



MEXICO CITY 2021  
GLOBAL SOCIAL  
ECONOMY FORUM

## GSEF Global Virtual Forum

### Great Challenges, Greater Solidarity

Power of Community and SSE as a  
Path for Transformation

110 countries, 35 sessions, three languages  
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### Closing Rapporteurship

Date:	October, 23 <sup>th</sup> 2020
Time:	10:00-11:00 hrs
Language(s):	Spanish – English – French
Participants (number of people connected)	481

### Name of the presenter:

Jennifer Paola Restrepo, communicator, Colombia

### Name of the panelists/commentators:

1. **Juan Manuel Martínez Louvier**, General Director of the National Institute of Social Economy and President of the Local Committee and Organizing Executive of GSEF2021, Mexico
2. **Laurence Kwark**, GSEF General Secretary, Korea
3. **Joung Youl Kim**, Co-chair of GSEF, Korea
4. **Beatrice Alain**, Chantier de l'économie sociale, Canada
5. **Juan María Aburto**, Mayor of Bilbao, Spain
6. **Adama Sangaré**, Mayor of Bamako, Mali
7. **Diana Alarcón**, General Coordinator of Advisors and International Affairs, Mexico City Member of the Local Committee and Organizing Executive of GSEF2021, Mexico

### Relevant ideas, key points, quotes-phrases:

#### Juan Manuel Martínez Louvier

- During the five days of the virtual GSEF, 35 sessions were held with the

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participation of 7,800 people from more than 100 countries.

- The Covid-19 crisis has shown that people are equal. It is also evident that people today are more connected than at any other time in history.
- The world is experiencing a change in morals, understood as the state of mind, the world is experiencing a period of low morale.
- In contrast, **the SSE has its own morality shaped by the principles and values that characterize it and lead to a better state of mind, as a hope for the world.**

### Laurence Kwark

- Community power is the path for transformation in order to build more solidarity at all levels, mainly at the global level. It is necessary to promote the Social Economy as a mechanism to face the challenges of the world.
- **Although we do not have a defined road map, we are in the process of building collective power by sharing different visions and strategies that will allow us to design a better future.**
- The GSEF2021 forum in Mexico City will demonstrate that the SSE strategy is the way to address the current economic and social crises, in order to achieve sustainable and inclusive development.
- The GSEF Chairman has said that "together we can go further," so let's work together to make the GSEF2021 forum a reality and continue to pave the way for

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transformation.

### Joung Youl Kim

- This is the first time that a GSEF Virtual Forum is organized.
- The greater the challenges faced; the more solidarity is needed to find solutions. With the power of the community and the Social Economy, a better future can be built.
- The Covid-19 crisis has had a strong negative impact on society and the economy; however, it has also shown new ways to unite and participate across borders
- **With the pandemic, digitalization has accelerated, opening up new opportunities. The new normality requires a profound transformation, protecting human beings. The SSE puts people first.**
- In order to include everyone, it is necessary to create policies based on the real needs of the territories, to strengthen and make communities visible, to promote the creation of capacities to face problems, youth participation, access to social financing and to prioritize social inclusion and equality.

### Beatrice Alain, Beatrice Alain

- In Quebec, as in other parts of the world, the Covid-19 crisis has demanded efforts from the government and the community to find lasting solutions to social inequality and ecological problems.
- More joint ventures are needed in key sectors of the economy. Public policies can give a boost.
- The actors of the social economy participated in the definition of the government program for the economic reactivation, seeking to make it supportive and to preserve the environment.
- **The SSE must be a fundamental actor for the economic reactivation with emphasis on local purchase, employment generation, attention to vulnerable groups and collective equipment.**

### Juan María Aburto

- During the Covid-19 crisis, SSE organizations have had a better response in terms of preserving employment and ensuring social inclusion.
- As part of the measures against the Covid-19, in Bilbao the government has

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reinforced its commitment to collaborate with the third sector of the economy. By increasing the budget for contracts reserved for SSE organizations.

- The experience of our own and other cities indicates that regional and local administrations must decide to strengthen public policies that promote the SSE so that the recovery from the health and economic crisis is balanced and no one is left behind.

- **Solidarity and mutual support have been shown to be essential factors in crisis situations. In this sense, SSE companies have proved to be a reference.**

- In other words, "working for and with people" for their health, safety and quality employment.

- In the current crisis, the values of individualism and solidarity are confronted, depending on everyone that the latter prevails.

### **Adama Sangaré**

- We intend that the SSE constitutes a decisive tool that combines social utility, democracy in governance practices and direct involvement of all actors.

- SSE organizations play an important role in local development because they are socially responsible, constitute a factor of democracy and contribute to stability and the generation of value, which in turn leads to the generation of employment, social participation and adequate management for sustainable development.

- It is important to work together with local governments because the Covid-19 crisis has created new precariousness and needs in health, distribution and consumption.

- Nevertheless, due to their diversity throughout the world, the territories are well positioned to face the challenges of carrying out a transformation.

- **Governments of African countries have the opportunity to appropriate the good SSE practices that have emerged during the Covid-19 crisis. There is a need to support the creation of social enterprises, particularly when women and youth are involved.**

### **Diana Alarcón**

- The event allowed the sharing of different visions on the SSE of countries located in various continents and their link with the current context of the Covid-19 crisis.

- The forum has contributed to fulfilling one of the main objectives set out with

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regard to making visible the progress and challenges of the SSE in the Latin American region.

- **The SSE is crucial for mitigating the economic and social effects of the crisis generated by Covid-19 and for the recovery of Mexico City.**

- In the plenary sessions, the SSE was presented as a vector of change and transformation on the opportunities offered by digitalization, new models of governance and sustainability.

- **The fundamental challenge is to overcome the notion that the SSE is an alternative for territories with low levels of development and quality of life.**

- Today, more than half of the Latin American population participates in the so-called informal economy, on which their well-being depends.

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