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of social solidarity economy

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RIPESS Intercontinental Contribution to the 2026 Report of the UN
Secretary-General on the Implementation of Resolution 79/213

ADVANCING THE SOCIAL AND SOLIDARITY ECONOMY



BUILDING FAIRER ECONOMIES
ROOTED IN SOLIDARITY, HUMAN RIGHTS AND TERRITORIAL ACTION.



RIPESS INTERCONTINENTAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE 2026 REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 79/213 ON THE SOCIAL AND SOLIDARITY ECONOMY

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This submission presents the contribution of RIPESS – the Intercontinental Network for the Promotion of Social Solidarity Economy – to the 2026 report of the UN Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 79/213. It covers significant developments since 1 July 2024 across policy, advocacy, capacity-building, and multilateral engagement.

Key highlights:

- A successful, coordinated campaign to mainstream SSE in the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4), resulting in the explicit recognition of SSE in the Sevilla Commitment (June–July 2025), under Articles 21 and 32(h) – a historic first in a global financing-for-development outcome document.
- A landmark international cooperation agreement between the Government of Colombia's Administrative Department for Social Prosperity (DPS) and RIPESS, signed in February 2026, with implementation activities commencing in March 2026.
- The RIPESS LAC Diploma on Social and Solidarity Economy (2024–2025), which attracted more than 1,000 registered participants certified by partner universities, with the participation of Member States and UN agencies including ECLAC.
- RIPESS LAC, RIPESS Europe and the African Network RAESS participation in CSO Consultations held prior to the FAO regional conferences, bringing SSE perspectives into food systems and rural development debates across three continents.
- Reference to SSE and the above Resolution in the CFS policy on Reducing Inequalities October 2026
- Co-organisation of a RIPESS–Colombia–FMDV–UNTFSSSE side event during the 2026 ECOSOC FfD Forum follow-up week in New York (April 2026), maintaining momentum on SSE implementation of the Sevilla Commitment.
- A joint RIPESS–FMDV submission to the Santa Marta process (First Conference on the Transition Away from Fossil Fuels, April 2026), proposing SSE and solidarity finance as the "last-mile delivery engine" for a just, orderly, and equitable transition away from fossil fuels.
- The ASEAN SDG-SSE Community Roadmap (2026–2030), developed by RIPESS member APPGM-SDG (Malaysia) and partners, launched at the ASEAN Peoples' Forum in May 2025, establishing SSE as a vehicle for SDG localisation across Southeast Asia.

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INTRODUCTION AND RIPESS MANDATE

RIPESS – the Intercontinental Network for the Promotion of Social Solidarity Economy – is a global network bringing together continental SSE platforms from Latin America and the Caribbean, North America, Europe, Africa, Asia and Oceania. Through these continental, thematic and national networks, RIPESS connects thousands of cooperatives, associations, mutuels, community initiatives and social enterprises that prioritise people and the planet over profit. This territorial anchoring gives RIPESS both grounded knowledge of local realities and legitimacy to engage in policy dialogue at UN, regional and national levels on the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE).

RIPESS has participated as an observer since 2013 in the UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Social and Solidarity Economy (UNTFSSSE) and is a member of its Technical Working Group (TWG) on Access to Finance for SSE Entities. It has worked with UN partners to advance recognition of SSE as a driver of the 2030 Agenda, including through contributions to processes on labour, food systems, climate, financing for development, and South-South cooperation.

This input responds to the call for contributions to inform the 2026 report of the UN Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 79/213, covering developments since 1 July 2024. It draws on actions implemented by RIPESS Intercontinental and its regional members – RIPESS LAC, RIPESS Europe, RAESS (African Network for the promotion of social solidarity economy) and ASEC (Asian Solidarity Economy Council) – encompassing new government agreements, capacity-building programmes, multilateral advocacy, and climate and development-finance engagement.



FAIRER ECONOMIES BASED
ON HUMAN RIGHTS DECENT WORK AND SOLIDARITY.

2.1. National and Regional Policy Developments on SSE

Since mid-2024, RIPESS and its members have contributed to several developments that illustrate how SSE is increasingly embedded in legal and policy frameworks.

