

WEBINAR

# Public policies

## Stakes and perspective

*24 November 2017*



# Social & Solidarity Economy:

## a few central notions & cultural distinctions

- **Social Economy**

- **French/latin speaking areas** : “**social**” refers to the **type of ownership** by individual persons and not by shareholders, functioning on the principle of “one person, one vote”.
- **English speaking areas** = “**third sector**” : “**social**” relates to the **purpose or the sector of activity** (day-care, health, care of the elderly, etc.)



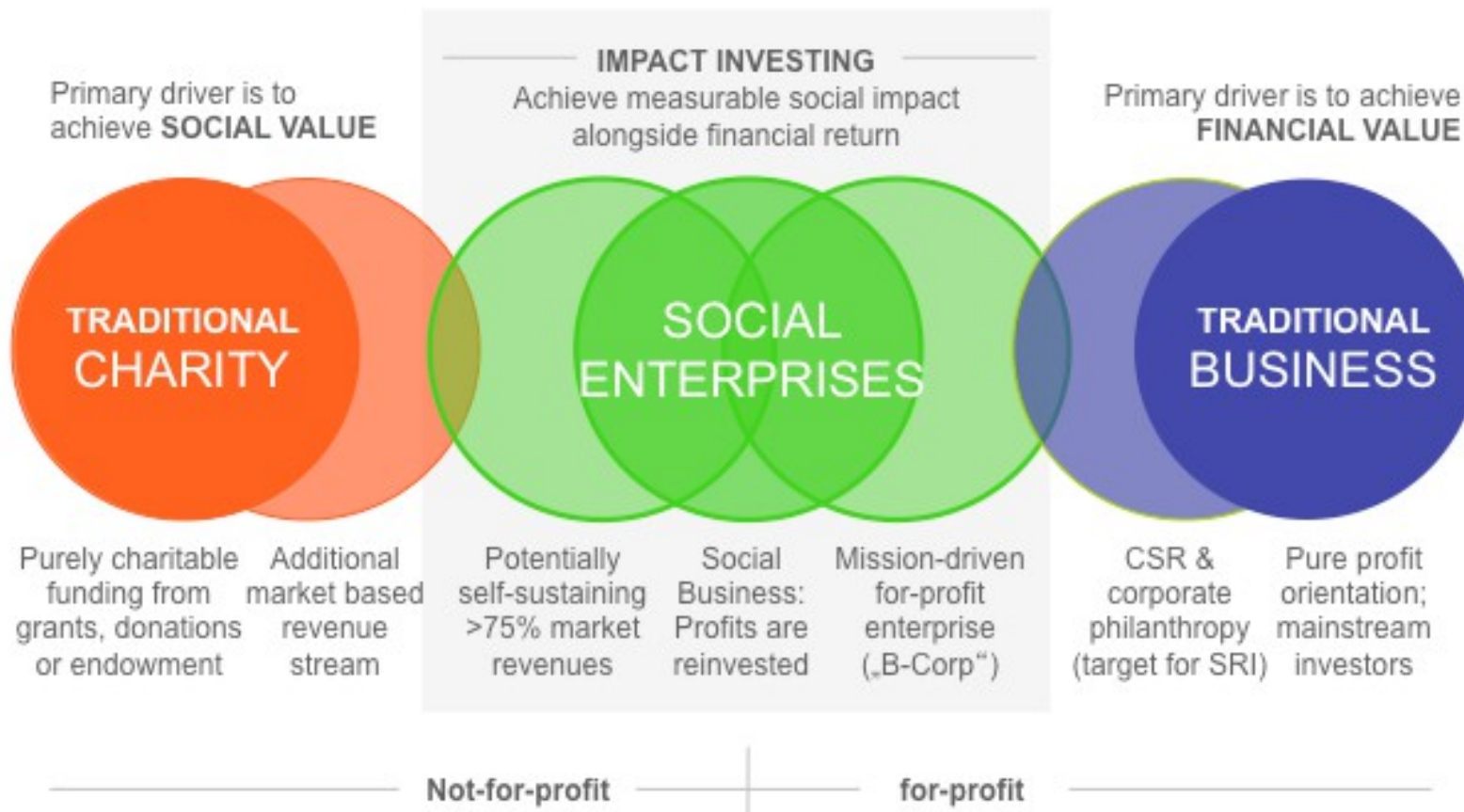
*Associations, cooperatives, mutuels, a variety of non-profits as well as charities and foundations are included*

