strengthen the potential of the SSE in each region. This is the strategy to overcome the growing inequality caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and to meet the SDGs.

61. Redefine the notion of living well. Here we weave and we build but we also retrieve and make visible the local experiences taking place around social and solidarity economy. We weave a whole vision that takes into consideration production and life reproduction. Accordingly, we must understand very well what the notion of « living well » means as a way of association between ourselves, to articulate and bond with nature and the environment, and not only as our relationship to consumption.

“To develop and strengthen the SSE we have created some support structures for the enterprises and social movements engaged...”

Beatrice Alain



Luz-es: Sustainable energy cooperatives

62. Transforming logics. The SSE allowed us to adapt the productive processes to meet the personal needs and worries, our project not only is about a process of generation of energy but one about transformation of the consumption logics in all communities too.

63. Together we generate a greater impact. When we talk about decentralized energies, reinforcement of the population or the independence of energy, we must think of sustainable energy with accessible prices for people. This is strongly tied to the initiative of SSE organizations. Energy cooperatives have proven the stimulation of local economy, and this is because people started to involve themselves on the generation of energy and understanding well that it is together that we have a greater impact on the environment.

64. The energetic transition in the hands of people. Cooperative energy consists in putting the energetic transition in the hands of people, with sustainable models where people are those who run the processes and appropriate themselves of the transition. Accordingly, many cooperative energy models have been developed.

65. Understanding energy. We must train people to understand the energetic sector as well as the opportunities they may take advantage from it. To train them in the new technologies, instill them with curiosity of the electricity generation, make them overcome the fear of studying it and once they have understood it, allow them to execute their knowledge into their territories.

Promote Diverse and Innovative Mechanisms of Social Finances



Plenary 4. Promote diverse and innovative mechanisms of Social Finances

66. Sustainable financial services. If we were to put others ahead of ourselves, to think first of the final users, to think on what the governments may benefit from it, on how to protect the environment with all of our practices, then, we would be able to have sustainable financial services.

67. Bonds of financial intermediation. As we build other types of economy, we must build other types of bonds of financial intermediation settled by solidarity and cooperation too.

68. Creating more solid financial ecosystems. To reach our greater potential, we must create more solid financial ecosystems with customized financial services for the multiple actors of the social and solidarity economy.

69. Revisit the goals of the financial system. We have a deeper understanding now of the destructiveness of the consequences of the traditional financial system, thus, we must revisit its goals.

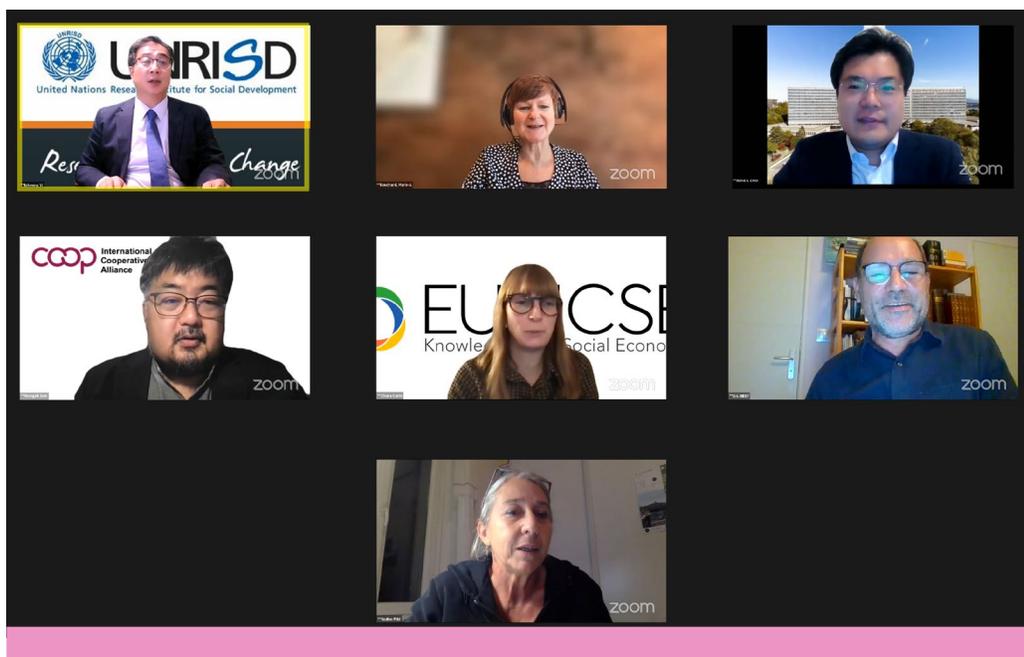


Solidarity development through community savings and credit

70. Suppliers of life. We must ensure continuity to the rural area since they are the suppliers of food and life.

71. Empowering the youth. Because of school desertion and migration, the youth must be empowered.

72. Money is not the center. We must absolutely understand that money is not the center of development and of measure of well-being.

