#### Social & Solidarity Economy as Development Approach for Sustainability (SSEDAS) in EYD 2015 and beyond

### Sustainable and Solidarity Economy www.solidarityeconomy.eu



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## Social & Solidarity Economy as Development Approach for Sustainability (SSEDAS) in EYD 2015 and beyond

**LOT 2**: Global Learning projects outside of the formal education system led by an NSA or an association of NSA from EU member states and acceding countries

**Starting date:** February 1<sup>st</sup> 2015

**Ending date**: January 31<sup>th</sup> 2018

**Total cost of the action**: 4.454.981 EUR

Contribution of the European Commission:

3.785.986 EUR (84,98%)

Other Contributions: NGOs, Local Authorities, private

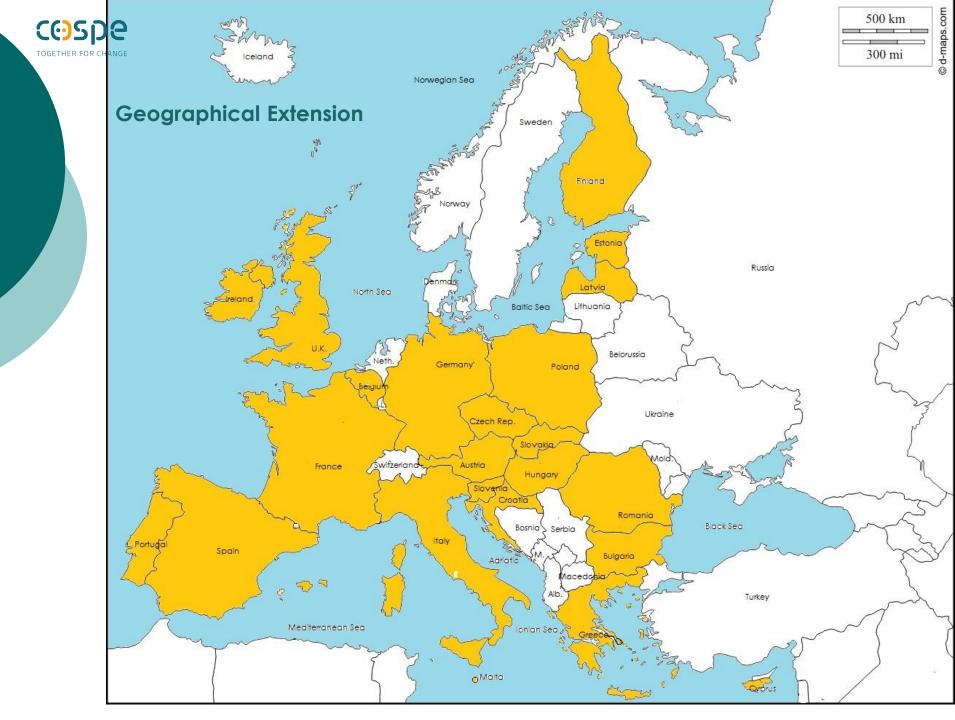
sectors (15,02%)



## Promoted by an European network: 46 territories, 23 countries

- 1. COSPE **Italy** (4)
- 2. Südwind Austria (2)
- 3. SOS FAIM -Belgium (1)
- 4. BILS Bulgaria (2)
- 5. DEŠA-Dubrovnik Croatia (1)
- 6. CARDET Cyprus (1)
- 7. Ekumenika Akademie Praha Europe – **Czech Republic** (2)
- 8. NGO Mondo Estonia (1)
- 9. Pro Ethical Trade Finland **Finland** (1)
- 10. Ressources Humaines Sans Frontières - **France** (4)
- 11. INKOTA Germany (4)
- 12. Fair Trade Hellas **Greece** (2)
- 13. Cromo Foundation Hungary
- 14. Demnet Hungary (2)

- 15. Fairwatch Italy
- 16. Waterford One World Centre **Ireland** (1)
- 17. Green Liberty Latvia (1)
- 18. KOPIN **Malta** (1)
- 19. Foundation of the Fair Trade Coalition **Poland** (3)
- 20. Instituto Marques de Valle Flor (IMFV) **Portuga**l (2)
- 21. Terra III Mileniul III Foundation Romania (2)
- 22. Slovak Centre for Communication and Development **Slovakia** (1)
- 23. Mirovni Institut Slovenia (1)
- 24. CERAI **Spain** (3)
- 25. The Cooperative College UK (2)
- 26. Think Global **UK** (2)





## The SSEDAS Project Objectives



The SUSY project represents an opportunity to increase people's awareness and understanding of the interdependencies that characterize the world in which we live today and to promote active citizenship. The main goal of the project is to analyze, debate, support and strengthen the principles and the practices of SSE, so as to promote a more fair and equitable paradigm, starting with the mapping and reporting on the most significant practices.



