



RIPESS

Intercontinental network for the
promotion of social solidarity economy

2025 ACTIVITY REPORT

CONTENTS

Author:
RIPESS Intercontinental



With the support of:
Catalan Agency for Development Cooperation



MESSAGE FROM RIPESS SECRETARIAT	4
ABOUT RIPESS	6
INTERCONTINENTAL ADVOCACY.....	10
THEMATIC AND REGIONAL REPORTS	18
URGENCI	19
AFRICA - RAESS	22
ASIA - ASEC.....	26
EUROPE-RIPESS EUROPE	30
NORTH AMERICA	34
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN-RIPESS LAC..	40
MEMBERS AND GOVERNANCE	44
CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE.....	45
SECRETARIAT	45
BOARD.....	46
MEMBERS.....	48

MESSAGE FROM RIPESS SECRETARIAT

Dear RIPESS Membres, Friends and Allies,

2025 was an intense, challenging and deeply transformative year—the RIPESS Secretariat wishes to thank all the organizations, networks, collectives, movements, and individuals who are part of this great global community of the Social Solidarity Economy (SSE). Your commitment, creativity, and daily struggle are the heartbeat that keeps alive this network that does not give up, that continues to weave hopes and concrete practices of another way of inhabiting and organizing the world.

2025 was not just any year. It was a year of reaffirmations and real advances, of learning, of political confrontations, and of construction. We made the SSE visible in international spaces where our voice had not been heard before; we promoted policies in different territories that recognize the value of economies centered on care rather than profit; we strengthened ties among social movements, cooperatives, Indigenous and peasant communities, feminist organizations, youth collectives, and workers' networks worldwide. Each action, each encounter, each alliance woven during this year brings us one step closer to that common horizon of social, economic, and environmental justice. But we know that our progress does not take place in a vacuum.

“The SSE is not a minor niche of resistance; it is a social and political force.”

The global context is deteriorating: wars, food crises, forced displacement, climate denial and the dismantling of the multilateral system threaten the foundations of human coexistence and the sustainability of life. Faced with this reality, the Social and Solidarity Economy emerges not merely as an alternative, but as an urgent pathway to redirect the course of the planet that demonstrates that other ways of producing, distributing, caring for one another and making decisions collectively already exist – and that they work.

We do not accept the normalisation of inequality, nor the invisibilisation of the care work that sustains life. We do not accept democracy being reduced to an empty exercise, whilst communities lose the power to decide on their resources, their territories and their future. That is why we will continue to strengthen the SSE not as a sector, but as a political and transformative movement; a network of hopes woven from the grassroots up, by those who imagine and practise plural economies, and who defend the commons, food sovereignty, climate justice and human dignity.

Throughout 2025, we promoted spaces for intercontinental dialogue, strengthened our advocacy with multilateral organisations and brought together diverse voices around a shared agenda for just transitions. We are committed to building bridges between different agendas — feminist, ecological, peasant, cooperative and community-based — because we know that transformation will either be collective or it will not happen at all.

“Transformation will either be collective or it will not happen at all!”

We know the path is not an easy one. Institutional resistance, a lack of funding and attempts to co-opt or commodify the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) are very real. But so too are our capacity for organisation, our political conviction and our solidarity across territories. If this year has taught us anything, it is that the SSE remains alive because it is nourished by the experience of thousands of people who believe in the possibility of living differently and are not prepared to give up on that dream.

At RIPESS, we will continue to build global networks, strengthen local capacities, drive public policies consistent with the common good, and promote financial mechanisms that foster autonomy and economic sovereignty rather than dependency. We believe that structural change requires coordination and coherence: between the global and the local, between discourse and practice, and between communities and institutions.

We are grateful for every step we have taken together, every struggle we have sustained, every project that has been born or has endured. Thank you for walking alongside us, for building a movement and hope.

Let us continue, throughout 2026, to remain united, determined, defiant in the face of injustice, and committed to our shared vision: a world where the economy serves to protect life, not to destroy it.

Let us continue to build a future of solidarity, justice and dignity.

“Because the future, if it is built on solidarity, will surely come to pass!”

With our best wishes and the strength of collective hope,
RIPESS Secretariat
Sandra Moreno Cadena and Isabel Pascual Díaz



ABOUT RIPESS



RIPESS is a global network of continental networks, founded in 2002, committed to promoting the social and solidarity economy. RIPESS's member networks (Latin America and the Caribbean, North America, Europe, Africa, Asia and Oceania) in turn bring together national and sectoral networks, thereby ensuring a strong local presence. Its dual local and global reach gives it the legitimacy to promote the SSE, foster intercontinental cooperation and influence policy at various levels.

RIPESS is driven by a desire to contribute to systemic and transformative change, demonstrating in particular how the SSE provides solutions at a local level in the face of a dominant system that is clearly showing its limitations. Its members believe in the importance of globalising solidarity in order to build and strengthen an economy that places people and the planet at the centre of its activities.

“An economy that places people and the planet at the centre of its activities.”

RIPESS is funded thanks to the invaluable support of the Catalan Agency for Development Cooperation ([ACCD](#)).

VALUES



Humanism, Democracy, Solidarity, Inclusivity, Subsidiarity, Diversity, Creativity, Sustainable development, Equality, equity and justice for all, Respect for the integration of countries and people, and a plural and solidarity-based economy

VISION



Excerpt from the 2015 [RIPESS Global Vision document on the SSE](#):

“The Social Solidarity Economy (SSE) is an alternative to capitalism and other authoritarian, state-dominated economic systems. In SSE ordinary people play an active role in shaping all of the dimensions of human life: economic, social, cultural, political, and environmental. SSE exists in all sectors of the economy—production, finance, distribution, exchange, consumption and governance. The SSE also aims to transform the social and economic system that includes public, private and third sectors. SSE is not only about the poor, but strives to overcome inequalities, which includes all classes of society. SSE has the ability to take the best practices that exist in our present system (such as efficiency, use of technology and knowledge) and transform them to serve the welfare of the community based on different values and goals. (...) SSE seeks systemic transformation that goes beyond superficial change in which the root oppressive structures and fundamental issues remain intact. (...)”

HIGHLIGHTS 2025

2025 was a year of decisive progress for RIPESS Intercontinental. The network achieved policy milestones, strengthened its presence in multilateral forums and consolidated regional initiatives that broaden the scope and legitimacy of the SSE worldwide. These highlights summarise the year's most significant achievements and reflect the collective strength of the movement.

1. Historic inclusion of the SSE in the Sevilla Commitment

The SSE appears for the first time in a UN global financing for development document, recognised in articles 21 and 32(h) of FFD4.



2. ASEAN SDG-SSE Roadmap

ASEC co-developed the Asian Community Roadmap to advance the 2030 Agenda.



3. Platform economy reclaimed through social solidarity

RIPESS positions the SSE at the 113th International Labour Conference as a democratic alternative for the digital economy.



4. Seeds of solidarity in Nyéléni

RIPESS contributes to the Kandy Declaration and the Nyéléni common political agenda.



5. RIPESS, WIEGO, WSM, iNSP!R and ANMC at GSEF 2025

16 events and a delegation from 26 countries consolidate a shared global vision of the SSE for decent work and the sustainability of life.



