

Call for Proposals

On the road to

Gsef

DAKAR 2023

GLOBAL SOCIAL
ECONOMY FORUM

1 - 6 May 2023



Social and Solidarity Economy & Territories :
Transitioning from Informal Economies to Collective
and Sustainable Economies for our Territories



Explanatory Note & Instructions

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WHAT IS IT ABOUT ?

The **Global Social Economy Forum (GSEF)** is one of the most prestigious and largest gatherings on Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) that brings together, every two years, all stakeholders in the area of SSE, from local and national governments to civil society organizations and networks, international organizations, academia & research institutions, as well as private sector actors, with the objective to share practices, experiences, policies, and visions towards building a more inclusive, equitable, solidarity-based and human-centered world. **GSEF is an international network for the promotion of SSE.**

The SSE finds fertile ground for its expansion in Africa. Indeed, it recently benefited from several opportunities favorable to its development in Africa and in particular in Senegal, with public policies and new framework laws in support of the SSE ecosystem. This dynamic is also part of a post-COVID international economic context favorable to the global emergence of SSE.

GSEF2023 is the forum of :



- Africa, youth and women ; thus of hope



- nature, land and territories ; thus of ecology and "green economy"



- Peoples and citizens ; thus of humanism



- popular initiatives and creativity ; thus of social innovation.



WHERE ?

Located on the Cape Verde peninsula, **Dakar, the capital of Senegal** and the westernmost city of continental Africa, is a gateway to the continent. A cosmopolitan city open to the world, Dakar distinguishes itself by the social dynamism into all aspects of its inhabitants' lives. The most urbanized city in Senegal, Dakar concentrates most of the country's economic, social and cultural activities. **The legendary hospitality of its people is an integral part of the country's identity, Teranga.** Dakar, a city of solidarity with immense economic and cultural resources, will be the world capital of solidarity economy in 2023.

Thanks to its high-end reception facilities, Dakar hosts major international conferences every year, attended by the world's most prominent experts and celebrities. Its modern rail and highway networks ensure the mobility and safety of people while the world's major airline companies now connect Dakar to the rest of the world in a few hours. Dakar aims to be a resilient city placing solidarity at its heart through the implementation of inclusive policies to empower women, young people, and vulnerable groups in a sustainable living environment.

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WHEN ?



After Seoul (2013 and 2014), Montreal (2016), Bilbao (2018) and Mexico City (2021), Dakar will host the 6th edition of the Global Social Economy Forum (GSEF2023 Dakar), which will be held for the first time in Africa **from 1 to 6 May 2023**. This event is co-organized by the City of Dakar and the Network of Actors and Local Authorities for the Social Solidarity Economy (RACTES), in

partnership with the Ministry of Microfinance and Social and Solidarity Economy of Senegal. This choice reflects the vision and confirms the relevance of the actions carried out by the City of Dakar in the field of SSE but also of the proactive policy carried out by the Government of Senegal to develop an ecosystem to support and promote SSE.



THEMES AND SUB-THEMES

Social and Solidarity Economy & Territories : Transitioning from Informal Economies to Collective and Sustainable Economies for our Territories

Over 60% of the employed population in the world earns its income in the informal economy. In Africa, 76% of jobs are in the informal sector, while a relatively small proportion of jobs (5.5%) are in the formal sector and 4.3% in households. In June 2015, the International Labor Conference adopted the *Recommendation (No. 204) on the Transition from the Informal to the Formal Economy* for developing a set of policies that is appropriate to the diversity of the characteristics and factors pertaining to the informal economy.

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It must be recognized that recent periods of global economic and political instability, aggravated by COVID-19, have exposed the shortcomings of a model based on generating maximum profits and have confirmed the need to reinvent an alternative, complementary, more inclusive and sustainable development model. Beyond the definition of a set of economic activities, SSE reinvents a social model where those excluded from the formal system (unemployed, disabled, elderly, young people, women, etc.) can find their place, in accordance with the principle of Leaving No One Behind laid out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Thus, the transition from the informal economy to territorial, collective, and sustainable economies is a viable solution to rebalance inequalities and economic, social and environmental objectives.



Through this Call for Proposals, the GSEF2023 Dakar Forum intends to empower all the initiatives emerging from territories and local actors around the world to collectively build a path towards a less capitalist, more human-centered new model of development. The seven (7) themes and two (2) special events on Youth and Women of the Forum are detailed below.

