



Global
Social
Economy
Forum 2021

Member Yearbook

Global Social Economy Forum

Member Yearbook 2021

Message from the Secretariat

Warmest Greetings from the Global Social Economy Forum (GSEF) Secretariat.

We are very proud to present the updated version of member yearbook this year after our first edition was published in 2018. The yearbook is originally intended to provide the overview of GSEF members' social and solidarity economy (SSE) initiatives to the broader public and to create an opportunity of cooperation among members based on each other's needs and expectations towards the network.

While the objectives of this booklet have not been changed much, the scope and variety of our membership has been expanded dramatically. As of August 2021, total of 75 GSEF members are active in 33 countries all around the world, which is almost 80% increase from the total of 41 members three years ago. We believe that this is the evidence of the SSE's potential as a viable and effective solution for the social and ecological challenges the humankind is facing.

In this yearbook, we also include GSEF members' stories of struggles and efforts to respond to and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. Although the damage

and threats to the people's lives are significant in every community in the world, our member organizations and governments are putting their utmost efforts to help the most vulnerable member of their society and showing the resilience and strength of the cooperation under the name of SSE.

We hope the stories from our colleagues around the world could become the courage and inspiration to overcome this economic, social and ecological crisis we are in. From the value of people-centeredness and solidarity of SSE, we will be able to find a way to achieve more inclusive and sustainable future for the post-pandemic era and beyond.

On that journey, the GSEF shall be your network of support and encouragement.

Thank you very much for your continuous contribution and collaborations.



The Global Social Economy Forum (GSEF) is a global network aimed at promoting the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) as a strategy for the sustainable local economic development of cities and regions and the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through their localization. GSEF accompanies local governments across the world in the collaboration process with SSE actors towards the co-creation of public policies and the establishment of sustainable ecosystems conducive to the development of SSE.

For more information, visit www.gsef-net.org or email gsef@gsef-net.org

Laurence Kwark
Secretary General, Global Social Economy Forum

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2021 GSEF Member Survey

This GSEF member yearbook is based on the basic information from the membership applications and 2021 member survey responses. The survey consists of two parts - 1) members' basic information and SSE practices and 2) Impact of COVID-19 and member's recovery plans. For the first part, members' contact information was required for the update and the best SSE practices of the members, planned activities from 2021~2023, members' interests and expectations through GSEF were asked to be answered. For the second part regarding pandemic response, the questionnaire consisted of questions on the degree of impact to SSE organizations in member's territory, emergency support measures and recovery plans, and recommendations to the government and other GSEF members.

The survey was circulated to the GSEF members in July-August, 2021, and total 32 members sent their responses out of total 75 members.

The list of members completed the survey as below;

International

Intercontinental Network for the Promotion of Social Solidarity Economy (RIPESS)

Africa and the Middle East

Bamako, Mali • Centre de ressource en entrepreneuriat social & en économie sociale et solidaire (CeRES), Togo • Dakar, Senegal Espace Marocain de l'Economie Sociale, Solidaire et Environnementale (EMESSE), Morocco • Economic and Social Development Center of Palestine (ESDC), Palestinian territories • Groupe Béninois d'Economie Sociale et Solidaire (GBESS), Benin • Lake Victoria Region Local Authorities Cooperation (LVRLAC) Tanzania Chapter, Tanzania • Neighbourside Housing Co-operative Society, Kenya • Ngece Rinjeu Foundation, Kenya • Plateforme des Organisations Jeunesse de Toulépleu (POJeT), Ivory Coast • Municipalité de Praia, Cabo Verde • Réseau des Acteurs et des Collectivités Territoriales pour l'ESS (RACTES), Senegal • Réseau d'Education Civique au Congo (RECIC), DRC • Réseau Esprit d'Initiative de l'Economie Sociale et Solidaire Maroc (REIESSM), Morocco • Réseau des maires du Cameroun pour l'économie sociale et solidaire (REMCESS), Cameroon • Réseau National d'Appui à la Promotion de l'Economie Sociale et Solidaire (RENAPESS), Mali • Société de Coopération pour le Développement Rural d'Afrique (SOCOODERA), DRC • Union des Villes et Communes de Cote d'Ivoire (UVICOCI), Ivory Coast

Asia

Asia Pacific Alliance of YMCAs (APAY), Regional • Conflict Victim and Single Women Development Center (CVSWDC), Nepal • Korea Social Value and Solidarity Foundation (SVS Fund), Korea • Phare Performing Social Enterprise (PPSE), Cambodia • Taipei City Government, Taiwan

Europe

Bilbao, Spain • Ayuntamiento Mondragon, Spain • Réseau des collectivités pour une économie solidaire (RTES), France

LAC

ACOBOL, Bolivia • Municipalidad Distrital de Ate, Peru • La Cuadra Provoca Ciudad AC, Mexico • Gobierno de la Ciudad de México, Mexico

North America

Montréal, Canada

GSEF 2021

member survey summary





• Members by Continent (as of August 1st, 2021)

Continent	Total Number	Local Government/ Local Government Network	SSE Networks	Organizations	Countries
Asia	19	5	9	5	Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Nepal, Pakistan, Singapore, Taiwan
Europe	6	4	2	-	France, Spain, United Kingdom
Africa and Middle East	31	9	13	8	Benin, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, DR Congo, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Mali, Morocco, Palestine, Senegal, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda,
North America	5	2	1	2	Canada
Central and Latin America	11	6	2	3	Bolivia, Ecuador, Haiti, Mexico, Peru
International	3	1 UN Agency (UNRISD), 2 International Networks (IFSE, RIPESS)			Headquartered in Switzerland, France, and Spain respectively
TOTAL	75 Members	27 Local Governments	27 SSE Networks	18 Organizations	33 Countries

1

GSEF members at a glance

2

Impact of COVID-19 and GSEF member's Responses



Photo ©Phare Performing Social Enterprise

1. Impact of the COVID-19 to the SSE organizations and enterprises in GSEF members' territories

Current Status of Impact

GSEF members in the world experienced various negative impact of the unprecedented pandemic since last spring. For SSE organizations/enterprises in GSEF members' territories, the pandemic has brought the significant threat to their business activities due to the pandemic itself and the governmental restrictions for prevention of the disease.

Members who responded to the GSEF member survey expressed how wide and deep the damage from the pandemic is to the SSE sector and all the social and business sector in general in their respective region.

Besides the health issues of SSE practitioners and the people they are working with related to the COVID-19, the decline of market economy in every region affected the lives of people. The lockdown situation resulted in disruption of supply chains, issues of human resources management, high requirement for health and safety at work, weakening financial situation at work. In the sector of health and safety, the shortage of labor has witnessed, and service demand for vulnerable peoples has increased.

Many members emphasized that the threat of pandemic was more severe to the people in informal sector, especially for women and youth. For women, the number of job opportunity got slimmer and duties at home has increased due to the lockdown. Migrant workers lost their job and had to go back home and their household income reduced to the minimum level for life. Schools and training centers were not fully operated, and therefore the students had to face the new challenges in learning.

For SSE organizations and enterprises, many had difficulties in keeping the size of the business. Many had to change the model of their businesses due to the reducing sales, which became a new driving force of pivoting in the other hand. Many enterprises had to close their businesses, but some made successful transition in their way of creating values. SSE initiatives based on digital technology or medical and health services used this crisis as their opportunities.

A few GSEF member network implemented research on their members' current challenges due to the pandemic and shared the information as follows:

EMESSE, Morocco: 39,000 jobs disappeared in the 4th quarter of 2020 and 5.5% decrease in the number of cooperatives and associations or 9,500 closures. Government supports only to the enterprises. They risk seeing 90% of SSE organizations disappear before the end of 2021.

CeRES, Togo: 1 in 5 companies is halted in their business. 3 out of 5 companies are downsizing, 59% of companies put parts of their employees on unemployment, and there are large disparities between sectors (service areas under the biggest damage).

RTES, France: The National SSE observatory published in 2020 analyzed the employment situation of SSE. For the full study: <https://ess-france.org/fr/ressources/bilan-de-lemploi-dans-less-en-2020-les-emplois-reculent-de-0-9-en-un-an> Also, the qualitative assessment of the impact on associations of SSE can be found here: <https://www.rtes.fr/covid-19-1-an-apres-ou-en-sont-les-associations>

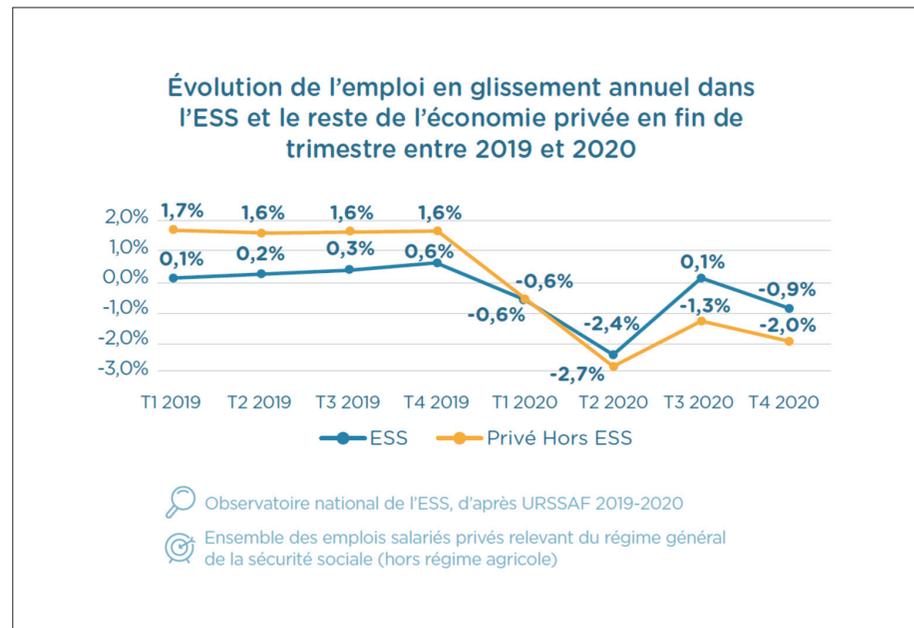


Figure 2.1 Change in employment in the ESS and the rest of the private economy 2019~2020 © ess-france.org

Most affected areas by the COVID-19

GSEF members selected the hospitality and tourism sectors as the most affected area of SSE by the social distancing and mobility restriction policies due to COVID-19. Commerce and craftsmanship, social services, education and training and culture, sports and leisure sectors were then pointed out as the most affected businesses by the impact of pandemic. Geographical attribute does not seem to affect the responses. Those areas of businesses usually involve large number of employments, especially for jobs for women and youth, therefore the negative impact of the pandemic directly increased economic insecurity of the workers.

The least affected sectors selected by GSEF members were the information and communication technology sector, reuse and recycling businesses, and the cleaning, security, and other personal services, which enjoyed the positive impact from the lock-down situations. It assumed that the pandemic also gave an opportunity of development for a selected sectors of SSE due to the series of behavioral change of people including increased use of online services or rising awareness on environments, health, and personal hygiene.

The following graph includes all responses on the affected areas of SSE due to COVID-19.

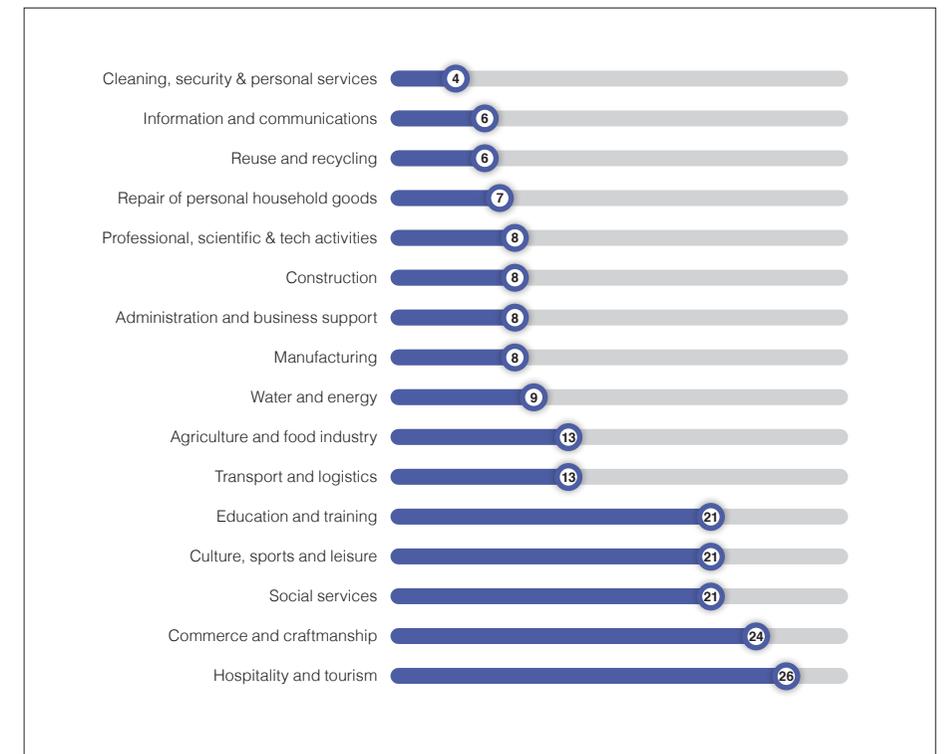


Figure 2.2 The most affected SSE sectors by the COVID-19 pandemic

The outlook of the SSE organizations' recovery from the pandemic

Most of members who replied to the survey viewed that the SSE sectors' recovery in coming months was not likely happen or hard to know. However, many of them also consider that the possibility for SSE organizations/enterprises in their region to fully recover if there is proper support and sufficient time. Additionally, some members pointed out there are sectors which are getting benefits and opportunities in the pandemic situation.

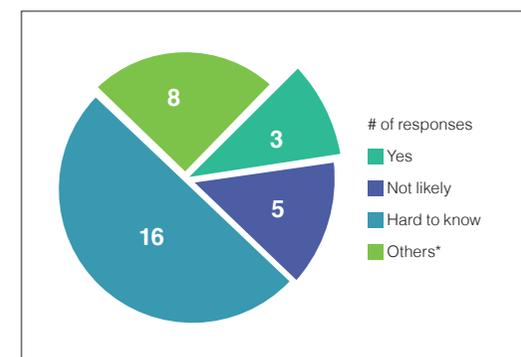


Figure 2.3 The outlook of the SSE organizations/enterprises' recovery from the pandemic in coming months

* Other Answers:

- The SSE organizations can recover if there is proper support.
- Largely yes, but not all sectors.
- Partially yes. For example, food industries and farmers can get benefits from the customer's new interest in local food and short supply chains.
- Yes, but not in a short time.
- Hard to know, but the SSE could be reinforced from the experience from the pandemic.

2. Local government's actions alleviate the impact of the pandemic

In many GSEF members' territories, central or local governments have taken immediate measures to alleviate the impact of the pandemic to the society and economy. Although not many governments put the special and tailored attention to the SSE sector, SSE enterprises and organizations achieved the governmental support as a small/medium size enterprises or organizations working with vulnerable groups of the society.

GSEF members were benefited the following forms of support from their government's response to the pandemic:

Financial Support	Direct financial support in the form of grant, subsidies, or special funds : Tanzania, Cambodia, Nepal (for entrepreneurs), Ivory Coast(family support), Ivory Coast(Subsidies to SMEs), Mali, Morocco(special funds), DR Congo (Entrepreneurship grantee fund)
Tax Measures	Tax exemption or relief(Palestine, Mali, DR Congo), tax holidays (Cambodia), tax reduction on major commodities(Kenya), tax benefits to SSE sector, suspension of late penalties for taxes, special tax installment plans(Togo)
Loans & Equity	Facilitation of special process to get loans : special interest, expedited process, simplified review, or long-term(Palestine, Cambodia) Equity investments : Cambodia , Mali
Training	New skills training including digitalization, etc. (Asian Countries) Special training to the most affected sectors (tourism, culture, etc.)

Figure 2.4 Government's measures beneficial to SSE networks in COVID-19 pandemic

The GSEF member local governments who understand the strength and role of SSE organizations/enterprises have implemented special support programs for SSE or worked in partnership with local SSE organizations in the relief and prevention work due to COVID-19. For example, the City of Praia in Cabo Verde entrusted SSE sectors and volunteers to implement emergency food basket delivery program to the vulnerable households. Also the members of REMCESS, the association of local governments in Cameroon implemented tax exemption program for youth and women SSE organizations. City of Mondragon, Spain provided financial support, subsidies, new aid program with SSE organizations to reinforces social services, and Ate district in Lima, Peru organized special fair for producers and offered training sessions for arts and craft sectors. They also collaborated with artisan weavers through employment centers and supported them by recruiting them in the city's projects. Taipei City also included social enterprises in their economic relief measures, which were proposed on May 28, 2021. Their nine short-term economic relief measures consisted of tax deferral, tax reduction, rent reduction, rent exemption, rent postponement, loan interest reduction, subsidies, business financing and financial support for laborers.

