

INTERNATIONAL  
FORUM ON THE SOCIAL  
AND SOLIDARITY  
ECONOMY

**finess**  
2011

**Government and civil society**

**October 17<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> 2011**

**Montreal, Quebec (Canada)**

# FISS 2011

Come discover how, throughout the world, citizens are mobilizing to answer their needs and those of their communities by building a more inclusive and solidarity economy.

The 2011 International Forum on the Social and Solidarity Economy is organized by the *Chantier de l'économie sociale* in partnership with the Government of Quebec and the City of Montreal, and in cooperation with the Financial Alliance for Sustainable Trade (FAST), the Centre for International Studies and Cooperation (CECI), the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), the Intercontinental Network of Promotion of the Social and Solidarity Economy (RIPESS), the *Confédération des Syndicats Nationaux* (CSN), the *Fédération des travailleurs et travailleuses du Québec* (FTQ), the *Centrale des syndicats démocratiques* (CSD), and the Canadian Community Economic Development Network (CCEDNet).

The International Forum's main theme is the need for a State – civil society dialogue to develop enabling public policies for the social and solidarity economy.



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## October 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> — FIELD TRIPS

Field trip visits in a number of Quebec regions of experiences in the social and solidarity economy.

*See field trip document for more information.*

## October 17<sup>th</sup> — FIELD TRIPS, PRE-FORUM ACTIVITIES and OPENING EVENT

(7:00 a.m to 8:00 p.m. Forum Registration and Check-in)

### 8:00 a.m. - Departure of the daily field trips

Field trip visits in a number of Quebec regions of experiences in the social and solidarity economy.

### 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. - Community Radio and Public Policy Development

*Presented by the Quebec Association for Community Radio (ARCQ) and the World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters (AMARC)*

Various players from community radio, regulatory agencies and government will be asked to present the situation in their region (North America, Latin America, Asia, Europe and Africa) and take part in discussions with each other and the participants. The presentation will show how community radio can be a powerful tool for local development. What are the different public policies in terms of support and regulation for recognizing and supporting community radio around the world? What are some international examples of government support for local information?

### 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. - The Indigenous Pre-Forum Event “ANICINAPE KICKAN ”

This event, held in conjunction with the FIESS, will bring indigenous experiences in the social and solidarity economy in Quebec and Canada to the foreground while raising awareness of the issue among international players. In addition, the event will provide an opportunity to highlight First Peoples' contribution to the development and implementation of the social economy. The event will take the form of an exhibitor's fair, at which lectures will be given, and will be a unique opportunity to share and discuss indigenous social economy practices as well as the measures needed to influence public policy affecting indigenous with respect to the social economy.

### 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. - Women at the Heart of the Social and Solidarity Economy

This activity will bring together women from all over the world to share feminist perspectives and experiences with respect to the social and solidarity economy. In particular, emphasis will be placed on the different ways in which the social and solidarity economy can help improve women's economic security and under which conditions. What role can public policy play? At the centre of the event is the sharing of concrete examples and analyses from a feminist point of view of the social and solidarity economy in order to identify directions and perspectives for the future. This activity is open to men and women registered for the Forum, and to individuals who have registered independently for the activity.

### 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m - Research seminar

In preparation for the forum, several working papers are being produced in order to take stock of the situation within the five themes of the forum and to facilitate discussion during the event. As part of this pre-forum research project, national case studies presenting experiences of public/community partnerships and the policies that have enabled the emergence of social and solidarity enterprises were also carried out in Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Mali, South Africa and Spain. These research documents will be made public on the FIESS website several weeks before the beginning of the forum. The free seminar, open to all and particularly to students and researchers, will be an opportunity to meet the researchers and field actors who produced these studies and to discuss the results with their authors.

