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Academy on Social and Solidarity Economy:
Innovative Ecosystems for SSE Public Policies -
A contribution to the future of work
26 – 30 June 2017,
Seoul, South Korea
Background

The ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalisation (2008) states that “productive, profitable and sustainable enterprises, together with a strong social economy and a viable public sector, are critical to sustainable economic development and employment opportunities”.

Today, the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) is a reality in many people’s lives because it promotes values and principles that focus on people’s needs and on their communities. In a spirit of voluntary participation, self-help and self-reliance, and through enterprises and organizations, it seeks to balance economic success with fairness and social justice, from the local level to the global level.

The concept of SSE cuts across all four dimensions of the ILO’s Decent Work Agenda. A high-level capacity building programme on SSE was proposed by more than 200 participants on the occasion of the ILO Regional Conference on Social Economy held in Johannesburg, South Africa, in October 2009.

Since then, seven editions of the Academy were organized by the International Training Centre of the ILO (ITC-ILO) in Turin (Italy) in 2010, in Montreal (Canada) in 2011, in Agadir (Morocco) in 2013, in Campinas (Brazil) in 2014, in Johannesburg (South Africa) and in Puebla (Mexico) in 2015 and in San José (Costa Rica) in 2016.

Known as the “ILO Social and Solidarity Economy Academy (SSE Academy)”, this inter-regional training event has gathered together more than 500 practitioners and policy-makers from around the world, to share their experiences and meet leading SSE specialists.

In its 8th edition, the SSE Academy will have a special focus on SSE ecosystems and the future of work.

Objectives

The main objective of the SSE Academy will be to generate a better understanding of the concept of SSE and its possible contribution to social innovation in the world of work.

At the end of the academy, the participants will:

- Have a better understanding of innovative Ecosystems for SSE Public Policies
- Have been acquainted with a multitude of social and solidarity experiences, strategies and tools from around the world, including examples from South-South and triangular cooperation.
- Have the chance to be part of a growing international network of policy makers and practitioners working on the Social and Solidarity Economy.

Contents and Learning Methodology

A distance-learning module introducing principles and practices of the SSE will be available for the participants before the face-to-face sessions.

The face-to-face modality of the Academy in Seoul, South Korea, will include:

- **Plenary Sessions:** Each morning, the programme will offer interactive plenary sessions on a selected topic in order to create a common level of knowledge and understanding among all participants and across the different thematic and policy areas covered by the Academy.
- **Elective Courses:** Participants will be able to choose among elective sessions offering an opportunity to share knowledge, discuss concrete applications of SSE at national and regional levels and draw up lessons for future research, projects and policy-making. Dedicated sessions will treat issues of particular concern to trade unions, employers organisations and governments.
- **Study visits:** The participants will have the opportunity of an in-depth knowledge of good practices and initiatives in the field of SSE in Korea.

Who should attend?

The Academy is designed for:

- SSE practitioners (leaders and managers of social and solidarity economy organizations).
- Policymakers from different government ministries (labour, social affairs, cooperatives, women’s entrepreneurship, youth).
- Mayors and other local government officials.
- Workers and employers’ organizations.
- SSE promoters (UN organizations and development partners, foundations, networks of SSEs).
- Researchers interested in getting practical insights into the application of Social and Solidarity Economy in different regions.

Participation costs

- **Step 1:** Interested candidates need to apply online at http://intranetp.ilo.org/SHN/A3510701/en. Application deadline: 30 April 2017.
- **Step 2:** A selection committee will identify a limited number of qualified participants based on their online application on a first-come-first-served basis.
- **Step 3:** Selected participants will have to sustain the cost of their travel, visa, accommodation in Seoul and a participation fee of US $600 payable to ILO and a contribution fee of US $500 by mid-May. Payment details and information on accommodation will be sent to the selected participants directly.

Venue and dates

This eight edition of the ILO Academy on Social and Solidarity Economy will be held at the premises of the City Hall of the Metropolitan Government of Seoul and Seoul National University from 26 – 30 June 2017.

Partners

The main partners of this edition are the Metropolitan Government of Seoul, the Global Social Economy Forum (GSEF), the Seoul National University Asia Center, the Seoul Social Economy Center, the Seoul Innovation Park, the Chungnam Institute Research Center for Social Economy, the Korea Social Enterprise Promotion Agency, the ILO and the International Training Centre of the ILO.

Other partners are International Centre of Research on Social and Cooperative Economy (CIRIEC), European Economic and Social Committee (EESC), European Research Institute on Cooperative and Social Enterprise (EURICE) and the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

How to apply

To enrol in the Academy, please register on-line at the address: http://intranetp.ilo.org/SHN/A3510701/en click on “Apply Now”.

For further information please write directly to us at: socialeeconomy@ilo.org

Deadline for registration: 30 April 2017.