In addition, there are a few more member cities that provided more extensive information

on their responsive measures towards the economic crisis and SSE sectors during the pandemic:

Case 1 City of Montréal, Canada

City of Montréal implemented two economic recovery plans in 2020 and 2021 to recover from the impact of COVID-19. In addition to that, Montréal 2030 strategic plan was presented in December 2020 and prioritize the importance of developing a greener and more inclusive economy, in particular by supporting the circular economy, the social economy, local and eco-responsible purchasing, and the creation of new quality ecological jobs.

Montréal 2030 is a strategic orientation, which spans 10 years, for a more resilient city, green and inclusive. Following collective reflection and in response to the health crisis, Montréal has embarked on a recovery process articulated around a vision of the future to guide and increase the coherence and impact of municipal action over the next few years.

Montréal 2030 aims to enhance economic resilience, social and ecological city in order to increase the quality of life of all citizens and collectively give us the means to face the challenges of today and tomorrow.

The Montreal City and Quebec governments have offered financial support measures to individuals, numerous subsidy programs to businesses to offset the impacts of the crisis, such as assistance for business training, health and safety at work or even training for business repositioning.

Initially, the City postponed the deadlines for the payment of the property tax of businesses up to 6 months. It has also made available for community organizations and social economy enterprises with the city government to intervene quickly with underprivileged populations. Subsequently, it adopted a series of support measures for the company as well as the support ecosystem.

The measures taken by the decree and ministerial orders in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic have made it possible for social economy enterprises to achieve more contracts by at least 37%.

Montréal also increased to mandate several social economy enterprises specializing in second-line support in terms of human resources, adjustment of operation, business hub, etc.



© City of Montréal

• Links on Montréal City's measures to alleviate the impact of pandemic and transformative action for post-pandemic society:

Montréal 2030 <https://montreal.ca/articles/montreal-2030-un-premier-plan-strategique>

Plan de relance économique 2020 <https://montreal.ca/articles/plan-de-relance-economique-2020-5657>

Plan de relance économique 2021 <https://montreal.ca/articles/plan-de-relance-economique-2021>

Case 2 City of Dakar, Senegal

State support measures for SMEs: The economic support measures for SMEs are contained in the support measures for the private sector to support the private sector and maintain jobs.

Financial measures:

- 302 billion CFA Francs will be used to pay debts owed to government suppliers. In return, companies will undertake to maintain wages.
- An envelope of 100 billion CFA Francs will be specifically dedicated to direct support for the sectors of the economy hardest hit by the crisis, in particular transport, hotels and also agriculture.
- A financing mechanism of up to 200 billion CFA Francs will be accessible to affected companies from banks, in the form of loans according to a streamlined procedure.

Tax measures:

- The state reimburses VAT credits at short notice to deliver cash to businesses.
- Tax rebates and suspensions will be granted to companies that pledge to keep their workers in business for the duration of the crisis, or to pay more than 70% of the wages of employees laid off during this period.
- Small and Medium Enterprises with a turnover of less than or equal to 100 million CFA francs, and companies operating in the sectors most affected by the pandemic including tourism, restaurants, hotels, transport, education, culture and the press, will benefit from a deferred payment of taxes and duties until July 15, 2020.
- Extension of the general deadline for payment of suspended VAT collected by customs and tax authorities from 12 to 24 months; A partial remission of the tax debt recorded on December 31, 2019, due by companies and individuals, for a total amount of 200 billion will be granted.

Observation: These business support measures actually only concern formal businesses. The small formal enterprises concerned represent only 3% of Senegalese SMEs at the analysis. For financial measures, very few SMEs access public procurement to benefit from the 302 billion, For the 200 billion lines of financing, banks are not the best channel for genuinely reaching actors in the solidarity and social economy. Overall, business support measures will not have a major impact on the social and solidarity economy.

Proposals for support measures:

- The establishment of a specific support fund for women entrepreneurs; given the specificity of their businesses (very small and non-formal, more in food processing, cosmetics, catering, etc., non-formal and precarious jobs).
- The urgency to operationalize the status of entrepreneur, which confers formal recognition of the State on the legal level, fiscal, and accounting. A means of ensuring social protection for actors in the informal sector, but also an effective means of identifying the actors concerned.

- Massive savings, a rise in delinquencies, a drop in loan production and a huge loss on financial products linked to the postponement of deadlines and the decline in migrant money transfers
- Establishment of a cash transfer mechanism for the social protection component

Case 3 City of Mexico



Through the FOCOFESS 2021 Program, the city government seeks to establish and consolidate the Social Economy Sector of Mexico City as a source of decent employment.

In the subprogram of "Promotion and Constitution of Social and Solidarity Companies", it seeks to promote the legal constitution of Social Organizations that carry out activities of production, distribution, commercialization, or consumption of goods and/or services in Mexico City.

Social Organizations under a scheme of solidarity, participation in decision-making and distribution of profits, with fiscal and commercial activities in Mexico City, could get direct and indirect economic support with the amount of up to fifty thousand pesos for its formal constitution. Also this support could be a source of production and labor inclusion of its members in order to promote sustainable economic development.

The subprogram, "Strengthening of Social and Solidarity Companies" seeks to strengthen legally constituted cooperatives that carry out activities of production, distribution, commercialization, or consumption of goods and or services in the City of Mexico. The city government supports them through a total direct and indirect economic support, for up to one hundred and fifty thousand pesos to contribute to its strengthening and survival.

The actions that will make it possible to achieve the objectives of the FOCOFESS Program are:

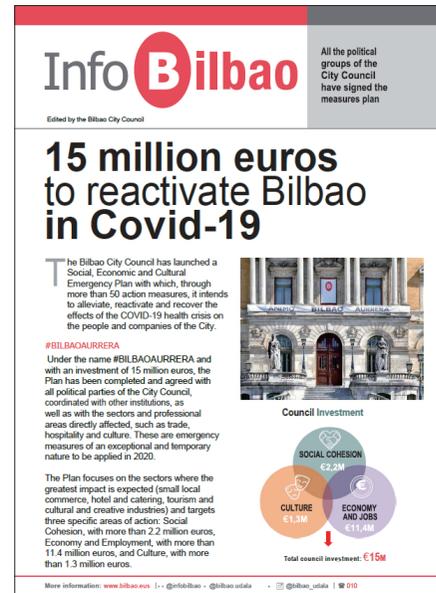
- Training in social and solidarity economy for 2 members of a cooperative, as well as for the training and development of the productive organization and for the strengthening of its productive, commercial and management processes.
- Two specialized technical assistance in advising for the improvement of the productive project, as well as the business plan.
- In the case of the subprogram "Promotion and Constitution of Social and Solidarity Companies", the issuance of the Articles of Incorporation before a Notary Public is granted.
- Giving direct financial support for the acquisition of tools, equipment or raw materials, related to the productive activity of the cooperative.

During fiscal year 2020 it was possible to deliver a total of 391 direct and indirect supports

to the same number of cooperatives.

For the current fiscal year 2021, the physical goals were established in 213 social organizations for the subprogram "Promotion and Constitution of Social and Solidarity Companies"; and regarding the Subprogram "Strengthening of Social and Solidarity Companies", the physical goal was established in up to 505 Cooperatives legally constituted.

Case 4 City of Bilbao, Spain



The Bilbao City Council launched the Social, Economic and Cultural Emergency Plan to alleviate, reactive and recover the effects of the COVID-19 crisis. Under the name of #BILBAOAURRERA, the city invested 15 million Euros to the three specific target areas: 2.2 million Euros for social cohesion, 11.4 million Euros for economy and employment, and 1.3 million Euros in culture.

The set of measures intended to offer a “social shield” for people who are particularly affected and require specific attention – who are lack of income, elderly in vulnerable situations, people in exclusion, or family and children.

Measures for culture focused on promotion of activities of cultural and creative industries

in the public place, special grant, subsidies to the sectors.

The measure for economy and employment mainly consisted of two parts. First, tax incentives to companies were provided by reduction of taxes, tax bonuses on the use of municipal public space and installations, and flexibilities in the payment term. In order to retain employments, direct aid to businesses, micro-SMEs, tourism sectors, community businesses, increase public procurement from local companies, etc.

Case 5 Local Governments in France (RTES)

Summary of French government measures:

- Reorganization of the “Civic Reserve” platform (to facilitate voluntary and occasional engagement) to focus its action on the health crisis with 4 types of missions offered: food and emergency aid, exceptional care of children, link with isolated fragile people, local solidarity.
- Creation of a Solidarity Fund of 1 billion euros to help the smallest businesses, the self-employed, the micro-businesses which lost more than 70% of turnover between the months of March 2019 and March 2020. They will receive a lump sum of 1,500 euros in March 2020.
- Deployment of 45 billion euros in direct aid, 300 billion euros in State guarantees for corporate bank loans and 1000 billion euros at European level.

Measures of local authorities and Regional councils:

Several regional councils have implemented measures that may directly concern SSE actors with:

- Co-financing from the National Solidarity Fund aimed at helping the smallest businesses and associations with an economic activity, the self-employed, micro-enterprises and the guarantee of cash loans
- Support to the associative sector, with the advance payment of subsidies, the extension of agreements, the creation of relief funds, for cultural and sports associations in particular (for example exceptional fund of 5 million euros in connection with other Breton communities in Brittany, and a 5.6 million euro plan in Bourgogne Franche-Comté)
- The establishment of platforms for connecting producers and consumers (Région Nouvelle Aquitaine, Région Occitanie for example).

Departmental councils:

The departments are mobilized to ensure the continuity of the activity of solidarity missions aimed at vulnerable groups (childhood, maternal and child protection, elderly and disabled people, etc.). Certain departments announce exceptional support funds intended in particular for sports, cultural and popular education associations (Gironde, Loire-Atlantique, Meurthe and Moselle). The Haute-Garonne departmental council has announced measures to support economic activity, in particular with the preparation of a recovery plan following the crisis which will affect SSE players. The departmental council of Ille-et-Vilaine voted on March 30, 2020 an exceptional support plan of 10 million euros, in favor of the Department's partners, associations and companies suffering the consequences of the health crisis. The departmental council of Seine-Saint-Denis has voted for an ecological and united rebound plan allowing actors of the territory to submit financial support files by the end of September 2020.

Intercommunities and cities:

Several intercommunalities and cities have taken measures generally resulting in:

- the suspension of rents for businesses housed in the community's assets (nurseries, incubators, etc.)
- the stimulation of public procurement in order to support the cash flow of businesses (acceleration of payments, suspension of penalties, maintaining the pace of launching new markets, advance clauses)
- many municipalities support or initiate networking or volunteering platforms and exchanges of services to the population (delivery of groceries, childcare).

• For more detailed information, visit the following links.

<https://www.rtes.fr/covid-19-synthese-des-mesures-gouvernementales-a-destination-des-entreprises-de-l-ess>

<https://www.rtes.fr/covid-19-mobilisation-des-collectivites-locales-pour-les-acteurs-de-l-ess>

3. SSE organizations' actions in the community as COVID-19 responses

Although the health and economic crisis hit hard GSEF member SSE organizations' business activities, they have been active and dedicated to help more vulnerable members of the society at the front line. The SSE organizations' participating in emergent health and hygiene initiatives at the community level covers from the production of hygiene items (masks, soaps, sanitizers, etc.) to the provision of emergency social services (delivery of food baskets, visiting elderlies, etc.).

Putting their social missions and people in focus, SSE organizations have been struggling with the Pandemic in order to keep their values. Meanwhile they are also passionate to suggest the peoples' needs to the government and creative to tailor their services for the health and economic safety of the community. Also they have proved that the SSE actors are experienced and competent partners of local governments to strengthen the resilience in the society.

Here are a few exemplary cases of the GSEF member SSE organizations actions during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Case 1 CeRES, Togo

The Ministry of Grassroots Development, Youth and Youth Employment on which CeRES is in partnership with, has taken an initiative to develop a project to improve access to education through production protective masks. While Togo was preparing for the reopening of classes, it was about producing, in two weeks, 1.2 million protective masks.

The project under the leadership of the Ministry through its agency ANADED (National Agency for Grassroots Development) is carried out in particular in partnership with the National Institute of Health Insurance (INAM).

This production was made through the efforts of 1,500 tailors spread over the whole of the Togolese territory. The objective is to provide protective masks, washable and reusable, which will be free for the benefit of the classes. This project also helps provide employment for artisans who have found themselves unemployed due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Case 2 Phare Performing Social Enterprise (PPSE), Cambodia

Although their income has decreased almost 90%, PPSE has managed to keep maintain employments of 36 artists and 41 staff since the closure of the Cambodian borders until now thanks to solidarity and resilience of the company and staff by implementing the following actions.

Clear and human international communications sessions were held with artists and team members making sure they are always up to date with the development of the pandemic and its impacts to the company. It was required for staff's solidarity, understanding, and also their personal resilience/strength.

From April onwards, 20 staff volunteered to be on a long-term unpaid leave until the company can welcome and invite them back. The rest of the staff agreed to receive 50% salary.

A few key positions including director of HR and Operations agree to receive less than 50%. CEO volunteered to receive 22% of salary for a period of time.

Shows were not allowed perform from March to July 2020. PPSE revamped the pay system to support artists a basic income (which did not exist before) ensuring artists are still rehearsing, keeping their good mental and physical health. PPSE mobilizes its human resources to help each other's where they can with all hands-on deck. For example, deep cleaning of the house, maintaining repainting all circus/music equipment's, revamp the PCC experience to match with local audiences, successfully relaunched after the government authorizes performances for the local audiences, add extra attractiveness to be ready for re-opening including pre-show entertainment, street food festivals respecting all the prevention measures standard operating procedures (SOPs).

PPSE cut all capital expenditures, put a halt on capital expenditure/assets or equipment investments, reduced all expenses keeping only the bare necessity to ensure that they can pay the (reduced) salary.

PPSE negotiated a reduction of costs: ie. rental of PPSE office and artists housing in Siem Reap.

They persevere, retain jobs and revamp their business plan and target market to match with the new reality which is the local population only. They re-launched their performances with weekend program 2 shows per weekend called: Phare Circus Rising from August 2020.

What is Phare Circus Rising?

It is a solid program for resuming performances at Phare Circus and other special events. Phare artists and musicians emerge from their confinement. The Phare Circus venue is prepared to exceed health and safety requirements. Internet streaming will be used to share special events. Step-by-step, Phare Circus is rising again!

PPSE took actions in finding creative solutions for revenue generation:

"Put Smile on Faces" "Invite a Family to the Circus" campaign (<https://pharecircus.org/smiles-on-faces/>)

Together with their mother NGO organization, they put Cambodia on the spot light by performing the longest running circus show in the world 24hour and 10 minutes to raise awareness on their impacts on lives and to mobile fundraising supports from locals and fans around the world. This even has attracted attention and media coverage locally and internationally. They won 3 international awards and are accredited by the Guinness World Record.

Case 3 RIPESS member organizations

- In most of the continents during the pandemic, local food systems and rural-urban linkages are reinforced. Gender collective and solidarity initiatives are increasing. Also many innovative and self-resilient SSE initiatives emerged.
- In terms of network, solidarity and support mechanisms from national SSE networks to their grassroots members or from sub-regional /continental SSE networks to national SSE initiatives are required and strengthened. Also digital connectivity is in progress from SSE

grassroots organizations.

- SSE organizations in Thailand, Indonesia, Philippines and India linked to ASEC set up community kitchens to assist especially in collective looking for food. There have been sharing of vegetables from rural producers to networks in the urban areas.
- Adoption of new approaches such as digital marketing and use of logistic companies in addressing the negative impact of the pandemic
- Community solidarity and economic sharing has enabled many communities to adopt self-resilient approaches.
- Malaysian in the Voluntary National Review 2021 report on SDGs did a box story on community and social enterprises activities which are community and self-help based which has survived the pandemic due to economic sharing and solidarity values of cooperation at the grassroots.
- RTES from France initiated for their member educational online training and toolkit for resilience called "Transition Pact".
- In Switzerland, Geneva, local municipality initiated vouchers based on local currency to support city craftsman and stores.
- There is a greater sense of awareness, at least in Canada, to build stronger local economies. For example, the notion of circular economy is making important progresses. In some cities, like Quebec City, a center for circular economy (a physical space) is being developed.

Case 4 Social Value and Solidarity Foundation, Korea

With the title of “Together overcome the crisis” collective action, Social Value and Solidarity Foundation in Korea provided emergency loans to the SSE enterprises/organizations in Korea under difficulties in cash flow due to pandemic.

