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GRAC

GENERAL REPORT



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generations and all territories, in the present and future.



GENERAL REPORT









2020 has been a year of profound transformations in social, political and economic dynamics. The health and economic crises show that a different world is possible and that these changes touch the lives of

The global emergency dictates that it is time to consolidate alternative development paths and thus achieve a better post-Covid world. In this context, Mexico City would host the Global Social Economy Forum, GSEF2020 (GSEF); however, world circumstances called for social sensitivity and a postponement of the on-site Forum, but not for abandoning the purpose: **to promote the Social Economy in order to achieve social and economic transformations.**

Thus, the GSEF Secretariat and Mexico, through the Local Organizing Committee of GSEF2021, constituted by the Government of Mexico City through the Ministry of Economic Development, the Ministry of Labor and Employment Promotion and the General Coordination of Advisors and International Affairs; and by the Government of Mexico through the National Institute of Social Economy of the Ministry of Welfare, **carried out a series of actions during 2020 to make the SSE more present in the country, the region and the world.**

A series of Meetings, Webinars and a Virtual Global Forum **towards GSEF2021,** which brought together actors and sectors involved in the Social and Solidarity Economy from the 5 continents, in Korean, Spanish, French and English, through digital platforms. Today the SSE is more present, the activities have reached more than **800 thousand**



people at a global level, making it a reality that the SSE is in all areas and for all people.

Figure 1. Panelists' participations



INAES own elaboration. Countries of origin of the panelists, 364 were counted during all 2020.

About GSEF

The Global Social Economy Forum is a global network that aims to serve as a platform for sharing visions and experiences through collaboration and cooperation to build an inclusive, equitable and human-centered world. It is an international platform for the promotion and awareness of the SSE.

GSEF is an international association of local governments, networks and civil society actors committed to the promotion of the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) as a vehicle for achieving inclusive and sustainable





local development. The GSEF promotes several forms of Social Economy, including social enterprises, cooperatives, foundations, mutuals and aid groups that prioritize people over profit.

GSEF believes that systematic change begins first at the local level based on partnership between civil society, and the public and private sectors. As of July 2020, the GSEF brings together 75 members from 5 continents, from 36 different countries, including 26 local governments and 35 SSE networks and actors. More information at: gsef-net.org

About GSEF in 2020

In the closing ceremony of the GSEF2018, which took place in Bilbao, it was made official that the 5th edition GSEF2020 would take place in Mexico City; it was planned to be held during the month of October 2020; however, due to the pandemic, it was decided to postpone it until 2021.

As preparatory sessions, GSEF together with the GSEF2021 Local Organizing Committee carried out preparatory activities towards GSEF2021 Mexico City from May to September, and concluded with a GSEF Global Virtual Forum in October.

This was the first GSEF to be spearheaded by Latin America, which although it was entirely virtual, brought thousands of people together and was an expression of the region's long history and great cultural diversity; it offered creative ideas and visions, practical proposals and opportunities for collaboration on how the Social and Solidarity Economy can contribute to building inclusive and sustainable societies for all in response to the important current momentum of political and social changes that are emerging globally.



GSEF Activities in 2020



Table 1. Summary of GSEF Activities in 2020

6 Strategic Meetings: Co-create a new economic and social model	Within the framework of the Webinars towards GSEF2021, in alliance with the Chamber of Deputies and the National Institute of Social Economy (Mexico), six Strategic Meetings were held during the month of May and June 2020. Their objective was to link legislators with international organizations and experts with visions of diverse regions of the world, to generate a space for reflection and action on public policies for the transformation of economic and social models.
4 Webinars towards GSEF2021	Webinars on the way to GSEF2021 were the preamble to the Global Virtual Forum. The selection of topics was the basis for reflection and action by stakeholders for a more inclusive, equitable and human-centered world. Each of

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	the sessions had its own version in English, French and Spanish, in order to draw a thread for the online dialogue.
1 Digital Youth and Social Economy Meeting for the SDGs outreach	The Digital Meeting was a unique opportunity to strengthen the alliance between the youth of the Latin American region, the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); Ithe convergence between the power of agency and the leading role of youth for development, the principles and values of the social sector of the economy and the global goals are key to achieving the well-being of all, so that no one is left behind.
Global Virtual Forum GSEF	For 5 days, from October 19th to 23rd, more than 110 countries, in 35 sessions, thousands of people met around the Social and Solidarity Economy. The GSEF Global Virtual Forum brought together the regions of the world under the central theme "Power of community and the SSE as a path for transformation: great challenges, greater solidarity". More than 8,500 people connected live and directly via zoom to make a global community under the SSE a reality.

