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# 2ND REGIONAL WORKSHOP on integrated community development

## Social and Solidarity Economy: A key to successful integrated community development

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Urgenci International Network

22-24 June  
Budapest, Hungary

# 2ND REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON INTEGRATED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## The recent UN International Labour Organisation Conference & impacts

- The 110<sup>th</sup> International Labour Conference (ILO) that concluded last week had as its subject “Social and Solidarity Economy and Decent work.
- The Resolution and Conclusions provide a definition of SSE that can be found here: [https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/cooperatives/sse/WCMS\\_849066/lang--en/index.htm?fbclid=IwAR1nOB61KIAggloZbHKc-hbPxExuuzgrqefmuxuDooHXZXP0nUE2W\\_nRAvs](https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/cooperatives/sse/WCMS_849066/lang--en/index.htm?fbclid=IwAR1nOB61KIAggloZbHKc-hbPxExuuzgrqefmuxuDooHXZXP0nUE2W_nRAvs)
- The Annexes include UNDRIP and the concluding speech mentioned Agroecology and short food chains as important levers for resolving current existing crises...

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### An excerpt from the ILO definition of Social Solidarity Economy

- Part of the definition of SSE reads:
- “The SSE encompasses enterprises, organizations and other entities that are engaged in economic, social, and environmental activities to serve the collective and/or general interest, which are based on the principles of voluntary cooperation and mutual aid, democratic and/or participatory governance, autonomy and independence, and the primacy of people and social purpose over capital in the distribution and use of surpluses and/or profits as well as assets”.
- This clearly matches the concept of the empowerment required for integrated community development. **It is people-centred and human rights-based**

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- **What aspects of integrated community development does this concern and how?**
- Water
- Land
- Seeds
- Public procurement
- Food Systems
- Energy
- Finance

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Lishui, Zhejiang province, a 1000-year old community irrigation system...



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### Irrigation

- Linking the ancient to the modern:
- Agroecology
- Mulching
- Drip irrigation...

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### The Remunicipalisation of water

- Regaining public control of our Commons.
- The case of Paris and other cities: improved water quality, lower costs than corporate management
- Book by Satoko Kishimoto, published by TNI

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### Land

- The critical importance of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land Fisheries and Forests
- <https://www.fao.org/in-action/increase-use-of-vggt-in-civil-society/en/>
- Community Land Trusts

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### Seeds and soil

- Community seed banks
- The importance of controlling local seeds and varieties
- Participatory breeding and climate change
- Agroecology versus chemical inputs: lower costs, healthier food and community control and development

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### Public procurement and sustainable local/community food systems

- Social Solidarity structures to bring together groups of small-scale food producers for tenders
- Producer/consumer co-op shops and structures
- Local farmers markets and shops
- Community Supported Agriculture...

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### The essential role of Local Government

- Favour groups of small-scale food producers (EU classes 24-25)
- Support short food chains
- Protect zoning for food production in peri-urban areas
- Participatory budgeting
- Subsidise vulnerable groups' access to healthy nutritious local food
- The Right to Food

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### Energy

- Community owned sensitive local renewable energy sources:
- Solar panels and windmills that are not built to the detriment of agricultural land
- Small local dams on rivers and streams that do not damage land but produce energy for local grid
- Renewable energy coops (France, Belgium, Spain) and community coops

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### Finance

- Ethical banks
- Grants
- State/local government support
- Institutional support
- Foundations...

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### Conclusion

- All these different aspects of integrated community development require empowerment of both rights holders (the people) and duty bearers the government.
- This requires respect and trust-building
- Social Solidarity Economy structures, because they are people-centred and human rights based can achieve this.

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# Thank you!

Integrated Community Development



Food Sovereignty

Solidarity Economy