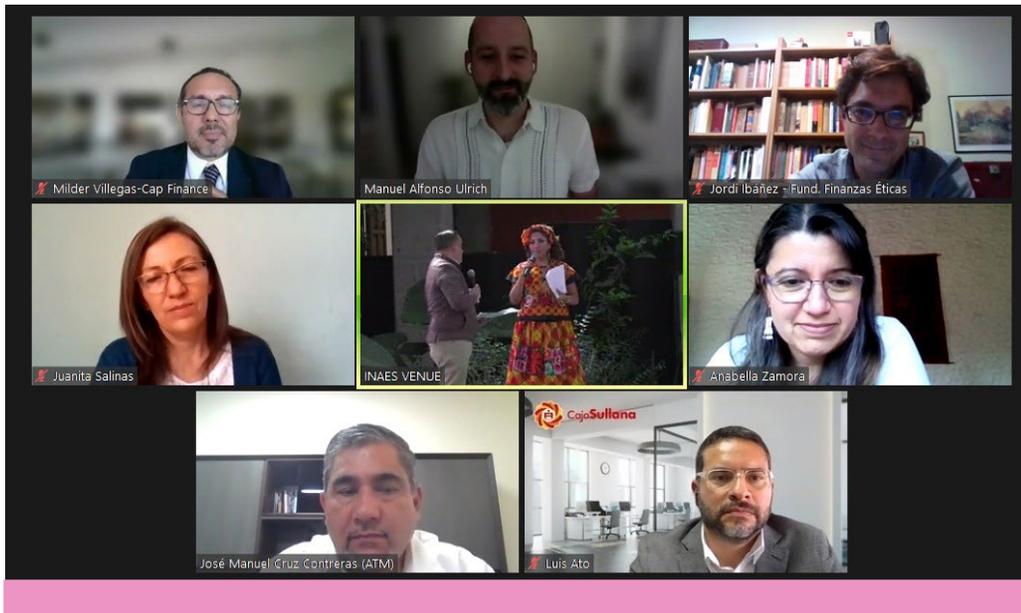


Statistics on SSE: where are we? and where are we heading?

73. Making the SSE visible. The main problem is the invisibility of some entities in statistics. Hence, we must mobilize all of the involved bodies to make more visible the SSE on the home surveys about employment and in establishment surveys so the international comparability can be guaranteed. We must refer to international norms such as the international classification of the industry or the recommendations of the ILO on labor and employment measurement. However, to have a bigger picture on the situation of our country, we must adapt the frame to our national legal definition.

74. Implementation and statistical proves. The standardization, the conceptual discussion, the political mobilization, the implementation and the statistical proves should be approached in a more harmonious and coordinate way. It's important to develop further this initiative to have a good government, an extensive opening to take on some topics with different resources and experiences from the multiple interested parties.

75. Systematical tabulation of statistics. Statistics on cooperative must be systematically tabulated in the following manner: a) by the four types of cooperatives as well as by important and feasible national subtypes; b) by economic activity field; and c) by regions noteworthy to the national goals, even rural or urban fields.



Solidarity Finance mechanisms from local governments

76. Courses of action for the solidarity finances. Besides the financing of social economy initiatives, the solidarity finances have two main action courses: the first one being to move forward on cultural change in alliance with the local public administrations and the second one being to build social or relational capital with the participation of the population. In the co-creation process, the formation of a collective and solidarity subject fostering the transformations in the communities is a key element.

77. The alliances and the cooperation to formulate policies. The work in alliance and cooperation can be illustrated by three situations. First, a single voice to face the federal government so communities' needs can be expressed in a collective manner. Secondly, the joint creation of an analysis guide for social economy projects from particular experiences. Finally, the unified participation to the consultations carried out by governments so public policies on social and solidarity economy may be formulated.

78. Stimulate the local and inclusive development. The role of solidarity finances is to provide the access to the basic economic means to satisfy people's needs and motivate investment; those are some particular aspects of the financial inclusion but it also requires the promotion of changing the political action and the institutional participation from governments in order to stimulate the local inclusive development.



