



**RIPESS Europe – Solidarity Economy Europe**

**General Assembly 2016**

### **Workshop 1**

## **Inter-cooperation, networking and co-construction among Ripess members**

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### **Summary**

The necessity of this workshop came up in previous meetings (in Florence, in Berlin, in Greece) as a constant need among members not only to explore the possibilities for potential cooperations and contributions, but also to get to know each other in depth, to promote the European dimension of current socio-economic situation, to share the knowledge which every partner obtain.

Mapping the current and the permanent needs of our networks, share the best practices/papers/ documentation on SSE issues, match the above needs, share common operational tools (riposs.eu website, socioeco.org, solecopedia and others), open an internal debate on SSE theory or approaches (social impact, meanings on profits, labor and employment concepts etc), set a working method for all these could be a good starting point.

The participants of the workshop were asked to respond on what are the needs of the networks and what they would like to share with the others. These are the main ones that emerged:

### **Sharing vision and narrative**

- Broaden the narrative of the concept of SSE
- Create common vision/concept / definition / approaches
- Tools to facilitate the experience exchange / capacity building / mapping tools / story telling /
- Social innovation concept
- Narrative for an Eastern concept for SSE

### **Understanding our impact**

- Tools for the sustainability of SSE actors ( socially/ materially/ politically )
- Business plans and common indicators ( social and economical )

- Data sharing : Criteria to apply , to evaluate SSE
- Common forms of measurement

### **Tools for education / communication**

- Education material / trainings
- Methods of data sharing
- Europe-wide campaign on SSE
- Maps for SSE for consumers

### **Policy work**

- To collect our political demands
- Public policies comparison and development

### **Sharing key events around Europe**

- To have a trans-local and European (and Euro-Mediterranean) perspective in key SSE events
- To learn from each other and get to know how SSE is organised in different countries / contexts

The discussion the focused on where and how to meet our needs and places/spaces for sharing with the following proposals:

### **Creation of common spaces to meet ( virtual / physical )**

- Online: use of Ripess Europe website and the platform of Socioeco for exchanging and networking at European level, with specific group spaces to share content
- Use key national events (like Manifesta in Portugal, Mercado Social in Spain, Falacosagiusta in Italy, etc.) to promote the European inter-cooperations and exchanges
- Promote exchanges / study visits / Erasmus projects among Ripess members

### **Promotion of economic cooperation**

- Facilitate circuits of economic cooperation among members (such as cooperative shares, trans-local exchanges, etc. )
- Create a platform at European level for trans-local production / investment / trade
- Work on common mapping tool / app for SSE

### **Education and campaigning**

- Collaborate on wider education / training efforts in different countries (eg. SSE cooperative college in Malta)
- Create a European campaign for a “Week of change”, starting in member countries who already have yearly events involving their networks to promote SSE to the larger public