- **Spain:** A new Comprehensive Law to Promote the Social Economy was adopted by the Spanish Congress in early 2026, updating the legal framework to recognise a broader diversity of social-economy actors and strengthening support measures for an economic model that prioritises people and communities. REAS – a RIPESS Europe member – and other partners have participated in the long advocacy process leading to its adoption, making this law a significant reference for other countries seeking to operationalise resolution 79/213 at national level.
- **Guatemala:** RIPESS member ADAM (Agricultural and Business Development Association) is part of the current dialogue between the government and local actors to implement SSE public policies and develop a national legal framework for SSE, illustrating how RIPESS-connected organisations at the grassroots level contribute to formal legal and policy reform processes.
- **Malaysia and Southeast Asia:** RIPESS members in Malaysia works with the APPGM-SDG (All-Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia on SDGs) that has contributed to the recently launched 13th Malaysia Plan, presented in Parliament on 31 July 2025, which makes specific references to the social economy and the third sector in Chapters 2 and 4. The Plan includes policy recommendations and strategies for developing cooperatives, social enterprises, agricultural organisations, and CSOs/NGOs as engines of alternative community-based economies. Between 2020 and 2024, APPGM-SDG provided micro-grants of RM 30,000–40,000 to 1,373 SDG projects at the grassroots level, including 384 micro-community farms. This work provided the basis for the development and launch, at the ASEAN Peoples' Forum in May 2025, of the ASEAN SDG-SSE Community Roadmap (2026–2030): a community-led framework establishing SSE as a vehicle for SDG localisation across Southeast Asia, with 5 strategic goals and 31 targets. The Roadmap is co-developed with policymakers, academics, CSOs, NGOs, private sector representatives and international development agencies, and is directly aligned with UN resolutions on SSE and the 2030 Agenda.
- **Colombia:** The most advanced partnership between a Member State and a SSE network to date crystallised in the signing of a formal international cooperation agreement between Colombia's Administrative Department for Social Prosperity (DPS) and RIPESS (described in detail in Section This agreement positions Colombia as a model for how a Member State can operationalise resolution 79/213 through a direct, institutionalised partnership with an international SSE network.

- **Africa:** The African Network for the Promotion of SSE (RAESS), a member of RIPESS, has participated in key regional policy spaces, including FAO's 34th Regional Conference for Africa and related civil-society consultations, helping to insert SSE perspectives into regional strategies on food systems, rural development and territorial resilience. In August 2024, the African Union adopted its 10-year SSE strategy, a landmark in regional policy recognition of SSE on the continent. The Strategy recognizes RAESS as a key actor in implementing SSE policies in the continent. RIPESS has succeeded to include together with their alliance FMDV, the Global fund for cities development, an explicit SSE reference mentioned in the “Inclusive Communities” section, which promotes social and solidarity economy approaches as an institutional channel for financing and implementing housing and urban development solutions. Inside the Second Africa Urban Forum Nairobi Declaration. In the “Inclusive Communities” section, one of the commitments states: “Promote social and solidarity economy approaches, including community housing, cooperative mechanisms, and incremental construction models, as institutional channels for financing and implementation. That same section also recognizes:

1. The need to integrate displaced persons, residents of informal settlements, documented migrants, and the 80% of the urban workforce in the informal economy into urban development frameworks, extending social protection, legal recognition, access to financing, and affordable housing.
2. The importance of recognizing informal and community-based economic systems as key components of urban development and integrating them into formal frameworks for housing financing and production.

In summary, the SSE is concentrated in the “Inclusive Communities” section and is presented as a strategic approach to channel funding and implement solutions for inclusive housing and urban planning, which directly supports your interpretation of the SSE as a pillar of urban and rights-based policies within RIPESS.

- **Europe:** RIPESS Europe members have participated as well in FAO's consultation with civil society prior to the regional conference for Europe and Central Asia and is actively involved in the Good Food for all Campaign.

These developments reflect growing, though uneven, institutional recognition of SSE as a vector for inclusive and sustainable development across regions, in line with resolution 79/213.

THE SSE IS GAINING
GROUND IN THE MULTILATERAL SYSTEM.

2.2 Strengthening Multilateral Coordination and UN System Engagement

RIPESS has intensified engagement in multilateral fora where SSE is being integrated into global agendas.

Within the UN system, RIPESS actively participates in the UNTFSSSE and its TWG on Access to Finance for SSE Entities, contributing civil society perspectives and field-based evidence to the Task Force's research, guidance and country-level support work. This participation has been central to achieving the inclusion of SSE in the Sevilla Commitment at FfD4 (detailed in Section 3.3).

RIPESS has been an observer of the Convention on Biological Diversity since 2024 and participated in the COP16 in some key events lead by UNCTAD in the Trade Day including the topic Trade for inclusion and solidarity: “Empowering women, indigenous peoples and local communities for sustainable and resilient economies in harmony with the environment”, exploring how socially inclusive and environmentally sustainable trade, particularly through the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE), can foster equitable development and biodiversity conservation.

RIPESS has also participated in UNCTAD 16 in 2026 and the International Labour Conference in 2025, contributing statements that highlight the role of SSE in platform economies, building resilient economies, supporting decent work, and advancing just transitions. These interventions help align resolution 79/213 with broader UN commitments on trade, labour, human rights and environmental sustainability.