As a solidarity action with overseas SSE actors, the SVS Foundation in collaboration with the KOICA (Korea International Cooperation Agency), GSEF and other partner social economy organizations in Korea launched the COVID 19 response project for social economy organizations based in developing countries. Through the project, approx. 700,000USD emergency grants were provided to 38 social economy organizations in 21 countries to maintain their employment and production level. The funding was successful in that recipient social economy organizations recovered its pre-covid 19 level by 106.3%, 71.5% (employment and production respectively).



©EMESSE, Morocco, Providing raw materials to support women cooperatives



© Phare Performing Social Enterprise Emergency Relief Appeal 2021



© POJeT, Ivory Coast, ABEWE project, training workshops to build business platform for SSE



©CVSWDC, Nepal, Donation of Health Goods to local hospitals



©Ngece Rinjeu Foundation. Sanitary Napkin Campaign

4. GSEF members' recommendation for the post-pandemic era

"For SSE, COVID-19 crisis is an opportunity to deploy creativity in terms of solidarity. Build a new development model of common good, more fraternal society, radical ecological transition, more democratic Togo, and Promote transformative vision of SSE." - CeRES

"Work in Solidarity!" - NRF

"Economic stimulus packages to revive our enterprises" - Neighbourside Housing Coop

"Study the post pandemic situation and strategize with the new normal to formulate resilience" - LVRLAC

"Strong national agency to support SSE" - PPSE

"Clear policy with applicable recovery packages to be focused on marginalized groups" - CVSWDC

"With digital transformation, learn to coexist with the pandemic and develop new economic models" - Taipei City

"Reinforce SSE at all level. Prioritize health and life of people first. Solidarity approach is the key. Governments need to partner with all SSE actors to build a regional ecosystem. Adoption of UN resolution on SSE" - RIPPSS

"Focus on people and their social and economic recovery, create conditions for their self-sustainability" - Praia

"Training and support structure for SSE, public procurement, social savings, support programs for SSE are necessary" - REMCESS

"Position SSE as national economic development strategy " - La Cuadra

"Social support and attract economic resources"- District of Ate

"Achieve green inclusive recovery. Change the crisis to an opportunity to transform our ways of doing in a sustainable manner. Accelerate the ecological transition in all dimensions."- Montréal

"Setup an endowment fund dedicated to the companies impacted by COVID-19. Strengthen the social support for SSE actors."- Dakar

"Support SSE organizations financially and technically" - SOCOODERA

"Recognize the importance of SSE in development policies." - RENAPESS

"Technical and financial support and capacity building for SSE sectors" - REIESSM

"Support SSE companies. Build up significant reserves for future activities" - RECIC

"Setup national and local framework of SSE development plans" - RACTES

"Engage national government and international organizations in local initiatives (material, financial support, training, etc.)" - PoJET

"Support fund for SSE" - EMESSE

"GSEF could organize an online consultation on how to apply SSE effectively in helping member organizations to recover from the pandemic-affected loss and damage." - APAY

"Financial support for SSE" - GBESS

"Prevent bipolarization of asset market, practical support to SSE organizations, and expansion of solidarity"- SVS Fund

GSEF Member Directory 2021



International Organizations

- ESS Forum International (ESSFI)
- Intercontinental Network for the Promotion of Social Solidarity Economy (RIPESS)
- UN Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD)

ESS Forum International, ESSFI



GSEF member since 2016

[W](http://www.essforuminternational.com) www.essforuminternational.com [E](mailto:CONTACT@ESSFI.COOP) CONTACT@ESSFI.COOP

ESS Forum International (ESSFI) is an international network of the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) which has existed since 2004. It includes member organizations and companies spread over 4 continents that value and promote the Social and Solidarity Economy as a means of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals set by the United Nations for 2030 and more generally, as foundation of an economic, political and social model that puts people back and ecosystems at its center.

They are aware that it is only by forming a social movement, by carrying a political voice on all continents, that we can achieve the transformation deep in our current model of growth and development, which is slowly cracking under the weight of crises.

ESS Forum International sets itself the objective of making the Social and Solidarity Economy a reference in this transformation.

Intercontinental Network for the Promotion of Social and Solidarity Economy, RIPESS



GSEF member since 2016

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Intercontinental Network for the Promotion of Social and Solidarity Economy (RIPESS) is a global network of continental/sub regional SSE networks committed to the promotion of Social Solidarity Economy since 1997. The sub regional and sectorial member networks themselves bring together national and sectorial SSE networks, thus ensuring strong territorial anchoring. The combined local to global work of our social movement gives RIPESS legitimacy to promote SSE, foster intercontinental cooperation, and advocate at different levels.

Strategy for 2021~2023:

Considering the (post)Covid-19 context and the need for an accelerated promotion and support to SSE development, RIPESS intercontinental 2021-2023 strategy focuses on:

- Strengthening advocacy work from the local (territorial and national) to the sub regional and global levels to ensure more visibility of the solutions provided by SSE initiatives and networks, and thus realizing more transformative impacts.
- Support the strengthening of sub regional SSE networks' work in their sub regional advocacy activities, and their work with their national and local SSE network members.

This work can be linked to different thematic (environment, SDGs, local development, food sovereignty, etc.), sectorial (agro ecology, social protection, ethical finances ...), and/or focused on certain groups (youth, women, migrants, informal workers, indigenous people ...).

Among other, RIPESS facilitates exchanges about best practices between their members from the different countries/continents, as well as of tools and strategies for continental and national SSE networks' tools.

This work also supposes to develop alliances and convergences with other more specialized/sectorial networks, with other transformative economies and civil society movements, as well as with any other multi stakeholders' platforms with transformative vision, to join forces and get more impact in our advocacy and SSE promotion actions at all levels.

United Nations Research Institute for Social Development, UNRISD



GSEF member since 2014

www.unrisd.org

The United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) is an autonomous research institute within the UN system that undertakes multidisciplinary research and policy analysis on the social dimensions of contemporary development issues. Through our work we aim to ensure that social equity, inclusion, and justice are central to development thinking, policy and practice. To this end, UNRISD:

- focuses on the often-neglected social content and impacts of development processes and the role of social institutions, relations and actors in shaping development policies and pathways.
- engages researchers, policy makers and civil society actors from around the world in generating and sharing knowledge, in order to shape policy within and beyond the UN system;
- mobilizes and strengthens the research capacity of individuals and institutions in developing countries through collaborative inquiry; and
- provides a space for the exchange of ideas, giving prominence to marginalized viewpoints, often challenging mainstream development thinking and offering alternative policy options.

Mandate

UNRISD was established in 1963 as an autonomous space within the UN system for the conduct of policy-relevant, cutting-edge research on social development that is pertinent to the work of the United Nations Secretariat; regional commissions and specialized agencies; and national institutions.

Africa and Middle East

- l'Association des Départements du Sénégal (ADS), Senegal
- Bamako, Mali
- Centre de ressource en entrepreneuriat social & en économie sociale et solidaire (CeRES), Togo
- Dakar, Senegal
- Espace Marocain de l'Economie Sociale, Solidaire et Environnementale (EMESSE), Morocco
- Economic and Social Development Center of Palestine (ESDC), Palestinian territories
- Groupe Béninois d'Economie Sociale et Solidaire (GBESS), Benin
- Health Innovations for life (HEIN4LIFE), Uganda
- Kampala City Nakawa Division, Uganda
- Keur Saloum Diane, Senegal
- Lake Victoria Region Local Authorities Cooperation (LVRLAC) Tanzania Chapter, Tanzania
- Maison des coopératives du Togo, Togo
- Le Municipal, Togo
- Neighbourside Housing Co-operative Society, Kenya
- Ngece Rinjeu Foundation, Kenya
- Observatoire des Transformations Sociales (OTS), Morocco
- Organisation des Jeunes Engagés pour le Développement Durable (OJEDD), Togo
- Plateforme des Organisations Jeunesse de Toulépleu (POJeT), Ivory Coast
- Plateforme des Acteurs non Etatiques (PFAnE), Senegal
- Porto-Novo, Benin
- Municipalité de Praia, Cabo Verde
- REPACT Africa, Tanzania
- Réseau des Acteurs et des Collectivités Territoriales pour l'ESS (RACTES), Senegal
- Réseau d'Education Civique au Congo (RECIC), DRC
- Réseau Esprit d'Initiative de l'Economie Sociale et Solidaire Maroc (REIESSM), Morocco
- Réseau Ivoirien de l'Economie Sociale et Solidaire (RIESS), Ivory Coast
- Réseau des maires du Cameroun pour l'économie sociale et solidaire (REMCESS), Cameroon
- Réseau National d'Appui à la Promotion de l'Economie Sociale et Solidaire (RENAPESS), Mali
- Société de Coopération pour le Développement Rural d'Afrique (SOCOODERA), DRC
- Togo Parcours Métiers (TPM), Togo
- Union des Villes et Communes de Cote d'Ivoire (UVICOCI), Ivory Coast

l'Association of Départements of Sénégal, ADS

GSEF member since 2019

City/Country: Dakar, Senegal

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Association of Departments of Senegal is a Collective National Federation created in 2015.

Objectives: ADS brings together all 45 departments of Senegal local communities. Its objective is to “participate actively in the economic and social development policy of Senegal alongside the public authorities through the continuous improvement of decentralization.”



Photo GSEF Training Workshop on SSE in Senegal 2019, © GSEF

Bamako City



GSEF member since 2019

City/Country: Bamako, Mali

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Bamako City is the capital and largest city of Mali with a population of over 1.7 million with diverse ethnic groups. Bamako, as Africa’s fastest-growing city, accounts for over 24% of Mali’s GDP, 25% of the national consumption and 70% of the commercial activities of the country. Since the 1990s, rapid population growth (annually 3.6%) nationwide is posing problems to the sustainability of the city.

Bamako, in accordance with Mali’s 2014-2018 action plan and National Policy for the Promotion of the Social and Solidarity Economy, has introduced the participatory process for combating social exclusion and poverty. In Bamako, a large number of stakeholder groups and international agencies are engaging with the local government and community. Notably, nationwide NGO, RENAPESS-Mali (the National Network of Support for the Promotion of the Social Economy of Mali), which was established in 2003, is working closely with Bamako City in promoting the social and solidarity economy.

In April 2016, Bamako hosted the 4th meeting of the African Network of the Social Solidarity Economy (RAESS). The meeting discussed various ways to promote the SSE in Africa through thematic workshops, exhibitions as well as the organization of a youth camp which was run by 163 young entrepreneurs from Mali, Guinea and Senegal. The meeting adopted ‘the Declaration of Bamako’ (also declaration from the youth camp).

Centre de Ressources en Entrepreneuriat Social, CeRES



GSEF member since 2020

City/Country: Lomé-Telessou, Togo

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The Centre de Ressources en Entrepreneuriat Social's mission is to Contribute to Togo's ambition to become the West African Hub of Social Entrepreneurship and the Social and Solidarity Economy, as part of the implementation of its National Development Plan (PND) and through the implementation of tools adapted to economic, social and environmental development, in accordance with the various sub-regional and international agendas:

To achieve its objectives, the center creates consultation frameworks and federates the leaders and stakeholders of SSE to promote the exchange of good practices, and the co-construction of innovative solutions.

It thus organizes an annual conference of SSE leaders and participates in numerous national and international meetings.

It should be noted that SSE is a vector of social, environmental and economic efficiency and thus provides sustainable and inclusive solutions. To this end, CeRES sets up mentoring and incubation programs for social entrepreneurs and implements training and awareness seminars for the actors involved and to be involved in SSE in Togo.

CeRES wishes to evolve in an organized manner so as to have more impact on the national and international level. The center structures the actors according to their profiles in dynamic networks in order to constitute a force of proposal with the Government, national and international institutions. It thus launches the network of young entrepreneurs for the SSE, the network of media actors for the SSE, the network of mayors for the SSE, the network of parliamentarians for the SSE.

Municipal Development and Solidarity Fund (FODEM), City of Dakar



GSEF member since 2019

City/Country: Dakar, Senegal

[W](http://www.fodem.sn/www.villededakar.sn) www.fodem.sn/www.villededakar.sn [E](mailto:aminad5@hotmail.com) aminad5@hotmail.com

1. CONTEXT AND OBJECTIVES OF THE SOCIAL AND SOLIDARITY ECONOMY (SSE) in Dakar

Located on the Cape Verde peninsula at the tip of the extreme West African on the Atlantic coast, the city of Dakar occupies 0.23% of the national territory and has a high concentration of populations. In fact, with a population of 1,216,738 inhabitants spread over 19 municipalities, it concentrates more than 80% of economic and industrial activities take place in the capital of Senegal.

This context has led the city of Dakar to set up a support system for SSE actors which make it possible to integrate their contribution at the political, economic and social level into local development strategies.

2. THE AFFIRMED POLITICAL WILL OF THE CITY OF DAKAR IN TERMS OF SSE

The political will of the city of Dakar in terms of promoting SSE has been concretely translated through actions of various kinds, in particular:

- Training and awareness-raising in entrepreneurship;
- The establishment of a credit fund to facilitate access to SSE stakeholders;
- Support for economic integration strategies;
- Support women and young people in better management of their activities;
- The creation of permanent activities of mobilization of thousands of young volunteers in various sectors. In the 90s, precisely in 1998, the City of Dakar initiated a major program dedicated, among other things, to indigent women, heads of households. This is the Support Project for Families in Poverty Situations (PAFSEP) in partnership with the French Mission for Cooperation and Cultural Action (MFCAC). This program, managed by the Directorate of Health Action and Personal Services (DASS) of the City of Dakar, aims to integrate poor and marginalized populations into the economic fabric.

In 2010, the City changed paradigm, by creating the Municipal Development and Solidarity Fund instead of the Dakar Municipal Credit to support SSE policy and funding, targeting women and young people.

3. SSE GOVERNANCE?

The city favors the participatory approach and the involvement of grassroots populations.

The City's technical departments and departments are regularly on tour at the level of the municipalities to collect and centralize the needs of the populations in all areas.

The Planning and Sustainable Development Department through a strategic planning process has defined the orientations of urban development, to identify the objectives and priorities of the populations in the short and medium term, to determine the conditions and the means of realization as well as the adequacy between the objectives of the city and those of the populations.

The city also take into account the concerns of associations, unions, groups, cooperatives in the implementation of territorial development projects. The city of Dakar continues to promote this dialogue with the grassroots, and since 2017 has been experimenting with a Territorial Coaching Program which is a process of dialogue between the actors of the SSE, and the City of Dakar on several areas including the support for the needs of the population.

4. THE ROLE OF SSE ON DAKAR'S AREA OF ACTION

SSE actors, partly made up of associations or groups of women and young people, fully participate in local development by setting up support structures such as savings and credit mutuals to enable them to carry out income-generating activities.

The roles are variously appreciated, the SSE makes it possible, among other things, to:

- Contribute to the economic, social and cultural development of populations;
- Encourage mutual aid and solidarity for the benefit of young people and women;
- Assist children and poor populations with nutrition and health care;
- Support the cause of women and youth entrepreneurship;
- Promote women and young people in the economic and social fields in all sectors of the economy (trade, crafts, textiles, construction, SMEs / SMI's).

5. SSE PROJECTS AT THE LEVEL OF THE CITY OF DAKAR

The City has set up a support system for SSE through:

The Support Project for Families in Situation of Poverty (PAFSEP) which had to support 763 requests received by the PAFSEP project with a satisfaction rate of 47, 8%.

The mission of the Municipal Development and Solidarity Fund (FODEM) is to fight against urban and female pauperization. Women can benefit from financial support in the amount of 200,000 F CFA 5,000,000 F. The FODEM enabled the consolidation of 477 production units affecting nearly 463 jobs, including 25 temporary. It funded the creation of 225 new businesses. It also enabled the creation of 861 micro activities through the "safety net" window for 4002 beneficiaries and 327 bankable projects were registered for a total amount of 656,972,356 CFA.

The urban agriculture project has ensured the strong demand for training in micro gardening. 10,000 people benefited from the training, 10,000 crop containers made available, and 147 community production centers (CPCs) bringing together beneficiaries on a site granted by the municipality.

The volunteer program of the city of Dakar which brings together 500 young Dakar residents involved in the local governance of their municipality and the city of Dakar. This

program combines the city's objective of offering them a first experience with the world of work while helping them find their professional path in urban professions.

The Support Fund for Private Cultural Initiatives which supervised and financed 61 out of 305 projects submitted by actors in the cultural world for an amount of 145,000,000 CFA francs.

Support for Start-ups with the Company Couveuse(Incubator) for the Promotion of Employment through Micro-economy (CEPEM) in partnership with, the International Association of Francophone Mayors (AIMEF) and the City of Marseille, which trained and supported around forty young entrepreneurs with entrepreneurship projects and provided them with a financial service at the end of their training. The call for applications for the recruitment of the second promotion has been launched.

