



# **THE SOCIAL AND SOLIDARITY ECONOMY : AN ESSENTIAL COMPONENT OF HEALTH COMMUNITIES**

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# WHAT IS THE SOCIAL AND SOLIDARITY ECONOMY ?

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- A diversity of economic activities in all sectors that prioritize social profitability instead of purely financial profits
- Emerge in response to needs and aspirations of communities
- Collective ownership with participatory and democratic governance

# WHAT TYPE OF ORGANIZATIONS ARE PART OF THE SOCIAL ECONOMY ?

- Cooperatives, mutuels, non-profit organizations, foundations, social trusts, and other structures adapted to local realities
- Large sectors of the informal economy based on collective initiatives are considered as part of the SSE or as a source for the emergence of new SSE enterprises

# THE SSE IS PRESENT IN WHICH ECONOMIC SECTORS ?

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- A wide diversity of sectors including manufacturing, services, commerce,
- In Francophone West Africa, community-based health insurance (CBHI) has long been the preferred instrument for including populations in the informal and rural sectors
- In Japan approximately 30% of the population are members of consumer cooperatives
- In the US, the electrification of rural areas was developed and is currently managed by cooperatives
- In Quebec, universal access to daycare through SSE enterprises controlled by parents
- In the health sector: health cooperatives, insurance mutuals, personal services, community clinics, non-profit pharmacies

# A MOVEMENT THAT HAS GROWN OVER THE PAST TWO DECADES ON ALL CONTINENTS

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- Member states of the African Union adopted a 10-year strategy for the SSE and an implementation plan
- RIESS, the Ivorian SSE network brought together 840 participants from 13 countries to create an African SSE Scientific Observatory
- Framework legislation in Mexico, Senegal, Brazil, France, South Korea, Morocco, Quebec,
- In Latin America, policy in the last decade (e.g. Ecuador, Costa Rica, Mexico, Uruguay) developed the sector's legal and institutional recognition, growing its role in the economy and policy

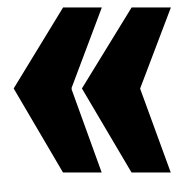
# SUPPORT ACROSS THE UN ECOSYSTEM

- Promoting the Social and Solidarity Economy for Sustainable Development' : resolution adopted by UN General Assembly in 2024
- Acknowledges the contribution of the SSE to the achievement and localization of the Sustainable Development Goals
- The UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Social and Solidarity Economy (UNTFSSSE) aims to raise the visibility of Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) within the UN system and beyond

# AND WHAT DOES THIS HAVE TO DO WITH HEALTHY COMMUNITIES ?

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- The dominant economic model has led to the social and ecological crisis
- These crises have direct impact on the health and well-being of communities and people
- The social and solidarity economy is a component of a socioecological transition essential to sustainable development



## **IN THE SHORT TERM**

- SSE initiatives respond to basic needs that are major health factors: access to decent housing, food security, sustainable agriculture, health services,
- SSE initiatives are based on collective actions; a sense of community is a vital component of healthy living

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

