



3rd World Forum of Local Economic Development

TORINO 2015 | 13 - 16 OCTOBER

PANEL SESSION

Title of the session: “The Role of Social and Solidarity Economy in employment generation”

Date & Time: 11.15 am- 15th October, 2015

Room: 1

Organizers: ILO (International Labour Organization) and Euricse (European Research Institute on Cooperative and Social Enterprises) - ILO

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Summary Outline:

The recent global crises that impacted peoples and economies worldwide refocus the attention on the need for more inclusive and sustainable patterns of development. Growing recognition of the scale of precarious employment, climate change and inequality have further reinforced the imperative of rethinking conventional approaches to growth and distribution. Global summits and policy processes such as Rio+20, the drafting of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Financing for Development agenda appear to have strengthened the political commitment to addressing the challenge of inclusive and sustainable development. The ILO report “World of Work 2014: Developing with Jobs” confirms that conventional development approaches are not conducive to decent work. A common theme in all such initiatives is the need for integrated approaches to development and policy making. There is also growing acknowledgement that development strategy in a context of multiple crises (economic, social and environmental) and complexity cannot be driven by top-down policy making but must be informed by active citizenship and participatory governance. Thus, local economic development (LED) strategies by promoting social cohesion and economic inclusion can play a crucial role in optimizing local employment generation for sustainable and inclusive growth.



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The Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE), has emerged as a relevant driver for developing a new model of production and consumption. In fact, it is found that the needs of large groups, in industrialized as well developing countries, are not met effectively by conventional markets neither by the state. This obliges us to rethink the way we do business or deliver services.

Concept Note of the Panel:

In 2013, several United Nations agencies came together to form the UN Inter-Agency Task Force on SSE. The Task Force position paper, launched in 2014, illustrates the potential of the SSE by examining its role in selected issue areas which are central to the challenge of socially sustainable development in the early 21st century. They include:

- i) The transition from informal economy to decent work
- ii) Greening the economy and society
- iii) Local economic development
- iv) Sustainable cities and human settlements
- v) Women's well-being and empowerment
- vi) Food security and smallholder empowerment
- vii) Universal health coverage
- viii) Transformative finance

The ILO recognizes that SSE contributes to the four dimensions of the ILO's overall goal of creating decent work for all: productive employment, social protection, the respect for rights, as well as voice. From an ILO perspective, the SSE provides an opportunity to advance the Decent Work Agenda. Progress in SSE in various countries furthermore offer the opportunity for South-South cooperation, where regional and inter-regional platforms for knowledge and experience sharing can further enhance the impact of social economy nationally.

Social and Solidarity Economy is the term increasingly used to refer to an expanding field of economic activity that comprises organizations and enterprises that are driven by values and practices associated with basic needs provisioning, inclusiveness, equity, solidarity and sustainability. SSE typically comprises cooperatives, mutual associations, self-help groups, fair trade networks, organizations of informal economy workers and social enterprises. SSE organizations and enterprises are associated with a more holistic approach to development in the sense that they explicitly aim to achieve economic, social and often environmental objectives. Furthermore, by facilitating both economic and political empowerment of vulnerable groups



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through collective action, SSE is proactively engaged in the realization of a broad range of human and labour rights.

Often the role of Social and Solidarity Economy as an "engine" of local development is not adequately recognized in policies and governance structures. This is changing however as the importance of this sector grows. In countries like France, Italy and Spain, the employment share of the SSE is more than 10 per cent. Furthermore, by facilitating both economic and political empowerment of vulnerable groups through collective action, SSE actors are proactively engaged in the realization of a broad range of human and labour rights.

The effectiveness of SSEOs in generating employment and in containing the loss of jobs in particularly fragile or challenged economies is gaining more and more evidence worldwide. EU policy now also explicitly promotes social enterprises and the social economy based on its role in facilitating social inclusion and social innovation. The OECD, through its Local Economic and Employment Development (LEED) Programme, aims to maximise the job creation potential of both the private sector and the social economy via integrated strategies to address local market, government and institutional failures.