RIPESS advocacy work during the VI World Forum on Local Economic Development (VI WFLED), held in Seville, Spain, from 1–4 April 2025, contributed to a Final Declaration that reinforces a global commitment to fair territorial development. The Declaration calls for inclusive, resilient economic systems, emphasises a just transition and care economy, and puts SSE as a key focus area for equitable and future-ready local economies.

RIPESS also participated in the 2025 Global Nyeleni Forum on Food Sovereignty in Sri Lanka, contributing SSE perspectives to the final declaration and Common Political Agenda on building resilient territorial food systems based on food sovereignty.

RIPESS advocacy and collective actions during the GSEF 2025 in Bordeaux, France, contributed to strengthening a shared global vision of the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) as a transformative pathway for social justice, decent work, universal social protection and the sustainability of life. Across 16 events, with participation from representatives of 26 countries, 27 grassroots organizations and over 50 participants, key spaces such as the Gender Commission and the Board meetings—where regional analyses and political debates shaped the strategic and action plan—and joint workshops with allies (WIEGO, WSM, INSP!R and ANMC) enabled alignment of strategies, exchange of practices and consolidation of common advocacy messages. These processes reaffirmed SSE as a strategic pathway to achieving social justice, decent work, universal social protection and sustainability.

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MEASURES ADOPTED, REVISED OR IMPLEMENTED

3.1. The Colombia–RIPESS International Cooperation Agreement

A milestone for this reporting period is the international cooperation agreement between Colombia's Administrative Department for Social Prosperity (DPS) and RIPESS, formally signed on 28 February 2026 in Cartagena de Indias, during ICARRD+20 and the Third International Meeting of Economies for Life (ECOOVIDA 2026), under the theme "Solidarity to Sow Life." The agreement aims to strengthen the Popular, Social and Solidarity Economy (EPSS) through:

- management and circulation of knowledge;
- generation of knowledge dialogues between national and international actors;
- exchange of experiences and good practices;
- production of inputs for the design and strengthening of public policies;
- institutional coordination and advocacy in governance spaces; and
- support for social, community and popular organisational processes.

The agreement recognises Colombia's associative potential and is designed to promote technical support that, in coordination with international networks, raises the profile of local experiences, facilitates exchange and positions the popular, social, solidarity and community economy as a strategic process in national and international arenas. It was signed by the Director of DPS and the representative of RIPESS Intercontinental, making it a high-level political signal of Colombia's commitment to SSE-informed development.

Activities commenced in March 2026, including initial diagnostic work, the design of joint training and knowledge-exchange programmes, and the identification of policy priorities to be addressed through co-created tools and methodologies. The agreement exemplifies how a Member State can operationalise resolution 79/213's call to consider how SSE can contribute to sustainable development and integrate it into relevant strategies, while leveraging international cooperation with global SSE networks. RIPESS presented this model as a replicable South-North cooperation framework during the 2026 FfD Forum follow-up side event in New York (see Section 3.5).

3.2.FAO Regional Conferences and Diploma Programme

Participation in the Civil Society Consultation prior to the FAO regional conferences: RIPESS LAC, RIPESS Europe and RAESS representatives have taken part in FAO regional processes across Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa and Europe, contributing to debates on agrarian reform, food systems, rural development and territorial peace. It is important to also note that solidarity economy is one of the Elements of Agroecology adopted by the FAO Council in 2019.

**SSE IS A TRANSFORMATIVE PATHWAY FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE,
DECENT WORK, UNIVERSAL SOCIAL PROTECTION AND THE SUSTAINABILITY OF LIFE.**

RIPESS LAC's participation in the series of ECOOVIDA international encounters in Colombia (2024, 2025 and 2026) – supported by the DPS and held alongside major international events including COP16 to the Convention on Biological Diversity – has helped position SSE's associativity, territorial peace commitments and environmental contributions within regional policy discussions. Through these spaces, RIPESS has brought the voices of community economies, peasants, Indigenous Peoples, women and youth into regional policy dialogues co-convened with FAO and other UN agencies.

Diploma on SSE in Latin America and the Caribbean: In 2024 and in 2025, RIPESS LAC organised a diploma-level training programme on SSE, in partnership with some universities and with the active participation of Member States and UN agencies including ECLAC (CEPAL). The programme attracted more than 1,000 registered participants over its two editions, with participants receiving university certification. The diploma integrated conceptual grounding on SSE, public-policy modules, territorial praxis and feminist and decolonial perspectives, and served public officials, community leaders, practitioners and researchers. The involvement of CEPAL reinforces the institutional uptake of SSE concepts and methods by the UN regional system, and the programme provides a model for scaling up certified SSE training in other regions. It directly exemplifies how large-scale, inter-institutional capacity-building supports the implementation of resolution 79/213, particularly its calls for knowledge-sharing, capacity-building and international cooperation.