Without forgetting, the Mutual of Savings and Credit of the Municipality of Dakar (MECMU) financial lever of the FODEM which brings together 5,155 members, finances the municipal agents of the city of Dakar.

Espace Marocain de l'Economie Sociale, Solidaire et Environnementale, EMESSE



City/Country: Morocco

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The Moroccan Space Of The Social, Solidarity and Environmental Economy (EMESSE) is an Association created by December 28, 2016, a group of ESSE executives.

EMESSE represents a common platform for sharing information, knowledge and experiences, the governance of which is pooled between the various stakeholders of the ESSE (actors, researchers, students) to promote the implementation of solidarity projects anchored in the territories.

The EMESSE is made up of 12 Regional Areas of the ESSE (ESSE Poles) covering the whole of the National territory with a national coordination in RABAT.

Current projects:

- Promote the economic inclusion of populations and more particularly rural youth through the promotion of the Social and Solidarity Economy and its value chains.
- Nucleus project: The project works to strengthen the regulatory and economic framework for SMEs and to improve the conditions for access to financing. (GIZ –Morocco PME)
- RNO project, “Returning to new Opportunities - Retour à de Nouvelles Opportunités” initiated by German Cooperation, and executed by DVV International Maroc, in partnership with EMESSE, has the overall objective of contributing to the integration of migrants living in Morocco and Moroccans who have returned through a set of training activities, including those relating to the promotion and support for the creation of income-generating activities (IGA), very small enterprises (TPE) or cooperatives.
- Project: Capacity building for vulnerable women in the municipality of Oujda to leverage their active participation in public life and in the political process. Funded by the European Union under the Moucharaka Mouwatina program implemented by UNOPS, in Oujda

OBJECTIVES

- Implementation of development projects with social, economic and environmental dimensions.
- Contribute to improving the social and economic conditions of vulnerable populations through income-generating activities and support for the creation of cooperatives, social enterprises and auto-enterprises.
- Offer, especially to the most vulnerable young people, a “plus” for their future by improving, through projects, their self-confidence, their integration profile as well as their personal status.

- Advocate for a public policy of SSE in Morocco (framework law, important supervisory structure, etc.)
- Establish a real regional and local policy in all Moroccan municipalities.
- Bring together all the active actors of the national SSE
- Join credible SSE organizations at the international level.
- Spread the values of the social, solidarity and environmental economy.

Economic & Social Development Center of Palestine, ESDC



GSEF member since 2018

City/Country: Ramallah, Palestine

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The Economic & Social Development Center of Palestine (ESDC) is a Palestinian result and rights based development oriented NGO and its mission is to enabling disadvantaged and vulnerable groups to engage in competitive economic activities.

Within its strategic plan for the years 2017-2022 ESDC is working to achieve the following 4 strategic objectives:

- 1) Socio- Economic organizations have an economic and social role within their community.
- 2) Small business with women and youth engagement is within a stimulating and empowering business environment.
- 3) Family agriculture is productive, profitable, and sustainable through strengthening the resilience of farmers.
- 4) ESDC achieves its objectives efficiently and effectively and complies with good governance standards through building ESDC capacities.

Within its strategic objectives ESDC is implementing 10-15 projects targeting cooperatives, member based organizations (CBOs), individual and group enterprises, Farmers and small producers.

Beninese Social and Solidarity Economy Group, GBESS



GSEF member since 2020

City/Country: Bohicon, Benin

[W www.cbdiba.org](http://www.cbdiba.org) [E cbdibaong@yahoo.fr](mailto:cbdibaong@yahoo.fr)

The Beninese Social and Solidarity Economy Group (GBESS) was created in 2008 and brings together organizations that are active in the promotion of SSE in Benin and for the recognition of SSE at an institutional level. GBESS is comprised of 11 member organizations: 2 women's groups, 1 foundation, 1 federation of producer unions, 1 national network of CAVECA (Village-level Savings and Credit Associations), and 5 NGOs. GBESS' activities are supported and financed by the NGO CBDIBA (Benin Centre for the Development of Initiatives at Grass Root Level), which took the initiative of its creation and also provides the association with a secretariat.

GBESS intervenes in the areas of activities of its members, in particular the women's groups and has helped to manage a capacity-building project.

As part of its activities aiming at the recognition of SSE and its introduction within the development plan, a GBESS delegation has met with:

- The President of the 7th Parliament (National Assembly)
- The former dean of the University of Abomey-Calavi
- The office of the Minister of Economic Planning and Development
- A delegation from the office of the Minister of Labor and Public Service
- GBESS has also signed a cooperation agreement with the Economic and Social Council (CES), based in Cotonou.
- GBESS is a member of the African Network for Social and Solidarity Economy (ANSSE).

Health Innovations for life, HEIN4LIFE



GSEF member since 2020

City/Country: Kampala, Uganda

[W www.hein4life.org](http://www.hein4life.org) [E info@hein4life.org](mailto:info@hein4life.org), hein4lifeug@gmail.com

Health Innovations 4 Life (HEIN4LIFE) is a non-profit organization, established in 2019, to uplift the lives and livelihoods of rural communities in Uganda.

HEIN4LIFE's passion is to improve the health of everyone, through health promotion, sexual and reproductive health service delivery, addressing gender-based violence, and operational research and knowledge development.

It was started by Public health volunteers with the aims of transforming the undeserved communities into problem solvers and transformed.

HEIN4LIFE works with vulnerable groups in rural communities, including women, youth, children and adolescents, many of whose fundamental health concerns are undermined and yet they impact their wellbeing and facilitate their full participation in social, economic and political spheres. The organization is incorporated in Uganda as charity organization.

Its core programs and activities include economic empowerment of women and adolescents in slum areas, reproductive health services for slum women and mitigating effects of sexual and gender based violence among women in Kampala slums.

Nakawa Division, Kampala City



GSEF member since 2017

City/Country: Kampala, Uganda

W www.kcca.go.ug

Nakawa Division Urban Council is the local governing entity of Nakawa division, Kampala City. The council has good social economy policies and strategies for start-ups which has helped the council register over 300 saving & credit societies, co-operatives through the directorate of gender and production. The council has about USD 500,000 for community based organizations and co-operatives.



Photo GSEF-Kampala City joint training program on SSE in Uganda, 2019. © GSEF

Commune of Keur Saloum Diané

GSEF member since 2019

City/Country: Keur Saloum Diané, Senegal

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The **Commune of Keur Saloum Diane (Senegal)** is comprised of 48 villages with a population of approximately 30,000 inhabitants. It is administered by a council of 46 councilors overseen by a bureau composed of a mayor and two deputy mayors.

The main activity of Keur Saloum Diane is traditional agriculture.

The municipality has a free and autonomous administration, particularly with regard to its deliberations and the management of its budget. It operates on a clean budget with support from the State (transfer of resources) through decentralization allocation funds and equipment funds for local authorities.

Lake Victoria Region Local Authorities Cooperation (LVRLAC)



GSEF member since 2020

City/Country: MWANZA TANZANIA

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Tanzania Local Governments historically operated through the guide of Central Government throughout time history. Since 1960's after achieving her independence, policies for development were mostly channeled in a line of social integrated economy through cooperatives that were formed by farmers, workers, laborers, gender groups, and civil societies which interpreted their objectives and performed their missions in use of social economy approach.

Due to various economic reforms and integrations, Tanzania development policies were interrupted and were diplomatically enforced to embrace other types of economies.

Currently social economy appears to be an agenda reintroduced to the community again, and need to be reinvested to the community. Therefore guiding policies from central government to local government level calls out for cooperatives, NGO's, CBOs, Civil Societies, Gender Groups and entrepreneur group to register in for support, yet not with more focus on social economic policies.

Local government set budget of an average of TSH 1billion in a year which is 10% of Annual Revenues to support these groups. The aim is to implement policies for development and poverty eradication.

Maison des coopératives du Togo



GSEF member since 2020

City/Country: Lomé, Togo

W apes.coop **E** apestogo08@gmail.com

The Maison des Coopératives promotes and develops cooperatives in French-speaking and Portuguese-speaking countries of Africa, and promotes their integration into the Alliance Coopérative Internationale (ACI).

Founded in Lomé, in 2020 on the occasion of the 125th anniversary of the founding of the Alliance Coopérative Internationale (ACI), this is a new initiative intended to ensure sustainable support for cooperatives and to introduce women and young people, the opportunities offered by the international cooperative movement. It is promoted by the Women and youth network for social and solidarity economy (WYSSE), a group of African actors in the social and solidarity economy (ESS).

Le Municipal



GSEF member since 2020

City/Country: Togo

W www.lemunicipal.tg **E** lemunicipaltg@gmail.com / contact@lemunicipal.tg

Le Municipal is a Togolese association that works toward building communities' autonomy in their local economic development. They work on behalf of local entrepreneurs for the progress of regional responsibility.

The effective start of decentralization in Togo with the election of municipal councilors has created a need for awareness, communication, territorial strategic watch and social mobilization to support the current process. To fill this void, the association started an online newspaper Le MUNICIPAL and provides information, awareness and education related to decentralization and local governance in Togo, in order to contribute to the rooting of civic values for a harmonious anchoring of democracy at the base.

Le MUNICIPAL is a group of experts in decentralization and local development, territorial coaching and regional planning.

Neighbourside Housing Co-operative Society



GSEF member since 2019

City/Country: Nairobi, Kenya

E neighboursidehousing2019@gmail.com

Neighbourside Housing Co-operative is for the economic empowerment of domestic workers in Kenya to own homes through a co-operative. The organization was registered in 2017, and was given some office space by a church, where the founder is a member. Three volunteers from the church have been assisting in the operations of the organization. Main activities include recruiting members, who are female domestic workers, and meeting with them to give them basic training in financial literacy, business management and co-operatives formation and management. The overall goal is to sensitize the domestic workers on how they should aim at getting themselves out of poverty through forming and running their own co-operative; and then investing in housing for themselves and their children.

Ngece Rinjeu Foundation, NRF



GSEF member since 2020

City/Country: Kenya

W www.ngece-rinjeu-foundation.org **E** info@ngece-rinjeu-foundation.org

Ngece Rinjeu Foundation is a registered Non-Government, non-profit family-sponsored foundation with an aim of empowering youth and women through education, agriculture and green-entrepreneurship. NRF was founded in the year 2001, as an education and climate mitigation focused foundation and formally registered as Non-Governmental and Non-Profit Organization (NGO) under the section 10 of the NGO Coordination Act, laws of the Republic of Kenya.

NRF's vision is to contribute to the betterment of society through enhancing equal access to education and better living standards for all children and through sustainable means of economic empowerment for youth and women. The main objective and long term goal is to promote grassroots community development through building the capacity of the people of Kenya (women and youth) in green-enterprise; and providing access to education and better living standards for all children (including orphans and abandoned kids).

MISSION

To improve lives of members of communities, enhance environment and climate change mitigation and adaptation, provide financial and food security through promoting the use of clean and renewable energy and growing of oil crops and trees.

GOAL

To transform lives of communities through promoting use of clean and renewable energy and through farming of oil crops and trees.

Observatory of Social Transformations, OTS



GSEF member since 2020

City/Country: Morocco

E youssefsadik@yahoo.fr

The **Observatory of Social Transformations (OTS)** is, above all, a new body of action research whose main purpose is the analysis and explanation of societal dynamics of Moroccan society, and of the Maghreb in general, all the while taking into consideration the research teams' concerns on a national and international comparative level. This observatory is also a response structure, among decision-makers belonging to diverse institutions and organizations, to consolidate good governance and institutional reforms. On the one hand, OTS works upstream with research institutes, think tanks, foundations, and many different organizations involved in financing scientific research; on the other hand, it works downstream with public and private decision-makers seeking advice from researchers and consultants.

The Observatory's objectives are both scientific and practical. It is a public forum where diverse areas of expertise are welcome. Its ambitions are to keep up with society's complex transformations, understand how they overlap, and, in turn, achieve evidence-based scientific breakthroughs and analyze traditional cultures. The OTS can give its opinion on public policy related to governance and SSE. It happens to be an important part of its approach because many changes are either propelled or regulated by different segments of the public sector. Thanks to its analyses and its actions, the OTS aims to contribute to elucidating the issues and debates that these various organizations bring to the public arena. In fact, its goal is to provide the necessary information to decision-makers and leaders of social and societal stakeholders in order for them to advance strategies for fair social development.

The Observatory of Social Transformations' Secretariat is based at the Education Department of Mohammed V Souissi University (Morocco).

Organization of Youth Committed to Sustainable Development, OJEDD



GSEF member since 2019

City/Country: Lomé, Togo

W ojedd.wordpress.com

The **Organization of Youth Committed to Sustainable Development (OJEDD)** is an association that brings together a community of young Change Makers that realized the importance of the role of the youth in the fulfillment of the 2030 Agenda and pushes for sustainable development by putting forth concrete actions and projects for the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals. The association is based in Togo and it is comprised of official representatives in Cameroon and Nigeria.

The organization is active in five key areas:

- environment
- education
- health
- agriculture
- entrepreneurship

Moreover, the association is also interested in matters concerning the environment and climate change, civic engagement, green entrepreneurship, the youth, sustainable cities and communities, ICTs and tech, renewable energy, and energy efficiency.

Vision: A world where youth is at the front of sustainable development through its involvement. A world more lasting and sustainable where each human is an actor for change towards sustainability.

Mission: Improving living conditions of the communities through sustainable development with the involvement of youth.

Toulepleu Youth Organizations Platform, POJeT



GSEF member since 2017

City/Country: Toulepleu, Ivory Coast

W pojet.org **E** platformjeunesstlp@gmail.com

The **Toulepleu Youth Organizations Platform (POJeT)** aims to help youth structures organize themselves to meet all the legitimate needs of their environment by promoting peace, social cohesion and sustainable development.

POJeT's implementation strategy regarding the promotion of SSE:

- Contribute to the establishment of a local network of the Social and Solidarity Economy for a sustainable and intelligent development of the affected regions
- Create a framework for reflection and exchange through the organization of meetings, conferences, seminars and debates
- Promote social and cooperative entrepreneurship for young people, women and vulnerable people with a view to consolidating social cohesion

Services: Training sessions, Networking, Expo-sales, Microfinance

Some application projects:

I– The International Forum of Young Leaders on the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE Forum), for the advocacy and co-construction of public policies for SSE and social entrepreneurship in Ivory Coast

II– Establishment of the ESS commercial platform to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 crisis

III– Establishment of an ecosystem for the promotion of SSE and Social entrepreneurship in Ivory Coast

IV– Prevention of violence through memory, dialogue, and education in Ivory Coast

Plateforme des Acteurs non Etatiques, PFAnE



GSEF member since 2019

City/Country: Dakar, Senegal

W www.plateforme-ane.sn

The **Platform of Senegalese Non-State Stakeholders** brings together major players from three sub-families: private sector organizations, unions and civil society.

Since 2004, it has been recognized by the National Authorizing Officer and the Delegation of the European Commission in Senegal as the privileged interlocutor in the framework of the tripartite dialogue on the European Union's cooperation strategies.

Through three grants awarded as part of the 9th and 10th European Development Fund (EDF), the Platform has strengthened its partnership with the State and non-state stakeholders and asserted its role of informing all non-state actors.

Strategic plan

The new mission that the Platform has set for itself is in response to the changing citizen dynamics in Senegal, the lack of a process allowing the capitalization and valuation of experiences, and the weakness of the strategic and prospective planning within civil society.

The Platform's flagship activities

- Organizes workshops on public participation at national and local levels;
- Promotes the interpellation of public action by citizens;
- Promotes citizen election observation;
- Organizes public consultations;
- Leads the Observatory of Non-state Actors for Fight against Corruption;
- Leads knowledge fairs for non-state actors;
- Carries out capacity-building activities;
- Regularly organizes "Universities" of non-state actors;
- Publishes studies, research works, and analytical notes.

City of Porto-Novo



GSEF member since 2020

City/Country: Porto-Novo, Benin

www.facebook.com/CapitaleDuBenin

Porto-Novo is the capital of Benin.

The vision of Porto-Novo is to become, by 2024, an attractive capital city boasting sustainable socio-economic, cultural, and touristic development based on good governance and principles of co-operation, peace, and security. In achieving its goal, Porto-Novo City Hall strives to enhance the lives of its citizens through a balanced development that is beneficial to all thanks to improved access to basic social services. The city's objectives are coordinated with the central government's plan for the achievement of national and international sustainable development goals.

Porto-Novo City Hall hosts a public consultation service bringing together public authorities that are active on the territory with networks of NGOs and associations, artisans, entrepreneurs, etc., working side-by-side for solidarity and social interest.