### 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. - Inauguration Activity

Inauguration of the **World House of Community Radio in Montreal** and the *Association des Radios Communautaires du Québec* (ARCQ) and the **World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters** (AMARC) offices

## October 17<sup>th</sup> — continued

### 6:00 p.m. - Opening Event: Cocktails and Buffet

#### Speeches:

**Jean Charest**, Premier of Quebec;

**Ghislain Picard**, Chief of the Assembly of First Nations of Quebec and Labrador;

**Gérald Tremblay**, Mayor of the City of Montreal (Quebec);

**Nancy Neamtan**, *Chantier de l'économie sociale* (Quebec);

**Madani Coumaré**, RENAPESS (Mali);

**Michel Arseneault**, President, Quebec Federation of Labour (FTQ);

**François Vaudreuil**, President, *Centrale des syndicats démocratiques* (Quebec);

**Magdalena Leon**, Coordinator of *Red de mujeres transformando la economia* (REMTE) (Ecuador)

## October 18<sup>th</sup> — FORUM

### 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. - Registration and Reception: Coffee and croissants

### 9:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. - Opening Address: International personality to be confirmed

### 10:15 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. - Break

### 10:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m - Plenary Round Table (chaired by Bernard Généreux, President, Quebec Federation of Municipalities )

#### The Social and Solidarity Economy in Public Policy: Examples of Framework Legislation in the Social and Solidarity Economy

**Government representatives from Brazil** (Paul Singer, National Secretary of Solidarity Economy), **Luxemburg** (**Romain Schneider**, Minister-Delegate to the solidarity economy), **Mali** (**Harouna Cisse**, the Minister of Social Development, Solidarity & Elderly People), **Ecuador** (**Ximena Ponce León**, Minister of Economic and Social Inclusion ), **Spain** and **Bolivia** will participate in this round table that will present the processes that lead to the adoption of structural legislation and the concrete effects that this type of legislation has had in these countries.

### 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. - Lunch - Conference (Chaired by Mario Renaud, Executive Director, Centre for International Studies and Cooperation (CECI)) (Conference from 13:30 p.m. to 14:15 p.m.)

The lunch conference will introduce the themes that will be examined in the afternoon work sessions, namely, "Solidarity finance and trade" and "Food security and sovereignty"

**Michael Swack**, founder and Chair of the Financial Innovations Roundtable (USA)

**Joan Brady**, Women's President of the National Farmers Union of Canada, representative of *Via Campesina*

### 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. - Work Session A

#### Solidarity Finance and Trade

Workshop 1: Mutual Companies and the Social and Solidarity Economy

Workshop 2: Improving Market Access for Products of the Social and Solidarity Economy

Workshop 3: International Initiatives to Support the Social and Solidarity Economy

Workshop 4: Financial Institutions Servicing the Social and Solidarity Economy (1)

**2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. - Work Session A (continued)****Food Security and Sovereignty**

Workshop 5: Public Policies on Food Security and Sovereignty in Supranational Areas

Workshop 6: Reducing the Vulnerability of Women and Families to Food Insecurity Through Collective action: a Dream or a Reality?

**4:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. - Break****4:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m - Work Session B****Solidarity Finance and Trade**

Workshop 1: Pension Funds and the Development of the Social and Solidarity Economy

Workshop 2: Financial Innovations of the Social and Solidarity Economy

Workshop 3: Financial Institutions Servicing the Social and Solidarity Economy (2)

**Food Security and Sovereignty**

Workshop 4: Recovering Land to Ensure Food Security and Sovereignty

Workshop 5: Improving National Food Security Through Public Policy and the Social and Solidarity Economy

Workshop 6: Farmers and the Consumer Movement: A Reconcilable Vision in Food Security and Sovereignty?

**October 18<sup>th</sup> — CULTURAL EVENING****6:30 p.m. - Reception and Dinner (Society for Arts and Technology (SAT))****6:30 p.m. - Youth and Cultural Evening at the SAT**

The *Chantier de l'économie sociale*'s youth committee and the SAT invite you to take part in a unique experience by immersing yourself in an atmosphere created by the best digital artists. Come and discover previously unpublished works inspired by young peoples' vision of the social and solidarity economy.

A number of areas at the SAT will be set up to allow you to attend brief presentations, dance, enjoy yourself, have quiet discussions, meet people, discover young peoples' vision, and experience avant-garde digital art. This event, which is interdisciplinary, intercultural and intergenerational, is open to FIESS participants and individuals interested in the social and solidarity economy.

**October 19<sup>th</sup> — Forum****7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. - Reception: Coffee and croissants****9:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. - Round Table with Development Banks** (chaired by the Finance Alliance for Sustainable Trade (FAST))

A unique opportunity for players in the social and solidarity economy to take part in a discussion with representatives from multilateral development banks on the importance of the social and solidarity economy as a development solution. What initiatives (policies, projects and resources) should these organizations implement to support the development of the social and solidarity economy? How can access to the appropriate financial tools be ensured?