3.3. FfD4 and the Sevilla Commitment: Mainstreaming SSE in Global Financing Frameworks

RIPESS was deeply engaged in the process leading to the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4), held in Seville from 30 June to 3 July 2025, and played a central role in securing the historic recognition of SSE in its outcome document, the Sevilla Commitment (Compromiso de Sevilla).

RIPESS, as an observer of the UNTFSSSE and member of its TWG on Access to Finance, co-led a strategic campaign to ensure SSE was embedded in the FfD4 outcome from the start. Its advocacy strategy document was adopted by the UNTFSSSE and shared with governments across Europe, Latin America, Africa and Asia. The Civil Society Financing for Development Mechanism also included SSE for the first time in the Global Framework chapter of its Collective Elements Paper submitted to all Member States.

RIPESS followed all four preparatory committee meetings (August 2024 to June 2025, from New York to Seville), building alliances with key government partners. Colombia and Chile were pivotal in defending SSE in the FfD4 negotiations, supported by the EU (notably Spain, France and Luxembourg), and with important backing from Brazil, Bolivia, Senegal, Zambia and Kenya. The African Union's adoption of its 10-year SSE strategy in August 2024 reinforced the political weight of Africa's engagement.

RIPESS co-organised with FMDV and UNTFSSSE an Official Side Event at FfD4 titled "Mainstreaming the Social and Solidarity Economy in the Financing for Development Agenda and its Follow-up." The event brought together Spain's Secretary of State for Social Economy, Senegal's Minister of Microfinance and SSE, Colombia's National Director of Solidarity Organizations, the CAF Development Bank for Latin America, the president of the Nouakchott region in Mauritania, and the General Secretary of UCLG.

The coordinated advocacy produced historic results. For the first time in a global financing-for-development outcome document, SSE was explicitly named in the Sevilla Commitment as follows:

- Article 21 (Productive sectors and decent jobs): "We will... facilitate the growth of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), cooperatives and social and solidarity economy..."
- Article 32(h) (Domestic and international private business and finance): "We encourage support for social and solidarity economy entities including access to tailored financial and non-financial assistance from local, national, and international financial institutions."
- Article 30(b) (Domestic public resources, indirectly): encourages Multilateral Development Banks and development partners to support national Public Development Banks in their efforts to provide long-term, low-cost financing to invest in sustainable development, aligned with national priorities and plans – directly relevant for countries that have included SSE in their national strategies.

The Sevilla Commitment also includes commitments on decent jobs, the care economy, recognition of unpaid care work, formalisation of the informal economy and social protection – all areas where SSE has a central contribution to make. This embedding of SSE in the FfD4 outcome directly supports implementation of resolution 79/213's call to integrate SSE into Financing for Development and other international policy processes, and provides a new normative basis for development finance institutions to support SSE ecosystems.

3.4. ASEAN SDG-SSE Roadmap (2026–2030)

RIPESS member ASEC together with ASEAN civil society, policymakers and UN stakeholders, co-developed and launched the ASEAN SDG-SSE Community Roadmap (2026–2030) at the ASEAN Peoples' Forum in May 2025. The Roadmap establishes SSE as a fully acknowledged and powerful vehicle for implementing the SDGs across Southeast Asia, with 5 strategic goals and 31 measurable targets for the period 2026–2030.

The Roadmap was co-developed through a multi-stakeholder forum that brought together policymakers, academics, CSOs, NGOs, private-sector leaders and international development agencies, ensuring broad ownership and alignment with national SDG processes. It underscores the immense potential of SSE in the ASEAN region while emphasising the importance of inclusive dialogue, grassroots empowerment and community self-reliance.

Key elements of the Roadmap include:

- Positioning SSE as a vehicle for SDG localisation and community-driven sustainable development;
- Building solidarity across ASEAN to ensure no one is left behind;
- Leveraging platforms such as the ASEAN SDG-SSE Forum for multi-stakeholder collaboration;
- Integrating AI and digital tools for SSE organisations (including dedicated AI training programmes);
- Connecting ASEAN SSE experience to the global UN SSE agenda and resolution 79/213.

The Roadmap is directly aligned with the UNTFSSSE's Strategic Action Plan, and demonstrates how regional civil-society networks can translate UN resolutions into community-led implementation frameworks.

3.5. FfD Follow-Up: 2026 ECOSOC FfD Forum Side Event in New York

Building on the achievements of FfD4, RIPESS participated in and co-organised a side event during the 2026 ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development Follow-Up (FfD Forum), held from 20–24 April 2026 at UN Headquarters in New York. The event was co-organised with the Government of Colombia, continuing the partnership forged in Seville and providing a platform for SSE actors and Member States to report on early implementation of the Sevilla Commitment's SSE provisions.