Praia City Council



GSEF member since 2019

City/Country: Praia, Cape Verde

[E luisalex.moniz@gmail.com](mailto:luisalex.moniz@gmail.com)

City of Praia's areas of implementation of the social and solidarity economy policies are:

- Health
- Social Housing
- Childhood
- Pre-School Education
- Senior Citizens
- People with Disabilities
- Gender Equality and Equity
- Community Intervention

Situations of social exclusion are the city's greatest concern. Municipal policies are directly linked to the promotion of social rights, promoting social inclusion by identifying the causes of social exclusion, as well as the associated risk factors, in order to achieve greater social development in the municipality. It also aims to strengthen the fight against poverty eradication, helping the population in situations of Social Emergency, giving special attention to people with disabilities, the elderly, our children, the chronically ill, drug addiction, and equality of gender.

For this, the Social Action, Gender, Pre-school Education and Housing Department has a work team of around 145 employees.

Health

CENTER FOR HEALTHCARE, is a personalized service center for citizens regarding public health issues, it aims to provide citizens with good quality of health, a requirement for offering an attractive and competitive city to invest, reside, live and work. Areas of intervention (Childhood and Preschool, Senior Citizens, Chronic Patients with awareness-raising actions with people, referral to health structures, holding health fairs in the most diverse neighborhoods of the city).

Social Housing

The issue of housing is one of the biggest challenges to minimizing the situation of poverty and for the development of the Municipality of Praia.

The Praia City Council, through the Directorate of Social Action, Gender, Pre-School Education and Housing (hereinafter CMP-DSGPH), has been implementing public housing

policies to address this situation. Bearing in mind that the Board annually receives numerous requests for support related to housing problems, namely: situations of collapse of roofs, construction of a bathroom, rehabilitation after fire or affected by natural disasters, request for social housing, among other requests;

In this sense, the Praia Municipal Council has been mitigating this situation, through the following programs:

- Social Emergency Program (Relocation) - The objective of the program is to relocate families in situations of extreme vulnerability and at risk of social exclusion, victims of fire, eviction, collapse and demolition of housing.
- Social interest housing program – Casa para Todos (This is a social interest housing program, subsidized by the State, currently coordinated and managed by the CMP-DSGPH).

Childhood:

Support for families with children at risk, promoting activities developed in different areas (playful, educational, recreational, among others).

Preschool Education:

The duty of the CMP is to ensure the integration process at the level of Pre-School Education, so it has direct management of kindergartens where children aged between 3 and 5 attend, and it sponsors several children in the various private gardens in the capital. When we talk about social inclusion in preschool, we cannot forget that CM provides children with disabilities the opportunity to live with other children of the same age group, thus building a space for learning and development for all children.

Senior Citizens:

Healthy Aging Program, which seeks integrated protection and care in the areas of health, hygiene, food safety and participation in the active life of the city.

Disabled people:

Promote the social inclusion of People with Disabilities (PwD), in various domains, urban planning, transport, health, education, employment, sport, leisure and culture; Implementation of measures that include the reduction of physical barriers, promoting accessibility and autonomy for PwD, developing inclusive recreational, cultural and sporting activities.

Gender Equality and Equity:

Gender and Empowerment Program, which aims to create opportunities for training, production and income for young people and women belonging to single-parent families, and for vulnerable families, giving women time and voice.

Community Intervention Centers:

Promote the development of the community itself and establish policies of proximity to the community. This development presupposes a set of actions in the most diverse areas, (Health, education, housing, leisure, interpersonal relationships)

REPACT Africa



GSEF member since 2020

City/Country: Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania

W www.repact.or.tz **E** hello@repact.or.tz

REPACT Africa works on building vibrant social innovation-driven solutions that address human development to achieve Sustainable Development. Our work fosters innovative approaches, use of digital and tech tools, policy practices in improving governance, accountability, and economic inclusion through social innovation-driven solutions with a mindful thinking that economic development, social development and environmental protection are interdependent and mutually reinforcing components of sustainable development in the community.

Vision Statement: Innovation ecosystem that works and contributes to strong, resilient society in socio-economic prosperity.

Mission: To contribute towards sustainable efforts of economic and social transformation that address barriers in human capital development through enhanced social innovation, digital solutions and technology.

Réseau des acteurs et des collectivités territoriales pour l'ESS, RACTES



GSEF member since 2021

City/Country: Dakar, Senegal

W www.ractes.sn **E** contact@ractes.sn

The Network of Actors and Territorial Communities for the Social and Solidarity Economy in Senegal (RACTES) is a formal non-profit network which brings together more than 80 local communities and 150 SSE actors. RACTES is set up to enable the social and solidarity economy to fully play its role within the framework of decentralized public policies and to strengthen a more resilient, sustainable and inclusive economic and social system.

RACTES aims to promote SSE in local and national economic policies for a more resilient, sustainable and inclusive economic system. Through collaboration between social economy organizations and local authorities, RACTES seeks to promote quality jobs, equitable growth, progress in grassroots democracy and sustainable development.

RACTES has 6 specific objectives, namely:

- 1) Encouraging exchanges and sharing between local authorities and actors in the social and solidarity economy,
- 2) Help local administrations and non-governmental organizations to strengthen a public-private-community partnership,
- 3) Support the training of communities, associations and SSE support organizations,
- 4) Promote approaches members to raise awareness of the solidarity economy in other areas,
- 5) Support various local movements compatible with the value of the social and solidarity economy,
- 6) Support the creation of solidarity funds for the financing of SSE , if necessary

Réseau d'éducation civique au Congo, RECIC



GSEF member since 2016

City/Country: Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo

W www.recic.org, www.facebook.com/recic2 **E** mvondoka@gmail.com, recic.asbl@gmail.com

RECIC implemented the support strategy for structures and dynamics instituted by the government to support the efforts of the social and solidarity economy. The government of the republic has set up an Entrepreneurship Guarantee Fund in Congo in acronym FOGEC aims to collect and mobilize financial resources to support and guarantee the financing of micro enterprises and support the poorest population to develop the solidarity economy. The RECIC carries out advocacy activities with these structures so that the poorest have access to them.

The RECIC has carried out advocacy actions since the GSEF conference in Montreal in Canada with the government for the establishment of FOGEC. It has set itself the objectives of developing innovative micro and small financing mechanisms as well as the financing of community initiatives to promote the social economy, participate in the provision of small social enterprises with advice and technician to support their activities.

The area to support is much more the reduction of poverty, the promotion of tourism.

RECIC also carries out activities to raise awareness and mobilize the population for a collective appropriation of the principles and mechanisms of the social and solidarity economy.

Réseau esprit d'initiative de l'Economie Sociale et Solidaire Maroc, REIESSM



GSEF member since 2019

City/Country: Guelmim, Morocco

W www.reiessm.com **E** reiessg@gmail.com

The **réseau esprit d'initiative de l'Economie Sociale et Solidaire (REIESS)** is the first associative actor of SSE in the Guelmim Region open to the different components of the social economy, namely cooperatives, associations, mutuals, foundations, economic interest groups and trade unions. It is one of the public spaces in which we can share a free debate on questions of social and societal responsibilities in development projects.

REIESS was created on January 31, 2015 under the chairmanship of Mr. Youssef Ellouxe, from a gathering of 16 organizations working in the field of social and solidarity economy. The creation of the network was initiated from meetings with the Moroccan Network of Social and Solidarity Economy (REMESS) and other experts in the field of SSE in Morocco. The REIESS works on several objectives, among which the promotion of self-employment through IGA / TPE; support for women's cooperatives and young project leaders; and, building the capacities of civil society through awareness-raising, facilitation of training, pre- and post-creation support for projects.

Réseau Ivoirien de l'Economie Sociale et Solidaire, RIESS

GSEF member since 2019

City/Country: Ivory Coast

E aiglev2000@yahoo.fr

The mission of the **Ivoirian Network of Social and Solidarity Economy (RIESS)** is to bring together all social economy organizations in Ivory Coast, in order to better advocate their interests to public authorities and to create among members an active network of solidarities and services.

RIESS is a member of the African Network for Social and Solidarity Economy (ANSSE).

Network of Mayors of Cameroon for the Social and Solidarity Economy, REMCESS



GSEF member since 2019

City/Country: Yaoundé, Cameroon

[W](http://remcess.wixsite.com) remcess.wixsite.com [E](mailto:remcesscam@gmail.com) remcesscam@gmail.com

REMCESS currently has 220 member municipalities out of the 360 that exist in Cameroon. It is an apolitical association of local elected representatives of decentralized territorial communities (CTD).

Its creation in 2016 was motivated by the desire of grassroots players to seize the SSE to become real social entrepreneurs. This prompted the Mayors, in view of the role they play in promoting the local economy, to come together in a network to better meet the needs of this sector.

REMCESS's mission is to:

- Develop a support strategy for SSE
- Plaid for the development of public policies in favor of SSE in the CTDs
- Insert these members in the dynamics of partnership and international exchanges within the framework of SSE
- Promote participatory democracy and citizen participation
- Concrete actions in the direction of these members and grassroots actors such as
 - * Capacity building
 - * Structuring of actors in cooperatives and SSE organizations
 - * Labeling of social economy companies
 - * Empowerment of young people and women
 - * Creation of decent employment

Réseau national d'appui à la promotion de l'Economie Sociale et Solidaire, RENAPESS



GSEF member since 2019

City/Country: Bamako, Mali

[W](http://renapess.wordpress.com) renapess.wordpress.com [E](mailto:renapessmali03@gmail.com) renapessmali03@gmail.com

RENAPESS' intervention strategy is focused on the empowerment of actors, the promotion of local know-how, the capitalization of experiences as collaborations progress, the scaling up of actions, advocacy/lobbying and the gender approach to :

- Ensure greater effectiveness of interventions by developing technical and technological capacities;
- Ensure the implementation of activities through an effective and efficient fundraising policy;
- Ensure greater visibility through a communication and promotion strategy focused on digital technology and cultural approaches;
- Promote an information and training system on the issues of anchoring and development of the social and solidarity economy in Mali with reference to the national policy in this area and to the orientation axes of RIPESS.
- Develop a multi-actor partnership approach based on vision sharing, responsibility, accountability, pooling and mutual respect.

RENAPESS Mali is:

- 82 associative members located throughout Mali;
- over 3 million grassroots actors;
- 7 employees supported by 23 permanent volunteers;
- an action circle of 210 women in the social and solidarity economy;
- a club of young entrepreneurs for the development of a culture of entrepreneurship in the social and solidarity economy;
- support projects for young girls' cooperatives, income-generating activities for women, young migrants.

Société de coopération pour le développement rural d'Afrique, SOCOODERA



GSEF member since 2020

City/Country: Democratic Republic of Congo

E socoodera@gmail.com

SOCOODERA, being a company aiming at the economic promotion of rural communities, puts the latter at the center of any initiative. The project to be undertaken must come from a need really felt by the base. It works with cells or grassroots cooperatives affiliated as members of SOCOODERA. From the conception to the realization of all the projects, the communities take part at all stages. SSE organizations in the region benefit from the actions carried out by SOCOODERA. The organization has a small team of staff of around 13 permanent agents who make up the general management team, the services and some application projects.

Togo Parcours Métiers, TPM



GSEF member since 2020

City/Country: Togo

W www.facebook.com/TPM228 **E** togoparcoursmetier@gmail.com

The Association

In article 53 (regarding communes) of the Law of 13 March 2007 concerning decentralization and local freedoms, the transfer of a wide variety of areas of authority in different sectors, including education and professional training, social action, recreational activities, and the economy (trade and craft industries) took place. In order to guide local communities with these issues, a group involving a variety of Togolese stakeholders stemming from the sustainable development, training, integration, and support sectors came together under the umbrella of a single association governed by the Law of 1 July 1901 and the Decree of 16 August 1901. The Association's mission is to put forward innovative solutions adapted to partner communities and their people by focusing on the enhancement of local resources and local support of the most vulnerable people.

Objectives

- To support the emergence of young people and women as contributors toward the momentum of regional autonomy from the perspective of sustainable social change at the community level;
- To work for social cohesion through social, civic, and professional inclusion and integration among the most disadvantaged people using decent, long-term, and inclusive employment, social and cultural entrepreneurship, the Social and Solidarity Economy, and education and training;
- To contribute to the revitalization of regions through the design, implementation, and coordination of innovative projects that promotes the local economy, youth, and regions.

Union des villes et communes de Cote d'Ivoire, UVICOCI



GSEF member since 2021

City/Country: Abidjan, Ivory Coast

W www.uvicoci.ci **E** lagraceakye@gmail.com

UVICOCI is the umbrella organization of the Ivorian municipalities.

All Ivorian municipalities are committed to the fight against poverty and do everything they can to promote local employment, empower women and young people, offer basic social services, promote citizen participation and the duty of accountability.

Asia

- Asia Pacific Alliance of YMCAs (APAY), Regional
- Asia Venture Philanthropy Network (AVPN), Regional
- Association of Korean Local Governments for Social and Solidarity Economy, Korea
- The Association Promoting SSE in Japan (APSSEJ), Japan
- Bandung Creative Cities Forum (BCCF), Indonesia
- Conflict Victim and Single Women Development Center (CVSWDC), Nepal
- Damak Municipality, Nepal
- Eco Social Development Organization (ESDO), Nepal
- Homenet Pakistan, Pakistan
- Human Resource Development Foundation (HRDF), India
- Jagriti Child and Youth Concern Nepal (JCYCN), Nepal
- Japan Workers Co-operative Union (JWCU), Japan
- Korea Social Value and Solidarity Foundation (SVS Fund), Korea
- New Taipei City, Taiwan
- Phare Performing Social Enterprise (PPSE), Cambodia
- Seoul Metropolitan Government, Korea
- Seoul Social Economy Network, Korea
- Star of Social Innovation, China
- Taipei City Government, Taiwan

Asia Pacific Alliance of YMCAs, APAY



GSEF member since 2014

City/Country: Kowloon, Hong Kong (headquarter)

W www.asiapacificymca.org **E** bengseng@asiapacificymca.org

The Asia and Pacific Alliance of YMCAs (APAY), integral part of the World Alliance of YMCAs, is the federation of the twenty four (24) National/territorial YMCA Movements in the region of Asia and the Pacific, with its office based in Hong Kong.

As faith-based social movement, YMCA is an international, voluntary, ecumenical organization based on Christian teachings/values, i.e. justice, peace and love. As an Area Alliance representing 24 National Movements in our region, it promotes Inter-Movement Cooperation (IMC) among NMs, with other regions, and with World Alliance. It draws and act upon common thrusts based on the spirit of “mutual trust” and “mutual accountability”, as well as serve as a platform for dialogues, consultations, capacity-building and common advocacy.

APAY and its member associations currently work on the movement tasks related to: youth empowerment (global citizenship), building peace with justice (including Inter-faith Cooperation Forum & Korean peninsula peacebuilding process), sustainable community development including social & solidarity economy, gender justice & equity, climate emergency and alternative tourism, most of which are closely linked to the UN SDGs.

Asia Venture Philanthropy Network, AVPN



GSEF member since 2014

City/Country: Singapore (headquarter)

W avpn.asia

Asia Venture Philanthropy Network (AVPN) is a unique pan-Asian funder network headquartered in Singapore that seeks to increase the flow of financial, human and intellectual capital to the social sector across the Asia Pacific region.

The mission of the Asian Venture Philanthropy Network (AVPN) is to encourage and facilitate the development of venture philanthropy (VP) and social investment across the Asia Pacific region.

Initiatives and programs related to the social economy:

- AVPN promotes venture philanthropy in the broader philanthropic and social investment communities and provides specific networking and learning services to meet the needs of our members.
- AVPN services include monthly meet ups, webinars, bespoke events, training, study tours, research, newsletter and our annual conference

Association of Korean Local Governments for Social Economy and Solidarity, SSEGOV



GSEF member since 2014

City/Country: Seoul, Korea

www.ssegov.org

The Association of Korean Local Governments for Social Economy and Solidarity (SSEGOV) is a membership-based network of local governments headquartered in Seoul, which seeks to solve social problems and to increase the sustainability of local economies through social and solidarity economy. SSEGOV was established in 2013, based on Local Autonomy Act. Its mission is to benefit local communities through the social economy and to develop a cooperative network among municipal governments to boost the local economy. SSEGOV currently has 48 members (local governments), who are leading social economy initiatives across Korea. Most of the member cities are large municipalities and undertake social economy policies, in order to create jobs and regenerate local communities by supporting social economy organizations such as social enterprises or cooperatives. The total population of these cities is more than 13 million. SSEGOV focuses on networking and mobilizing resources for local governments to tackle social problems collectively.