#### SSE: a growing reality

- Brazil: National Secretariat of Solidarity Economy 2003;
   SSE Brazilian Forum (22.000 enterprises). Brazil Solidarity Economy Information System (SIES)
- Ecuador, Mexico: national laws since 2011and 2012
- Spain, Portugal, Belgium, France: National Laws on Social Solidarity Economy
- Luxembourg: Minister for Social and Solidarity Economy
- Italy: 10 regional laws on SSE

**Emilia-Romagna Region**: Regional Law on solidarity economy (2014); **Reggio Emilia** city: the welfare Councilor in charge of SSE; **Modena** city: a development plan on SSE is undertaken.

In Europe the SSE generates employment for more than
 6% of the active population.



## What are the main activities of SUSY project?

The activities of the project can be divided into 4 key areas:

- 1 Mapping and Research
- 2 Training Dialogue Oriented Workshops and European/locals training
- 3 Awareness-raising and media campaign
- 4 Advocacy



#### **International** Research:

# Transformative economy Challenges and limits of the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) in 55 territories in EU







#### Collective work involving all 26 SUSY partners and related researchers

#### **Coordination research group:**

Riccardo Troisi – FairWatch Monica di Sisto – FairWatch Alberto Castagnola – FairWatch

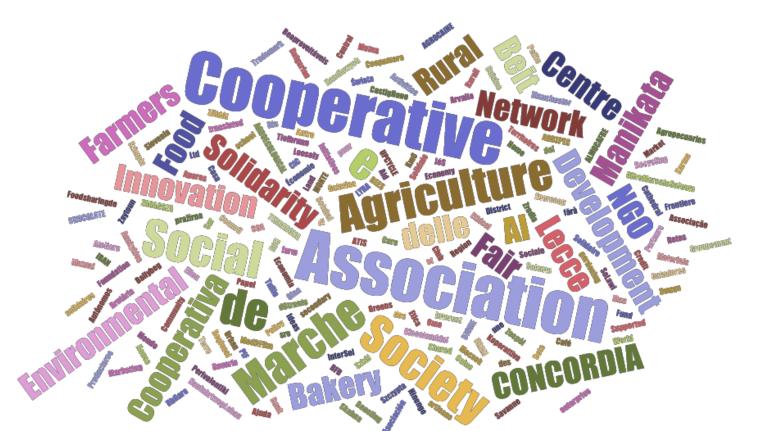






## The international research is divided into two parts:

A synthesis of the 55 case studies, organized by countries/areas, with an introduction on the economic and social contexts, as well as current laws and norms on the topic.



## A Comparative Analysis based on the delivered researches and conclusions

- Northern Europe and center Europe 4 territories in UK: North East, North West, South East, Greater London. Germany 4 Northrhine-Westfalia, Bavaria Berlin Hamburg. Austria 2 territories: Eastern territory, Vienna, Naufahrtweg Western territory, Salzburg. in Poland: South-West region of Poland Central and Southern region in Poland. In Latvia 1 territory in Ireland 1 territory in Finland 1 territory in Belgium 1 territory in Estonia 1 territory
- Mediterranean 4 territories Italy: Toscana, Marche, Puglia e Emilia Romagna. 4 territories in France: -Midi- Pyrénées, Aquitaine, Languedoc Roussillon, Paris 3 territories in Spain: Valencian Region. Aragon Region, Andalucía 2 territories in Portugal: Lisbon Region, Alentejo Region. 2 territories in Greece: Athens, Thessaloniki 1 territory in Cyprus 1 territory in Malta
- Eastern Europe (2 territories in Hungary: Baranaya County. Pest County 2 territories in Bulgaria: North Central Region, South Western Region. 2 territories in Czech Republic 2 territories in Romania: South Muntenia, Bucharest-Ilfov 1 territory in Slovakia,1 territory in Croatia 1 territory in Slovenia)
- World area America Latina, Africa, Asia (Tunisia, Brasile, Bolivia, India, Malesia, Uruguay, Palestina, Mozanbico)

## International research objectives

- 1. To select the meaningful practice on SSE in each territory
- 2. To analyse the experiences in a horizontal way (i.e. within their own district, between different types of approaches) and transversally (i.e. comparison of best practices between North and South of the World);
- 3. To compare them and highlight a common and global framework of economic alternatives

The research activity works out to better the skills of the SSE in order to create a "dynamic of reciprocity and solidarity which links individual interests with the collective ones" (from RIPESS definition).