### Principles

- cooperation,
- workers' democratic engagement
- environmental sustainability

→ **part of the Market economy and does not challenge it in a transformative way.**

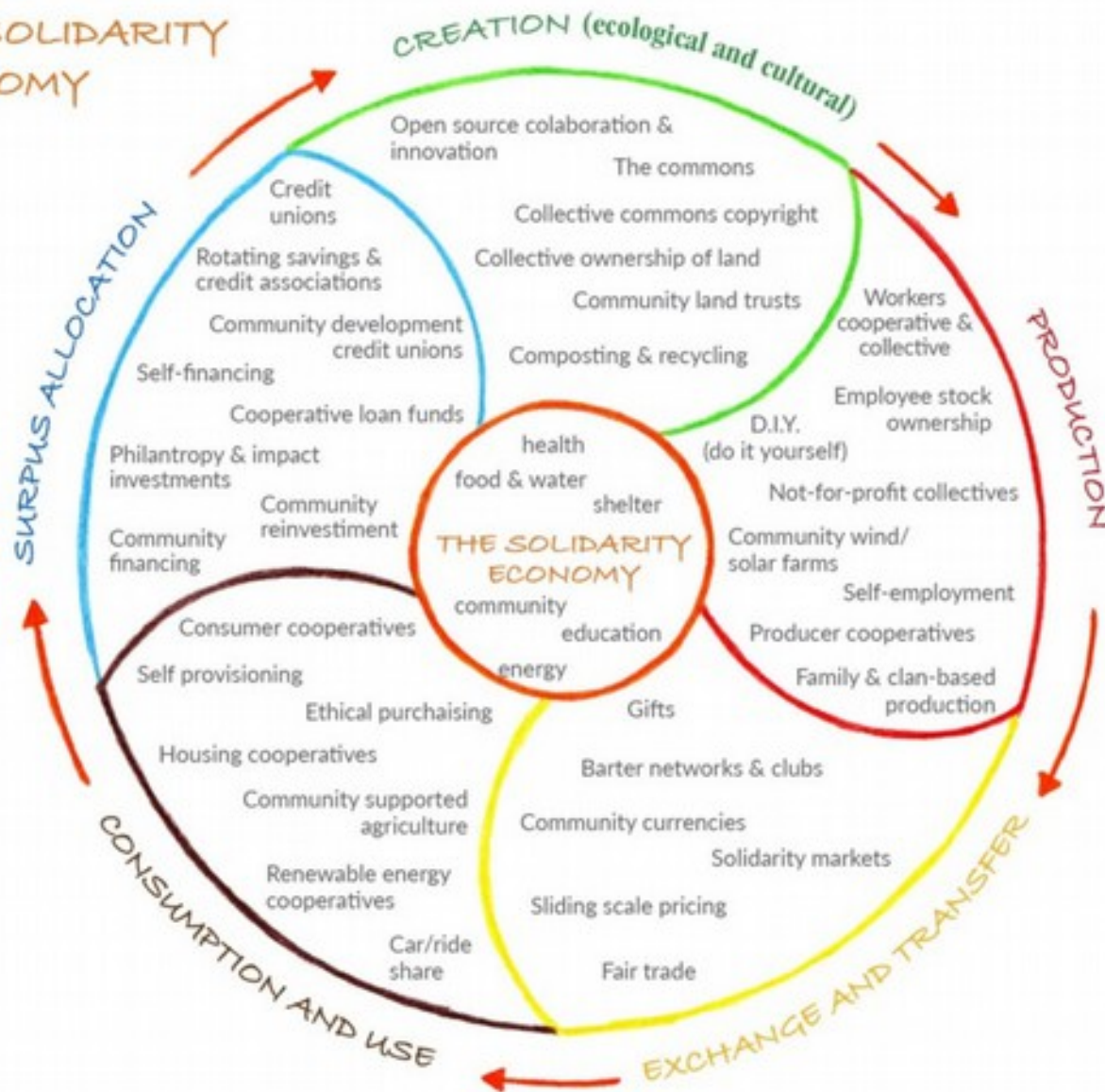
## The business model spectrum revisited



Source: Adapted from J. Kingston Venturesome, CAF Venturesome, and EVPA.

