



The Mont-Blanc Meetings – International Forum of the Social and Solidarity Economy Entrepreneurs





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The association : « The Mont-Blanc Meetings – International Forum of the Social and Solidarity Economy Entrepreneurs »

- Association of French law (1901) created in 2005 composed of **24 members from 15 countries** (Belgium, Cameroon, Comores, Costa Rica, France, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Madagascar, Mali, Portugal, Quebec, Dominican Republic, Senegal, Togo),
- Holds special consultative status granted by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and is an observer member of the UN inter-agency Task Force on Social and Solidarity Economy (UN TFSSE)
- Born from the wish of social and solidarity economy entrepreneurs to get together and **co-build projects that reconcile social, civic, environmental and economic efficiency.**
- Its mission : to show, giving examples, that social and solidarity economy (SSE) makes another form of entrepreneurship possible, in line with an overall goal of sustainable development.
- Every 2 years, a forum brings together **SSE entrepreneurs from all over the world** to enable them to create projects together and to take position on major international issues. Regional events are also organized between the Forums.



The 2013 main activities

January – April 2013 :	Study about the Project Place
March 2013 :	Publication of the collective book <i>Lthe Social and Solidarity Economy, a response to international challenges</i>
March-April 2013 :	Activities of the MBM Group « With the Youth for the SSE » : ILO Academy on SSE in Agadir, Morocco, and World Social Forum, Tunis, Tunisia
April 2013 :	Labelling of the 2nd « Carrefour de la Mutualité » in Rabat, Morocco
May 2013 :	Participation to the MEDESS in Tunis, Tunisia
July 2013 :	Accreditation to the UN : special consultative status from UN-ECOSOC
August 2013 :	Labelling of the event on the post-2015 agenda in Latin-Central America
November 2013 :	6 th edition of the International Forum of the SSE Entrepreneurs
November 2013 :	Creation of the International Leading Group on SSE
January-December 2013 :	Initiatives Report, 3 rd edition
January-Décember 2013 :	Communication and social networks



March 2013 : publication of the collective book *The Social and Solidarity Economy, a response to international challenges*

- A global challenge needs a global response! This could be the motto of the Social and Solidarity Economy. This book, produced under the direction of Thierry Jeantet, President of the Association of the Mont-Blanc Meetings – The International Forum of the Entrepreneurs of the Social and Solidarity Economy, is a collection of articles written by actors of the Social and Solidarity Economy coming from several continents.
- Diversity and plurality. The diversity of the authors of this book, of their profession and their country, of their observation angles –some economic, others social or ecological- beyond an intellectual interest, embodies the diversity of the SSE which partly makes its strength.
- A presentation of the book was made in Paris on May, 23, 2013, notably in presence of **Michel Rocard** and animated by Patrick Lelong, journalist at France info.





The MBM Group « With the Youth for the SSE »

- 2012 : Creation of the MBM Group « With the Youth for the SSE » following the 5th edition of the MBM
- It brings together young (future) SSE entrepreneurs from all over the world
- This group is composed of 64 young people from 18 different countries, representing all continents.
- In 2013, they represented the MBM at 2 global major events : the **World Social Forum** in Tunis, Tunisia, in March, and the **ILO Academy on SSE** in Agadir, Morocco in April





Participation and labelling of events

2nd « Carrefour de la Mutualité » in Rabat, Morocco, 4 April 2013

- Organized by the Association Internationale de la Mutualité, the Union Africaine de la Mutualité and sponsored notably by the WHO, on the theme : « the role of mutual societies in the development of the social and solidarity economy ».