¹ *Women and men in the informal economy : A statistical picture (third edition) / International Labour Office – Geneva : ILO 2019*



Theme 1

Co-constructing public policies for collective and sustainable economies conducive to decent jobs for young people and women

SSE is an increasingly recognized effective and collective way of undertaking territorial development, both in developing and developed countries. It is often no longer seen as a lifeline for times of crisis, but rather constitutes a development model.

How to identify the challenges and issues and co-create the conditions and opportunities for public policies conducive to collective and sustainable economies for our territories? How to build bridges for transitioning from informal economies to collective and sustainable economies that create decent jobs for young people and women? What roles for local authorities and SSE actors to promote a territorialized economy and allow us to achieve inclusive and sustainable development?



Sub-themes

1.1. Co-construction of public policies, projects, and good practices to promote decent employment

1.2. Gateways and experiences of informal economy for the transition to collective and sustainable economies

1.3. Governance of Social and Solidarity Economy organizations and enterprises





Theme 2

Sustainable blue economy, preservation of artisanal fishing, creation of new sustainable jobs, and social & environmental protection

In consideration with the apparently divergent interests of fishing and oil & gas stakeholders, fishing communities, impacted coastal local authorities as well as actors of the “blue economy” are called upon to mobilize and strengthen the resilience of highly dependent populations on fishery resources. These resources are often overexploited or depleted leading to a collapse of stocks, which is felt even more strongly in the artisanal fishing sector.

How to solve the issues faced by the artisanal and industrial fishing sectors and establish a dynamic in the search for relevant mitigation solutions? What responses can the inclusive governance of a sustainable solidarity blue economy provide?

How to create direct and indirect solidarity and decent jobs in the sectors of tourism, fishing, energy, agriculture, transport, etc. in the perspective of an inclusive and sustainable “blue growth”? What social protection system can best meet the needs of fishing stakeholders and communities, as well as actors of impacted coastal territories?

Sub-themes

2.1 Preservation of artisanal fishing

2.2 Creation of new lasting “blue jobs” and environmental protection

2.3 Social protection system for actors of the blue economy





Theme 3



Collective and sustainable ‘green’ economy for the territories, food self-sufficiency and its governance

Today’s world is facing several challenges, foremost among which are the climate, energy, food, health and financial crises. These complex crises place our societies in a position that offers little choice but to undertake responsible and collective action to advance towards an economy of well-being and social justice, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological shortages.

Thus, the challenge of a **“green economy”** being to improve the standard of living without further altering the degradation of the environment, it is existential to ask ourselves: how to reconcile the fight against poverty and environmental protection? How to reconcile a society of overproduction & consumption and hunger? How to make trade, green economy, and sustainable development coexist? How to design a **“green” economic project** that can achieve consensus between

developing countries, emerging countries and developed countries, and among SSE and civil society actors? In the absence of a **“global governance”**, how can the general interest of a green economy, self-sufficiency of communities, and preservation of the planet be ensured? What institutional mechanisms could finally make it possible to move on to an operational phase of the transition towards a green economy?

Sub-themes

3.1 Agroecological systems

3.2 Food security and sovereignty

3.3 Governance of the Green Economy, self-sufficiency of communities, and environmental conservation



Theme 4

Solidarity & sustainable digital economy and smart territories

The digitization of our societies and economies leads to an increasing production of data in the territories. They come from all types of actors (public and private sectors, citizens, etc.) and concern all of local governments' areas of action. Digital economy, social and solidarity economy, and territories are three essential pillars to reinvent a viable and livable world. How to model the concept of smart territory on the basis of very different realities? How to pool the platforms for building upon all the experiences of SSE organizations and enterprises in the digital field and on digitization? How to improve services to users, the functioning of local governments, and the steering of local public policies, in particular through the digitization of procedures and the processing of data? How to structure collective approaches to cooperation