**Social Entrepreneurship:** a social enterprise/entrepreneurship is related to “the creation of a social value that is produced in collaboration with people and organisations from the civil society who are engaged in social innovations that usually imply an economic activity”. They are for-profit or non-profit organisations acting on a market and providers of welfare services, seeking social impact of their actions and activities, applying commercial strategies that include social value.

## THE SOLIDARITY ECONOMY



## Solidarity Economy

- **transformative**
- **collective, citizen-led initiatives**
- understanding economy as a space of social relationships
- based on solidarity, human and Earth rights, self-determination, mutuality and cooperation.

**To democratise economy and participatory strengthening social, economic and environmental justice.**

Source: Designing Regenerative Cultures, 2016 - [www.danielchristianwahl.com](http://www.danielchristianwahl.com); Graphics: [www.flaviagargiolo.com](http://www.flaviagargiolo.com)

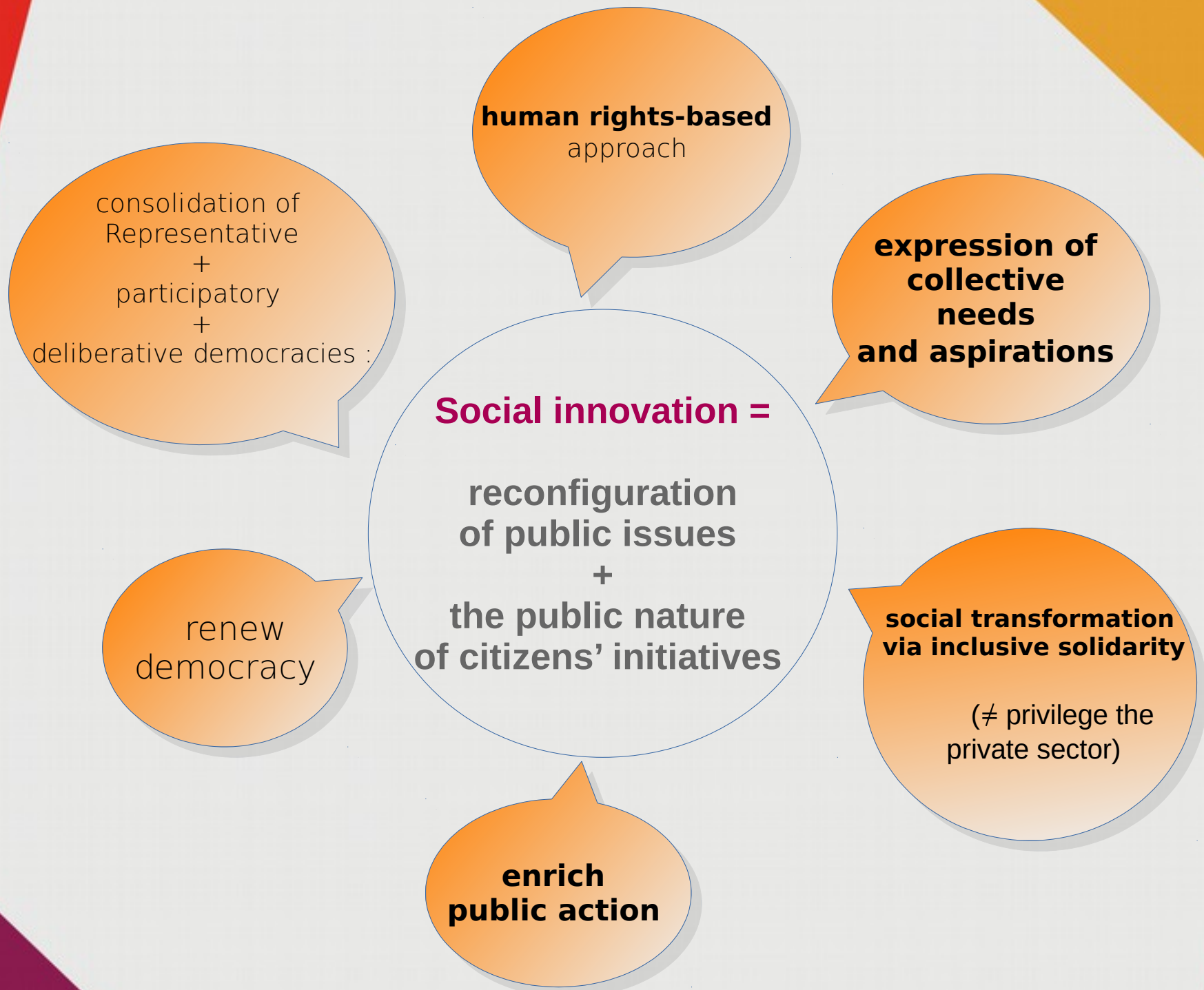
Not a sector of the economy

→ **transversal approach that includes initiatives in all sectors, sharing a broad set of values contrasting with the dominant Market economy**



# Plural democracy must be linked to a plural economy

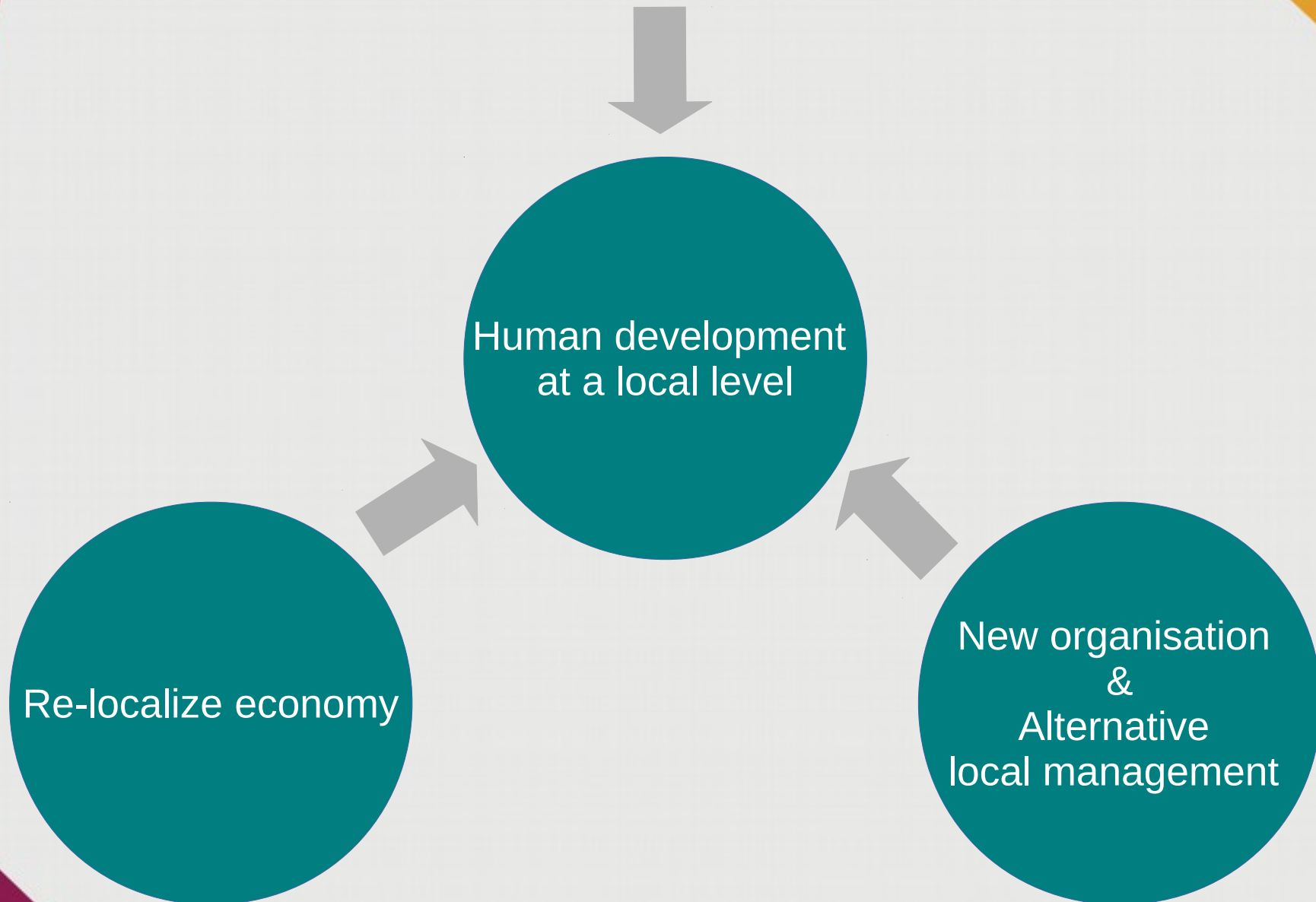
- Karl Polanyi and embedded economy (in social interactions)
  - substantive economy vs formal economy
- Eleonor Ostrom and the Commons
  - Understanding institutional diversity + Knowledge as a commons
- **Challenge to redefine economic activity as a human and social interaction**