### Summary methodology Step by step

- Selection in each territory of 20 relevant Stakeholders on SSE
- ☐ Between them, selection of 5 stakeholder to interview
- ☐ The researcher, supported by the local expert, individuate the Good Practice according with the results of the interviews
- ☐ The local expert, supported by Associates and Partners NGOs, submit to the SC the selection of Good practice for final approval
- ☐ The researcher organize a field visit to the selected GP for further analysis, interview, video and pictures.
- □ The researcher draft the research report in English
- On the basis of the 55 research reports, the group of research proceed with a comparative analysis

## Analysis and evaluation of the Good practice

#### Criteria:

- Management model
- Turnover and job creation/quality
- Social and ecological externalities
- Communication and advocacy
- Networking
- Dealing both with DC and SSE
- □ Economic and social impact
- Transformative power and sustainability
- Positive and negative externalities on the territory
- Evaluation of the stakeholder

## International research overview Some figures

- 55 Territories (46 in Europe and 9 in the world)
- 32 countries
- □ 37 SSEDAS partner involved
- 82 researchers
- More than 1100 practices mapped
- 1080 stakeholders involved
- ☐ 550 interviews
- ☐ 55 videos
- □ 100 Local and national authorities

Not only figures:
People
Territories

A widespread research!

### Finding a shared definition

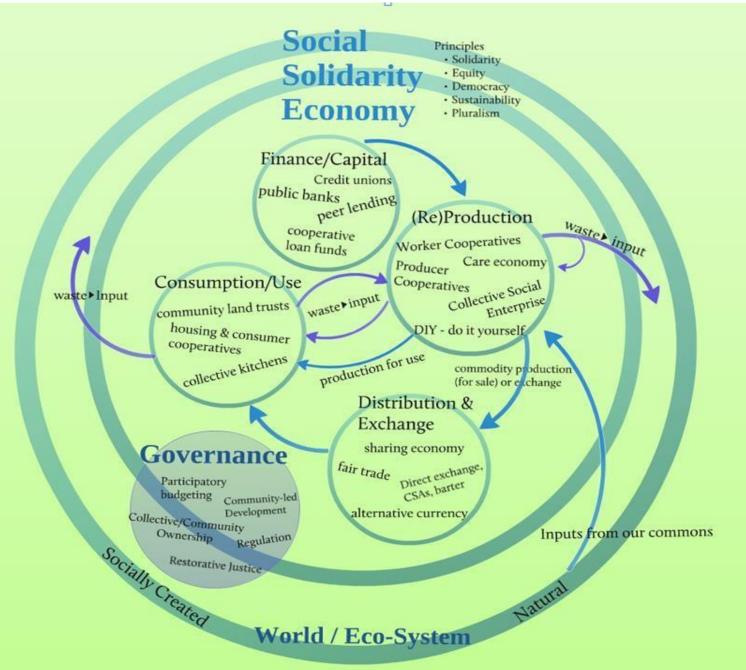
- different approaches
- Social and Solidarity Economy
- Social Economy
- Solidarity economy
- Social Business
- Circular Economy
- Collaborative Economy



## What Social and Solidarity Economy is:



According to RIPESS, the most relevant network of Social and solidarity economy globally, "Social and Solidarity Economy is a movement that seeks to change the whole social and economic system and puts forth a different paradigm of development that upholds Solidarity **Economy principles. The SSE is a dynamic** of reciprocity and solidarity which links individual interests with the collective ones".