The core businesses to foster the social economy of SSEGOV are:

- Facilitating and supporting capacity building in local government for the social economy;
- Raising awareness of the community to increase participation in the sector;
- Improving the institutional environment by collaborating with legislators;
- Enabling the social enterprises to provide innovative services for the public sector;
- Building a strong network with key stakeholders across the sectors to develop more effective social innovation policy initiatives

SSEGOV promotes the social economy as a new vehicle of regional development and provides networking and learning opportunities for its members. All of our programs aim to serve the public interest by building the capacity of local governments and by increasing the resource flow to the social economy sector. The incumbent president of SSEGOV is Mr. MUN Seok-Jin, mayor of Seodaemun-gu, and nine other mayors serve as the executive board. Two metropolitan mayors (Daegu, Daejeon) and four governors (Gyeonggi, Gangwon, Gyeongnam, Jeju) also support the SSEGOV as senior advisors.

The Association of Promoting SSE in Japan, APSSEJ



GSEF member since 2014

City/Country: Tokyo, Japan

www.ssejapan.org [E ssejapan2020@gmail.com](mailto:ssejapan2020@gmail.com)

APSSEJ is a network system that approve to SEOUL Declaration and GSEF Charter in Japan. The purpose of our organization is spread the idea of GSEF and SSE, and to make a good relationship between each SSE organization and social movement. They organize web seminars and forums to spread out the value of SSE in Japan. Their staff are 6 person but all volunteer and also working for another organizations.

Bandung Creative Cities Forum, BCCF



GSEF member since 2014

City/Country: Bandung, Indonesia

[www.bandungcreativecityforum.wordpress.com/about](http://bandungcreativecityforum.wordpress.com/about) [E bccf.bdg@gmail.com](mailto:bccf.bdg@gmail.com)

Bandung Creative City Forum (BCCF) is an organization that was established in 2008 by creative individuals and communities in Bandung. This organization was established in 2008, with the following aims:

- to nurture creativity as an effort to empower the economic potentials;
- to improve the well-being of local civil society;
- to maintain the ecosystem;
- to value the diversity of our culture.

BCCF was formalized on 21 December 2008 under the legal name Perkumpulan Kreatif Kota Bandung(PKKB) and the brand name Bandung Creative City Forum (BCCF).

Conflict Victim and Single Women Development Center, CVSWDC



GSEF member since 2017

City/Country: Kanchanpur, Nepal

E cvsfdc08@gmail.com

CVSWDC as non-profit organization and local NGO of Kanchanpur district has a total of 650 Single women in their network as members who lost their husband during a decade civic war between State and rebel party Maoist. Since the establishment of CVSWDC in 2008, single women are operating a cooperative under CVSWDC. It has also been carrying out some projects for livelihood of single women and their children's with their rights in line with fundamental rights of constitution and prevailing laws in the close collaboration of local government. However, it has been facing a financial constraint following the negative impact of COVID19 as it has only one project with total budget of US\$ 20,000 approximately for implementing the projects through 6 employees.

Damak Municipality



GSEF member since 2020

City/Country: Damak, Nepal

W www.damakmun.gov.np/en

Damak Municipality, one of the oldest municipalities of Nepal, is located in the strategic place of Mahendra Highway. It is being an emerging city of the nation, the social and economic development of the city initiated in a way along with the declaration of municipality in 1983 A.D. Damak Municipality one of the local government of Nepal is now formulating comprehensive planning and strategy to be focused on social and economic development with the vision of "Green City, Prosperous Damak". Mayor, Deputy Mayor and each Ward Chairperson with 4 members (including 50% women from each ward level as member) are elected for Municipal Assembly. Now the municipality has 52 elected members representatives for Municipal Assembly. The Assembly is an apex body which approves the overall policy, planning and budgeting for urban development. The annual plan of the municipality for FY 2019/20, it has planned some social and local economic development activities for marginalized people for their education and skill development activities. However, limited human resources and financial constraints are considered as major problems and barriers for social and economic development of Damak Municipality.

Eco Social Development Organization, ESDO

GSEF member since 2018

City/Country: Nepal

E roshan_69@yahoo.com

ESDO was created

- To contribute to economic, social and environmental development through implementation of programs in the areas of poverty eradication, income generation, micro-finance, elementary education and literacy, health and nutrition, capacity development, good governance, agricultural development, disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and environmental conservation.
- To create “a society free from discrimination” by promoting human rights, social justice and gender equality.
- To initiate programs by adopting right-based approach in the areas of education, health, nutrition, sanitation, environment, climate change, agriculture and forest.
- To work for the holistic development of rural communities through integrated development programs focused on children, women and youths.

HomeNet Pakistan



GSEF member since 2017

City/Country: Pakistan

W homenetpakistan.org

HomeNet Pakistan is a network of organizations formed to raise awareness about the economic, social, domestic and other working conditions of home-based women workers who comprise 70% of the informal workforce contributing towards the country's economic activities. It has been working towards giving recognition and support to home-based workers since 2005. Formed under the Societies Registration Act 1862, HomeNet Pakistan is a member of HomeNet South Asia, Ethical trade Initiative and Local resource Network.

HomeNet Pakistan was registered under the Societies Registration Act on November 2nd, 2005. It represents 360 organizations of home-based workers and currently has over 50,000 women members in more than 50 districts of Pakistan.

Human Resource Development Foundation, HRDF

GSEF member since 2017

City/Country: Tamilnadu, India

E dayalanhrdf@gmail.com

The Human Resource Development Foundation (HRDF) is:

- a network of grassroots level people
- a movement working for the empowerment of Dalit and other most disadvantaged communities to live with dignity and economic equality along with ecological protection for the sustainable development of the future generation.

The coordination center is based in Thirukazhukundram, Kanchipuram district in Tamilnadu. The HRDF network operates in the state of Tamilnadu. They have members (local self-government people's movement and civil society organizations) who are working with Dalit communities for their dignity and economic empowerment along with conservation of ecology resources for sustainable development.

Vision: Promoting society with participatory democracy, equitable and sustainable development, and respect for human rights of Dalit and other disadvantaged communities.

Mission: Promoting a collective forum of people's organizations to create a united voice to uphold the human centered economy and sustainable development of disadvantaged communities with the dignity of living with nature.

Jagriti Child and Youth Concern Nepal, JCYCN



GSEF member since 2018

City/Country: Nepal

W www.jcycnepal.org.np, www.facebook.com/JCYCNepal **E** info@jagritinepal.org

Jagriti Child and Youth Concern Nepal (JCYCN) is a non-governmental, non-political and non-profit making social organization established by dedicated youths for the protection and promotion of child and youth rights in Nepal through advocacy, research and campaign. It was registered in the District Administration Office (DAO) Nawalparasi on October 3rd of 2004 and affiliated to the Social Welfare Council (SWC) in Kathmandu.

Vision

To build a model society in which every youth and child lives a dignified life without any form of discrimination, exploitation and injustice, and in which they are fully conscious about their rights.

Mission

Including all forms of creative ideas through different campaigns, advocacy and projects, JCYCN mission is to internalize child and youth sensitization for protection and promotion of their rights, focusing on their empowerment and involvement in social programs to bring lasting peace and prosperity in Nepal.

Goal

Contribute towards the development of a fair and just society by strengthening the capacity of the community members, promoting social justice, securing human rights and establishing lasting peace.

Japan Workers' Co-operative Union, JWCUC



GSEF member since 2014

City/Country: Japan

[E jwcuc.coop/en](http://jwcuc.coop/en)

Japan Workers' Co-operative Union (JWCUC/Nihon Rōdōsha Kyōdōkumiai Rengōkai), founded in 1979, represents and unites worker co-operatives throughout Japan. Each worker co-operative is owned and controlled democratically by the worker-members; it is dedicated to creating jobs to promote the well-being of communities through associated work of the members and community residents.

JWCUC consists of 59 member organizations, including primarily worker co-operatives, older persons' co-operatives and affiliated organizations, embracing 12,894 worker-members in total as of March 2014. Our businesses represent diverse areas and sectors in economy such as social services (elder care, childcare, support for the disabled, etc.), building maintenance, environment and food/agriculture.

In addition to contributing to the community through the businesses, the Japan Workers' Cooperative Union seeks to strengthen its bonds to the community through various activities for social solidarity. These include organizing seminars and symposia on a broad range of social issues, providing disaster aid and protesting nuclear power generation.

The Korea Social Value and Solidarity Foundation, SVS



GSEF member since 2020

City/Country: Seoul, Korea

[W www.svsfund.org](http://www.svsfund.org) [E info@svsfund.org](mailto:info@svsfund.org)

Founded in 2019, the **Social Value and Solidarity Foundation** is the first wholesale financial institution funding for social economy organizations in Korea. There are 13 full-time employees, 9 board members and 1 auditor.

As of 2020, contribution worth approximately \$26 million was made, and contract for \$16 million worth of loans and investment has been implemented.

New Taipei City



GSEF member since 2020

City/Country: New Taipei, Taiwan

[W](http://foreigner.ntpc.gov.tw) foreigner.ntpc.gov.tw

New Taipei City, home to over 4 million people, is the most populated city in Taiwan and yet still growing as one of the youngest cities in the nation. With a land size eight times larger than its neighbor, Taipei City, NTPC boasts not only diverse natural landscapes but also a highly urbanized lifestyle. Having nurtured a number of the world's top IT, biotech, and computer peripherals manufacturers, NTPC keeps attracting tycoons like Amazon and Google to settle their innovation centers in.

In 2015, the NTPC government launched the 'New Taipei Social Enterprises Development Center' in Sanchong District, providing space, facilities, networks, and opportunities for SSE startups. Furthermore, in 2019, NTPC published its first SDGs Voluntary Local Review and joined Powering Past Coal Alliance (PPCA), boosting the morale in its transforming to a smart, resilient, and sustainable city.

New Taipei City Government brings social enterprises various consultative services such as branding, marketing, business model modifying, and vocational training. Since 2015, it has incubated more than 60 social enterprises and has further connected the network with a wide range of minority groups. For instance, it has reached out to migrants, indigenous people, single-parent families, and rare disease patients to assist them in developing a career or starting their own business.

Phare Performing Social Enterprise Co. Ltd, PPSE



GSEF member since 2017

City/Country: Siem Reap City, Cambodia

[W](http://www.pharepse.org) www.pharepse.org [E](mailto:dara@pharecircus.org) dara@pharecircus.org

Phare Performing Social Enterprise (PPSE) is a pioneering social business in the cultural and creative industry in Cambodia that tackles social issues primarily SDG number 1, Zero Poverty through youth skilling & employment in creative industry and SDG number 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth.

PPSE creates, produces and disseminates live performances, graphic designs, films, animation and other cultural products in Cambodia and abroad.

PPSE artists come from disadvantaged backgrounds and have benefited from the training provided by the Phare Ponleu Selpak Association which has been active in Cambodia for more than 27 years.

PPSE sees in artistic creativity a strategic asset for the development of a flourishing society and a vibrant economy. It creates high-quality jobs, secures tourism revenues for the benefit of the local population, strengthens the Cambodian cultural identity and improves access to education for vulnerable youth.

A Unique Scheme to support their mother NGO

Phare Performing Social Enterprise (PPSE) is a social business. The organization is designed and operated as a for-profit company, but is guided by social-benefit principles.

Profits generated by PPSE operations are channeled to the NGO Phare Ponleu Selpak, which provides free education in visual & performing arts and social support to 1200 disadvantaged students.

PPSE is incorporated as a Cambodian Private Limited Company 75% owned by Phare Ponleu Selpak Association, and for 25% by Grameen Crédit Agricole Microfinance Foundation, and by private investors.

As of today, PPSE profits account for approx. 50% of the budget of its mother NGO.

PPSE is managed by its CEO, Dara HUOT, a highly skilled Khmer national committed to social development, under the supervision and in close collaboration with a Board of Directors and the shareholders. He is leading a local and international team made of Department managers and Business Line managers who share the vision and are dedicated to achieving the mission.

Their vision is to be the No. 1 Cambodian arts entertainment provider in South East Asia and the leading social enterprise in creative industry empowering young Cambodians to become professional artists and enabling our parent organization, Phare Ponleu Selpak Association to be financially sustainable.

Guided by their own Social Business Charter, Phare Performing Social Enterprise is committed to:

- Empower Cambodian youth from difficult social and economic backgrounds to lead fruitful, rewarding lives through arts & culture skills training, personal & career development and gainful employment.
- Inspire and amaze audiences with consistently outstanding, energetic, enthusiastic, engaging, passionate performances. Capitalize on audience satisfaction to generate positive reviews on media, social media, earned social media and word-of-mouth.
- Financially sustain the social, educational and artistic programs of Phare Ponleu Selpak Association through performance and merchandise sales at Phare, the Cambodian Circus and Phare Productions International.
- Develop contemporary Cambodian arts and enhance local and international awareness. Collaborate with other artistic organizations, participate in public events and share the arts with local communities who otherwise wouldn't have access.

After nearly 9 years of operations, PPSE has become one of the most successful social enterprises in Cambodia generating over USD 2million in revenue and USD 600k in net profit on an annual basis contributing to nearly 50% of our mother NGO's yearly operating budget.

Phare Creative Studio, a new business line of PPSE, is providing graphic design, audio, video and animation services to local and international customers. PCS is co-producing and animating 100% of the full animation of a feature film for cinemas around the world entitled "Khmer Smile".



Photo ©Phare Performing Social Enterprise

Seoul Metropolitan Government



GSEF member since 2014

City/Country: Seoul, Korea

www.seoul.go.kr

Seoul has played a leading role in the development of the social economy. It is the capital city of the Republic of Korea as well as the center of its economic, social, and cultural activities; Seoul possesses abundant resources, relatively mature civil society capabilities, and a city government with the political will to support its social economy. In terms of the establishment of legal and institutional frameworks as well as the development of public policies, Seoul has become a good example not only for other local governments but also for its own central government for its approach to the social economy as well as to each type of social economy enterprise.

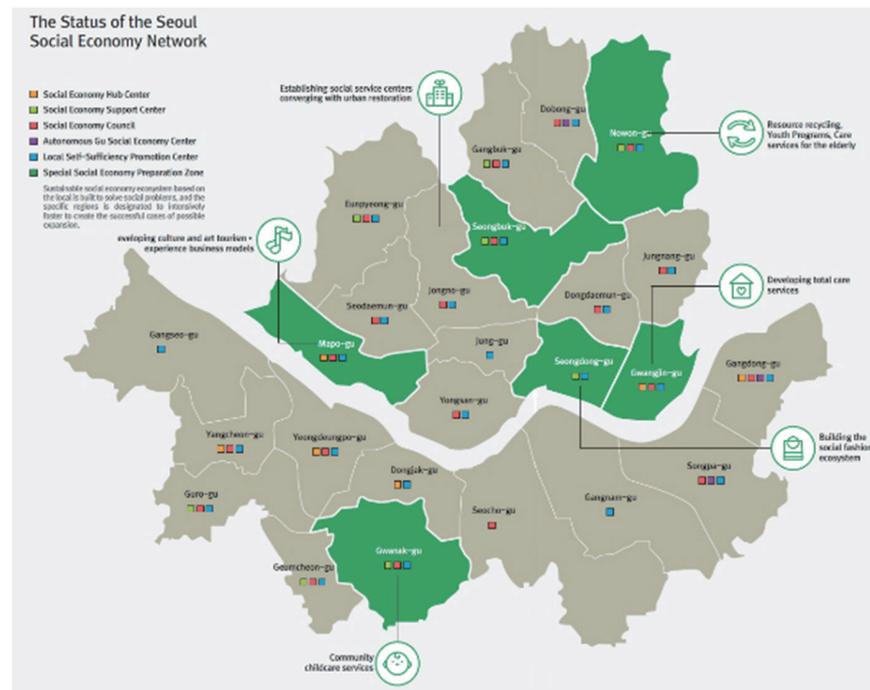
In April 2019, the SMG announced plan 2.0 for developing the social economy in Seoul. Even though various laws and institutions for the social economy were established and innovative social economy actors had significantly increased over the last decade, opportunities for the general public to experience the social economy in their daily lives remained insufficient and, as a result, as did public awareness. This was therefore considered in the plan 2.0 for the development of Seoul's social economy. Strategies for developing the social economy in the SMG have evolved from direct financing for individual Social Economy Enterprises (1997~2011) to indirect support via fostering ecosystems for the social economy (2012~2018).

In the 2.0 plan (2019~2022), the SMG promotes citizen-centered social economy initiatives through various policy measures, including programmes to develop innovative solutions to tackle social problems faced by citizens in their daily lives through the social economy, the consolidation and expansion of private-public partnerships in the co-construction of public policies for the social economy through the reconstruction of PPPPSES (Public Private Policymaking Partnership for the Social Economy in Seoul) by industry, age group, and region, and supporting the establishment of the Mutual Aid Association for the Social Economy Enterprises and Organizations and their Members and Workers.