INAES own elaboration.

The thematic overview

The Social and Solidarity Economy is community, mutual aid, possibility of development, it is collective well-being and rethinking the way we do business. **The SSE takes on different forms of organization in Latin America and the world,** cooperatives, mutual societies, solidarity groups,

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social enterprises, networks and actors interested in a more humane economy; it also converges in seeking a new economic, social and cultural structure that is more just, with fewer inequality gaps and with greater inclusion.

The preparatory activities **covered several thematic areas,** many of which were crossed by the context of the pandemic and the challenges that the territories and, above all, the people are facing today: inclusion and well-being, employment, sustainable development; likewise, a legitimate concern of the sector, how to promote the consolidation of the SSE; in this way, elements and components were dealt with in order to consolidate ecosystems that are conducive to this economic model; in other words, that promote the SSE such as the legislative framework, financial solidarity issues, digitalization, the concern for coexistence in harmony with nature.

Strategic Meetings Co-Creating a new economic and social model	Webinars towards GSEF2021	Global Virtual Forum GSEF2020 Plenary sessions		
1.Strategic changes in the economic and social models in the face of Covid-19	1.Challenges and strategy of the SSE in times of the Covid-19 crisis	 SSE in times of great change: a strategy for inclusion and well-being 		
2. Social economy: inclusion and good living	2. Recovering and developing decent jobs through the SSE			
3. Social economy, a vehicle for achieving sustainable development	SSE and solidarity-based	3. The era of new digitalization and the future of work: challenges and opportunities		
4. Policies for SSE ecosystems: legislating to transform	4. New SSE ecosystem: health, education sectors	4. New solidarity towards an ecological transformation		

Table 2. Topics by activity



post-COVID-19 economic SDGs outreach and social models

5. Pathways and challenges * Digital Youth and Social 5. SSE as a mechanism to solve to the future of the Economy Meeting for the global challenges from a local and territorial perspective

6. Premises for Better Governance: Social Economy **Public Policies**

INAES own elaboration.

The GSEF Global Virtual Forum articulated its actions under the title: Power of community and the SSE as a Path for Transformation: Great challenges, Greater Solidarity, the final selection was the result of a process of consensus and collaboration within the SSE, where various national and international actors contributed ideas, from academics, young people, the Local Committee, the Secretariat and the Global Committee. The Forum sessions also featured a guiding guestion: **How** to transform the present and build a better future from the SSE? a guide for threading together ideas, interventions, reflections, and the global conversation regarding the Social and Solidarity Economy.

General Numerary 2020

The participation was wide and diverse. At the end of the activities, there were 364 panelist interventions from 56 countries.

When grouped by sectors in academic, social, government and international organizations, we have the following distribution:

Sector	Participations
Academic	57
Social	143
Government	114
International Organizations	50
TOTAL	364

Table 1. Sectors

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Figure 1. Countries of origin of panelists



INAES own elaboration. Countries of origin of the panelists of the sessions, 364 were counted during all 2020.



There were 10 international organizations with 50 interventions.

Scope of the activities

The Global Forum aims to promote the SSE, the times we live in require strategies for dissemination in both traditional media and digital social networks. On the general scope of the activities, as of November 18th, 2020, it is estimated that **more than 800 thousand people have been reached.**

The following table shows in detail the number of people connected via zoom, those who saw it from digital social networks and the total number of records. It should be noted that the sessions in English and French are not yet launched on social networks, that will increase the impact in other regions.