7. Three Jeun'ESS Hubs launched in Africa

Cameroon, Mali and Morocco open youth centres to coordinate youth-led SSE initiatives.



6. RIPESS LAC diploma course consolidates the SSE school

Over 1,000 participants took part in the certified course delivered by partner universities, with Member States and UN agencies in attendance.



8. YOU(th) CARE promotes active youth citizenship

Strengthening the leadership of the "next generation of global care guardians".



9. Colombia-RIPESS international cooperation agreement

The Colombian Government and RIPESS establish a framework for collaboration to strengthen the Popular, Social and Solidarity Economy.



10. Global progress in care and the SSE

RIPESS campaigns, events and webinars position care as a right and decent work from an ecofeminist perspective.



INTERCONTINENTAL ADVOCACY



RIPESS delegation at the GSEF, October 2025 in Bordeaux.

In 2025, RIPESS consolidated its role as a key player in the global promotion of the Social Solidarity Economy (SSE), strengthening multilateral alliances, expanding its presence in strategic United Nations forums and contributing to unprecedented policy milestones.

The network's coordinated action — from its grassroots organisations to its continental networks — enabled progress to be made towards the political recognition of the SSE as a pillar of sustainable development, social justice and ecofeminism.

Strategic advances on the global agenda

In 2025, RIPESS led an international campaign that secured the historic inclusion of the SSE in the Seville Commitment, a document resulting from the [Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development \(FfD4\)](#). Thanks to coordinated efforts with allied governments, UN agencies and civil society organisations, such as the [Civil Society Mechanism](#) on Financing for Development, the SSE was explicitly recognised for the first time in a global document on financing for development.

The [Sevilla Commitment](#) incorporated direct references to the SSE in Articles 21 and 32(h), establishing a new policy framework for states and international financial institutions to support SSE ecosystems through policies, funding and technical assistance. This achievement represents a historic step forward in the implementation of UN General Assembly Resolution 79/213 and positions the SSE as a structural component of global sustainable development strategies.



RIPESS Side Event at the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4), July 2025 in Sevilla.

“The SSE was explicitly recognised for the first time in a global document on financing for development.”

Multilateral coordination and work with the UN system

The network strengthened its role within the [United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Social and Solidarity Economy \(UNTFSSSE\)](#), providing evidence from the ground and leading advocacy efforts with key governments and in multilateral forums where the SSE is being integrated into global agendas. As an observer since 2013 on the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Social and Solidarity Economy (UNTFSSSE), and as a member of the Technical Group on Access to Finance, RIPESS contributed local evidence and civil society perspectives to research, guidance and support for countries.

RIPESS, in collaboration with the UNTFSSSE led advocacy efforts with key governments, with a twofold objective: to ensure that the SSE is recognised alongside conventional MSMEs and to secure recommendations for mobilising resources from financial institutions in support of the SSE, as called for in UN General Assembly resolutions. The joint campaign by RIPESS and UNTFSSSE, together with government partners from the North and the South, succeeded in integrating the SSE into the new Global Financing for Development Agenda, amidst complex negotiations that were on the verge of collapse. In this context, RIPESS published the working

paper ‘[Financing the Social and Solidarity Economy: Democratic Intermediary Mechanisms to Realise United Nations Commitments](#)’, which sets out how the UN’s recommendations for financing the SSE can be effectively and democratically channelled to grassroots organisations through intermediary mechanisms that strengthen national and regional SSE ecosystems.

In June 2025, RIPESS participated as an observer at the [113th International Labour Conference \(ILC\)](#), alongside strategic partners such as

WIEGO and INSPIR, following up on debates on the platform economy, the transition to formal employment and decent work. Within this framework, RIPESS published the policy paper [Reclaiming the Platform Economy through Social Solidarity](#), which proposes building non-extractive, community-rooted digital systems.

The SSE provides the compass, and platform cooperativism the vehicle, to reimagine rules, ownership models and governance structures in the digital economy.

“The SSE provides the compass, and platform cooperativism the vehicle, for a just, democratic, and solidarity-based transformation.”

Top image: Third Session of the Preparatory Committee (PrepCom 3) for the FfD4, February 2025 in New York.

Middle image: UNTFSE 5th Technical Symposium, December 2025 in Murcia.

Bottom image: RIPESS campaign at the 113th International Labour Conference: Reclaiming the Platform Economy through Social Solidarity.



The Social Solidarity Economy offers the compass, and platform cooperativism the vehicle, for a just, democratic, and solidarity-based transformation.



Participation in global forums

RIPESS played a central role at the 6th World Forum on Local Economic Development (WFLED), 3rd Nyéléni Global Fórum, Global Social and Solidarity Economy Forum (GSEF) and World Summit on Social Development (WSSD2), articulating agendas on just transition, food sovereignty, decent work and care. Diverse delegations contributed regional perspectives and consolidated strategic alliances.



RIPESS delegation at the 6th World Forum on Local Economic Development (WFLED), April 2025 in Sevilla.

“Regional diversity enabled a plural and context-specific perspective on the challenges and opportunities facing the SSE.”

In April 2025, RIPESS played a central role at the [6th World Forum on Local Economic Development \(WFLED\)](#) held in Sevilla, a strategic platform for advancing the integration of territorial development, social justice and the Social and Solidarity Economy. The forum’s Final Declaration included commitments on just transition, the care economy and inclusive economic systems, explicitly recognising the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) as a cornerstone of sustainable territorial development.

During the first week of April, an [international RIPESS delegation](#) — comprising 18 representatives from Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America — actively participated in the forum and in visits to local community development initiatives. This regional diversity enabled a plural and context-specific perspective on the challenges and opportunities facing the SSE in different contexts, ranging from activism and grassroots organisations to public institutions, academia and international bodies.

With a strategic vision and a clear political commitment, RIPESS [co-led 12 sessions](#) at the forum, positioning the SSE as a transformative pathway to promote ecofeminist, intersectional and human rights-based models of local economic development. The network also promoted inclusive financial mechanisms that prioritise social justice and the strengthening of territorial SSE ecosystems, in line with the progress made on the global Financing for Development agenda.

RIPESS was part of the WFLED’s expanded executive committee and contributed, alongside other international organisations, to the dynamism and shaping of the forum. This participation reinforced the presence of the SSE in global debates on local economic development and consolidated RIPESS’s capacity to articulate common agendas amongst local governments, social movements, multilateral institutions and community actors.

In September 2025, another RIPESS delegation took part in the [3rd Nyéléni Global Forum](#) on Food Sovereignty in Sri Lanka, alongside more than 700 delegates from over 100 countries – small-scale farmers, indigenous peoples, herders, fishers, feminist movements, young people, workers and activists – to renew the global struggle for justice, dignity and life. This delegation shared their experiences and struggles from their respective territories,

paving the way for the transition towards Food Sovereignty through the Social Solidarity Economy (SSE).

The process culminated in the [Kandy Declaration](#) and the [Nyéléni Common Political Action Agenda](#), a collective roadmap for systemic transformation towards food sovereignty and social justice. RIPESS participated in working groups on communication, logistics and steering.



Left image: RIPESS delegation at the 3rd Nyéléni Global Forum on Food Sovereignty, September 2025 in Sri Lanka.