Currencies for Social Transformation: the new dawn of mutual credit systems in Ibero-America

79. Generation of conscious citizenship through a local monetary system. “The creation of a local monetary system would allow us to create current assets in territories where there aren’t, to promote an increase of activities in influential territories and to generate a citizenship aware of the context they are living”. Ricardo Orzi, Argentina.

80. Solidarity exchange. “Solidary bartering is much more than a simple solidarity exchange, it’s about building people and values”. Helena Almirati, Uruguay.

81. Extend and consolidate bonds. To guarantee the increasing transactions with social currencies, we must extend and consolidate our links to a greater number of groups and communities and extend the market as well.

82. Transforming the way of thinking. Exchange projects based on social currencies are the starting point of the transformation of the way of thinking and stop living off people and their communities.

Develop the Territorial and International Alliances



The city agreement for an economy for life: Barcelona SSE 2030

83. Inter-cooperate to accomplish great synergies. A constant common effort allowed us to open a space to gather and inter-cooperate with the multiple actors of the SSE, such as cooperatives, mutuals, the tertiary social sector, ethical finances and communitarian economies, which, when inter-cooperating, accomplish great synergies.

84. Joint construction of public policies. Within the strategies aiming this sector, there shall not be any unidirectionality where local governments provide and the sector takes advantage; the strategies must be bidirectional where every party, according to their own field of competence, functions and contributes through common goals and challenges.

85. We must assume collective engagements. All actors involved in the SSE must assume responsibilities and collective engagements to be allowed to rebuild the system in a realist manner and they shall not lose sight on three main aspects for any collective field: generosity, mutual agreement and trust". Anna Albareda Sanz, *Manager of the Taula d'entitats del Tercer Sector Social de Catalunya, Spain.*

Declaration and announcement GSEF2023

86. The actions on the territories, a key element to stimulate the SSE. “The social economy constitutes a mechanism to transform the world and make it much better, and meetings and Forums such as the GSEF2021, allowed us to exchange experiences and to imagine new ideas. The biggest challenge we have yet to face is to come back to our action fields and effectively implement our strategies with a Social and Solidarity Economy perspective; only this way we may shift to a better world”. Humberto Cerdio Vázquez, *General Coordinator of the Entrepreneurial Promotion and Development of the INAES, Mexico.*

87. By working on our alliances, we could accomplish common challenges. The alliances suppose the sum of different efforts, convictions and willingness to properly accomplish these goals. Collaboration is a great example for the Social Economy’s power of transformation, which, by involving allies, alliances, teams and wills, could change realities.

88. Global engagement. “We’re currently dealing with a big humanitarian crisis affecting all three fields: society, economics and the environment. Our life, our fight and our hopes must be based on the values of the social and solidarity economy. We must engage in working for a different, better, more inclusive, sustainable and more fraternal society so we can take better care of each other and of our planet”. Laurence Kwark, *Secretary General of the GSEF, South-Korea.*

89. COVID-19, an trigger action from the SSE. The pandemic highlighted the fact that we cannot stop anymore and therefore, we must meet more than before to find ways to protect our society and the people. We acknowledge the need we have to find alternative models of development to put back the people at the core of our public policies and programs. The SSE practices are our best option to integrate and avoid leaving anyone behind.

90. Cooperation economy. “The Social and Solidarity Economy is a path towards the solution of many current conflicts because it has differentiated from the rest as the cooperation economy, it has proven that together we are stronger, together we can go further and together we are more solidary”. Soham El Wardini, Mayor of Dakar, Sénégal





Plenary 5. Develop the territorial and international alliances

91. Suppress all barriers. Among the challenges to the configuration of international alliances preventing the massive diffusion of the principles and values of the SSE, there are the exchange of experiences between actors and a more accelerated integration of the sector, due to language, time differences between countries and lack of information.

92. Working with the youth. To stimulate the SSE, we must work in network with young economists, on topics about finances and humanity, inequalities, vocation and benefits, among others.

93. Redistribution factor. “SSE enterprises shall be redistribution factors by means of two ways: a) go to the markets, monopolized by profit-making interests and not adding any value; and b) build international networks”. Juan Manuel Martínez Louvier, *Director General of INAES, Mexico*.



Successful experiences of local alliances

94. Building local resilient communities. “We must prioritize people and their well-being in the human development programs in territories. We must build a community in psycho-social transition and develop a strategy that fosters sustainable local development”. Blanca Boix, *Reas Euskadi*, Spai.

