

# SOLIDARITY ECONOMY & OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

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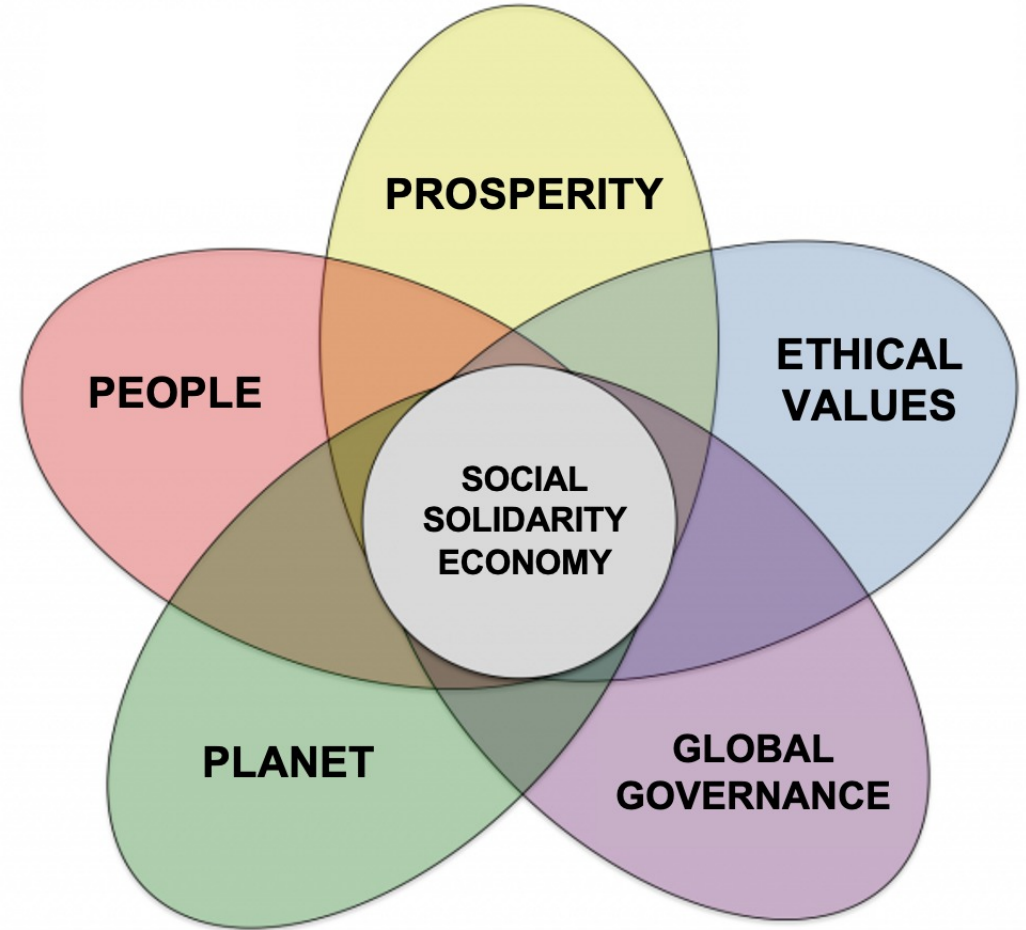
**asec**  
ASIAN SOLIDARITY ECONOMY COUNCIL

- ASEC is a network of practitioners & academics
- In 14 Asian countries
- ASEC committed to an alternative economic models & community building
- ASEC is a member of RIPESS an inter continental organisation



# Social Solidarity Economy

- SSE has five dimensions:-
- Triple bottom line (People, prosperity, planet
- Ethical values & governance)
- Alternative socio eco arrangement towards balanced, holistic and inclusive
- Collective decision making & governance is central



# 1. SSE Pursuing different socio-economic approaches

- Neo liberal development framework verses the solidarity framework.
- The investor model of development verses sustainable economic model
- Practitioners must confront the economic theories and provide alternative development discourse
- Academics and academic institutions as partners in the SSE movement can play a bigger role in re writing the economic development agenda which is empowering and inclusive.

# 2. SSE recognised groups facing social exclusion

Six communities are experiencing exclusion :-

- Communities isolated and negatively impacted by the **caste** system and gender inequality especially impacting both women and communities categorised as backward
- **Farmers & rural poor** communities
- **Forest communities**, forest user groups and indigenous people
- The **urban poor and the informal sector** majority of whom are women
- **Migrant workers** and the experiences of exclusion and exploitation
- There is a **gender dimension** in all the above target groups and this is a key SSE agenda

# 3. SSE Strengthening people's alternative economies

Six community initiatives with thrust of social protection

- **Community based economic initiatives** which is different from the investor model of economic activities.
- **Cooperatives as community based enterprise models.** This has the largest potential for SSE at the ground level in Asia in organising grassroots communities.
- Urban farming and community cooperation.
- **Community based forestry.** There is great potential for this especially rural and interior communities
- **Financial inclusive** programs as alternative micro credit to conventional banks
- **Micro insurance programs** which specially targets the poor, informal sector and the Bottom 40 % communities,

## 4. UN institutions recognising the SSE agenda

### **The UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Social and Solidarity Economy (UNTFSSSE) (2013)**

- Led by ILO & 19 agencies & CSOs (observers)
- To raise the visibility & to see potential contribution towards SDGs

### **Online platform of the SSE Knowledge Hub for the SDGs**

### **SSE Encyclopaedia Project**

- **ILO 341 Governing Body** (March 2021) discusses SSE for a people-centred & planet sensitive approach
- **ILO SSE Academy** – awareness, training & capacity building

### **UN Research Institute on Social Development (UNRISD)**

- SSE International & regional conferences & academic research papers & publications



# 5. Young People & SSE Movement

- Many young people in social enterprises which is a way of undertaking business in a new way-
- Good models in Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea taking a lead in social enterprises.
- The business model is using a business solution to address social and environmental concerns.
- Profits for business sustainability not profits for profit sake
- One draw back need to hold SE more community based and accountable to the local communities and target groups – participation & profit sharing



# Conclusion

- Break away from traditional business solutions towards community based solutions
- Have a key commitment to community accountability, people participations & sustainability

***All the best & may  
the young people  
lead the way for  
future innovations***