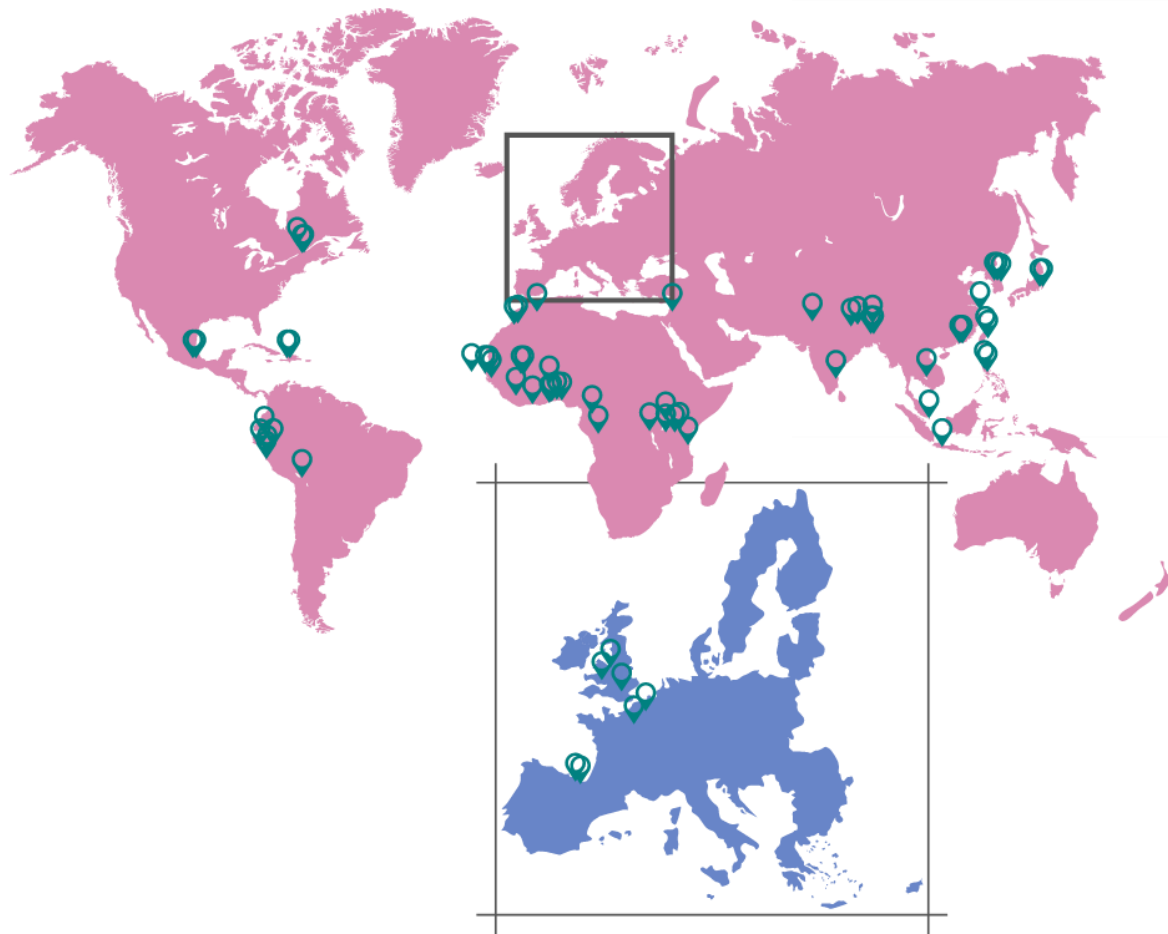


Webinar
Accelerating Decent Work
& Economic Growth
for a Resilient Urban Recovery
in the Era of COVID-19

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The GSEF Network

75 members on the 5 continents coming from 37 countries, including 27 local governments/local government networks and 35 SSE networks

- Promoting the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) as a **strategy for the sustainable local economic development** of cities and regions and the achievement of SDGs
- Accompanying 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.

SSE, a sector particularly at risk due to the COVID-19 crisis



Difficulties to access government support measures due to inadequate legal forms



Categories of the population SSE often employs and serves have been **hit the hardest** by the crisis: women, youth, informal economy workers, etc

ILO estimate (April 2020): 1.6 billion informal economy workers significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic – huge impact in Africa for example, where economies in general and SSE sectors in particular remain in big part informal

*Survey conducted by Social Economy Europe in May 2020
274 respondent social enterprises*



88% of the surveyed claimed that the pandemic and lockdown strongly affected their activity.



71% of the respondents maintain the Covid-19 crisis had a strong impact on employment within their enterprises or organisations

The Local Government Responses to the COVID-19 Crisis

Examples of Measures and Initiatives for Economic and Jobs Recovery (1)

The City of Montreal, Canada

The City has implemented financial aid and accompanying measures targeted at the SSE sector, such as the reduction of the mandatory contribution to the social economy development fund (FDES) from 20% to 10% and the provision of psychological counselling programs and crisis management HR trainings. SSE is also represented in the Advisory Committee for Economic Recovery put in place by the mayor.