Table 2. Webinars, meetings and the Social Economy Forum towards#GSEF2021 2020 (updated on Nov. 18)

Strategic line	Action	Date	Direct participation in ZOOM	People reached FB	Registries
	Strategic changes in economic and social models in the face of Covid-19	26- may 2020	113	9,100	NA
6 Strategic	SE inclusion and good living	2-june 2020	204	15,965	NA
Meetings,	Social economy, a vehicle for achieving sustainable development	9-june 2020	237	12,333	NA
Co-creating a new economic and social order	Policies for SSE ecosystems: legislating to transform	16- june 2020	199	10,402	NA
	Pathways and challenges to the future of the post-COVID-19 economic and social models	23- june 2020	183	16,393	NA
	Premises for better governance: public policies of the Social Economy	30- june 2020	217	98,221	NA
	Total		1,663	162,414	NA
	Challenges and strategies of the SSE in times of the COVID-19 crisis	3-june 2020	993	47,054	2
4 Webinars and 1 Youth Meeting towards GSEF2021	Recovering and developing decent jobs through the SSE	24- june 2020	682	48,282	1
	Power of the community: SSE and solidarity-based financial systems to address the crisis	14-july 2020	889	30,754	2
	Youth and SSE virtual meeting for the SDGs outreach	27- aug 2020	802	24,402	3
	SSE in everything and for everyone: New ecosystems	22- sep 2020	510	18,761	
	***8 Sessions in English and French		449	NA	886
	Total		4,325	169,253	894

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Image: scale bal	AN TOTAL 2020			14,693	828,099	
Opening and plenary session 1 Cot- 20- 20- 20- 20- 20- 20- 20- 20- 20- 20		Total		8,705	496,432	
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*Estimate INAES own elaboration.

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Strategic Meetings

ENCUENTROS ESTRATÉGICOS, Co-crear un nuevo modelo económico y social Sesión Final. Premisas para una mejor gobernanza: políticas públicas de la Economía Social

BIENESTAR | INAES



Strategic Meetings Co-creating a new economic and social model were a series of digital dialogues in the framework of the Webinars towards the Global Social Economy Forum, GSEF2021. During six sessions, legislators, international organizations, experts, authorities and decision makers contributed to reflect on the necessary axes for the transformation that Mexico and the world require.

The alliance between the Chamber of Deputies (Mexico), the National Institute of Social Economy and GSEF made it possible:

- Share the Spanish experience and ECLAC's recommendations on the changes in the economic and social models in the face of COVID-19.
- Talk about Social Economy, inclusion and good living with the Sparkassen Foundation and learn about good practices from Ecuador and the Ministry of the Interior.
- → Discuss the SSE as a vehicle for achieving sustainable development from the experience of Quebec, the viewpoint of the International Labour Organization and the intersectoral proposal with the Under-Secretariat of Higher Secondary Education of the Ministry of Public Education (SEP).



- To analyze pathways and challenges for the future of the post-COVID-19 economic and social models from a global perspective, with contributions from the General Secretariat of the Global Social Economy Forum and the UNESCO headquarters in Paris.
- Learn from the voice of three Secretaries of State of Mexico and Spain, the national programs that promote changes in economic and social policy; initiatives that incorporate rural families and young people, by the Secretaries of Welfare and Labor of Mexico; also how in Spain the State is building a solid scaffolding for transformation from the Secretariat of State for Labor and Social Economy.

Numerary: 6 sessions, 5 international organizations (ECLAC, ILO, OECD, GSEF, UNESCO), expert voices on Social Economy from different latitudes (Ecuador, Canada, Italy, Spain, France), 4 federal agencies of Mexico (SEP, Labor, Segob and Welfare), legislators, more than 2000 people connected, more than 100 thousand impacts on networks.

The Meetings emphasized and proposed alternatives to achieve a more inclusive and collaborative Mexico and world; an alliance to promote the Social Economy under the slogan "legislate to transform".

Webinars Towards GSEF2021 MEXICO BIENESTAR INAES Webinars rumbo al estrategias de la ESS en CIUDAD DE MÊXICO 2021 tiempos de la crisis del COVID-19 nes y Economía Social para Te invitamos a revivir el alcance de los ODS de la ESS las sesiones de nuestros webinars pasados Economía Social y Solidaria en todo y para tod@s: nuevos ecosistemas With the cooperation of: **S** Finanzgruppe Sparkassenstiftung für cooperació alemana internationale Kooperation

Since June 2020, the organizers carried out a series of virtual activities towards GSEF2021: 4 webinars, by region in **Spanish, French and English,** with international experts, local and national authorities, academics, stakeholders and those who live this economic model met to exchange ideas and good practices.