Right image: Assembly at the 3rd Nyéléni Global Forum on Food Sovereignty, September 2025 in Sri Lanka.

Bottom image: Latin America Assembly at the 3rd Nyéléni Global Forum on Food Sovereignty, September 2025 in Sri Lanka.



In October 2025, RIPESS, together with its partners WIEGO (Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing), WSM (We Social Movements), INSP!R (International Network for Social Protection Rights) and ANMC (Alliance Nationale des Mutualités Chrétiennes), took part in the [Global Social and Solidarity Economy Forum \(GSEF\)](#) in Bordeaux. The delegation comprised representatives from 27 grassroots organisations from 26 countries, reflecting the territorial and political diversity

of the global Social and Solidarity Economy movement. On the occasion of this meeting, RIPESS held meetings of its Gender Commission and Governing Board, as well as strategic workshops with its partner organisations in the run-up to the forum. During the forum, it co-organised 16 events to help consolidate a shared global vision of the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) as a transformative pathway towards decent work, universal social protection and the sustainability of life.



“For a Social and Solidarity Economy that guarantees Decent Work, Social Protection and Care for all.”



Top image: RIPESS, WIEGO, WSM, iNSP!R and ANMC at the Pre-GSEF 2025 learning workshop on social and solidarity economy, October 2025 in Bordeaux.

Bottom image: Second World Summit for Social Development, November 2025 in Doha.

In November, we took part in two side events at the [Second World Summit on Social Development \(WSSD2\)](#) in Doha, reaffirming the key role of the Social and Solidarity Economy in the 2030 Agenda as an essential driver for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and building a more equitable and sustainable development. It was a key international forum

for promoting transformative social policies aimed at poverty eradication, decent work and social inclusion. The meeting brought together government leaders, UN agencies, international organisations and civil society actors to renew global commitments to social development, inclusion and poverty eradication.

International cooperation and Strategic Partnerships

A notable development during this period was the signing of the international cooperation agreement between Colombia's Administrative Department for Social Prosperity (DPS) and RIPESS, scheduled for February 2026, with activities commencing in March of the same year.

The agreement promotes the strengthening of the People's, Social and Solidarity Economy through knowledge management and dissemination, dialogue between national and international stakeholders, the exchange of experiences, the production of inputs for public policy, institutional coordination and participation in governance forums.

“This high-level commitment recognises Colombia's potential for collaboration and positions the People's, Social and Solidarity Economy as a strategic pillar for territorial development and South–South cooperation.”

Mauricio Rodríguez, representing the Administrative Department for Social Prosperity of the Government of Colombia, and Sandra Moreno Cadena, representing RIPESS signing the official international cooperation agreement, February 2026 in Cartagena.



THEMATIC AND REGIONAL REPORTS



The thematic and regional reports for 2025 offer a concise and grounded overview of the progress of the Social Solidarity Economy (SSE) across the territories and movements that make up RIPESS. They highlight the main achievements, challenges and lessons learned by our continental networks and thematic allies, showing how the SSE continues to grow, diversify and respond to increasingly complex political, social and environmental contexts.

Together, these reports reflect the richness of territorial work and the global articulation that sustains our movement.

Thematic report

URGENCI



For [URGENCI](#), 2025 was a year of intense activity, marked by profound changes in the international context and by the need to strengthen the resilience of movements for food sovereignty. The arrival of a new presidential administration in the United States triggered significant changes in global food policies, weakening key institutions such as the FAO and generating growing instability in programmes supporting civil society and family farming. This phenomenon was part of a broader trend of democratic backsliding and the rise of right-wing authoritarianism in various regions of the world, which directly affected the scope for action of agroecological movements and the safety of many of their members. Against this backdrop, URGENCI was forced to take on unexpected responsibilities and redouble its efforts to uphold its mission.

Despite the difficulties, the organisation managed to make consistent progress in implementing its 'strategic plan' for 2025, a roadmap that guided the year's priorities and enabled key actions to be consolidated at various levels.

One of the most significant milestones was the work carried out on the right to food in Europe. On 8 July 2025, the [European Commission accepted in full the European Citizens' Initiative \(ECI\) 'Food is a human right for all'](#), a process backed by more than 240 organisations from 20 Member States. URGENCI played a central role in this effort, actively participating in the steering

committee and contributing to the preparations for the official launch of the signature collection, scheduled for January 2026. This initiative took place against a backdrop of growing strain on European food systems, marked by farmers' protests, rising food insecurity and concerns about the sustainability of production and consumption models. URGENCI's participation in the European Food Policy Coalition further strengthened its role as a key player in building a shared vision for fair and sustainable food systems.

Left image:
Pierrette Memong,
Eri Trinurini, Valeska
Sarmiento and Amelia
Campos at the WFLED
in Sevilla.

Right image: ECA
Regional Assembly
at the 3rd Nyéléni
Global Forum on
Food Sovereignty,
September 2025 in Sri
Lanka.



At the international level, URGENCI maintained an active presence in strategic forums for debate and decision-making. In September, a global delegation took part in the [3rd Nyéléni World Forum](#), held in Kandy, Sri Lanka. This meeting enabled progress to be made in developing a unified political vision and a grassroots-driven action plan in response to the interconnected global crises affecting food systems. Nyéléni, as a global platform for resistance and solidarity, provided a vital space to reaffirm the principles of food sovereignty, grassroots feminism, agroecology and social justice – values that URGENCI helped to actively promote.

Furthermore, between 18 and 25 October, URGENCI took part in the [Civil Society and Indigenous Peoples' Mechanism Forum and in the 53rd plenary session of the Committee on World Food Security \(CFS\)](#) at the FAO. During these meetings, the organisation collaborated with other constituent groups and supported the work of the youth, women and gender diversity group. One of the most notable achievements was the conclusion of the process leading to policy recommendations on urban and peri-

urban food systems, which were adopted at the plenary session. The statement by Ximena Moreno, a member of URGENCI's International Committee, highlighted the importance of addressing the inequalities affecting women, migrants and racialised groups within these systems, particularly in the face of the impacts of climate change and population displacement.

URGENCI also strengthened its role within the social and solidarity economy movement. As a thematic member of the RIPESS Intercontinental Board, it took part in the Global Social and Solidarity Economy Forum (GSEF), held in Bordeaux. Its main contribution was the organisation and moderation of a [round-table discussion on social food security and the right to food](#), which brought together over a hundred participants and representatives from four European countries. This forum provided an opportunity to explore in depth the origins, forms and challenges of social food security, highlighting its potential to democratise food systems and strengthen relationships between producers and consumers.

At the same time, URGENCI made progress on initiatives aimed at strengthening the viability, visibility and inclusivity of the Local and Solidarity-Based Partnerships for Agroecology (LSPA). The [Erasmus+ ViVid project](#), coordinated by the organisation, continued to develop tools and training programmes to support LSPA stakeholders in addressing challenges such as burnout, economic sustainability and community participation. This project established itself as a key instrument for strengthening the resilience of agroecological movements in an uncertain global context.