Confirmed: Inter-American Development Bank

African Development Bank (*other banks to be confirmed*)

## October 19<sup>th</sup> — continued

**10:15 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. - Break**

**10:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. - Work Session C**

### **Innovation and Collective Entrepreneurship**

Workshop 1: The Social and Solidarity Economy in Response to Basic Needs: Housing

Workshop 2: The Role of the Social and Solidarity Economy in Developing and Managing Natural Resources

Workshop 3: The Contribution of the Social and Solidarity Economy to the Quality of Life of Communities

Workshop 4: Role of the Social and Solidarity Economy in the Integration of Excluded Individuals

Workshop 5: New Technologies and Communications of the Social and Solidarity Economy

Workshop 6: Experiences of the Social and Solidarity Economy in Indigenous Environments

**12:15 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. - Lunch-Conference** (chaired by Jean-Luc Trahan, President of the *Commission des partenaires du marché du travail* (Quebec)) (conference from 1:15 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.)

A video by the *Conseil québécois des entreprises adaptées (CQEA)* will be presented during the luncheon.

The lunch conference will introduce the themes that will be examined in the afternoon work sessions, namely, “Work and employment” and “Territories and local development”

**Éric Lavillunière**, RIPESS Europe;

**Alain Bridault**, International Organisation of Industrial, Artisanal and Service Producers' Cooperatives (CICOPA) (North America);

a **representative** from the Central Única dos Trabalhadores (Brazil);

**Louis Roy**, president of the Confederation of National Trade Unions (Quebec)

**2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. - Work Session D**

### **Work and Employment**

Workshop 1: Action for Corporate Social Responsibility Measures as a Contribution to the Social and Solidarity Economy and Decent Employment

Workshop 2: Working Conditions in Social and Solidarity Economy Enterprises

Workshop 3: Cooperatives: a Means to Revive Businesses and Ensure Job Security

### **Territories and Local Development**

Workshop 4: Accompanying Structures of Local Collective Businesses

Workshop 5: Young People and the Development of the Social and Solidarity Economy

Workshop 6: The Social and Solidarity Economy to Revitalize Territories

**4:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. - Break**

## October 19<sup>th</sup> — continued

### 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. - Work Session E

#### Work and Employment

Workshop 1: Ensuring Decent Working Conditions in the Informal Economy

Workshop 1: Human Resource Development in the Social and Solidarity Economy: an Essential Factor for Enterprises' Vitality

Workshop 3: Job Insertion through the Social and Solidarity Economy

#### Territories and Local Development

Workshop 4: Emerging Trends in Local Development

Workshop 5: Partnerships between Local Elected Representatives and Civil Society in the Social and Solidarity Economy

Workshop 6: Local Governance in Favour of Social Cohesion and the Social and Solidarity Economy

### 6:30 p.m. - Networking evening for collective entrepreneurs

Come and meet collective entrepreneurs from here and from abroad in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere! Organized by the Social Economy Committee of the Island of Montreal (CESIM) and the Economic and Community Development Corporations (CDEC) of Montreal, this networking evening will be an ideal occasion for entrepreneurs to learn more about what is being done in the social economy throughout the world. You are invited, as of 6:30p.m., to Le Divan orange, a social economy enterprise in downtown Montreal (4234 St. Laurent Blvd.), to share your experience and catch the show that will follow at 9:30p.m. The networking activity is free and the show is free for FIESS participants. Registration for this event will take place at the FIESS (Palais des Congrès) upon your arrival. Save the date!

(A buffet will be served, drinks available but not included)

### Union Caucus

Participants from labour organizations are invited by three Quebec labour federations (*Confédération des syndicats nationaux, Centrale des syndicats démocratiques, Fédération des travailleurs et travailleuses du Québec*) to a meeting on the evening of October 19th in the presence of representatives from the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), ITUC Africa, the Bureau for Workers' Activities of the International Labour Organisation and the United Central of Workers (Brazil). On the agenda, a collective reflection on the role of the labour movement in the development of the social and solidarity economy.