Source: U.S. Solidarity Economy Network / Centre for Popular Economics



#### **Social Solidarity Economy Values**

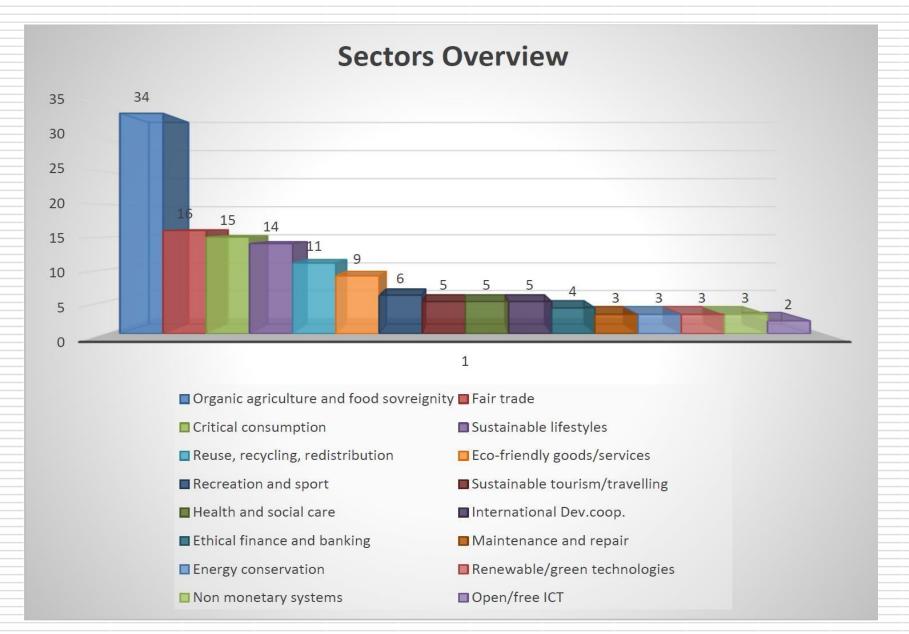
- People and Planet at the center
- Work, dignity and self-management
- Democracy, human rights, participation
- Gender equality
- Solidarity, inclusion, enhancement of "social capital"
- Local and community roots
- Global vision
- Resilience
- Environment and biodiversity protection
- Common goods sovereignty (water, air, landscape, energy, food, knowledge and culture heritage

#### Main economic sectors

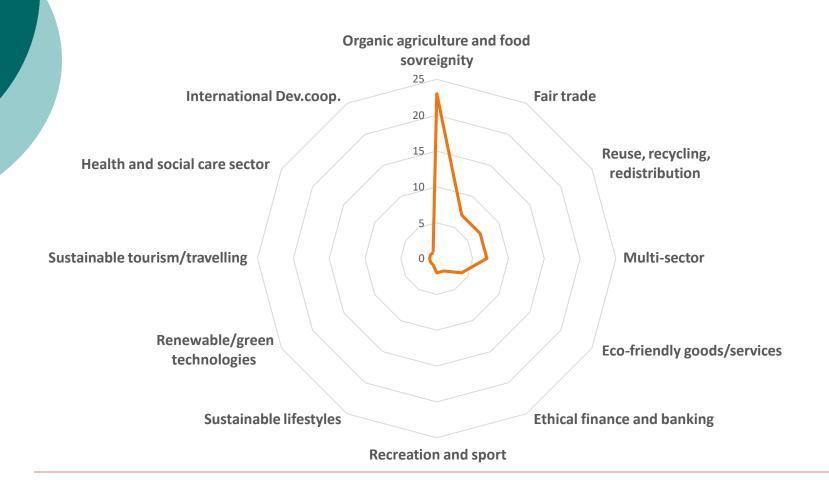
Organic agriculture and food sovereignty **Fair Trade Critical Consumption, Sustainable lifestyles** Reuse, recycling and redistribution **Eco- friendly goods and services provision Recreation and sport** International development cooperation Sustainable tourism Health and social care **Ethical finance and banking Energy conservation Maintenance and repair Non-monetary systems** Renewable energy and green technologies Open/free IT

This categorization is clearly limited and synthetic, given that there are practices that implement activities in several of these fields and that there are systemic/district practices or multisector networks that don't fit such classification.

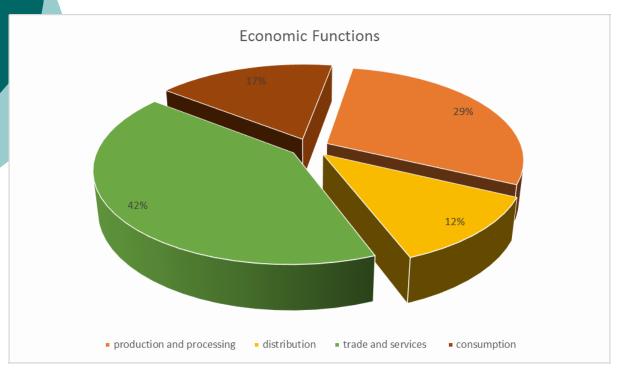
#### International research overview



### Prevalent sector Agro-Food



#### **Economic functions**



Analysing the traditional economic functions carried out by the selected practices, a preponderance of the functions related to

**Trade and services: 42%** 

Production and processing: 29% Consumption: 17% Distribution: 12%.