The year was also marked by URGENCI's participation in the SWIFT project, which focused on promoting the role of women and LGBTQI+ people in agriculture and analysing how agroecological processes can contribute to gender equality. This initiative helped to highlight persistent inequalities in the European agricultural sector and to advance the development of more inclusive and transformative approaches.

Finally, URGENCI carried out a major [mapping exercise of LSPAs in West Asia and North Africa](#), in collaboration with local partners from seven countries. This work helped to update and deepen knowledge of existing initiatives, identify good practices and lay the groundwork for a future regional meeting in 2026. The mapping exercise, published on the FAO's Family Farming platform, highlighted the diversity and dynamism of LSPAs in a region marked by political and social instability.

The year culminated in the [9th URGENCI International Symposium](#), held in December at the Bergerie de Villarceaux, under the theme 'Sowing solidarity, cultivating the collective'. With 120 participants from over 40 countries, the meeting enabled the organisation to define strategic priorities for 2026–2028, reaffirming its commitment to the right to food, social food security, regional coordination and linguistic inclusion.

“Sowing solidarity, cultivating the collective.”



Left image:
Round table
on 'Food Social
Security' at
the GSEF,
October 2025 in
Bordeaux.

Right image:
9th URGENCI
International
Symposium,
December 2025
in Villarceaux.



AFRICA - RAESS



The year 2025 was a pivotal one for RAESS, the African network for the social and solidarity economy, which carried out an intensive programme of work in Morocco, Cameroon and Mali, combining training, policy advocacy, institutional coordination and the strengthening of women's and youth networks. This period was marked by the consolidation of a multi-stakeholder African platform, progress on legislative processes and dialogue with governments, the creation of youth hubs and the generation of strategic knowledge for the SSE on the continent. Furthermore, 2025 was a year of significant progress in the regulatory sphere, with RAESS supporting the draft [framework law on the SSE in Benin](#) and the consolidation of a group of African countries that already have specific legislation in this area: Cape Verde (2016), Cameroon (2019), Djibouti (2019), and Tunisia and Senegal (2020).



Since the start of the year, RAESS has focused its efforts on creating the conditions for a multi-stakeholder African platform capable of supporting the implementation of the African Union's Ten-Year Strategy for the Social and Solidarity Economy (2023–2033) and UN Resolution A/RES/77/281.

This effort took the form of a series of high-level activities, including the [Workshop on the Appropriation of International Instruments for the Promotion of SSE](#) held in December 2025,

organised from Bamako with the participation of key stakeholders from Morocco, Cameroon and Mali. The conference brought together more than 70 in-person participants and dozens more online, including national networks, public institutions, women's and youth organisations, and international partners such as RIPESS Intercontinental and WSM. This forum helped to consolidate a framework for continental dialogue and to make progress in developing a regional action plan for the SSE.

In Morocco, RAESS supported the process of strengthening of the Espace Marocain de l'Économie Sociale, Solidaire, et Environnemental (EMESSE), a member organisation that played a key role in analysing the context and in the advocacy process for the drafting of the new law on the social and solidarity economy. On 28–29 November, a [training seminar aimed at women and young people](#) was held in Goulimine, focusing on the SSE from an intersectoral perspective. This event enabled the merging of activities initially planned under different project components, thereby optimising resources and generating a broader impact. The seminar brought together SSE organisations, sectoral trade unions, public institutions and women's groups, strengthening their capacity for advocacy and dialogue with the Moroccan government.

In Cameroon, the RAESS consolidated a strategy for collaboration with local authorities through RESSCAM, its member organisation. Throughout the year, links with REMCESS, the network of mayors committed to the SSE, were strengthened, and progress was made on collaboration agreements that will enable the SSE to be integrated into local development policies. This work was complemented by discussions with central government and United Nations

agencies, aimed at the regional implementation of the UN Resolution and the adoption of the [African Union's Ten-Year Strategy](#).

On May 20, 2025, at the City Hall of Yaoundé (Cameroon), Elise Pierrette Memong Meno, Secretary General of RAESS, RAESS representative on the RIPESS Board, and President of RESSCAM in Cameroon, was [awarded the title of Officer of the Cameroonian Order of Merit](#). The distinction was presented by the Governor of the Central Region, on behalf of the Head of State. This prestigious national honor recognizes more than three decades of tireless work in combating violence against women, supporting survivors, and advocating for a fairer, more equitable and inclusive society.

The work with women took on a strategic dimension thanks to workshops in Morocco, Cameroon and Mali on best practices in food sovereignty, sustainable production chains, the diversification of informal economies and agroecology. These workshops helped to identify local food systems and the central role of women in building resilience to climate change.

The recommendations emerging from these forums highlighted the need to improve access



“National Recognition for Elise Pierrette Memong Meno for a Life Dedicated to Women's Rights and Social Justice.”

Left image: Launching of the Youth and Social and Solidarity Economy HUB (JeunESS), December 2025 in Bafoussam.

Right image: National Recognition for Elise Pierrette Memong Meno for a Life Dedicated to Women's Rights and Social Justice.

to production and preservation technologies, strengthen sector-based organisation, innovate in storage systems, ensure funding tailored to the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE), and promote the active participation of women and young people in public policy-making. At the same time, progress was made on the production of podcasts on gender, the SSE and intersectionality, which will be released in 2026.

In the legislative sphere, 2025 was a year of significant progress. The RAESS supported the [draft framework bill on the Social and Solidarity Economy in Benin](#), contributing to the consolidation of a favourable regulatory environment for the SSE in West Africa. With this momentum, there are now five African countries that have adopted specific legislation in this area. This emerging body of legislation reinforces the legitimacy of the SSE as a pillar of sustainable development on the continent and opens up new opportunities for regional coordination.

The year 2025 was also marked by significant progress in the RAESS's youth strategy. Between December 15 and 25, the [Jeun'ESS Hubs were launched in Cameroon, Mali and Morocco](#), with the participation of 150 young people attending in person and 60 online, from various RAESS member countries. The Jeun'ESS Hubs are designed to act as catalysts for transformation, aimed at supporting 200 young people in setting up SSE organisations and enterprises, facilitating the entry of 2,500 young people into the labour market, and strengthening the democratic governance of youth-led economic initiatives. The creation of these hubs has enabled the establishment of a continental youth pillar and the development of a regional roadmap that will be adapted by each country.

“The Jeun'ESS Hubs are designed to act as catalysts for transformation.”



The RAESS also drew up a regional strategic plan 2024–2027, incorporating the challenges identified in the implementation of international resolutions and in the consolidation of youth hubs and women's networks. This plan was informed by the identification of strategic partners in Morocco, including regional development agencies, public programmes, international cooperation bodies, United Nations agencies and African development banks. RAESS also presented the working paper '[Financing the Social and Solidarity Economy: Democratic Intermediary Mechanisms to Realise United Nations Commitments](#)' at the [Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development](#) held in Seville in June 2025, positioning itself as a key player in the development of financial instruments for the sector.

In summary, 2025 was a year of consolidation for RAESS. The network strengthened its capacity for continental coordination, made progress in adopting international frameworks, promoted the participation of women and young people, supported key legislative processes and reinforced its role as a strategic actor in the promotion of the SSE in Africa. The work carried out lays the foundations for a stronger, more coordinated and recognised African SSE within the continent's sustainable development processes.