Webinars in Spanish

Along with the sessions of the Meetings, 74 panelists from various sectors were counted: academia, social banking, cooperative, government and international cooperation from nearly 20 nationalities: Germany, Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Bolivia, Canada, Colombia, Chile, Ecuador, Costa Rica, South Korea, Spain, Italy, France, El Salvador, Mexico, Dominican Republic and Uruguay.

International organizations such as: ECLAC, ILO, OECD, UNESCO, members of the United Nations Inter-Agency Working Group and the International Youth Agency for Ibero-America participated.

From May to September 2020, more than 273,000 people were reached in Spanish alone, more than 18,000 interactions in the different digital formats, nearly 60,000 video reproductions, more than 3,7 thousand participants in zoom, with more than 4,500 records from 77 countries. The Social and Solidarity Economy in the region became more visible and present.

During the 4 webinars, the power of collectivity was evident:

- In Challenges and strategies of the SSE in times of the COVID-19 crisis, Ariel Guarco, President of the International Cooperative Alliance, said that cooperatives are collaborating to overcome the Covid crisis, because they are institutions based on mutual aid.
- In the second webinar Recovering and Developing Decent
 Jobs through the SSE, the ILO indicated that young people are the first to enter a crisis and the last to leave it.

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- Mario Cafiero, President of the National Institute of Associativism and Social Economy, Argentina, may he rest in peace, invited us to talk about. The power of the community: SSE and solidarity-based financial systems to face the crisis.
- •O At the end of the cycle, the voice was raised and reaffirmed that the **Social and Solidarity Economy is in everything and for everyone,** its presence in daily life and its contributions to the generation of employment and the world economy.

The four webinars together postulated that the Social and Solidarity Economy is key to a less unequal present and future, to well-being, good living and more comprehensive development, because in its essence, it places people at the center and something that nothing and no one can take away from us, which is our ability to work.

Regardless of the size of the economies, countries and populations, there are challenges that will not be met if we continue with a model that focuses on capital and not on people: maintaining a green planet, reducing inequalities, achieving peace and strengthening social cohesion.

Digital Youth and Social Economy Meeting for the SDGs outreach



A special chapter of the Webinars Towards GSEF2021, in Spanish, was the Digital Youth and Social Economy Meeting for the SDGs outreach, which brought together more than 800 mostly young participants with the aim of forming an active network in Latin America from the youth, with a focus on 2021.

The Social Economy promotes that in difficult times, young people can take care of themselves, help themselves and face contingencies in the best way possible, by carrying out solidarity and community actions that benefit them and take care of their loved ones and their environment. The incorporation of the young population into this alternative model of economy is under construction, which is why its promotion is crucial: the youth lack solidarity economy and the SSE lacks youth.

This dialogue, which included cooperative cultural expressions, testimonies of young cooperative service, product and social banking workers, showed that young people and the SSE can contribute to the achievement of the most ambitious global agenda for 2030, despite emerging crises such as the coronavirus. At the Digital Meeting, the region's youth spoke, reflected and laid the foundations for networking and making the Social Economy and the Social Development Goals engines of resilience with values such as solidarity, equality, democracy and mutual aid.

Specifically, the participants from more than 25 countries proposed, in a positioning document, actions around youth and the Social Economy in four thematic areas:

- \odot Linkage, to add more people to the SSE.
- € Visibility, to disseminate and extend the scope of the SSE.
- To make community, to involve from a collective model to the good living to more youths.
- Multiply the SSE, promote the participation of all generations and bring the SSE to different environments and areas.

Webinars in English

The English-language sessions facilitated the promotion of SSE and the sharing of best practices across regions, allowing GSEF to reach more participants; they provided a platform for attendees and panelists to discuss and discover possible forms of collaborative action and the new normality in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic.