For the past 10 years, the Seoul Metropolitan Government, has developed a new support tool so that social and economic organizations that are active in the national or global market and have weak linkages with the local community, although they are located in Seoul, can cooperate with autonomous districts to solve local problems. Some examples include support for building social economy networks at the autonomous district level, collaborative cluster space support, autonomous district ecosystem creation projects, and special social economy

zones. Now that most of the 25 autonomous districts are operating collaborative spaces and support groups for social economy enterprises, it is expected that local citizens will be able to respond to local issues more collectively such as caring for each other, starting a business, minimizing waste and recycling. The Gwangjin-gu Social Economy Network in Seoul is a representative example of the achievements of such localization support. Gwangjin Social Economy Network member organizations, after 3 years of support for autonomous district ecosystem creation, 6 years of support for autonomous district support centers, and 3 years of support for social economy special zones, visiting care for the elderly in the region, health-tailored delivery, village food restaurant, health prevention center, depression counseling and other service packages were provided, and in the process, it also purchased a shared office building worth KRW 3.6 billion, which will serve as a spatial base for continuous activities of SSE organizations. This is an important case that shows the possibility that the social economy can jointly respond to gentrification and form common assets for citizens to continue local activities.

Social economy organizations have been aiming for a mutually beneficial economy that will be sustainable together based on civic investment and loyal customers after using public and private social investment as a prime mover. Community Circular Economy is a community-based civic solidarity that enhances the circulation of raw materials, people, and assets while living the value chain of essential goods for citizens (the process of investment-production-distribution-consumption-reinvestment). It can be conceptualized as an economy that increases self-sufficiency and resilience by growing assets and jobs that will be a virtuous cycle in the region by reducing it to a region.



Seoul Social Economy Network, SSEN



GSEF member since 2014

City/Country: Seoul, Korea

[W ssen.or.kr](http://ssen.or.kr)

Seoul Social Economy Network is a private organization established by individuals and groups which have been participating in social economy to lay a foundation for promoting social economy not only in Seoul, but in South Korea.

Forming networks with various social-economic institutions, the organization has been carrying out various projects to allow the basic spirits of the social economy – reciprocity, solidarity, communication, and innovation – to be understood by citizens and take root in Seoul.

Seoul Social Economy Network has been establishing a cooperative system among private sectors in the process of social, economic policy making in Seoul City, through which the organization has been playing a critical role in building private-public governance.

Socio-economic bodies such as social enterprises, cooperatives, self-sufficiency businesses, and community businesses and their consultative groups have joined the organization's efforts, where related laws and regulations are revised to build local governance and promote the social economy.

In cooperation with the businesses, the organization has also facilitated exchange and cooperation with the National Assembly, local governments, and local councils to boost the social economy.

In particular, Seoul City chose the network as the operator of the Seoul Social Economy Center where the organization also contributes to the ground. Seoul Social Economy Network will strive to let the economy structure take root in Korea, where everybody is happy based on the social economy.

Star of Social Innovation



GSEF member since 2020

City/Country: Shenzhen, China

W www.socialenterprisechina.com

Star of Social Innovation of Shenzhen Social Enterprise Development Promotion Center is the first non-profit institution major in social enterprise certification and providing social enterprise incubation services. Registered in Shenzhen in January 2017, the Star of Social Innovation is in the goal of building a “Chinese Social Enterprise Incubator” and the mission of “to promote the development of Chinese social enterprises”, and insist the core idea of “public interest first, business operation second”. The center has passed the certification, incubation, empowerment, spread, consulting, products and influence investment like social enterprises “1+6” model service products. It also help traditional social organizations to transform and realized the sustainable public welfare, supporting enterprises to join in the solution of social problems and return to the original social enterprises responsibility, to promote the government to support social enterprise development policies and solve social hot issues effectively, and let the service foundations and the influential investment institutions to participate in social enterprise development.

The center is trying their best to realize the view of “help Chinese become a powerful national social enterprise”. The Star of Social Innovation as the first third-party institution involved in social enterprise certification, it has been entrusted by China Charity fair and has been carried out the social enterprise certification for more than 1300 enterprises and institutions throughout the country since 2016. Up to September 2018, the amount of the social enterprises they have been finished the certification was 234 and widely in 47 cities of 27 provinces, it covered in the area of 14 social fields such as environmental protection, accessibility services, community development, public welfare finance, pension, education, employment of vulnerable groups, agriculture, poverty alleviation, internet, public safety and women equity. The center not only participate in the National Social Enterprise Certification of China Ci Exhibition, and also as a major partner to participate in carrying out local social enterprise certification and service work in assisting with Foshan Shunde District, Chengdu, Beijing and Shenzhen Futian District through many methods such as certification standard R&D, certification implementation, social enterprise incubation, social enterprise service and impact assessment.

The team of the Star of Social Innovation has been independent from the China Charity Fair docking team and has more than 5 years of resource docking experience and social enterprise certification and service experience in China. It has established for more than 1500 Chinese social enterprise databases. Nowadays it is cooperate with government, universities, foundations, enterprises and other support institutions to build an ecological system of social enterprise services in China.

Taipei City Government



GSEF member since 2019

City/Country: Taipei, Taiwan

W english.gov.taipei **E** aa-hanju@mail.taipei.gov.tw, aa-10460@mail.taipei.gov.tw

Practice of politics means considering the various aspects of citizens’ everyday life and then gradually proceed toward a progressive society. The **Taipei City Government** adopts the vision of creating a livable and sustainable city, strives toward the missions of citizen-oriented services and urban innovation, and endeavors to foster the core values of honesty and integrity, teamwork and collaboration, innovation and excellence, and openness and sharing.

Taipei City continues to improve and aims to become a prosperous metropolis under the slogan of “Strive for improvement, glorify the city.” By being pragmatic, the city government expands the possibilities of the city and its inhabitants. A strategic map has been created that serves as a guideline for the implementation of social economy policies in the city. In response to the complex competition and collaboration among cities, the city government endeavors to attain excellence and sustainability while meeting citizens’ needs.

Accordingly, Taipei City’s policy focuses on eight major strategic themes, namely construction of sustainable environments, robust urban development, development of diverse cultures, optimization of the industrial labor force, strengthening of social support, provision of outstanding education, enhancement of health and safety, and streamlined and humane governance. This enables the city government to consider the various aspects of urban development and identify the policy focus of each strategic theme. The policy implementation plans of each governmental agency also adhere to these themes to ensure consistency across plans. Through the detailed planning of projects to concretize policy implementation goals, the city government aims to enhance its governance capacity and competitiveness.

Bilbao City Council



GSEF member since 2016

City/Country: Bilbao, Spain

W www.bilbao.eus **E** grojo@bilbaointernational.bilbao.eus

The Bilbao City Council within its 2019-2023 Mayor's Office Mandate Plan contemplates the definition of a Strategic Plan for the Social and Solidarity Economy that promotes this transformative economy model as a preferred option for economic-business development in Bilbao and the territory, built from the collaboration between the administration, universities, companies and civil society, the Bilbao-Bilbao Ekintza City Council, Reas and Redes de ESS.

As a result of this Plan, the Social and Solidarity Economy Pole (Ekonopolo) was born, promoted from Bilbao Ekintza EPEL, together with the REAS Euskadi network in a co-design process directed by ColaBoraBora, carried out thanks to the collaboration of numerous entities and people. Its objective is to develop plans, programs and concrete actions in Bilbao and the territory, which contribute significantly to the growth and consolidation of the SSE, expanding in number, diversity, volume of business and impact.

The activities that will be developed in different phases are:

- Itineraries of cooperative social entrepreneurship, start-up and accompaniment.
- Intercooperation.
- Development of the Social Market.
- Responsible Public Procurement.

And, as part of this public-private collaboration, the promoting entities undertake to carry out the following actions:

- Incorporate the logic of the SSE into programs and activities, helping to promote this logic in other areas of the City Council.
- Support the very fabric of the SSE to achieve an improvement in its proposals and a greater impact, both towards the business environment and towards citizens.
- Collaborate with the SSE fabric in the development of new programs and joint actions, linked to specific areas for the reinforcement and promotion of the SSE.

Europe

- Bilbao, Spain
- Liverpool City Region Combined Authority (LCRCA), UK
- Locality, UK
- Ayuntamiento Mondragon, Spain
- Réseau des collectivités pour une économie solidaire (RTES), France
- Wales Co-operative Centre, UK

Liverpool City Region Combined Authority, LCRCA



GSEF member since 2020

City/Country: Liverpool, UK

www.liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk

The Liverpool City Region Combined Authority (LCRCA) has the goal of ensuring that decisions that are made benefit everyone in Liverpool's six local authorities - Halton, Knowsley, Liverpool, Sefton, St. Helens, and Wirral - by giving power back to communities through devolution. The LCRCA is active in areas such as transport, energy and the environment, digital sphere, employment, culture, and housing, to name a few. Benefits of having invested £400 million in communities include creating jobs and apprenticeships, better transportation, renovating academic institutions, back to work schemes, and supporting cultural events.

LCR and the Social Economy

Having an already well-established reputation in the social economy sector, the LCR boasts around 1,400 social organizations, almost £3 billion in revenue per year, and more than 45,000 people employed. These organizations are most active in education, housing, health and social work, and arts, entertainment and recreation. In order to achieve the city's goal of fair and inclusive growth, the Fair Employment Charter was established. By working side by side with the Local Industrial Strategy and the Strategic Investment Fund, including £5 million dedicated to social economy initiatives, the LCR aims to demonstrate that the best way to move forward together is to have actors on all levels working collaboratively.

Given the LCR's successes in integrating the social economy, it was only fit that the city host the 3rd GSEF Europe Policy Dialogue in 2019, where actors from a wide range of backgrounds could share their best practices and ideas, as well as learn about different initiatives happening across Europe. On the agenda for this edition of the EPD was social inclusion at the local government level, work-integration policies and practices, and youth and SSE.

Locality



GSEF member since 2014

City/Country: UK

www.locality.org.uk

Locality is the national network of ambitious and enterprising community-led organizations, working together to help neighborhoods thrive. Locality represents over 500 community-led organizations, who operate in neighborhoods across England, undertaking a wide variety of different activities, reflecting the communities they serve.

What unites Locality's members is a sense of ambition for their local neighborhood, an enterprising approach to finding local solutions to local problems, and a clear sense that this activity should be community-led and based on self-determination. They act as "anchors" within their community, providing stability, flexibility and a responsiveness to local need.

Locality provides support to our member organizations by capacity-building and skills development, fostering and sharing innovation across our network, and helping them achieve long-term sustainability through community ownership of assets; community enterprise; contract income through service provision; and funding through donations, grants and other forms of charitable giving.

Locality's vision is a fair and diverse society where every neighborhood thrives and where local people determine their future together. Locality's mission is to develop a network of ambitious and enterprising community-led organizations with a strong, collective voice and to inspire community action so that every neighborhood thrives. Locality's values drive our internal culture and are reflected in all our work: ambitious, fearless, and respectful.

Ayuntamiento Mondragón



GSEF member since 2018

City/Country: Mondragon, Spain

E alkatea@arrasate.eus

Mondragón (Basque: Arrasate or Mondragoe), officially known as Arrasate/Mondragón, is a town and municipality in Gipuzkoa Province, Basque Country, Spain. Its population in 2015 was 21,933.

The town is best known as the birthplace of the Mondragón Cooperative Corporation (MCC), the world's largest worker cooperative, whose foundation was inspired in the 1940s by the Catholic priest José María Arizmendiarieta. In 2002 the MCC contributed 3.7% to the total GDP of the Basque Country and 7.6% to the industrial GDP.

Réseau des collectivités pour une économie solidaire, RTES



GSEF member since 2019

City/Country: Lille, France

W www.rtes.fr **E** csecher@rtes.fr

Created in 2002, **the Network of Local Authorities for a Solidarity Economy (RTES)** brings together French local authorities who are committed to the development of the Social and Solidarity Economy (ESS) in their territory.

In 2021, the network brings together more than 160 communities: regional councils, departmental councils, metropolises, intercommunalities and municipalities, which have expressed the need for a space for exchanges and national coordination.

The member communities are committed around a charter, with the conviction that the SSE is able to provide answers to the economic, social and environmental needs of the territories.

The RTES invites elected officials and services from member communities to participate in one or more work sites, each led by a member of the RTES board of directors.

List and Presentation of Worksites and Commissions (as of May 31, 2021):

- ▶ Axis - The place of SSE in fragile territories
 - Rural territories with the TRESSONS project
 - Priority city districts and urban areas
 - The informal economy
- ▶ Axis - Territorial economic cooperation
 - The Territorial Poles of Economic Cooperation
 - SCIC
 - Co-construction and contractual arrangements, responsible public procurement
- ▶ Axis - Emerging and prospective signals
 - New forms of jobs and activities
 - New forms of savings
 - Sector-based approach
- ▶ Axis - Europe and international

Plus 2 internal committees: Communication Commission, Training Commission

Wales Co-operative Centre, WCC



GSEF member since 2019

City/Country: Caerphilly, UK

wales.coop

The **Wales Co-operative Centre (WCC)** is a not-for-profit co-operative organization that supports people in Wales to improve their lives and livelihoods. Since its foundation in 1982, the Wales Co-operative Centre has been right at the heart of Wales's vibrant social economy, bringing funders and partners together to make our communities more confident, more co-operative, more capable and more ambitious.

WCC's work is more important now than ever, as the people, communities and businesses of Wales face increasing social and economic pressures. WCC is working for a fairer economy and helps to create and retain wealth within communities in Wales through the growth of co-operatives and social businesses and by providing people with the skills to take more control of their own lives and strengthen their communities. All of WCC's activities are shaped by its own commitment to co-operative values and its close collaboration with funders and delivery partners to achieve both social and economic goals. WCC is helping build a better future for everyone in Wales.

Mission and goals: The Wales Co-operative Centre's mission is to develop sustainable businesses and strong inclusive communities by working co-operatively. Between 2017 and 2022 WCC has set the following five goals.

WCC commits to:

- Be champions for an inclusive economy and co-operative working – leading the public debate, shaping policy-making, piloting innovative new projects and sharing successful ways of working;
- Lead the growth of co-operatives, mutuals, social enterprises and employee-owned businesses in Wales – working across all sectors, from small local shops to large manufacturing businesses, doing what it takes to help the social business sector to thrive;
- Enable people and communities to improve their lives and livelihoods, tackle poverty and help build an inclusive society;
- Harness the power and potential of digital technology to achieve a social purpose and deliver social good;
- Be a strong, independent co-operative organization, ensuring our values underpin all its actions.



Latin America and Caribbean Region

- ACOBOL, Bolivia
- ONG Avacudea, Peru
- Municipalidad Distrital de Ate, Peru
- Municipal District Carabayllo, Peru
- Collectif du Financement Populaire (KOFIP), Haiti
- La Cuadra Provoca Ciudad AC, Mexico
- La Maison du Millénaire, Haiti
- Gobierno de la Ciudad de México, Mexico
- Municipalidad Distrital de Paccho, Peru
- Municipalidad Distrital de Pimentel, Peru
- Red de Economía Solidaria, Ecuador

ACOBOL



GSEF member since 2020

City/Country: Bolivia

W www.acobol.org.bo **E** ber.sarue@gmail.com

The Association of Women Councilors and Mayors of Bolivia (ACOBOL) is a national entity representing the country's women councilors and mayors and an integral part of the Municipal Associative System (SAM) and is also a representative body as a civil society organization. ACOBOL, since its creation on August 13, 1999, has been constituted as an associative body, whose role and purpose have been directly and actively related to the promotion and political positioning of women at the municipal level.

ACOBOL is a non-profit, multiparty and pluralistic civil entity made up of nine Department Level Associations (ACOs) that are articulated in the network to the national parent entity for the institutional and political representation of the Councilors and Mayors regarding their rights and emerging interests of an elected authority and the exercise of the corresponding mandate in the Municipal Autonomous Governments (GAM) and the construction of municipal equity.

ACOBOL, for 21 years, has worked in defense of women's political rights, in incorporating the gender equality approach in development planning at the municipal level and in reducing inequality gaps, at the same time, contributing to the strengthening of capacities in the public management of its affiliated authorities.

OBJECTIVES

Represent and defend the rights and interests of all its members, by strengthening their management towards equity and sustainable human development, in exercising their rights as established in the Political Constitution of the State, and proclaiming their aspirations for political participation in equal conditions without any type of discrimination of race, culture, ethnicity, level of education or municipality to which they belong.

MISSION

Promote and encourage the participation of women in decision-making process at the municipal level, enabling their empowerment and the incorporation of the gender equality perspectives in municipal level planning and development, which can allow the construction of an equitable society between men and women.

VISION

A society with a political participation system that allows equal opportunities between men and women, prioritizing equitable human development and a new transparent policy practice in order to improve the quality of life in municipalities.

ONG Avacudea

GSEF member since 2018

City/Country: Cajamarca, Peru

E rosavil_17@hotmail.com

The NGO advance culture and environmental development “AVACUDEA” is a non-profit civil association that is constituted under the civil code, composed of persons dedicated to the promotion of work, culture, education and the practices of sectors of the social economy. AVACUDEA aims to promote, carry out and coordinate actions that affect the development of culture, the environment, work and education of the sectors of the social economy in the country, to raise the quality of life as a priority for the people of Cajamarca and of Peru in general.