In many countries SSEs averted company closures and broad worker retrenchment. In Argentina, for example, private enterprises were turned in social enterprises or cooperatives by the workers themselves (*empresas recuperadas*), saving jobs and incomes. SSEOs furthermore play an important role in granting access to the labour market to people (women, disabled people, minorities, etc.) that normally are excluded from it. By virtue of the principles of solidarity and non-conditionality, South-South and triangular cooperation (SSTC) is regarded as compatible with the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) in sharing knowledge, experience and good practices, in supporting capacity development, technology transfer and resource mobilization, as well as in the establishment of international chains and networks on social innovation.

SSE can reinforce an LED strategy and largely contribute to a fair and sustainable development.

Objectives of the session:

The aim of this panel is to illustrate the link between Social and Solidarity Economy and local development in a way that creates sustainable and inclusive development as basis for more and better jobs for everyone, especially people and social groups who are, for different reasons, excluded from the traditional labour market. It will also be an occasion to discuss and exchange ideas, views and experiences on this matter.



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Keys points of discussion:

- SSE employment generation through LED
- The quality of jobs in SSE
- Good practices and case studies from Latin America, Europe and Asia
- WISE (Work Integration Social Enterprise): an “universal” tool to create job for people excluded from society and labour market
- South-South cooperation as a means to build regional and inter-regional networks for knowledge and experience-sharing on generating employment through SSE
- Public-Private-Partnership with local authorities to promote policy for employment generation

List of invited speakers/moderator foreseen:

Moderator:

Sandra Yu – International Labour Organization ILO

Speakers:

Carlo Borzaga - EURICSE (European Research Institute on Cooperative and Social Enterprise)

Ben Quiñones - CSRSME (Coalition of Socially Responsible Small & Medium Enterprises in Asia)

Luca Jahier – European Economic and Social Committee

Maria Victoria Marzi - National University of Rosario (Argentina)

Txelisán Sánchez Presidente de REAS - Red europea de economía solidaria

Jean-Evariste Ngouas- ART GOLD Program Country Director

Interventions from the floor:

Alessandro Valera – Ashoka Foundation



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About the Speakers:

Carlo Borzaga



Carlo Borzaga is full professor of Economic Policy at the Department of Sociology and Social Research of the University of Trento.

From 2003 to 2006 he has been Dean of the Faculty of Economics, University of Trento.

Since 2008 he is also President of the European Research Institute on Cooperative and Social Enterprises (Euricse).

His scientific interests are labour economics with special regard for the determinants of job satisfaction, the economic analysis of cooperatives, social enterprises and nonprofit organizations and the evolution of this sector in Europe. He is also concerned with welfare systems and the provision of social and health-care services.

Benjamin R. Quiñones Jr.



Dr. Benjamin R. Quiñones, Jr. is the founder and Chairman of the Asian Solidarity Economy Council (ASEC), the continental network in Asia of RIPESS (Reseau Intercontinental de Promotion de l'Economie Sociale Solidaire). He's currently involved in action research on value chains of solidarity -based community enterprises. He promoted social responsibility among small & medium enterprises while serving as Programme Coordinator of the inter-governmental organization Asian and Pacific Development Centre in Kuala Lumpur (1996-2003). He developed and pilot tested the methodology of linking banks and self-help groups while serving as Secretary General of the Asia Pacific Rural & Agricultural Credit



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Association at FAO RAPA (1985-1993) in Bangkok. He holds a PhD in Organization Development & Master of Science in Agricultural Economics.

Luca Jahier



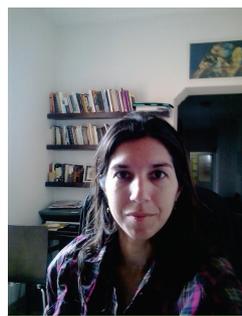
Luca is the president of the Various Interests Group of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)

At the European Economic and Social Committee since 2002, currently President of Group III, Various Interests, a member of the SOC and ECO Sections. The most recent opinions which he has drafted as rapporteur include: perspectives for Africa's social economy; cooperation between the EU, Africa and China; the statute for European political parties; the implementation of Article 11 of the Treaty on European Union on participatory democracy; the social dimension of EMU; and improving the functioning of the EU by building on the Lisbon Treaty (exploratory Opinion requested by the European Parliament).

