

MEXICO CITY 2021  
GLOBAL SOCIAL  
ECONOMY FORUM

## WORKSHOP SESSION INFO

○ **Session title:** *Initiatives and alliances between local governments and SSE actors to build a new economy*

○ **Date / Duration:** October 8th, 2021 (18:00-19:30 KST / 9:00-10:30 UTC )

○ **Language :** English

○ **Target audience:** policy makers from local governments and municipalities, practitioners from social inclusive cooperatives and mutual associations, entrepreneurs for social enterprises, civic leaders, innovators, urbanists, students, and all interested in sustainable urban development and SSE local/regional/international networks

○ **Session Objectives/ Descriptions:**

• **Background**

One of the fundamental principles of the Social and Solidarity Economy is intercooperation: in the 21st century, its practice becomes essential, since we must articulate individual efforts that contribute to social cohesion and the preservation of natural resources in order to strengthen our collective action. In this sense, it is necessary to generate extensive intercooperation networks between public and private institutions, non-cooperative enterprises, cooperatives, civil society organizations, movements and collectives in order to transform our current reality.

In recent years, in various countries around the world, there has been a remarkable evolution of local action by the different sectors that promote the Social and Solidarity Economy; social enterprises, governments, associations and civil society have shown that in the face of global agenda issues, their impact is positive within the territories. Therefore, from the local level it is possible to respond to the various global challenges that affect all societies.

In this sense, the internationalization of the Social and Solidarity Economy has become a central element in the exchange of experiences and the improvement of strategies to carry out joint actions that eventually consolidate into agendas that provide values and articulated solutions beyond a single geographical or territorial scope of action. In these processes, the different forms of interaction with other entities make up a diverse menu with the possibility of adapting to all needs. Considering the international dimension contributes to the creation of spaces for interaction, favoring the complementarity of capacities, cooperation, and synergies, facilitating the understanding of global phenomena and trends, contributing from a local vision to the solution of global problems.

Crises expose structural weaknesses within societies, as in the case of the pandemic caused by COVID-19, which led to a sharp contraction of the world economy; in Latin America and the Caribbean alone, there was a -5.3% drop, and the social inequality gap widened, adding more than 22 million people to the group of people living in poverty.

Now more than ever, it is necessary to create strong partnerships for international inter-cooperation to ensure that mechanisms are put in place to recover from the pandemic and thus build back better for collective well-being.

#### • Objectives

Recognize the importance of developing global alliances for the promotion of the Social and Solidarity Economy.

To provide initiatives for the creation and preservation of local and international alliances between the different actors of society for the achievement of common objectives.

To promote inter-cooperation networks as viable strategies for sustainable recovery from crises.

To make visible different organizations, governments, trade unions, entrepreneurship, academia, institutes, societies, collectives to generate coordinated alliances for collaborative work.

#### • Main question

**What should be the actions or strategies of individuals, governments, groups, societies, countries, to achieve a better and more inclusive world? What key actions should be promoted from the local level?**

#### • Guiding Questions

1. What is the tangible and real benefit of cooperation networks in the social and solidarity economy sector?
2. What is the role of governments in fostering cooperation between different actors and sectors?

3. What are the main challenges in promoting alliances for the SSE with other sectors and actors that are not necessarily involved in the social economy?
4. How can the development of local, regional, and international alliances lead to a better recovery from crises such as the one caused by COVID-19?

o **Moderator and Speakers**

• **Moderator:** Dara Huot, Chief Executive / Phare Performing Social Enterprise Co., Ltd (Phare Circus & Phare Creative Studio) ([dara@pharecircus.org](mailto:dara@pharecircus.org))

• **Speakers :**

	Organization	Name (Country)	Presentation Description
<b>Speaker 1</b>	SSEGOV (Association of Korean Local Governments for Social Economy and Solidarity)	<b>Young Kim</b> (South Korea) / Executive Director	<b>Network of local governments promoting SSE</b>
<b>Speaker 2</b>	ENSIE (European Network for Social Integration Enterprises) & CIESCOOP (Centro Internacional de Economía Social y Cooperativa)	<b>Eric Leyton Inostroza</b> (Chile) / Project Manager	<b>International cooperation</b> Cooperation and networking are at the basis of this proposal where the main activity consists in implementing the WISE (Work Integration Social Enterprise) concept also in Chile. In 2021, CIESCOOP, The International Center for Social and Cooperative Economy (CIESCOOP) of the University of Santiago, Chile (USACH) has started to develop a model centered on Municipalities, where they can run 'Incubators' to multiply the impact of 'Social Inclusive Cooperatives' in their territories. For this project, CIESCOOP counts with the support of two European Institutions that have been working in the Social Economy Sector and Work Integration: The Italian Consorzio Sociale Abele Lavoro (CSAL) from Turin, and the Spanish Business Confederation of Social Economy (CEPES), showing their experiences, mainly of Social Cooperatives in Italy, and