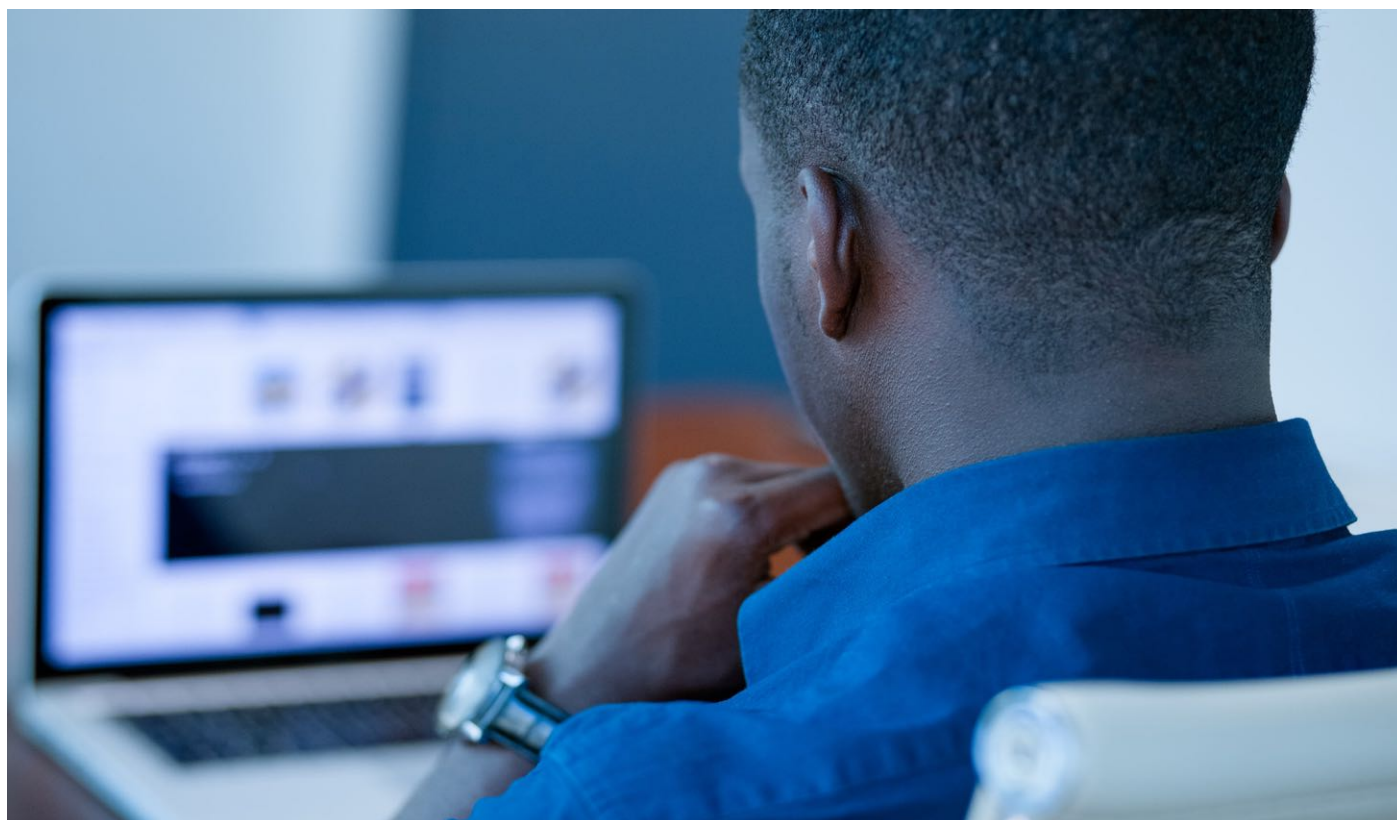
at territorial and/or national levels between governments and SSE organizations and enterprises?

Sub-themes

4.1 Mobility and connectivity, sustainable housing and transportation for smart territories

4.2 Platforms for building upon the experiences of SSE organizations and enterprises in the field of digitization

4.3 Collaboration mechanisms and instruments for a technological transition towards smart territories





Theme 5

Financing collective and sustainable economies for the territories



The SSE is now recognized as an effective and collective way of doing business to enable territorial development. One of the crucial questions, however, remains that of the financing of SSE and, therefore, of territorial and collective economies. Indeed, local authorities and SSE organizations and enterprises, which are essential partners for inclusive and sustainable development, are still faced with the critical issue of financing.

What are the methods, strategies, and constraints related to the financing of SSE organizations and enterprises? How to address the challenges of their effectiveness, sustainability, and impact? What specific tools can be mobilized to target such essential groups in our economies as young people, women, and rural populations? How to create decentralized financing structures within local governments to support SSEOs? What alternative and innovative financing

mechanisms can be mobilized? What is the role of the state and local governments? How to pool human, financial, and material resources and create partnerships between local governments and SSE actors? How to better leverage and regulate the CSR plan of companies? These are some of the many questions to be answered under this theme.