### Panel on collaborative research/partner research

This activity is organized by the Canadian Social Economy Hub, a research initiative lead by the Canadian Community Economic Development Network (CCEDNet-RCDÉC) and the University of Victoria. It is aimed at the academic community and will underscore the importance of the link between researchers and practitioners. For the last five years, a vast research partnership between universities and communities on the social and solidarity economy has been taking place in Canada. Thanks to a close collaboration between actors and academics, the understanding of the needs, issues and challenges of this sector in Canada has greatly improved. This research panel will present several key actors of this project and highlight the important contribution of this type of research for the social and solidarity economy. Through the presence of an international guest, this panel will also offer an outsiders' perspective on these practices and present what is done elsewhere in this regards.

## October 20<sup>th</sup> - Forum

**7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. - Reception: Coffee and croissants**

**9:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. - Plenary round table** (chaired by the Quebec Association of International Cooperation Organizations (AQOCI))

### **The Role of International Organizations and Institutions in the Development of the Social and Solidarity Economy**

Through the priorities they promote and the programs they organize and fund, international organizations and institutions can play an important role in supporting the development of the social and solidarity economy around the world. The round table will present several of them that support the social and solidarity economy in their own way.

**José Manuel Salazar-Xirinachs**, International Labour Organization (ILO) (to be confirmed);

**Victor Bâez Mosqueira**, Vice-President, International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) of the Americas;

**Jean-Marc Mignon**, President, International Organization of Social Tourism;

a **representative** from the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

**10:15 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. - Break**

**10:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. - Round Table of Mayors of Big Cities that Support the Social and Solidarity Economy** (chaired by **Luigi Martignetti**, European Network of Cities and Regions for the Social Economy (REVES))

Most of the planet's inhabitants live in big cities. What measures are being taken by these municipalities to promote the emergence of the social and solidarity economy in their city? What are their reasons for doing so?

**Gérald Tremblay**, Mayor of the City of Montreal (Canada);

**Eduardo Paes**, Mayor of the City of Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) (to be confirmed);

**Bertrand Delanoë**, Mayor of the City of Paris (France) (to be confirmed).

**12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. - Lunch: Cultural Activity and Speech**

**2:30 p.m. to 4:20 p.m. - Plenary Closing session** (chaired by Nancy Neamtan, *Chantier de l'économie sociale*)

### **Future Prospects, Public Policy and the Social and Solidarity Economy**

**Carol Hunter**, Canadian Co-operative Association (Canada);

**Ebrahim Patel**, Minister of Economic Development (South Africa) (to be confirmed);

**Laurent Lessard**, Minister of Municipal Affairs, Regions and Land Occupancy (Quebec);

**Alain Coheur**, President, Social Economy Europe;

**Ben Quinones**, RIPPES Asia;

A **representative** of the Brazilian Forum of Solidarity Economy (Brazil)

**4:30 p.m. - Closing Cocktails and Presentation of Awards from the City of Montreal**

**Speeches:**

**Patrick Duguay**, President, *Chantier de l'économie sociale* (Quebec)

**October 21<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>th</sup> - Field trips**

**October 24<sup>th</sup> - Beginning of the Academy on the Social Economy of the International Labour Organization**

## Registration and information

To register or for more information on the International Forum on the social and solidarity economy, please visit the website : [www.finess2011.org](http://www.finess2011.org)

### Fees (in Canadian dollars (CAD))

Participant category	Registration before July 22, 2011	Registration on or after July 22, 2011
National governments and international institutions	450 \$	600\$
All other categories (individuals, researchers, social and solidarity economy enterprises, associations, NGOs, local authorities, social economy enterprise networks or other)	350 \$	500\$
Participants 30 years of age and under (other than government or international institution representatives)	250\$	350\$
One day participation	200\$	250\$

A limited number of participation grants will be provided under certain conditions. See the website for more information.

#### The registration fees for the International Forum on the Social and Solidarity Economy include

- Access to all Forum and pre Forum activities, with the exception of the field trips and the cultural evening
- The participant bag and necessary documents
- Access to computer stations
- Access to exhibit areas, experience presentations and meetings
- One ticket for the opening cocktail reception on the evening of October 17
- Croissants and coffee on Forum mornings (October 18, 19, 20)
- Lunch on Forum days (October 18, 19, 20)
- One ticket for the closing cocktail reception on Thursday, October 20.

#### Additional costs that are not included in the registration

- Social and solidarity economy experience field trips (see the field trips section)
- Cultural evening, including the meal (C\$30)
- Accommodation (a limited number of solidarity accommodations with Quebec residents will be available to enable greater participation)
- Transportation between your accommodation and the Forum
- All other expenses not listed in the section explaining what is included in the Forum registration package.