Left image: Launching of the Youth and Social and Solidarity Economy HUB (JeunESS), December 2025 in Bafoussam.

Right image: RIPESS Side Event at the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4), July 2025 in Sevilla.

Regional reports

ASIA - ASEC



The Asian Council for the Social and Solidarity Economy (ASEC) works with partners in Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Pakistan to promote the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) in a region that accounts for almost 25 per cent of the world's population and has a strong tradition of cooperation.



Workshop-cum-conference focusing on identifying key elements of women's empowerment, in Natham.

In 2025, ASEC carried out a regional study to assess the situation and the challenges facing the advancement of the SSE. The study identified the following key challenges:

- **Policy and institutional gaps**, where the SSE is often confused with charity rather than being regarded as a viable economic model;
- **Limited legal recognition** and scant political support;
- **Restricted access to funding and markets**; dependence on donors; competition from large companies;
- **Capacity constraints** due to over-reliance on founders and a lack of qualified young leaders;
- **Sociocultural barriers**, such as the caste system, social class, gender inequality and divisions between rural and urban areas; fragmented coordination and networking;
- **Emerging pressures**, including the effects of COVID-19 and climate vulnerability.

In April 2025, at the [6th World Forum on Local Economic Development](#) held in Seville, policy advocacy focused on sustainable agriculture and community finance.

In May, ASEC participated in the [ASEAN SDGs-SSE Forum](#) to promote the Social and Solidarity Economy and its contribution to advancing the 2030 Agenda. One of the objectives was the co-creation of the ASEAN SDG-SSE Community

Roadmap (2026-2030), which will guide sustainable and inclusive development in the region.

Members met in Kandy in September 2025 to discuss experiences and strategies. They also actively contributed to the [3rd Nyéléni Forum](#) workshop on 'Systemic Transformation: Now and Always', particularly with regard to policies on ecological food sovereignty.



ASEAN SDG-SSE Forum 2025, May 2025 in Kuala Lumpur.



Relief efforts after the Cyclone Ditwah, November 2025 in Sri Lanka.

Following [Cyclone Ditwah](#) in Sri Lanka, ASEC mobilised global awareness to support relief efforts. Together with RIPESS, the network expressed solidarity with communities affected by severe floods and landslides, amplifying the urgent appeal of member organisation LEADS, which was leading an emergency response with local authorities and humanitarian agencies. The call underscored the urgent needs of thousands of families lacking shelter, food and hygiene materials, while LEADS prioritises the most affected districts through essential distributions, support for families returning home, psychosocial assistance for children and participation in UN-led coordination platforms — highlighting the crucial role of community-based SSE organisations in crisis response.

At the [Global Forum for the Social and Solidarity Economy](#) held in Bordeaux (October 2025), ASEC presented how the social and solidarity economy (SSE) strengthens social protection in India. The intervention, delivered by Kumar Loganathan, ASEC representative and Asia co-coordinator, highlighted the role of cooperatives and community-based initiatives in expanding

access to social protection in a country marked by high levels of informal employment. Drawing on ASSEFA's experience, the presentation showcased community-managed funds, the integration of livelihoods with social protection mechanisms, and regional partnerships that enable sustainable and context-appropriate support for millions of informal workers.



Top image: Panel self-managed by WSM, Alliance of Christian Mutualities, WIEGO, and RIPESS "Guaranteeing and strengthening the right to social protection through the social and solidarity economy" at the GSEF, October 2025 in Bordeaux.



Bottom image: Eri and Kumar with minister of Philippines, Mayor from Indonesia, General Secretary of GSEF in October 2025, Bordeaux.

With the support of RIPESS and Catalan Agency for Development Cooperation (ACCD), ASSEFA successfully carried out a project to strengthen women-led organisations in rural areas of Tamil Nadu.

To address the financial difficulties faced by its member organisations, ASEC is collaborating with Crowdera to promote crowdfunding for SSE initiatives.

"The SSE in Asia is making progress amidst structural challenges, but with enormous transformative potential."



Top image: ASSEFA Farmers' Weekly Market — Empowering Farmers, Nourishing Communities.

Bottom image: representatives of women's Self-Help Groups attending a meeting of the Self-Help Group federation in Tamil Nadu.

Regional reports

EUROPE RIPESS EUROPE



RIPESS Europe completed a process of organisational consolidation, strategic redefinition and the strengthening of alliances within a European and international context marked by significant political, social and economic changes. In a landscape increasingly shaped by rising nationalism, militarisation, cuts to social policies and the weakening of environmental commitments, the network faced the challenge of defending democratic spaces and sustaining transformative alternatives. Against this backdrop, RIPESS Europe put forward a renewed and more assertive vision of the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE), not only as an economic alternative, but as a key lever for strengthening democracy, community resilience and systemic transformation.



Left image: RIPESS Europe General Assembly in 2025

Right image: RIPESS Campaign to support the new "Freedom Flotilla," which set sail on 31 August 2025 toward besieged Gaza.

Throughout 2025, RIPESS Europe focused its work on two main objectives. The first was to consolidate itself as a movement capable of driving systemic change in Europe, promoting socio-economic models that are more democratic, solidarity-based and participatory. The second was to foster convergence amongst the many initiatives and movements which, from different regions and sectors, are working towards a transition to transformative economies.

To this end, the organisation structured its activities around four strategic areas: strengthening SSE ecosystems, securing institutional recognition through public policies, building the movement alongside other networks, and generating shared knowledge.

The rise of protectionist policies, increased military spending, the erosion of democratic institutions and the rollback of European programmes linked to the Green Deal or the social economy are forcing a redefinition of priorities. The cancellation, without explanation, of the latest call for proposals under the European COSME programme – to which the organisation had submitted three project

proposals after months of work – symbolises the growing difficulties facing this sector.

Against this backdrop, RIPESS Europe is committed to 're-politicising' the Social and Solidarity Economy, reinforcing its democratic and community-based dimension. The report highlights that cooperatives, forms of self-management and participatory governance represent concrete responses to the crisis of political representation and growing social precariousness. It also identifies priority areas for action such as food sovereignty, cooperative housing, solidarity-based finance, shared governance, the defence of human and environmental rights, and the protection of civic space.

At the organisational level, 2025 was a year of internal consolidation. The network continued to develop its sociocratic governance mechanisms and strengthen cooperation amongst its members through shared tools, joint projects and greater coordination at international events such as Nyéléni, GSEF 2025, CIRIEC and the [RIPESS Europe General Assembly](#). This development enabled progress towards a more decentralised and collaborative model.

“RIPESS Europe is committed to re-politicising the Social and Solidarity Economy, reinforcing its democratic and community-based dimension.”



One of the year's main achievements was the development of the European [YOU\(th\) CARE for CHANGE](#) programme, which enabled 120,000 euros to be allocated in direct funding and support to ten youth initiatives in Spain, the Czech Republic, Hungary and Luxembourg. At the same time, RIPESS Europe began designing a dedicated fund to support territorial and cross-sectoral SSE networks, in collaboration with foundations and solidarity finance organisations.