The side event served to:

- Showcase early implementation steps under the Colombia–RIPESS cooperation agreement as a concrete example of how Member States are operationalising resolution 79/213 and the Sevilla Commitment;
- Advocate for the inclusion of SSE actors in the design and monitoring of national FfD implementation plans;
- Present RIPESS's proposals for generic intermediary organisational approaches for SSE financing, aligned with the UNTFSSSE Policy Brief for FfD4.

This continued engagement at the multilateral level ensures that SSE remains visible in the follow-up architecture to FfD4, and supports Member States in translating the commitments of the Sevilla Commitment into operational policies and financial instruments.

3.6. RIPESS–FMDV–DPS (Colombian Government) Submission to the Santa Marta TAFF Process and the First International Conference on Transition Away from Fossil Fuels

RIPESS, jointly with the Global Fund for Cities Development (FMDV) and the Administrative Department for Social Prosperity (DPS) in Colombia, submitted a joint contribution to the Santa Marta Conference on the Transition Away from Fossil Fuels (TAFF), held in Santa Marta, Colombia, on 24–29 April 2026 – co-hosted by Colombia and the Netherlands and linked to the COP30 Presidency's Roadmap consultation on transitioning away from fossil fuels.

The submission, titled "The Last-Mile Delivery Engine for Transition and Transformation: Social and Solidarity Economy and Finance as a Whole-of-Society Country Platform Backbone", positions SSE and solidarity finance not as complementary actors but as core delivery infrastructures for the TAFF, based on three structural arguments:

- Last-mile implementation capacity: TAFF requires thousands of small investment decisions in buildings, mobility, local energy, circular economy and food systems across territories. SSE/SSF actors are uniquely positioned to structure and deliver this distributed pipeline. (The buildings sector alone represents around 31% of global CO₂ emissions, implying a transition centred on household and community uptake.)

- Social legitimacy and durable political coalitions: The UNFCCC just transition framing requires participation, equity and accountability as determinants of feasibility. SSE institutions provide channels for structured participation and co-production, especially in communities where livelihoods and informal economies are central.
- Finance architectures that reach communities: SSE/SSF finance mechanisms – cooperative savings, community banking, revolving funds, local guarantee schemes and citizen finance – widen access to climate finance beyond what conventional finance can deliver, especially for subnational governments and communities.

The submission builds directly on the recognition of Subnational Finance (Art. 27(o)), Country-led Platforms (Art. 40(a)) and Social and Solidarity Economy and Finance (Arts. 21 and 32(h)) in the Sevilla Commitment, and proposes to operationalise these provisions to close institutional and cohesion gaps between internationally agreed frameworks and their territorial implementation.

The submission proposes a five-module architecture for Last-Mile Delivery Country Platforms:

- A Governance and Social Contract Module institutionalising whole-of-society, multilevel governance compacts;
- A Territorial Investment Pipeline Module deploying Finance Structuring Hubs (FinHubs) to generate financeable, investment-ready programmes;
- A Policy and Fiscal Module for subnational delivery, leveraging procurement, fiscal instruments and regulatory powers;
- A Finance Architecture Module anchored in public development banks and SSE/SSF intermediaries; and
- A Just Transition Risk Management Module covering social protection, place-based economic diversification, and legal and political risk management.

The submission further proposes a layered financing stack combining Public Development Banks as system anchors, SSE/SSF intermediaries as last-mile engines, citizen finance as complementary capital mobilisation, and subnational balance-sheet strategies including divest-invest approaches. It also references the Green Climate Fund's Locally Led Climate Action (LLCA) framework as an internationally validated design benchmark for decentralised, high-impact delivery aligned with TAFF objectives.

The joint RIPESS–FMDV submission directly links the TAFF process to resolution 79/213, the Sevilla Commitment, the COP30 Presidency Roadmap, and the UNFCCC Just Transition Work Programme launched at COP28 – demonstrating how SSE can operationalise the intersection of climate, development finance, and social justice agendas.

**SSE STAYS CENTRAL IN FFD4 FOLLOW-UP,
TURNING THE SEVILLA COMMITMENT INTO ACTION.**

3.7. Capacity-Building and Youth Engagement

RIPESS and its members have invested in strengthening capacities of SSE actors and engaging younger generations:

Youth-focused initiatives: The "You(th)Care" project, coordinated by RIPESS Europe and partners, supports young people to develop SSE-based responses in the care economy, social protection and community wellbeing. These projects contribute to implementation of resolution 79/213 by demonstrating how SSE can address care deficits and create dignified work for youth, especially women and marginalised groups.

