Session title: Youth-led Local Circular Economy for our Society and Environment: Variation for the Era of New Normal

co-organized by

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<th>Gsef</th>
<th>seed:s</th>
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<td>Global Social Economy Forum (GSEF)</td>
<td>Seed:s</td>
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Date / Duration: 19th of October / 2 hours

Session format: Thematic session

Target audience:

Young SSE entrepreneurs, youth who have an interest in pursuing SSE activities, SSE organizations focusing on the benefits of youth, SSE intermediaries providing supports to SSE initiatives for youth

Session Objectives / descriptions:

Both the market and state failures in responding to the recent social and ecological challenges, escalated by the COVID-19 pandemic, showed the shortcomings of the current development model. Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) provides a new and important pathway to transforming the world into a sustainable and inclusive one. With a characteristic of prioritizing societal and environmental needs over profit maximization, SSE demonstrates its capacity in alleviating the negative impacts of the challenges and localizing the Sustainable Development Goals.

These days, local circular economy is catching people’s attention with a focus on local production, local consumption, and employment within the local community. It also matches one of the characteristics of SSE which emphasizes the importance of economic activities building on local roots. SSE organisations and enterprises generally operate at the local level, understanding the local needs, and giving quick response[i].
Youth have been highly involved in the SSE sector. 27% of the social enterprises are led by an individual younger than 35 in India[1]. In Korea, 28% of social enterprises are launched by founders between 20 and 29 while 49% of the social enterprise founders are between 30-39[2]. In Québec, 36% of employees in the social economy sector and 18% of those who sit on the governing boards are aged 35 or less[3]. GSEF sees the importance of youth in leading a vibrant SSE movement where they can provide their innovative idea in terms of collaborative action and application of new technology.

Noticing a need for young people to visualize their needs, exchange experiences and best practices, stimulate others, consolidate their actions and further motivate other young people to become more active engaged in the field of SSE, GSEF is organizing this thematic session of “Youth and SSE”. Speakers will demonstrate some best practices launched by youth in different parts of the world for boosting local circular economy, as an alternative of the global value chain in the community. In the second half of the session, selected video from GSEF2020 Call for Video will be showcased to illustrate some SSE initiatives, tell us their experience, and share their vision of the future collaborative actions of the youth in SSE development. An open dialogue will connect the speakers and those young people whose video are selected to stimulate new ideas and actions for the growth of youth-led local circular economy.

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Moderators & Speakers:

- Cherry Sung, young activist on climate action in Korea
- Anisa Azizah, CEO, Tech Prom Lab, Indonesia
- SEO Jung Nam, CEO, Ballys, Korea
- Wendy Omanga, Founder, Moonlight Initiative, Kenya

Expected results:

Understanding the demands of youth for a sustainable world through climate actions

Learning about the “adventure” from young SSE entrepreneurs in Africa, Asia, and Europe in developing local circular economy

Understanding the social and environmental impact of local circular economy for our community in the post COVID-19 era

Finding out the needs and vision of youth participating in SSE activities

Facilitating exchange and collaborations among different young SSE entrepreneurs

Schedule

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<td>16:00-16:05</td>
<td><strong>Introduction by the moderator</strong></td>
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| 16:05-16:20   | **Inspirational Speech**  
"Youth action on climate change – let our future fight for their future" | Cherry Sung, Youth activist on climate action in Korea                                     |
| 16:20-17:00   | **Actions by young actors of SSE to boost local circular economy**  
In the following cases, the enterprises are using local products, being initiated, and operated by the local people & creating local employment in their business actions. These initiatives help build a local circular economy through local production, consumption, and employment, etc which demonstrates the potential of SSE as an alternative of the global value chain in the community.  
**Related-topics:**  
- Use Again: Sharing and exchanging items  
- Use Better: upcycle of things, innovative use of waste, creating values of the valueless  
- Use Less: zero-waste, reducing plastics, etc.  
- Engage locally: production, consumption, and job creation in the community | Confirmed speakers:  
- Tech Prom Lab, Indonesia  
- Ballys from Korea  
- Moonlight Initiative from Kenya |
| 17:00-17:25   | **Q & A and Open Dialogue led by the moderator**  
Audience and speakers are encouraged to share their experience and discuss new ideas and actions for the growth of youth-led local circular economy in the post COVID-19 era. |                                                                                            |
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<td>17:25-17:30</td>
<td>Conclusion</td>
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