Nouvelle Aquitaine Region, France

The region took steps to alleviate short-term cash-flow problems met by SSE entities - in particular small ones - through various loan and support funds. The region also supported the sector in a multi-stakeholder approach through the organization of a weekly "SSE crisis unit" and, in the longer term, the preparation of a **EUR 140M recovery plan towards an ecological and economic transition**, which was unveiled this week, focused on local production and consumption

The Local Government Responses to the COVID-19 Crisis

Examples of Measures and Initiatives for Economic and Jobs Recovery (2)

Liverpool City Region Combined Authority (UK)

- *Kindred* – connects, supports and harnesses local entrepreneurialism for social good.
 - ✓ Actively engage local individuals and communities who have ideas to generate community wealth, but who have not yet established a Socially Trading Organization (STO) and so do not consider themselves to be entrepreneurs
 - ✓ Support the long-term transfer of assets, for example unused council buildings or land, from the Local Authorities that comprise the LCR Combined Authority
 - ✓ Support the long-term benefit that a thriving STO sector can have on the social economy of the Liverpool City Region
- *#LCRCares*: urgent grants /crowdfunding campaign to raise £1million to support community and voluntary organizations
- *Building Back Better*: a £1.4 billion economic recovery plan unveiled in July which includes a scale-up of Kindred and a community and voluntary sector resilience programme. **Objective: 122 000 jobs created**

The Local Government Responses to the COVID-19 Crisis

Examples of Measures and Initiatives for Economic and Jobs Recovery (3)

City of Dakar (Senegal)

The City has been supporting SSE organizations through - among other initiatives – the re-scheduling of repayment periods through FODEM (Municipal Development and Solidarity Fund) and CEPEM '(Incubator for the Promotion of Employment through Microenterprises)'s financial levers, and through facilitating their **access to public procurement opportunities** (orders of masks, etc)

Seoul Metropolitan Government (South Korea)

Among other measures, SMG supported a “*SURVIVAL Funds*” for the self-employees and Small Businesses: 700,000 KRW (=650 USD)x 2 months: apprx. 410,000 SMEs and Self-Employees are benefiting the program.

From Sector at Risk to Propeller of Change: The role of SSE in the creation of decent jobs and the sustainable economic development of territories (1)

SSE organizations and enterprises have the **best potential to boost the creation and conservation of decent jobs** in the sectors most impacted by the crisis (in particular by lockdown measures) – tourism, culture, etc

[ILO-EURICSE joint study on the Future of Work and Innovative Financial Mechanism to promote a sustainable SSE Eco-system]

“SSE organizations can help channel jobs in emerging sectors like the “silver economy”, that are at risk of non-standard forms of work, within entrepreneurial organizations that can provide more structure and security”



Key role to play in mid to long-term jobs recovery strategies

From Sector at Risk to Propeller of Change: The role of SSE in the creation of decent jobs and the sustainable economic development of territories (2)

SSE precursor in the realization of the failure of the globalized economy

SSE's pioneer role in solving social and environmental issues in a innovative way and identifying alternative economic development paradigm



Mobilization of volunteer communities to help communes face the crises through Give a Day's #OurCityHelps initiative

Critical role of SSE & 3rd sector health org. in some regions of Italy

Short food supply chains (cooperatives, solidarity purchase groups, etc)

Innovative initiatives and models through which the SSE sector mobilized to respond to the crisis

Potential to inspire not only long-term recovery strategies but also the sustainable ecological transition of our economies

What role for the international community and national governments to accompany SSE sectors in the creation and preservation of decent jobs? (1)

- Increase the visibility of SSE through the development of tools (social impact, legal frameworks) and the sharing of data & good practices
 - Ex: [initiative by the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on SSE](#)
 - Ex: Guidelines developed by UNRISD with GSEF for Local Governments to promote SSE through public policies
- Call on national governments to:
 - ✓ Include SSE in recovery plans and reform programs and define its clear role, while allocating sufficient financial resources
 - ✓ Adopt a **localized approach through which recovery plans can be channeled through SSE stakeholders** (LGs and SSE actors)
 - ✓ OECD recommendations – report on Social economy and the COVID-19 Crisis: Current and Future Roles
- Shared vision at national and sub-regional levels (EU Recovery Plan)

What role for the international community and national governments to accompany SSE sectors in the creation and preservation of decent jobs? (2)

- Financial support to SSE initiatives adequately channeled through grassroots organizations aware of the needs

KOICA COVID-19 aid program in collaboration with Merry Year Fondation and GSEF aiming at maintaining income-generating activities of SSE organizations and preserving decent jobs while addressing specific needs of the communities



Implementation period: Sep-Dec 2020



Between 15k and 20k USD

6 selected projects implemented by GSEF members and partners:



- France-Africa Partnership for Co-Development (PFAC) with REMCESS



- Platform of Youth Organizations of Toulépleu (POJeT)



- Balimwezo Community Foundation (BCF)



- Moroccan Platform for Social and Solidarity Economy and Environment (EMESSE)



- Phare Performing Social Enterprise



- Senegalese Network of Non-State Actors and Local Authorities for Social and Solidarity Economy (RACTES)

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THANK YOU!

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