MedESS in Tunis, Tunisia, 2-4 May 2013

- Promoted by the French groups Macif and Crédit Coopératif, both founders of the Mont-Blanc Meetings as well, the MedESS brought together SSE actors from all around the Mediterranean region

Central American and Caribbean Forum on the balance and the post-2015 perspectives of the Millennium Development Goals through the social and solidarity economy, in Costa Rica, 29 August 2013

- Organized by Aq'ab'al (SSE enterprise member of the MBM since 2012) and FUNDEPOS Alma Mater, the National Technical University, the Popular and Community Development Bank, the Network of Foundations and Association of SSE in Central America and the Caribbeans, on the theme : « Changing the course of globalization with the SSE! »



The 6th edition of the MBM, 9-11 November 2013

Theme of the 6th edition : *Changing the course of globalization with the social and solidarity economy! Towards post-2015 MDGs*

- ❖ About 350 participants
- ❖ 45 represented countries
- ❖ 1 final declaration : 24 commitments
- ❖ 3 officials of governments
- ❖ The International Leading Group on SSE officially created
- ❖ 2 resolutions of challenges for SSE entrepreneurs
- ❖ Several international projects created



Priority to :

- The Project Place
- The voice and place of youth in SSE



The MBM Project Place

- The « Project Place » invented by the MBM is a fertile ground for innovations, from which initiatives and international projects are emerging, all economically, socially and ecologically responsible. It is a platform enabling the creation of projects emerging from exchanges and meetings between entrepreneurs of the social and solidarity economy from all over the world, notably through their participation to the MBM. It does not aim at financing projects but facilitating them virtually and physically, before, during and after the Forum.
- An **Initiatives Report** to present and promote SSE enterprises all around the world





A highlight of the 2013 MBM

The international leading group of the SSE received the **official support of France** at the opening matinée of the 6th edition of the Mont-Blanc Meetings on Saturday 9 November 2013 in Chamonix-Mont-Blanc, in presence of the SSE Minister of Ecuador and the representative of His Excellency the King of Morocco

Mr. François Hollande, President of the French Republic recalled this pledge of support in his speech given at the launch of the Congress of the International Association of Francophone Mayors, brought together in Paris on Tuesday 12 November 2013. He has agreed to discuss the topic with other Heads of State.





Creation of the International Leading Group on Social and Solidarity Economy

On November 9, 2013, launch of the **International Leading Group
on Social and Solidarity Economy:**

- Platform composed of States from all continents, international civil society and SSE organizations and UN agencies
- It aims to promote the social and solidarity economy (SSE) in the world, making this form of entrepreneurship accessible to all people and to increase the recognition of this economic model in public policies implementation.
- In practice, the SSE international leading group will submit concrete suggestions promoting SSE to national and international bodies during major international summits or national consultations on SSE (law bills in particular).





1st meeting of the Leading Group members in parallel of the UN General Assembly in New-York

- The members of the International Leading Group on SSE met on September 22nd, 2014 for the first time, in parallel of the United Nations General Assembly,
- This first meeting was marked by the enthusiasm of all participants to build an ambitious project, and the presence of representatives of non-member states concerned to join the Leading Group, such as Senegal, which has indicated its interest to the audience.
- 2 themes were developed :
 - 1. The development of the SSE in the world, and particularly on **public policies** towards the SSE (legislation...)
 - 2. The support for the creation and development of SSE enterprises in the world, particularly through **the issue of funding**.





The MBM Scientific Committee

- **The MBM Scientific Committee** is made up of academics, distinguished researchers, practitioners and economists, responsible for producing intellectual publications and guidance reports, and for building the contents of events. 20 countries are represented.
- In 2014, a **comparative study of SSE legislation in the world** has been launched. A preliminary version has been disseminated in New-York for the 1st meeting of the Leading Group on SSE. It will be further enriched and more largely communicated.





Main activities in 2014

- Organization of a **side-event at the UN Headquarters in New-York** for the 8th session of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals
- Contribution to the Position Papers of the UN inter-agency Task Force on Social and Solidarity Economy and to its activities
- **1st meeting of the Leading Group on SSE** in parallel of the UN General Assembly in New-York (September 2014) – further development in 2015
- Internationalization of the Month of the Social and Solidarity Economy
- **Membership campaign** and several partnerships (CIRIEC, ESMED, Pefondes, FMDV...)
- Participation to global events on SSE on various continents : Mexico, Italy, Belgium, Morocco, Quebec, Argentina, Ecuador, South Korea...
- + **Seminar in India on SSE (first quarter 2015)**
- + **7th edition of the International Forum of the Social and Solidarity Economy (The Mont-Blanc Meetings) in November**





Thank you for your attention!

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