Training, exchanges and assemblies: RIPESS Europe's General Assembly in 2025 and associated activities reinforced strategic coordination across European SSE networks, enhancing their capacity to engage in policy dialogue and share transformative practices.

Knowledge tools and mapping: Through the socioeco.org platform, linked to RIPESS Intercontinental and RIPESS Europe, the network continues to curate and disseminate resources, case studies and mappings of SSE initiatives and public policies in multiple languages, enabling policymakers, researchers and practitioners to access diverse evidence on SSE contributions to the SDGs.

Youth empowerment in Africa: In December 2025, RAESS/RIPESS Africa launched three "Jeun'ESS" HUBs in Cameroon, Mali and Morocco to coordinate youth-led SSE dynamics across the continent. In each country, a youth catalyst panel was established to drive SSE-based solutions. The centres aim to support 200 young people in creating and consolidating SSE initiatives; facilitate the labour market integration of approximately 2,500 young people through decent and sustainable jobs adapted to African realities; strengthen democratic governance and organisational capacities in around 150 youth-led enterprises; and consolidate collaboration among SSE actors, public administrations and development cooperation agencies, under the coordination of RAESS and RIPESS.

Active YouthESS in Latin America: RIPESS supports JuventudESS Activas, launched in 2024, a youth-led space within the popular and solidarity economy that brings together young people from several Latin American countries, including Guatemala, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico and others. It is a platform for youth participation and collective action aimed at strengthening the role of young people in the SSE, promoting political advocacy in solidarity economy spaces, and fostering the exchange of experiences and collective learning to enable youth to contribute to and reinforce the development of SSE ecosystems in their territories.

**YOUTH-LED SSE HUBS AND PLATFORMS
ARE DRIVING SOLUTIONS, BUILDING DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE
AND CREATING DECENT WORK FOR THOUSANDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE.**

3.8. Thematic Workstreams

Food systems and territorial resilience: RIPESS participated in the 2025 Global Nyeleni Forum on Food Sovereignty in Sri Lanka, contributing SSE perspectives to the final declaration on resilient territorial local food systems based on food sovereignty. RIPESS Europe has supported campaigns such as the "Good Food for All" European Citizens' Initiative and broader food sovereignty and agroecology movements. Good Food for All advocates for the recognition of access to adequate, safe, sustainable and nutritious food as a fundamental Right to Food across the EU. Its mission is to transform food system governance by placing human dignity, solidarity and sustainability at the centre, promoting agroecological models, ensuring universal access to healthy food, and mobilising citizens to defend this basic human right.

Housing and the right to the city: The network has continued to highlight cooperative housing models, community-led urban initiatives and solidarity-based responses to housing crises.

Ethical and solidarity-based finance: RIPESS Europe has supported initiatives on ethical finance, local currencies and community-based financial mechanisms that expand access to finance for SSE entities and align capital flows with social and environmental objectives.



4.1. Advancing Legal and Policy Environments

The Colombia–RIPESS cooperation agreement provides an institutionalised framework through which SSE can inform public policies for social prosperity, social protection and territorial development, with explicit recognition of popular, social, solidarity and community economies as strategic for national development. Early implementation activities in March–April 2026 demonstrate how such agreements can translate UN resolutions into concrete state-civil-society cooperation.

Spain's updated social-economy law, the African Union's 10-year SSE strategy, Malaysia's 13th Malaysia Plan, and Guatemala's ongoing legal framework development represent a growing body of national and regional precedents that collectively illustrate the operationalisation of resolution 79/213 across diverse geopolitical and development contexts.

The ASEAN SDG-SSE Roadmap (2026–2030) demonstrates how a regional, community-led framework can translate UN SSE resolutions into concrete targets and implementation pathways aligned with national SDG processes.

Besides the above examples, we continue to monitor advances support to SSE:

- **Brazil** adopted law NO. 15,068, of December 23, 2024 on Solidarity Economy
- **The African Union** Assembly of February 15-16, 2025, adopted Assembly/AU/Dec.933/XXXVIII includes. WELCOMING the adoption of the 10-year strategic plan on the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) of the African Union (2024), which aims to promote a people-centered economic model aligned with Agenda 2063, and recognizing the efforts of the Specialized Technical Committee on Social Development, Labour and Employment (STC-SDLE-5) in advancing the Social Agenda 2063.
- **Morocco** – A National conference was held on June 17 and 18 2025 with all relevant stakeholders, including ministers.
- **Finland**: On December 23, 2025, the Ministry of Labor and Employment announced a Strategy for the social economy and social enterprises 2026–2030.
- **Ivory Coast** adopted law in April 2026.