For the fulfilment of its purposes, it carries out the following activities: a) research, consultancy, and the development of new forms of cultural governance, b) programs, projects and campaigns of awareness for the protection of the environment and promotion of tourism, c) promotion of work and education in sectors of the social economy, d) establishes strategic alliances with national and foreign public or private institutions for the fulfilment of institutional purposes.

Municipalidad Distrital de Ate



GSEF member since 2016

City/Country: Lima, Peru

E ate_internacional@muni.ate.gob.pe

Founded on August 4, 1821, Municipalidad Distrital de Ate is a governing body that promotes local development, with legal status under public law and full capacity to fulfill its purposes, which has political, economic and administrative autonomy in matters within its competence. The purpose is to promote the adequate provision of local public services and the integral, sustainable and harmonious development of its constituency, in accordance with the provisions of Law No. 27972 - Organic Law of Municipalities.

Its mission is to organize and conduct district public management according to its exclusive, shared and delegated powers, within the framework of supranational, national and sectoral policies, in order to contribute to the integral and sustainable development of the district.

Municipal District Carabayllo



GSEF member since 2016

City/Country: Lima, Peru

W www.municarabayllo.gob.pe

Carabayllo is one of the 43 districts of the Lima Metropolitan City in Peru. It is located in the Cono Norte area of the province and was founded by General José de San Martín in August 1821 at which time it was the only district to occupy the area north of the Rímac River up to the province Canta.

The District Municipality of Carabayllo is a local government agency that strives to achieve the following through participatory and coordinated planning that prioritizes investment in services, infrastructure and human development:

- Achieve the sustainable development of the city's population
- Promoting their Tourist and Cultural Identity and Heritage
- Achieve greater productivity and quality of its services
- Contribute to reducing poverty and unemployment rates
- Protect the environment and health
- Provide quality infrastructure and equipment
- Transparent use of municipal resources

The District Municipality of Carabayllo has a vision to be a local government, democratic, a leader, planner, representative and promoter of local development with full capacity in order to fulfill its goals. This will allow Carabayllo, the cultural tourist center of Lima, to strive for:

- A clean, renewed, safe and healthy environment
- Equity, standing out for its values
- Economic development in a competitive market
- A youth that has an important leading role

Collectif du Financement Populaire, KOFIP



GSEF member since 2019

City/Country: Pétion-Ville, Haiti

W www.kofip.org **E** info@kofip.org

The Collective for Popular Financing (KOFIP) is a network consisting of more than 1500 solidarity credit unions (MUSO) in Haiti. It is driven by the commitment to implement a community financing system, and operates with the aim to provide all producers - regardless of their location or their economic level - to have access to financial tools and credits allowing them to increase their production potential.

KOFIP has set the following goals:

- To ensure a broad and dense coverage of solidarity credit unions throughout the country, especially in rural areas.
- To provide credit services adjusted to the needs and means of MUSO members, producers and farmers' organizations.
- To support the members of solidarity credit unions in order to enable them to fully own the system and to strengthen their skills and decision-making abilities.

KOFIP's activities can be summarized into two main areas: training and credit.

KOFIP is a member of the International Association of Investors in the Social Economy (INAISE).

La Cuadra AC



GSEF member since 2016

City/Country: Mexico City, Mexico

W www.huertoromaverde.org **E** piero.b@huertoromaverde.org

The general strategy of **La Cuadra AC** is to promote the social and solidarity economy through a permanent and constantly growing project called "Huerto Roma Verde", in which we carry out more than 40 markets, made up of more than 2 thousand producers, units of family production and local and regional cooperatives per year, as well as a permanent volunteer program to generate an active community of learning and community development in agroecology, health and sustainable habitability (bio-construction), community recycling and various cultural activities that include the intervention of space public. We collaborate comprehensively with vulnerable groups in our town such as indigenous groups from the Otomí and Mazahua communities of Mexico City.

We also seek funds for special projects, such as those that we were able to carry out during COVID with more than 8 community kitchens, with support from the IDB, bringing agroecological food kits, health and education for infants in the Cuauhtémoc and Iztapalapa mayors.

La Maison du Millénaire



GSEF member since 2016

City/Country: Haiti

W www.facebook.com/TPM228 **E** togoparcoursmetier@gmail.com

La Maison du Millénaire is mainly based in Haiti. It is a network of three organizations that together have close to 80,000 members. Organization of a sensitization and information session with elected officials and civil society actors in Haiti. La Maison du Millénaire is part of PLAC 21 (NGO UN ECOSOC network).

Gobierno de la Ciudad de México, Mexico



GSEF member since 2018

City/Country: Mexico City, Mexico

W www.cdmx.gob.mx **E** diana.alarcon@cdmx.gob.mx

The Mexico City's unit responsible for the execution of the social program, currently called "Development, Constitution and Strengthening of Social and Solidarity Enterprises of Mexico City" (FOCOFESS), is the Ministry of Labor and Employment Promotion (STyFE).

The General Directorate of Social and Solidarity Economy (DGES) is the administrative unit responsible for the execution of the Program spending; The administrative units responsible for the operation of the Program are the Directorate for the Promotion of Cooperativism (DFC), in charge of the Subprogram "Promotion and Constitution of Social and Solidarity Companies" and the Directorate for Attention to Cooperatives (DAC), in charge of the Subprogram "Strengthening of Social and Solidarity Companies".

The structural staff in charge of the FOCOFESS Program is divided as follows:

- 1 general directorate of social and solidarity economy
- 1 directorate for the promotion of cooperativism
- 1 sub-directorate for the constitution of social and solidarity enterprises
- 1 head of the departmental department of actions for development to cooperativism
- 1 co-operating leader of activity projects and support for the promotion of cooperativism
- 1 cooperative service directorate
- 1 coordination and inter-institutional liaison
- department 1 departmental head and cooperative
- assistant advisor for cooperative assistant co-advisor cooperatives

So far this administration, the approved budget for the FOCOFESS Social Program has been as follows:

- Fiscal year 2019: \$ 200 million pesos m / n
- Fiscal year 2020: \$ 150 million pesos m / n
- Fiscal year 2021: \$ 90 million pesos m / n

The FOCOFESS Program has its antecedent in the "Program for the Promotion, Strengthening and Cooperative Integration", which was in force between the period from 2012 to 2014; subsequently, from 2015 to 2018 it was called "Support for the Development of Cooperative Societies of Mexico City".

Regarding the impact of the Program, considering the figures that were reached between 2012 and 2018, around 1,348 Cooperatives benefited, in its two Subprograms, approximately 6,740 people.

In 2019 and 2020 the Program "Promotion, Constitution and Strengthening of Social and Solidarity Companies of Mexico City" (FOCOFESS 2019 and 2020), considerably increased its physical and financial goals, since between both fiscal years 1237 cooperative societies benefited, which represents around 6185 people.

For the current fiscal year 2021, the physical goals were established in 213 social organizations for the subprogram "Promotion and Constitution of Social and Solidarity Companies"; and regarding the Subprogram "Strengthening of Social and Solidarity Companies", the physical goal was established in up to 505 Cooperatives legally constituted before Notary Public.

In summary, the Program has a positive impact, since cooperatives are democratic means of production, which, if optimally developed, will generate employment and development for the city, thereby contributing to its economic growth.

Municipalidad Distrital de Paccho



GSEF member since 2016

City/Country: Lima, Peru

www.facebook.com/MunicipalidadDistritaldePaccho/?ref=page_internal

Municipalidad Distrital de Paccho's local public policy not only aims to provide public services to families but mainly to promote local development. Its strategy is to maintain positive relations with the national government which will allow it to obtain financing from different Ministries for infrastructure and productive projects in its territory and will, in turn, mobilize citizen participation to create a sustainable social economy sector. This will give rise to governance with transparent management and proper use of the municipal budget. Despite being a small municipality which lacks in management of economic development, its activities are aimed at promoting employment, decent income and forms of self-managed social economy.

Municipalidad Distrital de Pimentel



GSEF member since 2016

City/Country: Chiclayo, Peru

www.munipimentel.gob.pe

Pimentel District is one of twenty districts of the province Chiclayo in Peru. It is located in the region of Lambayeque. Chiclayo is the capital of the region of Lambayeque and is one of the biggest cities in Peru. In 2017, its population was around 574,408.

Located in the northern part of the country on the Pan American Highway - 770 km North of Lima and 509 km South of the equator - it calls itself the "capital of friendliness" due to the friendliness of its inhabitants. The city is home to the Roman Catholic Diocese of Chiclayo with the Sainte-Marie cathedral.

Red de Economía Solidaria, REDESOL



GSEF member since 2016

City/Country: Cuenca, Ecuador

patobravov@yahoo.com

REDESOL's local public policy not only aims to provide public services to families but mainly to promote local development. Its strategy is to maintain positive relations with the national government which will allow it to obtain financing from different Ministries for infrastructure and productive projects in its territory and will, in turn, mobilize citizen participation to create a sustainable social economy sector. This will give rise to governance with transparent management and proper use of the municipal budget. Despite being a small municipality which lacks in management of economic development, its activities are aimed at promoting employment, decent income and forms of self-managed social economy.



North America

- Chantier de l'économie Sociale, Canada
- Gatineau City, Canada
- Karl Polanyi Institute of Political Economy & Marguerite Mendell, Canada
- Montréal, Canada

Chantier de l'économie sociale



GSEF member since 2014

City/Country: Montréal, Canada

www.chantier.qc.ca

Chantier de l'économie sociale is committed to building a plural economy that aims to produce returns for the community and protect the common good, based on the communities' needs and aspirations. Social economy enterprises are collectively controlled and contribute to ensuring the ongoing economic, social and cultural vitality of communities.

The mission of the Chantier de l'économie sociale is to promote the social economy as an integral part of Québec's plural economy, and in so doing, contribute to the democratization of the economy and the emergence of a development model based on the values of solidarity, equity, and transparency.

Gatineau City, Canada



GSEF member since 2018

City/Country: Gatineau, Quebec, Canada

www.gatineau.ca

The City of Gatineau strongly supports the development of the social economy as a niche for economic development. In particular, it supports the Outaouais-Laurentides Regional Development Co-operative (CDROL), which is the flagship organization of the Outaouais social economy. In their region, two forms of social economy are present: non-profit organizations (NPOs) and cooperatives. The CDROL promotes these two types of entrepreneurship that fit into the values of the social economy.

Gatineau is the Social Economy Pole of the Outaouais. It is estimated that more than 4400 people work in a social economy enterprise, which represents 2% of jobs in the City of Gatineau.

Karl Polanyi Institute of Political Economy

GSEF member since 2014

City/Country: Montreal, Canada

www.concordia.ca/research/polanyi

The **Karl Polanyi Institute of Political Economy**, dedicated to the memory of Karl Polanyi, was established in 1988. The Institute is affiliated with Concordia University.

Mission

The mission of the Institute is two-fold: to preserve the intellectual legacy of Karl Polanyi and to contribute to urgent policy debates on new development strategies locally and internationally and on the new or reformed multilateral institutions required for the global order.

Karl Polanyi Archive

The centrepiece of the Institute is the Karl Polanyi Archive. This rich and vast collection of material includes unpublished papers, drafts of manuscripts (published and unpublished), notes, lecture notes and outlines, published articles, papers by others, correspondence with important European and North American intellectuals, political figures, some of whom were former students of Karl Polanyi, and memorabilia.

International conference

The Institute has established a wide international network of debate, dialogue and scholarly exchange that contributes to the global discussion of a vision of democratic social and economic development appropriate for the 21st century through its international conferences, research collaborations, public lectures and seminars, and publications. Polanyi's influence continues to grow across disciplines in the social sciences, humanities, among legal scholars, scientists, policy makers, activists, international political economists, and increasingly, students of comparative politics, policy makers and civil society organizations, among others.

The Institute convenes an international conference every two years, alternating between host countries and Canada.

Prof. Marguerite Mendell – Honorary Member of GSEF



GSEF member since 2014

City/Country: Montreal, Canada

www.concordia.ca/research/polanyi

Prof. Marguerite (Margie) Mendell, who earned her PhD in Economics from McGill University (1983), has been teaching at the Concordia University since 1986. Her current research and teaching are on the social economy, alternative investment strategies, comparative community economic development, economic democracy, and the work of Karl Polanyi whose influence continues to grow today. Margie Mendell is participating in a growing international dialogue on innovative economic initiatives to reduce poverty and develop new collective forms of wealth creation through her participation at scholarly conferences and international meetings of the OECD and the ILO and civil society gatherings. She also participates in consultations in Canada (federal, provincial, municipal) and abroad (most recently at the European Union) on issues related to social and community based finance and the social and solidarity economy. Her work, published in English, French, Spanish, Italian, and most recently in Korean, has generated international interest. Dr. Mendell is also the co-founder of the Karl Polanyi Institute of Political Economy established at Concordia University in 1988.

She is a member of the Centre de recherche sur les innovations sociales dans économie sociale, les entreprises et les syndicats (CRISES - UQAM); member of the Advisory Council of the B.C.-Alberta Research Alliance on the Social Economy (BALTA) and member of the Scientific Advisory Group on Social Economy and Social Innovation of the Trento Center for Local Development. Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD-Paris), among others.

She is also a member of the Advisory Committee of politiques Les publiques municipales of the Ville de Montréal, and a member of the Board of Directors of the Chantier de l'économie sociale. As well, Margie Mendell is a member of the Editorial Committee of the journal *Economie et Solidarité*, and member of the Advisory Board of Studies in Political Economy, among others. She is a frequent contributor to television, radio and written media on public policy issues in Canada, Québec, and internationally.

City of Montreal



GSEF member since 2018

City/Country: Montréal, Quebec, Canada

[W sdemtl.formstack.com/forms/info_affaires_montreal](https://sdemtl.formstack.com/forms/info_affaires_montreal)

In 2009, **the City of Montréal** adopted the first municipal public policy for the social economy in Canada. This policy put forward three objectives:

- 1) formally recognize the contribution of the social economy to the development of Montreal;
- 2) support the social economy by building on past achievements, strengthening existing resources and developing new ways of doing things that will allow it to flourish;
- 3) consolidate and increase the contribution of social economy actors to the sustainable development of the metropolis of Quebec through the development and creation of collective enterprises that meet the needs of its citizens.

The City of Montreal then proposed to the actors of the Montreal social economy to join it in a partnership which was based on the recognition of shared responsibilities in the implementation of a long-term action plan. Five areas of intervention were selected:

- 1) Increased support for collective entrepreneurship to consolidate local roots, to support collective entrepreneurs and to develop support for major social economy projects;
- 2) Support of the social economy for major projects to promote their integration in a perspective of sustainable development;
- 3) A greater role for the social economy in improving the quality of life of the population to constantly innovate in areas such as culture, sustainable development, housing, collective real estate, leisure and tourism;
- 4) More open business practices to promote the growth of social economy enterprises;
- 5) Better integrated promotion of the social economy to stand out here and elsewhere in the world through Montreal creativity.

The policies of the City of Montreal such as those on social housing, maintaining social diversity in neighborhoods, social development, cultural development or economic development are all based on the contributions of the social economy to different degrees. Thus, cooperative housing projects help maintain a less well-off population in gentrified neighborhoods and preserve the social mix of the territories. Access to culture, access to economic activities, the fight against poverty are just as many aspects in which the actors of the social economy contribute.

Within the City of Montreal, responsibility for the social economy rests with the Economic Development Department. Its policies and strategies put in place measures and programs and

make a transversal contribution to a large number of services and actors also active in this field (diversity and social inclusion services, urban innovation laboratory, etc.). Its policies and strategies put in place measures and programs to ensure the development of Montreal's social economy in its entrepreneurial dimensions. The City of Montreal's business assistance network is made available to businesses of social economy for 40 years. Approximately \$ 2M per year is paid to social economy enterprises by this network.

Since the start of 2020, the City's Procurement Department has developed a Responsible Procurement Plan 2020-2025, which included as a priority initiative the improvement of the Responsible and Fair Procurement Policy in order to integrate all aspects of responsible sourcing, whether social, economic and environmental. (Note that this policy will be approved in September 2021).

The objective of the City of Montreal's new Responsible Procurement Policy is to encourage the local, social and equitable aspect, while taking into account the economic aspect, and to minimize the environmental impacts linked to the City's purchases. It aims to supervise purchases so that they respond as much as possible to the current context and thus position the City as a model for responsible and fair procurement.

The 2021 economic recovery plan as well as the Montréal 2030 strategic plan prioritize the importance of developing a greener and more inclusive economy by supporting the circular economy, the social economy, local and eco-responsible purchasing, and the creation of new quality ecological jobs.

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