95. Not all of our answers are in the legal frame. “Let’s not expect we’ll find all of our answers written in laws, norms or governmental planning, frequently those stay only written in paper. We must proceed with or without governments, this way we could create policies leading to new public policies and demand their implementation. We must start with actions”. Katherine Fernández, *Polinizar Network*, Bolivie.

Social and solidarity economy policies in Montevideo (Uruguay), Maricá (Brazil) and San Martín (Argentina). Reflective Dialogues Between Management and Action-Research



96. Suitable policies for each territory. “Policies are born from the perceived needs. The only universal thing that policies may have, it’s justice and solidarity, then, they must be deeply rooted in each territory, because of cultural and other types of differences, and also, they must highlight the construction of a collective subject who’ll become the subject of change” Isabel Andreoni, *Director of Montevideo Rural*, Uruguay.

97. Stop the hegemonical conceptions. We must aim right at the countryside with economic opportunities for workers. We must stop the hegemonical conception of big infrastructure systems and urban services; the production of services and infrastructure are great spheres of action for the SSE. To be successful, local policies must come with radical changes, capable of democratizing the regulations and make a real transformation.

« Policies are born from the perceived needs...»

Isabel Andreoni

Closure

98. Reassessment of dominant paradigms. The civilization crisis brought to light by the COVID-19 pandemic, demands the reassessment of the paradigms currently dominating and which alienated us from nature and the principles of life.

99. SSE's great potential. We must innovate the complementary productive models, such as the SSE, with the capacity to integrate the multiple dimensions of people's life and with a great potential to contribute to a whole development, without leaving anyone behind.

100. Optimism and hope arise from the SSE. Beyond the GSEF, the SSE produces optimism and a deep hope in humanity so future generations may have a future with a more inclusive and conscious economy.





GSEF2021 Mexico City Declaration

GSEF has played a key role in mobilizing Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) actors and organizations internationally since its creation in Seoul in 2013. GSEF2021 now gathers in Mexico City after travelling to Montreal in 2016 and Bilbao in 2018. It has become a voice for SSE globally, calling upon local, regional and national governments to recognize the vital role played by SSE in meeting socioeconomic and environmental challenges common to countries throughout the world.

The unexpected COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 made it impossible to convene GSEF2020 in Mexico City. However, a highly successful GSEF Global Virtual Forum was held with 8,500 participants from 19 to 23 October 2020.

Today on the last day of the 5th edition, organized in a hybrid format due to the ongoing crisis, we issue this declaration to express the shared commitment of all participants from across the planet, with significant contributions from Mexico and the Latin American and the Caribbean (LAC) region.

CALL FOR ACTION

GSEF2021 has provided a space for knowledge exchange and synergies amongst SSE actors, who reaffirm their commitment to the following:

We call on **all governments** and **international and regional organizations** to:

- Respect the basic right of equal access to quality social services, especially health Services, and ensure the right to a dignified life for all;
- Foster the fundamental values of humanity and social inclusion in all aspects of life, including gender equity, the elimination of all forms of discrimination, and dignity;
- Increase the participation of young people in positioning SSE as a means to face the current health, socioeconomic and environmental crisis;
- Promote the development and adoption of co-constructed regulatory and legislative frameworks, and enable public policies at the local level in favor of SSE to strengthen its ecosystems;
- Collaborate and coordinate with national, regional and local governments. All stakeholders - citizens, SSE networks and organizations - must participate in this process;
- Support decentralized cooperation in order to enhance the local anchoring of SSE.

We specifically call on **local governments** to:

- Adopt a local development approach embracing the principles and values of SSE;
- Strengthen the development of local and regional ecosystems by promoting innovative partnerships between actors of the traditional and/or informal economy, SSE actors and local governments;
- Implement policies promoting the local emergence of socially innovative solutions and support their capacity to grow.

We call on **SSE actors** to:

- strengthen North-South, South-South and multi-actor collaboration and exchanges to further promote SSE and social innovation;
- Promote new and lasting alliances between SSE enterprises in order to develop socially innovative projects, rooted in local communities;
- Reinforce political advocacy for the adoption of policies and legal frameworks conducive to the development of SSE in partnership with governments, especially local governments;

- Develop research on and expertise in SSE;
- Adopt a long-term approach to the promotion of SSE aligned with the UN SDGs;
- Prioritize gender, race and intersectional perspectives;
- Engage actively in the co-design of tools to measure and evaluate the impact of SSE initiatives

Thanks

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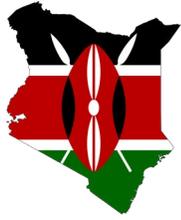
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