Sub-themes

5.1 Legal framework and support for the financing of SSE organizations and enterprises

5.2 Social finance & banking and social investment

5.3 SSE and Corporate Social Responsibility



Theme 6

Policy dialogue : National & local governments and key stakeholders of collective and sustainable economies for the territories

The rapid urbanization and the disorderly occupation of cities accelerate issues of governance faced by local governments, which in turn puts differentiated and adapted public services under great strain. To face this major challenge in terms of social and territorial inclusion, multi-actor and multi-sectoral dialogue constitutes a new paradigm to promote and develop collective and sustainable economies at territorial level.

How to strengthen a more open and collaborative governance between local authorities and SSE organizations and enterprises in our territories? How can the collaboration between all actors (central & local governments and SSE actors, among others) stimulate the development of territorial, collective and sustainable economies? How to set up structured dialogue mechanisms

articulated with participatory governance from an SSE perspective? How can the collaboration between local authorities and SSE stakeholders contribute to the emergence of decentralized policies able to boost local economy in their respective territories?

Sub-themes

6.1 Social issues: how SSE addresses issues of inclusion, migration, and social cohesion

6.2 North-South and South-South collaboration

6.3 Dialogue between SSE and governments, alliances and networks

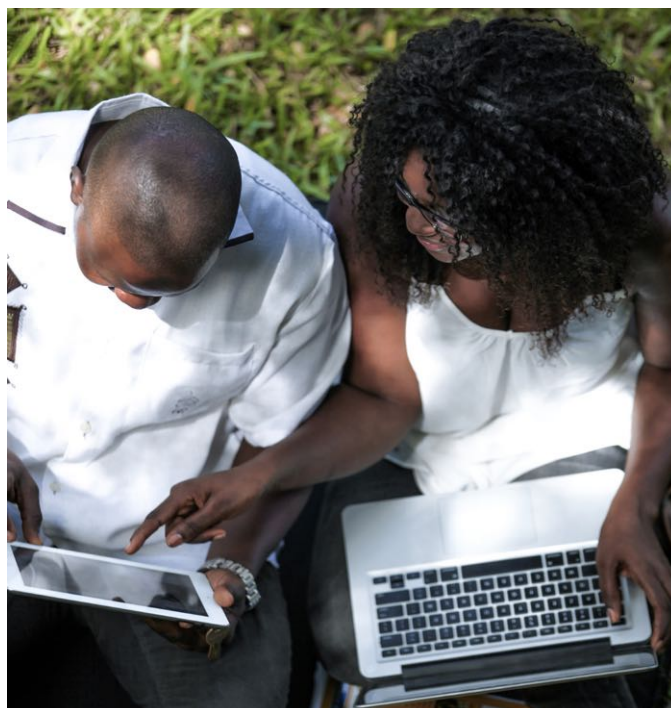




Theme 7

Social and Solidarity Economy and sustainable development: links between practices and research

Many of the current stakes reside in the fact that SSE represents an opportunity to reconcile social, economic, and environmental objectives within a new framework created by the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*. Therefore, SSE practices need to be understood and analyzed by researchers in order to grasp its regional features and specificities and, above all, to define indicators in accordance with the principles of social quality and impact on the economy at the individual, local, and global scales.



How can SSE embark on paths of research and building & transmission of knowledge? What are the links between SSE and the four pillars of sustainable development (Human, Social, Economic and Environmental)? What innovative links can be made between SSE and development research? What collaboration between SSE actors, academia, and research institutions?

Sub-themes

7.1 Social impact – Measuring and managing social impact

7.2 SSE innovations and development research

7.3 Collaboration between SSE actors, academia, and research institutions



SPECIAL EVENTS

Pre-Forum on Youth and SSE

Collective and Sustainable Entrepreneurship for the Territories : Solutions for the Inclusion of Youth from Here and Beyond !

The **Pre-Forum on Youth and SSE** will bring together young people from over 100 cities. Its program will consist of inspiring presentations, experience-sharing workshops, a job fair, and a social and solidarity entrepreneurship fair. For 2 days, this event will take place in a place dedicated to youth and will highlight the issues and principles of SSE for the youth and with the youth. A caravan of West African youth will also be organized to promote the integration of peoples in solidarity.

How to promote youth initiatives in order to

share the entrepreneurial know-how of young people engaged in SSE and to inspire the next generation of SSE leaders? How to ensure a privileged place to young people in the design, implementation, and decision-making within the process of development agencies?

Through the GSEF2023 Forum, how to produce a relevant framework for consultation and development of the work of young SSE actors? How to make this Forum a decisive turning point for a fairer and more sustainable world economy carried with and for the young generation?