The production and dissemination of knowledge also featured prominently. The previous Scientific Committee was replaced by the new Knowledge Commons group, broadening participation to include researchers and activists from various movements. Among the most significant outcomes were the development of [guidelines for collaborative research in the SSE](#), the expansion of partnerships with universities and international academic networks, and the strengthening of [Socioeco.org](#) as a European platform for documentation and resources. In addition, the creation of new training content, educational materials and learning tools aimed specifically at young people was promoted.

In terms of policy advocacy, it stepped up its involvement in European and international campaigns and processes. The organisation collaborated on initiatives relating to food sovereignty, the right to food, such as the [Good Food for All European Citizens' Initiative](#) monitoring the The EU Social Economy Action Plan and the [disengagement of DG GROW](#) (Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs), in collaboration with Social Economy Europe, opposition to militarisation, and various international solidarity actions. It also strengthened its dialogue with local authorities and institutional networks in various countries, participating in forums such as GSEF 2025 in Bordeaux, meetings in Brussels, and United Nations-led processes on financing for development.

Also highlighted were the efforts made to improve the network's communication and visibility. During the year, progress was made on the development of a new website, due to go live in early 2026, as well as the integration of digital tools such as Socioeco.org, Transiscope and Communecter to facilitate the mapping of SSE initiatives across Europe. At the same time, the network's presence on social media was strengthened and support for alternative media outlets was maintained.

Another important aspect was the overhaul of the organisational structure approved at the 2024 General Assembly. The new organisation is structured around four strategic circles — ecosystems, recognition, movement-building and the foundations of the SSE — complemented by four functional circles dedicated to governance,

finance, communication and strategy. This model aims to decentralise decision-making and improve coordination between the different areas of work. The General Assembly held in Bordeaux also elected a new Co-ordinating Committee and admitted two new member organisations from France and Germany.

As well as consolidating its internal functioning, the network has successfully redefined its role within a changing political and social landscape. RIPESS Europe is committed to an SSE that is more closely connected to the major challenges of our time, strengthening alliances between social movements, promoting new forms of democratic participation and building collective responses capable of contributing to a profound transformation of European society.

“The new organisation is structured around four strategic circles — ecosystems, recognition, movement-building and the foundations of the SSE — complemented by four functional circles dedicated to governance, finance, communication and strategy.”



Top image: Meeting of young people participating in the YOUTH CARE for CHANGE project, October 2025 in Bordeaux.

Bottom image: Good Food for All flashmob.

Right image: Demonstration for cooperative housing in Catalonia. Author XES, 26 November 2022.

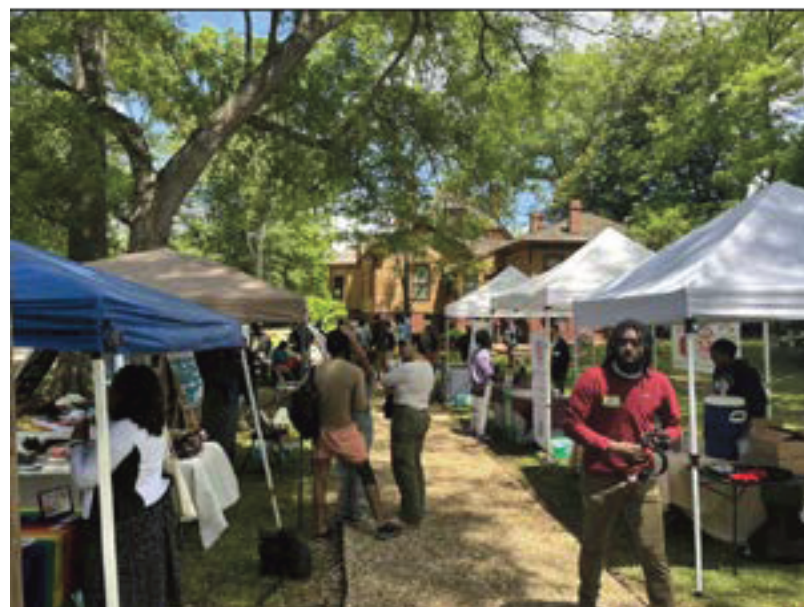


Regional reports

NORTH AMERICA

Throughout 2025, RIPESS North America experienced a year of stark contrasts and profound transformations. Whilst tensions linked to ecological, social and democratic crises intensified in the United States, various forms of the social economy and community-based economic development gained strength in Canada. Both the social economy movement in Quebec and CCEDNet's coordinating work demonstrated communities' capacity to build collective, innovative and locally rooted responses. Taken together, these experiences reveal a region in which the social and solidarity economy continues to establish itself as a tool for fostering community resilience, economic justice and social transformation.

USSEN – UNITED STATES



In the United States, the year was characterised by an intensification of ecological, social and democratic crises. The acceleration of automation and robotics is reshaping capitalism towards forms of techno-feudalism that deepen inequality and erode the foundations of community life.

Against this backdrop, authoritarian tendencies are re-emerging, reminiscent of historical periods when major economic transformations paved the way for exclusionary political projects. The solidarity economy positions itself as an alternative capable of responding to this situation with a regenerative, democratic and deeply community-based vision.

Throughout 2025, the [U.S. Solidarity Economy Network \(USSEN\)](#) worked to strengthen a post-capitalist framework that revives ways of life predating settler colonialism and reaffirms the relationship with the land, mutual care and collective organisation. This strategic orientation is characterised by its pluralism: the movement collaborates with actors seeking to reform capitalism, although its political horizon points towards more profound transformations.

The solidarity economy is understood as a living process, in which theory and practice constantly feed into one another, moving towards ever-greater coherence.

One of the most significant developments of the year was the consolidation of the People's Popular Network for Land and Liberation, a network comprising six community organisations working in diverse territories. This initiative became a coordinating platform for transformative practices encompassing the decommodification of land and housing, the building of a feminist democracy, the development of community-based centres for popular production, political education and transformative pedagogy, as well as the integration of art and culture as drivers of social change.

The network's work reflects the emergence of a new international movement for life, which seeks to achieve a strategic clarity capable of countering authoritarian forces and paving the way towards a just and solidarity-based world.

Right and left images: Resist & Build Summit 2025 - Building Liberation Infrastructure in Atlanta, May 2025 in Atlanta.



“ A new international movement for life, which seeks to achieve a strategic clarity capable of countering authoritarian forces and paving the way towards a just and solidarity-based world.”

CHANTIER DE L'ÉCONOMIE SOCIALE — QUEBEC



Right and left images: 2025 Social Economy Summit organised by the Chantier de l'économie sociale, May 2025 in Montreal.

In Quebec, 2025 was a decisive year for the [Chantier de l'économie sociale](#), which fully established itself as a central hub of the movement and as a space for channelling the region's collective intelligence. Throughout the year, the Chantier led the preparations for the 2025 Social Economy Summit, a wide-ranging consultation and mobilisation process that brought together economic, social, cultural and environmental actors around a shared vision of transformation.

The Summit crystallised a momentum that had been building for over two years. The run-up to the event, based on an extensive tour of the regions and sectors, made it possible to clarify common intentions, define new development objectives and build a Vision 2050 that now serves as a strategic compass for the coming decades. The massive and diverse turnout demonstrated the vitality of the movement and its ability to unite around a common project. The social economy reaffirmed its role as a driving force for economic transformation, showcasing

concrete initiatives in areas such as non-profit services for older people, food sovereignty, improving women's economic situation, and young people's commitment to an economic model that brings meaning and change.

