

The Declaration of the 1st Global Youth Camp for SSE

We, the 100 participants of the Global Youth Camp for Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) from 25 countries, gathered in Seoul and Gurye, Korea from August 22~25, 2017, express our commitment to be changemakers in our local and international communities for more equal and sustainable future. We come from different places with different backgrounds and experiences, we are aware of SDGs and able to achieve them through SSE approaches. We are here to explore, learn, share and discover how we can transform our economy and build a better and more equal society but also to discover ourselves and what role do we play in this movement. We are not anymore followers of the generation, but leaders and creators. We see the potential of SSE to be a source of imagination for the alternative or a transformative action. We also realized that the values of SSE including cooperation, people-centeredness and democratic governance are important for us to live in more ethical and fairer society. This document is the outcome of our active and thorough discussions throughout the camp and also our promise to make the next step together.

Economic Transformation through Decent Work

We believe that decent work is a powerful tool to transition from extractive and exploitative work realities, in result influencing multiple crises we are facing. We are citizens, students, community builders, curious explorers, parents, activists, cooperators, change makers, entrepreneurs - you name it! But we come together around values and principles of equality; meaningful and impactful work; being appreciated and having economic security; equal pay; being able to express ourselves and use our skills for the benefit of the society; collaborate rather than compete; have equal ownership, democratic right and culture of participation to influence our work conditions - all practiced through quality teams and inspiring work environments. The current structures have failed us but we have each other and the wider solidarity movement to together explore, reimagine and build a meaningful, inclusive and critical movement to demand change and create visions of the future together. We need to tap into the power of solidarity to have a real systemic impact. We want to use social ventures as a vehicle for social impact and to sustain and care for our environment not to destruct it. We need opportunities to self-empower; share our stories, knowledge and resources; to build an online platform. We need spaces to come together and ensure the continuation this movement to dig deeper and aim higher.

Local communities: Think Glocal, act local

We are sharing a common vision about the need to work together and to be more inclusive. We create a space to understand the reality of each other through discussions, fun and cooperation. We are confident to work in teams and happy to share it together to find social harmony, because together

we can have more insight and mobilize more youth. We learn about how we can improve our communities by caring about others projects in others country. We believe that local communities should be transform to «glocal» and social communities for a bigger impact. We propose to see the world not as I or a You but more as a «WE» because together we can grow a collective leadership to be more and more helpful to change the world and contaminate other with consciousness. We, as changemakers, will plant seeds of knowledge, because once you get a tree, then you have a whole forest, and local communities start by a simple common target, shared values and small and meaningful actions.

Housing: A Dream for Every Youth

Every human being has fundamental rights to get the minimal facility like housing. The youth, the pillar of the every nation, should get a chance in order to enhance and build up their inner and outer capacity that motivate them to lead the nation and able to deal with social, economic problems. The outcome of the housing team and their wishes to have how we can make homing instead than housing some crucial ideas and points are made. Housing should be safe and secure. Rights to housing contains entitlement. Protection from the forced eviction. As changemakers, our action plan is to put pressure on government to access on youths role in the policy making, to utilize the locally available resources while making homing, to discourage the dependency on the donor agency and create some innovative work within the community, and to spread the good example and success story among the youth network which helps each other to support and work collaboratively in coming days.

Social finance: Invest in Core Values

We have gathered here because we share the same ideals and visions. Passionate youths from different sectors and countries across the world synergize our experiences to move the sector forward, increasing the quantities and qualities of social finance. We believe the financial sector itself must change but along with it, the borrowers and the contributors must share the burden of change. Raising critical issues of financial sustainability, the lack of financial education for individuals in the social sectors, and the problems of market failures and government failures, we believe cooperatively seeking the answers will improve our countries and the world. Social finance should be driven by empathy, honesty, solidarity in a system where money should never be an end in itself, but rather a means to achieve social justice.

It's up to us now!

We have to be the changemakers, put our energy together and repeat ourselves «Just do it and smile», start with your neighbor and have a global mindset to inspire and change the world.