4.2. Historic Recognition of SSE in Global Financing Frameworks

The inclusion of SSE in Articles 21 and 32(h) of the Sevilla Commitment represents the most significant normative advance for SSE in a global development-finance outcome document to date. It establishes, for the first time in a Financing for Development text, an explicit call on international financial institutions to support SSE entities through tailored financial and non-financial assistance. This directly operationalises the mandate of resolution 79/213 with respect to Financing for Development.

The follow-up advocacy maintained at the 2026 FfD Forum in New York ensures that this recognition is not confined to paper, but is progressively translated into operational mechanisms, country programming and financial instruments.

4.3. Strengthening Ecosystems and Capacities

The RIPESS LAC diploma, with over 1,000 certified participants over 2024–2025, has significantly expanded the pool of trained public officials, community leaders and practitioners able to design and manage SSE initiatives and policies. The involvement of CEPAL reinforces institutional uptake by the UN regional system.

The joint RIPESS–FMDV submission to the Santa Marta TAFF process opens a new frontier for SSE engagement in climate finance and transition governance, proposing concrete, replicable mechanisms for positioning SSE as a delivery infrastructure for the transition away from fossil fuels. Given that the first CMA8 decision on a "just transition mechanism" is expected at COP31 (November 2026), this engagement is both timely and strategically important.

- **Uneven political will and policy coherence:** Support for SSE remains uneven across regions and vulnerable to political shifts. European debates illustrate how lack of binding frameworks can lead to backtracking. The mixed results at FfD4 – where SSE was included but structural solutions to the SDG financing gap, debt distress and ODA reduction were inadequate – show that isolated victories must be embedded in broader structural reforms.
- **Access to finance and infrastructure:** SSE entities in the Global South continue to face difficulties accessing finance due to regulatory barriers and financial systems that do not recognise SSE-specific governance forms. Tailored instruments and public-policy support remain under-scaled.
- **Data gaps and recognition:** Official statistics rarely capture the scope and diversity of SSE, particularly informal and community-based forms, limiting their visibility in national accounts and policy planning. Participatory documentation approaches, such as socioeco.org, require sustained resourcing and integration with official statistical systems.
- **Capacity and participation inequalities:** Many grassroots SSE organisations lack the capacity to engage in policy dialogue or access complex funding mechanisms. Long-term, predictable investments in capacity-building and political education are essential.
- **Structural financial architecture:** For SSE to advance multilateralism, it must link to macroeconomic reforms, including a UN Tax Convention, a UN Debt Convention, binding frameworks on multinational corporations and human rights, and the full implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Peasants (UNDROP) and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).

UNEVEN POLITICAL WILL, LIMITED FINANCING AND STRUCTURAL INEQUALITIES CONTINUE TO CONSTRAIN THE FULL POTENTIAL OF THE ESS.



6.1. For Member States

- Adopt and strengthen comprehensive SSE legal frameworks and cooperation agreements. Taking inspiration from Spain's updated social-economy law and the Colombia–RIPESS cooperation agreement model, Member States should develop inclusive legal definitions, recognise diverse SSE entities, and establish cooperation frameworks with SSE networks to institutionalise knowledge exchange and policy co-design.
- Integrate SSE into national development, SDG and FfD implementation strategies. SSE should be mainstreamed into national development plans, SDG roadmaps, climate and just-transition strategies and national implementation plans for the Sevilla Commitment, with explicit targets, indicators and budget lines.
- Create enabling financial ecosystems for SSE. Governments should design dedicated financial instruments (guarantee funds, blended finance, participatory budgeting, public-community investment vehicles) and adapt public procurement frameworks to support SSE entities, particularly those led by women, youth and marginalised communities, consistent with Art. 32(h) of the Sevilla Commitment.
- Institutionalise participation of SSE networks. National councils or platforms on SSE, FfD and SDG implementation should formally include representative SSE networks, such as RIPESS members, ensuring meaningful participation and gender balance.
- Invest in data, research and training. Member States should collaborate with SSE networks, universities and UN agencies to develop satellite accounts, mapping exercises and training programmes similar to the RIPESS LAC diploma, and support replication in other regions.
- Integrate SSE into national TAFF plans and Country Platforms. Member States should recognise SSE and solidarity finance as core delivery infrastructures in their national plans for the transition away from fossil fuels, in line with RIPESS–FMDV proposals to the Santa Marta Conference and the COP30 Presidency Roadmap.
- Create a Group of Friends of SSE, in a similar approach as other UN Groups or friends. The Group of Friends of SSE will be important for promotion the implementation of resolutions A/RES/77/281 and 79/213.