President of FOCSIV (federation of development cooperation NGOs) from 1994 to 2000, among the founders of the Italian Third Sector Forum, former President of the national council of ACLI 2008- 2012, a-Christian Associations of Italian Workers which promotes, through its network of local branches, services, enterprises and ad-hoc projects employment and active participation in social life.

- degree in political science
- former international relations journalist, responsible for development programmes in Africa and elsewhere
- communication initiatives and public campaigns, studies and research engaged in several Italian and European social economy networks

Maria Victoria Deux Marzi



PhD in Social Sciences, National University of Buenos Aires (UBA), economist and master in Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE).

Maria Victoria is a researcher in SSE, workers organization and public policies and job creation. Teacher of SSE in and Academic Director of the "SSE and Latin American Integration" program at the Rosario National University.



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She is also author and co-author of articles and books on Social Economy and Solidarity, self-managed Work, Social Security.

José Luís Sánchez García



- Holder of a diploma in Social Education – UNED (Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia)
- University Expert in labour insertion – Universidad de Granada
- Network's president of the Social and Solidary Economy network of Andalucía – REAS

Specialist in EIDA (Association of Insertion Companies of Andalucía) – Creating, developing and supporting the Labour Insertion Companies in Andalucía.

Specialist in the Social Area of Vimcorsa (Subsidized housing in Córdoba)

Deputy Director in ADSAM (Association for the Social Defense of Adolescents and Minors) – In charge of developing and coordinating programs of action. Specialist Representative (ADSAM) in public institutions, social forums, etc. – Promoting and developing the most disadvantaged areas.

Director in El Aguilarejo's Occupational Center (ADSAM) – Working with youths with ages from 16 to 20 in order to educate them and subsequently inserting them in the working world.

Director of the program "Colonia el Pedal" (ADSAM), dedicated to the education of the youth within risk of social exclusion. – Coordination of the teams, planning and execution of formative and occupational activities. "Street" Educator in the program "Barriadas Preferentes" (ADSAM) focused on the gypsy neighbourhood Las Moreras. Social Educator in the Occupational Center "Colonia el Pedal" dedicated to the education of the youth within risk of social exclusion. Founder and Manager Educator in "Jardines Muñoz", labour insertion company and processor of the present "ZOVECO S.L.". He is also an educator in Children's home (ADSAM).



Jean-Evariste Ngouas

Mr. Jean-Evariste NGOUAS is currently ART GOLD Programme Country Director since April 2015, a Programme supported by the UNDP. Earlier in 2011, he worked in Gabon Ministry of Foreign Affairs as Administrative Advisor in charge of decentralized cooperation following an academic training at Lyon 3 JEAN MOULIN University in France. In his educational background, he received a graduate degree

in Business Administration at Liège University in 1991; and he was awarded a postgraduate diploma in International Trade and International Relations at Brussels Free University in Belgium in 1992. As Top



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manager, he was also appointed as the Secretary General of the State Fund of Housing Management Committee from 2004 to 2009.

Alessandro Valera



Alessandro is the Italy Director of Ashoka, the world largest network of social innovators. He's an Italian national and a global citizen passionate about social change and transnational movements. After having studied in Italy, Canada and the UK, he graduated in Politics and Communication from the London School of Economics. His career began in the UK in the field of social policy research and behavioral change communication. Upon his return to Italy in 2011, after 12 years abroad, he started his own communication and research agency, with a particular focus on social media education for children, teachers and parents. He also became Director of European Alternatives, a human rights NGO. In 2014 he was chosen by Ashoka to lead the efforts

for Ashoka Italy to set roots in the country. In 2015 Ashoka has officially began its activities in Italy involving social entrepreneurs, companies, schools and universities to create a world in which everyone can be a changemaker.



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