Beyond the event itself, what marked a true turning point were the structural advances achieved. The movement succeeded in mobilising the entire social economy ecosystem around a shared project, defining a clear and ambitious vision for 2050, and setting out priorities for action in key sectors such as culture, the environment, the circular economy, democratic governance, collective housing, ageing with dignity, cooperative business succession and the socio-ecological transition. The Summit also highlighted the renewal of the movement's leadership, with a new generation of collective entrepreneurs determined to accelerate the social and ecological transition.

The international profile of the Quebec movement was significantly strengthened. The Vision 2050, accompanied by action plans and robust statistical data, stands as an exportable case study. Democratic governance based on territorial consultation and collective responsibility aligns with the principles promoted by international organisations and contributes to global debates on moving beyond extractive capitalism, post-growth and the regenerative economy. The active participation of regions, sectors, young people and community actors demonstrates that it is possible to organise a broad-based movement without resorting to excessive centralisation, whilst maintaining a robust shared vision.

In conclusion, in Quebec, the social economy movement has consolidated a long-term strategic structure that inspires international debates and demonstrates that economic transformation is possible when it emerges from within communities.

“Economic transformation is possible when it emerges from within communities.”



CANADIAN COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NETWORK - CCEDNET



Over 2025–2026, Canadian Community Economic Development Network (CCEDNet) has focused on understanding and responding to the changing needs of Canada’s community economic development field.

A major part of this work was a national CED Field Needs Assessment, reaching organizations and practitioners within and beyond CCEDNet’s membership. The findings point to a field that is growing and innovating while facing increasing pressure from funding uncertainty, rising community needs and limited organizational capacity.



Amna Burki (StoriesMatter) shared five stories from various traditions around the world, which showed participants at the Manitoba Gathering how Indigenous wisdom and folklore can ground us in the history and knowledge we need to make decisions that bring about change.

Five priorities are emerging from this work:

- 1. The field is being asked to solve bigger problems.** Demand for CED organizations is increasing as communities respond to affordability, housing, poverty, labour-market disruption and economic uncertainty.
- 2. Community innovation is outpacing community infrastructure.** Organizations are developing new initiatives, partnerships and approaches, but the infrastructure needed to connect, sustain and scale this work has not kept pace.
- 3. Data is becoming strategic infrastructure.** Communities need better access to relevant local data—and greater capacity to translate that data into decisions, stories of impact and policy.

- 4. The future is increasingly about ecosystem development.** Organizations want stronger connections across regions, sectors and areas of practice, with greater opportunities for shared learning and collaboration.
- 5. The sector is entering a period of strategic choice.** There is growing interest in more coordinated policy and advocacy, alongside stronger evidence of CED’s social and economic impact.

These findings are now informing CCEDNet’s priorities and partnerships. Programs including Manitoba Learns and Spark continue to strengthen organizational capacity and connect community organizations with knowledge, relationships and expertise.

Community Data Program

The Community Data Program (CDP) remains an important piece of CCEDNet’s national work, supporting approximately 30 community data consortia and more than 2,500 practitioners. Building on what we heard through the Needs Assessment, CCEDNet is now exploring how to work more intentionally with the CDP to develop a CED-specific data portal that would make relevant community-level information more accessible and useful to organizations across the field. CCEDNet is currently seeking resources to develop this work, including opportunities to support data interpretation, knowledge mobilization and policy development.

Policy, Advocacy and Collaboration

CCEDNet continues to advance policy and advocacy nationally and regionally, while strengthening relationships with organizations working across community economic development, social enterprise, social finance, community wealth building and related areas. The Needs Assessment has reinforced the importance of moving toward more coordinated approaches—bringing organizations together around shared policy priorities, using stronger data and evidence, and connecting local experience to regional and national policy conversations.

CCEDNet Manitoba

CCEDNet Manitoba continues to provide strong regional leadership through network weaving, learning, policy engagement and community mobilization. In 2025, the Manitoba team responded to 45 information-brokering requests, participated in 19 public engagements reaching more than 950 people, and supported seven coalitions involving 184 organizations. The 23rd Gathering of Community Builders brought together more than 350 participants, presenters and volunteers for 35 workshops focused on moving from immediate challenges toward transformative community action. Programs including Manitoba Learns and Spark continue to strengthen organizational capacity and connect community organizations with knowledge, relationships and expertise.

Looking Ahead

CCEDNet’s work in 2026 is increasingly focused on turning what we have heard from the field into action: better data, stronger connections, shared learning, more coordinated policy and advocacy, and the infrastructure required to support CED organizations working across Canada. The Needs Assessment gives us a clearer picture of where the field is today. The next step is to work with members and partners to build the tools, relationships and resources the field says it needs.

Programs including Manitoba Learns and Spark continue to strengthen organizational capacity and connect community organizations with knowledge, relationships and expertise.



Workshop organised as part of the 23rd edition of the ‘Manitoba Gathering of Community Builders’.

Regional reports

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN RIPESS LAC



For RIPESS LAC, the year 2025 marked the consolidation of a process of institutional reorganisation that began in 2023 and was further developed during 2024. 2025 marked the consolidation of a strengthened, coordinated and regionally connected RIPESS LAC. Having overcome a phase marked by administrative recovery, the rebuilding of governance and the restoration of institutional tools, the network entered the year with a reinforced structure, clear planning and a significantly expanded regional and international presence. This period was characterised by the maturing of internal processes, the expansion of training, the revitalisation of the committees and political advocacy that positioned the social and solidarity economy in a range of strategic arenas.



In terms of governance, 2025 was the year in which the Regional Steering Committee (CDR, by its Spanish acronym) succeeded in stabilising its operations, holding regular meetings and defining roles, tasks and responsibilities with greater clarity. The Technical Secretariat, now fully integrated, consolidated its operational and communications management, ensuring the continuity of work and coordination with national networks. Work on the Charter and Regulations document progressed steadily, becoming a key instrument for defining the ethical, political and organisational principles that will guide RIPESS LAC's operations in the coming years. Strengthened governance became a cornerstone for advancing collective coordination across the region.

The CDR's planning was consolidated through the implementation of the 2025 work plan,

drawn up in line with the commitments made to cooperation agencies. This plan made it possible to prioritise tasks, monitor planned outputs and strengthen links between member organisations. The [General Assembly](#) held in Bogotá in November 2025 renewed the collective commitment to building fair and sustainable economic alternatives in Latin America and the Caribbean. The network reaffirmed that building fair and sustainable economies requires collective commitment.

In terms of communications, the network maintained an active and strategic presence. The communications protocol was applied systematically, ensuring consistency in the use of institutional image and strengthening the flow of information between networks. The promotion of regional and international events expanded RIPESS LAC's public presence and visibility.



Left image: Training in Solidarity Finance by ADAM in Guatemala.

Right images: RIPESS LAC General Assembly, November 2025 in Bogotá.



“Strengthened governance became a cornerstone for advancing collective coordination across the region.”