			<p>Work Integration Social Enterprises for People with Disabilities, and Special Employment Centers in Spain. The project manager is Eric Leyton which was a trainee within ENSIE in 2019 during his master in France. He was already passionate by social economy and especially social inclusion. Also his thesis for the master was about work integration social enterprises (WISEs), crucial actors and contributors to a sustainable, inclusive and fair society which is needed for an adequate recovery especially now from the current crisis. He stayed within ENSIE 3 months and then after some months in Europe came back in Chile where he continued to work for the inclusion of the vulnerable groups. He used the contacts of the European experience and has helped to build this interesting project. International cooperation is a great reality!</p>
<p><b>Speaker 3</b></p>	<p>SENECA (Social and Solidarity Network for East and Central Africa) &amp; Office of the Mayor, Nakawa Division Urban Council, Kampala Capital City Authority</p>	<p><b>Bernard Luyiga</b> (Uganda)/ Co-founder &amp; Administrative Officer</p>	<p><b>Laying the Foundation for SSE Agenda in East and Central Africa</b></p> <p>Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE), though a new development terminology particularly in developing countries like Uganda has no particular unifying definition. SSE is a concept that refers to enterprises and organizations, which specifically produce goods, services and knowledge while pursuing economic and social aims and fostering solidarity (UNIDO, 2017). SSE includes traditional forms of cooperatives and mutual associations, as well as women's self-help groups, community forestry groups, social provisioning organizations or 'proximity services', fair trade organizations, associations of informal sector workers, social enterprises, and community currency and alternative finance schemes (<a href="https://www.unsse.org">https://www.unsse.org</a>). SSEs have over the last several years received increasing attention from policymakers, researchers and practitioners worldwide for its potential in addressing today's major challenges, particularly poverty, unemployment, inequality, social exclusion and climate change. As the ILO Regional Director for Africa stated during the first Social and Solidarity Economy Academy, "countries such as the United States, the United Kingdom, and others are relying on the sector of social and solidarity economy to cushion the social effects of public budgetary austerity..... the key point is that the social and solidarity economy is a decent work incentive - It can generate productive jobs....." (<a href="http://www.oit.org">http://www.oit.org</a>). According to</p>

			<p>research, out of the 10 most poor countries in the world, 5 are from East and Central African region(<a href="https://worldpopulationreview.com">https://worldpopulationreview.com</a>). Therefore, in a bid to address the social and economic challenges facing the people in this region, Social and Solidarity Network for East and Central Africa (SENECA) was formed as an Umbrella organization to bring together SSEs in the region. SENECA, in partnership with local government implements projects that address the social and economic challenges of the people in the region.</p>
<p><b>Speaker 4</b></p>	<p>Fab City</p>	<p><b>Martin Van Den Borre</b> (Canada) / Fabcity Facilitator</p>	<p><b>Fab City global initiative and SSE</b></p> <p>More than 200 years since the Industrial Revolution, global urbanisation keeps accelerating. United Nations projections indicate that 75% of the human population will be living in cities by 2050. Newly created cities and the urbanisation process in rural areas replicates a lifestyle based on consumerism and the linear economy, causing destructive social and economic impact, while compromising the ecological systems of the planet. We are losing livelihoods through both offshoring and automation, and this in turn leads to the demise of dynamic hubs of practical and cultural knowledge, where things are made. Extreme industrialisation and globalisation have turned cities into the most voracious consumers of materials, and they are overwhelmingly the source of carbon emissions through both direct and embodied energy consumption; we need to reimagine the cities and how they operate. The Fab City is an international initiative to develop locally productive and globally connected self-sufficient cities. Fab City is about building a new economy based on distributed data and local manufacturing infrastructure. The presentation will focus on the contribution of the SSE within the FAB CITY movement and how it fosters sustainable innovations and citizen participation toward the realisation of more ecological cities. Drawing from the hundreds of experiences to be shared at the Fab City Global Summit to be held in Montréal in August 2021 and co-organized by communautique, we will present a selection of the most impactful and promising social economy initiatives and collaborations within the Fab City world network.</p>

• Program

Time	Content
18:00-18:01	Internet connection check
18:01-18:06	Introduction of the moderator
18:06-18:11	Introduction of the session: background information, main question, objectives and panel members
18:11-18:21	1 <sup>st</sup> speaker presentation: Network of local governments promoting SSE - Mr. Young Kim / SSEGOV
18:21-18:31	2 <sup>nd</sup> speaker presentation: Work Integration Social Enterprises & International Cooperation - Mr. Eric Leyton Inostroza / ENSIE & CIESCOOP
18:31-18:41	3 <sup>rd</sup> speaker presentation: Laying the Foundation for SSE Agenda in East and Central Africa - Mr. Bernard Luyiga / SENECA
18:41-18:51	4 <sup>th</sup> speaker presentation: Fab City global initiative and SSE - Mr. Martin Van Den Borre / Fab City
18:51-19:15	Questions and discussions guided by the moderator

19:15:- 19:25	Q&A: from participants via chat
19:25- 19:30	Closing remarks by the speakers and the moderator