### **3 dimensions for co-building and co-implementing public policies**

- Local initiatives taking action and participation in building general interest : identifying general interest, collective responsibility, common future and perspectives
- Civil society mobilized propeling a new economic culture and imagination
- Giving regional, European and international perspective to local actions

# **Renewal of local public policies :** a model of local development





# **Social & Solidarity economy transform territories**



**Economic action**



**Socio-political  
action**



**Socio-insitutional  
action**

# **Public /institutional management for public good & general interest**

- Fair & responsible public procurements
- Participative budgets
- Social audit
- Sustainable management & no speculation over land
- Incentives for activities acting on social utility or environment
- Access to public spaces to develop SE & commons activities
- Innovative management models for local public services
- Collaborative consumption between administration
- Participating in launching
- Strategic plans to actively support SSE
- Supra-municipalities/sectorial networks acting on transformation

## **A new economy supporting alternative development**

- Ethical & alternative finance circuits
- De-monetised economy and collaborative economy
- Social market
- Local trade networks
- Training & teaching SSE
- SSE comprehensive local development plan schemes
- Communication campaign to raise awareness on SSE

## **Strategies promoting sustainable living standards**

- From plans for equality to sustainable living standards development
- Attention focus on local development
- Transition towards more sustainable cities
- New uses of time
- Food sovereignty
- Strategies matching sustainability and social justice standards in agriculture schemes of development
- Ethical energy : towards a new energy sector development

## **Co-building public policies :** a few main points

- Long term process – phases to be identified and discussed on a regular basis (how to adjust and tailor to local expectations)
- Gathering a diversity of actors – acknowledging / endorsing legitimacy for each
- Cross-cutting conversations & help interconnections
- New learnings/teaching/metodologies



## **European public policies :**

what do we want to build at a Europe level, including through RIPESS Europe action ? How to work on it altogether ?

- European agenda 2020-2030 for Sustainable Development: Erasmus, citizenship, civil society initiatives and entrepreneurship
- Labor issues and the European agenda for the implementation of social pillar : what social justice & development of fair & ethical labour conditions with SSE
- Social innovation audit / solidarity indicators
- Panorama
- SSE training and campaign to raise awareness

## Resources

The RIPESS Intercontinental has a section on **Public Policies and SSE**.

The **socioeco.org** resource website also has a section dedicated to Public Policies and the Solidarity Economy

Here are some resource documents:

- **Social Solidarity Economy and related concepts - Origins and Definitions: An International Perspective**  
Yvon Poirier, July 2014
- **Legal and political recognition of social solidarity economy (SEE). An overview on SSE public policies and guidelines**  
January 2016
- **Public policy in the social and solidarity economy: Towards a favourable environment. The case of Europe**  
Giulia Galera, 2015
- **Co-construction of public policy: a perspective for European SSE** - concept note prepared for the EFSSE 2017, September 2017

## Contacts

You can find more information on the RIPESS Europe website: **[www.ripest.eu](http://www.ripest.eu)**

And write to: **[info@ripest.eu](mailto:info@ripest.eu)**