The working commissions underwent a revitalisation process. The commissions on economic circuits, education, Indigenous peoples and youth were strengthened, while the reactivation of the gender and social protection commissions was consolidated. These commissions organised activities, bilateral meetings, virtual seminars and actions

coordinated with the CDR's plan, becoming fully integrated into training and advocacy processes. The youth commission gained representation on the CDR, broadening governance and promoting the participation of new generations. Revitalised commissions became key engines of training, advocacy and collective coordination.

International advocacy was one of the most dynamic areas of the year. RIPESS LAC played an active role in the INSP!R Network, in coordination with WSM and other Latin American networks, addressing issues of social protection, young people and care. The relationship with RIPESS Intercontinental was strengthened, enabling more coordinated participation in international policy projects and forums. The network was present at meetings of the OECD, the ILO, ECLAC, UNESCO and UNCTAD, as well as at global processes such as [World Forum on Local Economic Development](#), [Nyéléni](#) and the [GSEF](#), and in multiple regional and local events such as [ECOOVIDA](#), the [Regional Forum on Local](#)

[Economic Development](#) in Montevideo and the [Ibero-American Meeting on the Social and Solidarity Economy](#) in Bolivia. In these spaces, RIPESS LAC contributed analysis on the popular economy, informality, food sovereignty, food justice and territorial development, positioning the SSE as a relevant actor in global debates. Advocacy also reached legislative arenas, such as the Colombian Congress, where the network supported the Popular Economy Bill presented in December 2024 and continued dialogue with institutional stakeholders throughout 2025. International advocacy positioned the SSE as a relevant actor in global debates.



Left image: Ibero-American Meeting on the Social and Solidarity Economy, September 2025 in Bolivia.

Right image: Session at the WFLED, April 2025 in Sevilla.

“Training was one of the most important pillars of the year.”

The [Diploma Course in Strategic Management of Socio-Territorial Policy](#), in its 2025 edition, established itself as a regional school for the popular, social and solidarity-based economy. With over 600 registered participants and a robust pedagogical structure, the diploma course integrated the work of the commissions on Youth, Gender, Solidarity-based Economic Circuits, Social Protection, Indigenous Peoples and Education. The partnership with universities in Argentina, Colombia and Mexico provided a virtual platform, technical support and academic certification.



The lessons learnt during 2025 confirmed that political trust, collective coordination and the integration of grassroots knowledge are fundamental to sustaining any process of institutional transformation. Political trust, collective coordination and grassroots knowledge proved essential for sustaining institutional transformation. RIPESS LAC ended the year with strengthened participatory governance, active committees, a well-established training programme and a robust international presence. This period laid a solid foundation for continuing to expand the network, deepening regional coordination and advancing the collective development of the SSE in Latin America and the Caribbean.

“This period laid a solid foundation for continuing to expand the network, deepening regional coordination and advancing the collective development of the SSE in Latin America and the Caribbean.”



Top image: Training on the development of agri-food products in Guatemala.

Middle image: Agroecological practices training in Guatemala.

Bottom image: Workshop with Indigenous women in Guatemala.



MEMBERS AND GOVERNANCE



RIPESS Board members and the interpreters team at the meeting held in Bordeaux, prior to the GSEF, October 2025.

CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE

The co-coordinators and the Executive Secretariat make up the Co-ordination Committee, which is mandated to coordinate the implementation of the Council’s work and to oversee the work of the Executive Secretariat and working groups. It currently comprises four co-coordinators, with a balance between North and South and in terms of gender.



Judith Hitchman
URGENCI
France



Madani Koumare
Réseau National d’Appui à
l’ESS – RENAPESS,
Mali



Valeska Sarmiento
Asociación de Desarrollo
Agrícola y Empresarial -
ADAM
Guatemala



Yvon Poirier
Special Advisor
Quebec

SECRETARIAT

The secretariat comprises the executive secretary and the projects and communications officer, who work in coordination to ensure the network’s political, technical and communications management.

In 2025, RIPESS bids farewell to and expresses its deepest gratitude to Andrea Echeverría, communications coordinator, for her kindness and hard work, and welcomes Isabel Pascual as the new projects and communications officer.



Sandra Moreno
Executive Secretary
Colombia / Spain



Andrea Echeverria
Communications
Coordinator
Spain



Isabel Pascual
Project and
Communications officer
Spain

BOARD

RIPESS is a decentralised network whose members are autonomous continental networks, coordinated by a representative Board.

In 2025, it had 13 members: one woman and one man from each of the regional and thematic networks.

The Board meets quarterly to represent the members of their regions and decide on the strategic direction and activities of RIPESS Intercontinental.

RIPESS AFRICA – RAESS



Elyse Pierrette Memong
Réseau Camerounais de
l'ESS – RESCAM
Cameroun



Madani Koumare
Réseau National d'Appui à
l'ESS – RENAPESS,
Mali

RIPESS ASIA – ASEC



Eri Trinurini
Asian Solidarity Economy
Council - ASEC
Indonesia



Kumar Loganathan
Sarvodaya Action Research
Centre - ASSEFA
India

RIPESS EUROPE – RIPESS EU



Ruby Vdwekken
Food cooperativa Oma Maa
Finland



Dražen Šimleša
Green Network of Activist
Groups - ZMAG
Croatia

NORTH AMERICA



Joëlle Bernard
Chantier de l'Économie
Sociale
Quebec



David Cobb
U.S. Solidarity Economy
Network - USSEN,
United States

OCEANIA



Brownen Morgan
New Economy Network - NENA
Australia

SOUTH AMERICA – RIPESS LAC



Valeska Sarmiento ASEC,
Asociación de Desarrollo
Agrícola y Empresarial -
ADAM
Guatemala



Hans Cediell
Red de Economías
Transformadoras
Latinoamericanas,
Colombia

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS



Judith Hitchman
URGENCI
France

MEMBERS

RIPESS represents the Intercontinental Network for the Promotion of the Social Solidarity Economy.

The social solidarity economy (SSE) brings together a myriad of non-profit organisations with democratic governance, cooperatives, associations and other collective community initiatives from around the world that have joined forces in a global movement to achieve economic and social justice through solidarity. Over the last quarter of a century, RIPESS has been at the forefront of this movement, which has emerged in response to the social and environmental devastation caused by neoliberal globalisation.

Our members practise democratic and participatory governance and prioritise people and the planet over profit and capital, whilst remaining economically viable. Workers in SSE organisations and bodies have a say (and may even vote) on pay levels and on how surpluses are reinvested in the organisation and/or the community.

Our membership has grown over the last two decades as more and more organisations, bodies and networks around the world realised that they were practising and defending the fundamental principles and values of the SSE, even without necessarily realising it.

RIPESS is a genuine, grassroots-driven network of networks. Since its creation in 2002, it has grown to comprise six continental networks, which in turn have national members in over 75 countries. RIPESS has consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council and is an observer on the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Social and Solidarity Economy (UNTFSE), established in 2013. RIPESS has been part of the Civil Society Mechanism on Financing for Development since 2014.

USA and Canada
3 networks



21 countries in Europe
46 members



14 countries in Asia
14 members



14 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean
24 members



36 countries across all regions
36 members



17 countries in Africa
27 members



Australia
1 network



Intercontinental network for the promotion of social solidarity economy

www.ripress.org