Women & SSE Day

Social and Economic Empowerment of Women and Territorialization of Sustainable Public Policies

The growing contributions of women in households, to the production of goods and services, and, more broadly, to the economy remain insufficiently recognized - both in Africa and worldwide. These contributions, however, are significant with an economic activity rate of **61.9% for women in Africa, and as women represent 70% of the agricultural force of the African continent and 90% of the production of all food on the continent** (OECD).

How to advance the social and economic

empowerment of women in our territories? What structural investments should be made for the benefit of women and in support of concrete long-term actions? What funding policies and support mechanisms should be implemented in favor of women's productive activity? How to strengthen the equal participation of women, which is no longer a mere issue of justice or democracy, but a sine qua none condition for their social and economic emancipation on the path to reduce inequalities through public policies and programs?





CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Individual Initiatives

- Individuals and legal entities (private or public organizations) wishing to present their initiatives on the theme of their choice are invited to submit a proposal to be part of one of the thematic workshops of the GSEF2023 Forum.
- The Scientific Committee will select similar initiatives to be presented in a thematic workshop (expected duration: approximately 90 minutes). Typically, three to five initiatives will be invited to be presented under a common theme, in order to reflect the diversity of experiences and contexts.

inter alia, the topic, the moderator, speakers, and the co-organizing institutions.

- Organizations having submitted selected proposals will be provided space for participation during the GSEF2023 Forum. It should be noted that the co-organizing entities must agree to cover all costs related to the organization of their respective session.

Profile of Participants and Requirements


SSE organizations and enterprises, governments at any level (local or central), international organizations, or any other interested party who wish to do so may respond to the present Call for Proposals either individually or collectively. In the case of an organization or a collective, the proposal must be submitted by a representative.

Self-organized sessions


- Private and public entities are invited to submit proposals for the organization of sessions in the framework of the GSEF2023 Forum, for which they are free to propose,

HOW TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL

- **Online submission form (self-organized session) :**

 <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/KRNTSP/>

- **Online submission form (individual initiative) :**

 <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/ADQ2A0/>

Deadline for submission : midnight (UTC), 27 May 2022

Organizations and individuals who submitted the selected proposals will be contacted individually and will be asked to follow the steps indicated by the organizers. It should be noted that any participant choosing to attend the Forum in person undertakes to meet the immigration

requirements and, where applicable, the health criteria to enter Senegal depending on their country of origin. If necessary, the organizing committee may issue an invitation letter to facilitate the process.

Benefits and Elements Considered in the Selection Process

The selected proposals in each category will be integrated into the program of the Forum, either in online or face-to-face formats.

Selection Committee and Criteria

Proposals in both categories will be reviewed and a selection will be made by the GSEF2023 Scientific Committee formed for this Call. Gender balance, geographic diversity and other important factors including the representation of youth, women, people with disabilities, and indigenous peoples will be considered at the time of selection.

Preference will be given to :

- **GSEF member organizations**


- **Projects and initiatives built around or highlighting**

1. *The collaboration between governments and SSE organizations & enterprises for the co-creation of public policies*
2. *Social innovation with a social and economic purpose*
3. *Public policies aimed at achieving the SDGs through SSE*


Δ IMPORTANT

Only proposals submitted via the online submission forms will be considered :