6.2. For United Nations Entities

- Operationalise SSE across UN agencies and country programmes. UN entities should integrate SSE into country cooperation frameworks and thematic initiatives on employment, social protection, food systems, climate, urban development and Financing for Development, guided by the UNTFSSSE Strategic Action Plan.
- Support Member States through technical assistance. Agencies should provide guidance, toolkits and peer-learning on SSE legal frameworks, financing mechanisms and monitoring systems, building on good practices from the Colombia–RIPESS agreement and the RIPESS LAC diploma.
- Advance SSE in follow-up to FfD4 and the Sevilla Commitment. The UN system should ensure that SSE features in the implementation of the Sevilla Commitment and its Platform of Action, including tracking the impact of Arts. 21 and 32(h) on SSE financing and development outcomes.
- Advance a UN Tax Convention and UN Debt Convention. As emphasised at the FfD Forum in New York, structural financial reforms are preconditions for SSE's long-term success. UN entities should advance these frameworks to create the macroeconomic conditions in which SSE can thrive.
- Promote human-rights, feminist and territorial perspectives. SSE implementation must align with international human-rights obligations, feminist economic analysis, and the rights of peasants, Indigenous Peoples, migrants and refugees, including the full implementation of UNDROP and UNDRIP.



6.3. For International Development Agencies and NGOs

- International development agencies of developed countries should include the implementation of SSE resolutions in their thematic programs. Supporting countries and other stakeholders is necessary to develop legislation, policies and programs, at country level.
- International development NGOs are encouraged to include SSE in their work at all levels. This is very important to overcome the identified challenges (section 5)



6.4. For Multilateral and Regional Financial Institutions and Development Banks

- Design dedicated SSE financing windows. Development banks should establish financing windows, guarantee schemes and technical-assistance facilities tailored to cooperatives, mutuals, community-based organisations and social enterprises, consistent with Art. 32(h) of the Sevilla Commitment and Art. 30(b) for national PDB support.
- Align investment criteria with SSE principles. Lending and investment frameworks should include indicators on democratic governance, reinvestment of surpluses, community benefit and environmental care, rather than prioritising short-term financial returns.
- Partner with SSE networks for pipeline development. Financial institutions should collaborate with RIPESS and its members to identify viable SSE projects and co-design tailored instruments, including through the FinHub architecture proposed in the DPS-RIPESS-FMDV TAFF submission, to ensure capital flows reach the "last mile."
- Leverage the GCF's Locally Led Climate Action framework. Multilateral climate funds should use the LLCA benchmark to structure finance flows that reach SSE/SSF actors and subnational governments in the context of TAFF and just transition implementation.



6.5. For Civil Society and SSE Networks

- Deepen cross-regional coordination and South-South cooperation. SSE networks should continue strengthening intercontinental alliances, as RIPESS does, to share strategies, monitor implementation of UN resolutions, and respond collectively to global crises.
- Expand training and political education initiatives. Building on experiences such as the RIPESS LAC diploma and the ASEAN SDG-SSE Roadmap, SSE networks should scale up certified training that integrates technical, political, feminist and territorial dimensions, in collaboration with universities and UN agencies.
- Document, evaluate and communicate impact. SSE actors should systematise their experiences and generate accessible evidence to demonstrate contributions to SDGs, human rights and Financing for Development, using platforms like socioeco.org and the ASEAN SDG-SSE Roadmap monitoring framework.

7

CONCLUDING REMARKS

The period since 1 July 2024 has seen RIPESS achieve some of its most significant advances in multilateral recognition and operational partnership for the Social and Solidarity Economy. The inclusion of SSE in Articles 21 and 32(h) of the Sevilla Commitment at FfD4 constitutes a historic normative milestone, directly linked to the mandate of resolution 79/213 and the sustained advocacy of RIPESS and its government allies, particularly Colombia, Chile, Spain, the EU, Senegal and others. The Colombia-RIPESS cooperation agreement and its early implementation represent a concrete, replicable model for how Member States can institutionalise SSE in their development strategies through structured international civil-society partnerships.

At the same time, the launch of the ASEAN SDG-SSE Roadmap (2026-2030), the expansion of the RIPESS LAC diploma to over 1,000 certified participants, and the joint RIPESS-FMDV submission to the Santa Marta TAFF process demonstrate the breadth and depth of SSE engagement across regions, generations and policy agendas – from climate and food systems to care, housing and development finance.

Persistent challenges around political will, structural financing and data underscore that SSE's transformative potential remains under-realised, especially for those most affected by intersecting crises. With a just transition mechanism under negotiation at CMA8 (COP31, November 2026), the Santa Marta TAFF Roadmap process, and the ongoing follow-up to the Sevilla Commitment, 2026 offers critical opportunities to embed SSE as a cornerstone of the global architecture for sustainable development, climate action and inclusive financing. RIPESS stands ready to continue working with Member States, UN entities, financial institutions and all stakeholders to co-construct policies and cooperation frameworks that put SSE at the heart of strategies to achieve the 2030 Agenda, fulfil human-rights obligations and ensure that no one is left behind.

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