21 speakers from different countries such as Canada, China, Hong Kong, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Thailand, United Kingdom and Wales; about 580 registrations from more than 57 countries GSEF started the series of webinars in English on June 9th; during them, the speakers presented the main impacts of COVID-19 on the SSE, societies and economies, as well as the creative actions taken by local governments and SSE stakeholders in the fight against the coronavirus.

One agreement was that the pandemic demonstrated the resilience of SSE in communities, how the joint effort contributed to sustainable and inclusive local development in the future. For example, Lynn Collins, Strategic Relations and Engagement Advisor, Combined Authority for the City of Liverpool Region (ACRCL) shared that the ACRCL is working on an overall strategy with the Mayor to revive the economy using the methodology of social dialogue and community communication.

In the second webinar (June 30), attention was focused on the informal sector of the economy, which has been affected by the crisis. In India, 78% of a sample of those working in the informal economy such as agriculture, handicrafts, services and street vendors, ran out of savings in April. In Thailand, informal workers in the tourism sector suffered over 90% of the loss of income due to the absence of foreign tourists. Mirai Chatterjee, Director of the Social Security Team of the Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA), considered that a series of actions could be carried out through solidarity and brotherhoods, and the support of the public and private sectors to facilitate recovery through the SSE. Jürgen Schwettmann, former ILO official and head of COOP, highlighted



the importance of raising awareness of the contribution of SSE to societies and the development of decent work in the informal economy through SSE.

Solidarity finance is one of the important elements of a strong SSE ecosystem, as it facilitates the sustainable growth of social organizations and enterprises. In the third cycle (July 21), the efforts of organizations to provide financial resources to assist SSE companies and organizations in the face of the negative impacts of COVID-19 were presented. We learned about the cases of South Korea and South Africa to demonstrate how specific funds were established to help SSE organizations access funding. Patsian Low, chief of staff of the Asian Venture Philanthropy Network (AVPN) emphasized the needs of building an ecosystem of social impact in Asia and AVPN's work in navigating financing strategies and capital flow.

In the final preparatory webinar towards GSEF2021 (September 29), speakers shared their thoughts on how the pandemic reshaped the SSE ecosystem. Risk reduction measures such as restricting travel, working from home, and social distancing have changed the current mode of economic activities and daily life. The importance of digitalization and platform economy in the post-COVID-19 era for SSE companies and organizations was highlighted. In addition, it was noted that continued cross-border and cross-sectoral collaboration will strengthen the role of SSE in our communities and sustainable recovery in the new normality.

The four webinars showed attention to the impacts of COVID-19 in different parts of the world and the needs of the most vulnerable. It was shown that initiatives such as housing cooperatives, social finance and the use of technology to connect the most vulnerable have been successful. The power of community becomes stronger as SSE flourishes. The post-pandemic era will be difficult; however, actors from different sectors could come together and take advantage of opportunities to transform society to be sustainable, egalitarian and inclusive.



GSEF Global Virtual Forum

Gse





Foro Global Virtual GSEF

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The GSEF Global Virtual Forum was held from October 19-23 under the main theme **Power of Community and the SSE as a Path for Transformation: Great Challenges, Greater Solidarity,** organized by the GSEF General Secretariat and the Local Organizing Committee, under the presidency of the National Institute of Social Economy (INAES) of the Government of Mexico, in collaboration with the Government of Mexico City, through the Ministry of Economic Development (SEDECO), the Ministry of Labor and Employment Promotion (STyFE), and the General Coordination of Advisors and International Affairs (CGAAI).

The Forum was organized in a virtual format due to prevailing global health conditions; it included a total of 35 sessions broadcast from different time zones in over 110 countries: 5 Plenary sessions with simultaneous translation in English, French and Spanish:

- ◆ 5 plenary sessions with simultaneous translations in English, French and Spanish;
- Thematic sessions on youth, local government, civil society, academia and indigenous peoples;
- ➔ Self-organized sessions; and



One plenary session per day was held: "SSE in times of great change: a strategy for inclusion and well-being", "Public and civil initiatives to consolidate the SSE: convergences between actors and sectors", "The era of the new digitalization and the future of work: challenges and opportunities", "New solidarity towards an ecological transformation" and "SSE as a mechanism to solve global challenges from a local and territorial perspective".