### Legal forms of the practices

It is interesting to observe that the majority of the practices fall within one of these categories:

1. Cooperatives: 15

2. Associations, NGOs or

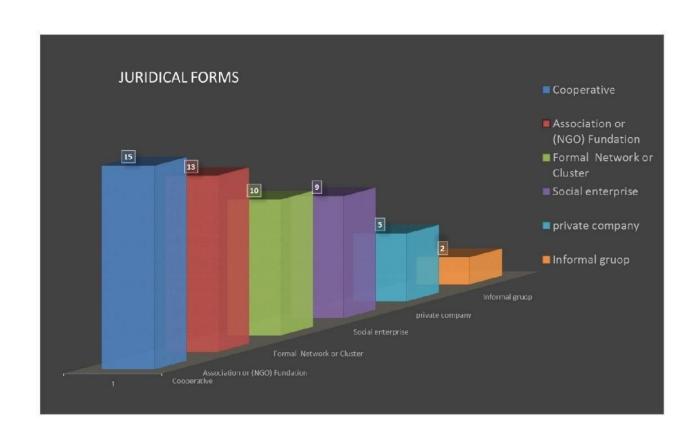
Foundations: 13

3. Formal network or

cluster: 10

**4. Social enterprises:** 9 **5. Private company:** 5

6. Informal group: 2



## The participation in the analysed 55 experiences

**More than 13,000 people involved (members, voluntaries)** 

More than 1,500 people are directly or indirectly employed

The research show the great ability of SSE for engagement and participation and at the same time the capacity to build a real alternative economy, to create employment, guarantee rights and expand individual and collective awareness

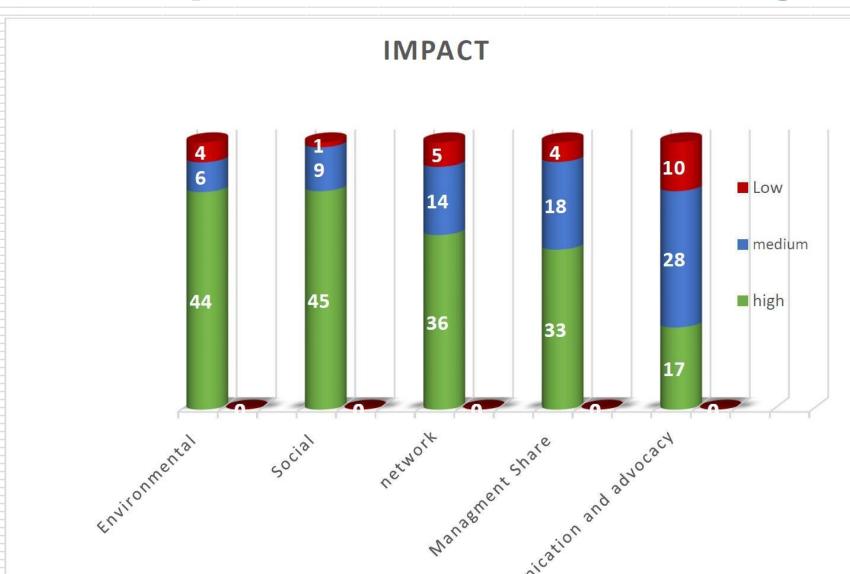
### Some figures: turnover

#### Total turnover estimate €90 millions:

#### examples:

- € 42.500.000, 9000 workers (GP Shared Interest, UK)
- □ € 14.200.000, 800 workers (GP Manchester Home Care, UK)
- □ € 3.900.000, 150 workers (GP "The Central Cooperative, Andaman and Nicobar)

### The impact on the surroundings





### Strengths and Weaknesses

More specifically, we can observe the high value given to the social and environmental dimension in most of the analysed practices. Another noteworthy factor is the one relating to self management and participation.

The ability to work in **networks** and to create relationships with other realities in the territory and beyond is very positive but 41 on 55 practices analysed are single initiatives.

Furthermore, the weakest performances are observed in the **communication and advocacy** capacities of these entities.

### **Emerging models that work**

### Innovative agriculture

- Community supported agriculture (CSA)
- Farmers' markets
- Urban gardens, shared gardens, collective farming
- Changing food practices and reducing food waste.
- Food Policy Council

### **Emerging models that work**

- Reduce, reuse, recycle and circular economy
- Renewable energy provision
- Recover enterprises and self management (Workers Buyout)
- Ethical Finance, ethical banks, equity found, crowdfunding
- □ Responsible tourism
- Fair trade, group of consumers, food sharing platforms...

## **Challenges for the near future**

- A greater level of collaboration between existing initiatives: building network at local and international level and sharing advocacy strategies
- ☐ Training and information on SSE: learn from successes and mistakes
- More communication: let know the successful and replicable experiences
- More support from the public administration: legal and political frameworks

## Another world isn't just possible it's indispensable. We Just need to build it

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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