- **Online submission form (self-organized session) :**

 <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/KRNTSP/>

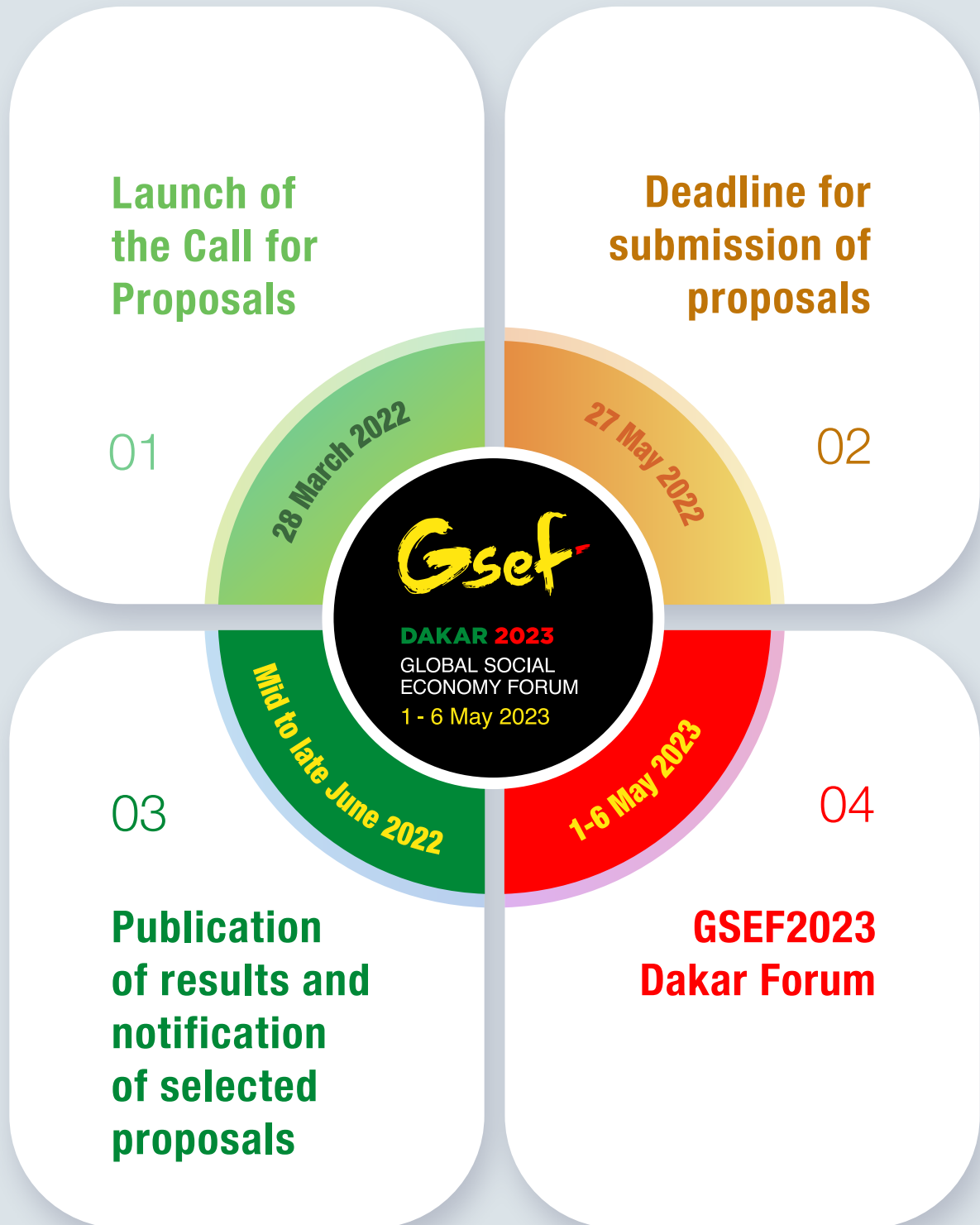
- **Online submission form (individual initiative) :**

 <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/ADQ2A0/>

The evaluation methodology and criteria will be determined by the GSEF2023 Scientific Committee. The Committee's decision will be final.

Any cases not considered under this Call will be resolved at the discretion of the Committee, which reserves the right to decide the number of proposals ultimately selected.

TIMELINE





WHAT FORMAT ?

The GSEF2023 Dakar Forum will take place in a variety of venues and formats :

Conference Village

where will be organized :

- **Plenary sessions,** including :
 1. Opening and closing sessions
 2. Panel of Mayors & Panel of Ministers
- **“Giving and Receiving” Workshops** to discover initiatives and practices from the five continents



Socio-Economic Village

where will be organized :

- **Site visits and a permanent exhibition**
Come meet SSE organizations, local governments, and partners
– **from 1-6 May 2023** –
- **Presentations of initiatives and achievements** of social and solidarity economy actors, networking opportunities, B2B (Business to Business) ...



Socio-Cultural Village

where will be organized :

**Cultural activities,
under the theme**

The world opens up to us

From 7:00 p.m. to midnight
(concerts, culinary activities,
fashion shows, folklore events,
networking evenings...)

Special Events

Pre-Forum on Youth and SSE,

from 1-2 May, exclusively dedicated
to the Youth and open to all, under the
theme **“Collective and Sustainable
Entrepreneurship for the Territories:
Solutions for the Inclusion of Youth
from Here and Beyond !”**

Women & SSE Day,

on 3 May, exclusively dedicated to
women and open to all, under the theme
**“Social and Economic Empowerment
of Women and Territorialization of
Sustainable Public Policies”**