During the Global Forum, representatives of local and national governments, international networks and organizations, specialists, academics, business and civil society, among others, participated as panelists. With the diversity of actors and sectors represented, a broad dialogue took place on the experiences and challenges in the field of the Social and Solidarity Economy from countries and regions around the world.

The closing ceremony was attended by Dr. Diana Alarcón González, General Coordinator of Advisors and International Affairs of the Government of Mexico City; Mtro. Juan Manuel Martínez Louvier, General Director of INAES; Laurence Kwark, General Secretary of the GSEF; Joung Youl Kim, Co-Chair of the GSEF; Juan María Aburto, Mayor of Bilbao (host city of the previous edition of the GSEF); Beatrice Alain, Executive Director of Chantier e l'Économie Sociale and Adama Sangaré, Mayor of Bamako.

In her speech, the GSEF General Secretary stressed that although in the current context we are not sure of the path to transformation, we are sure that the power of the community is the path to sustainable and inclusive development, and that this is possible through the SSE. She said that this Virtual Forum shows that we can be together, connected and that all actors can contribute to having greater hope and sense of community as humanity.

The General Director of INAES, Juan Manuel Martínez Louvier, highlighted that at the Global Forum words were heard that are becoming



more and more common and powerful, regardless of the country of origin: education, transformation, solidarity, community, territories, development, cooperation.

General Numerary

- → Five days of activities, three languages.
- -⊖ 110 countries, over 8500 views via zoom.
- -O More than 15,000 interactions in zoom and digital social networks
- During the week more than 163 thousand people were reached in digital media.
- If we consider the actions since May of this year in English, French and Spanish and at the close of the Global Virtual Forum, half a million people have been reached by the Social Economy.

GSEF2021

The fifth edition of the Global Social Economy Forum, GSEF2021 Mexico City, will be held from 4 to 8 October 2021.

The official GSEF 2021 website, gsef2021.org (available in English, French and Spanish), will provide future actions; as well as the program and recorded sessions for the entire year 2020.

A hopeful future requires a different economy, one with values, principles and practices that allow the inclusion of all people, that makes access to work possible, that democratizes environments, that preserves the environment and contributes to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals: so that no one is left behind. In 2021, the meeting will be in Mexico, the gateway to Latin America, to reaffirm that there is no social transformation without economic transformation, nor economic transformation without social transformation.



Local Organizing Committee and allied organization

Headed by:



Laurence Kwark, Secretaria General del Foro Global de la Economía Social (GSEF)



Claudia Sheinbaum, Jefa de Gobierno de la Ciudad de México



Juan Manuel Martínez, Director General del Instituto Nacional de Economía Social y Presidente del Comité Local y Ejecutivo Organizador del GSEF

The Local and Executive Organizing Committee of the GSEF was also integrated by the heads of the allied agencies of the Mexico City Government:



Soledad Aragón, Secretaria de Trabajo y Fomento al Empleo. Ciudad de México. Miembro del Comité Local y Ejecutivo Organizador del GSEF



Fadlala Akabani, Secretario de Desarrollo Económico. Ciudad de México. Miembro del Comité Local y Ejecutivo Organizador del GSEF



Diana Alarcón, Coordinadora General de Asesores y Asuntos Internacionales, Ciudad de México. Miembro del Comité Local y Ejecutivo Organizador del GSEF

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All this would not have been possible without the collaboration of the German Savings Banks Foundation for International Cooperation (Sparkassen Foundation), and its head in Mexico, Luis Proaño.

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GSEF Global Virtual Forum, Mexico Power of Community and the SSE as a Path for Transformation **Great Challenges, Greater Solidarity**

Document elaborated in the framework of the results of the GSEF Global Virtual Forum, organized by the GSEF Secretariat and Mexico, through the Local Organizing Committee of GSEF2021, constituted by the Government of Mexico City through the Ministry of Economic Development, the Ministry of Labor and Employment Promotion and the General Coordination of Advisors and International Affairs; and by the Government of Mexico through the National Institute of Social Economy of the Ministry of Welfare. We would like to thank the Sparkassen Foundation for its support in the implementation of the GSEF Global Virtual Forum and this report.

Mexico City, November 30, 2020

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