



# Social and Solidarity Economy for the Sustainable Development Goals



SPOTLIGHT ON THE SOCIAL ECONOMY IN SEOUL



Research findings on



Localization of the SDGs



Origins and Development of Social Economy



Institutions and Policies for Social Economy



Impacts on Sustainable Development



# UNRISD

United Nations Research Institute for Social Development



The United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) is an autonomous research institute within the United Nations system that undertakes interdisciplinary research and policy analysis on the social dimensions of contemporary development issues. Through our work, we aim to ensure that social equity, inclusion and justice are central to development thinking, policy and practice.

UNRISD depends entirely on voluntary contributions from national governments, multilateral donors, foundations and other sources. The Institute receives no financial support from the regular budget of the United Nations. We are grateful to the Seoul Metropolitan Government and the Global Social Economy Forum (GSEF) for their financial support for the research project and this report. We also gratefully acknowledge the institutional support received from our funding partners at the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, and the Finnish Ministry of Social Affairs and Health.

Copyright © United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) and Global Social Economy Forum (GSEF). Short extracts from this publication may be reproduced unaltered without authorization on condition that the source is indicated. For rights of reproduction or translation, application should be made to UNRISD, which welcomes such applications.

The designations employed in this publication and the presentation of material herein do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of UNRISD concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

ISBN 978-92-9085-101-1

October 2018

#### UNRISD

Palais des Nations, 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland

T: +41 (0)22 9173020

[info.unrisd@un.org](mailto:info.unrisd@un.org)

[www.unrisd.org](http://www.unrisd.org)

For a list of any errors or omissions found subsequent to printing, please visit [www.unrisd.org/sse-sdgs-seoul](http://www.unrisd.org/sse-sdgs-seoul)



The Global Social Economy Forum is a global social and solidarity economy (SSE) network that aims to serve as a hub for sharing visions and experiences through cross-border collaboration and cooperation based on multilateral (public-private-community) partnerships for an inclusive, equitable and human centered world for all of us.



# **Social and Solidarity Economy for the Sustainable Development Goals**



SPOTLIGHT ON THE SOCIAL ECONOMY IN SEOUL



# **UNRISD**

United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

# Foreword

**T**he economic crisis has widened wealth inequality and poverty at the global, regional and country levels. Numerous challenges such as ageing societies and regional conflicts cross the borders of cities and countries. The planet is being degraded by industries and individuals seeking to maximize profits regardless of the impacts of negative externalities on society and the natural environment.

Social economy is not only an alternative form of economy, it is also a potentially transformational one based on values of social justice, equality and solidarity that fosters the participation of civil society and public-private partnerships. Social economy organizations and enterprises not only create decent jobs today, they contribute to making the planet safer and more sustainable for future generations.

Through domestic and international collaborations, the Seoul Metropolitan Government has taken a leading role in promoting social economy in the Asia region and globally through the Global Social Economy Forum (GSEF). Although this form of economy is still in an early stage of development in certain parts of world, this report documents its role in the economic, social, environmental and political dimensions of transformation taking place in Seoul. It shows us that social economy enterprises and organizations have real impacts in Seoul, and points to the challenge of translating these into drivers for achieving the localized SDGs in our city for an inclusive, productive and sustainable economy for all citizens. This report is a valuable guide for everybody taking this long journey for sustainable development.

***“If you want to go fast,  
go alone. If you want to  
go far, go together.”***

As the Seoul Metropolitan Government continues to foster social and solidarity economy in the years to come, we look forward to further promoting collaboration among cities and the international community. I am sure this report will help us share the visions and seek new solutions to turn dreams into reality.

I would like to thank UNRISD for preparing this report, which will be of interest to policy makers as well as academia, SSE enterprises and organizations, and civil society, all of whom have a stake in SSE policies for the benefit of all.



**PARK WON-SOON**

Mayor of the Seoul Metropolitan Government  
and Co-Chairman of the Global Social Economy  
Forum (GSEF)  
Seoul, June 2018

# Foreword

**T**he 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development sets out 17 goals to eradicate poverty, protect the planet and ensure prosperity for all. To realize these ambitious goals by 2030, we need an integrated, people-centred and planet-sensitive approach that promotes inclusive development and mainstreams the concepts of equality, participation and fair and sustainable growth.

Social and solidarity economy (SSE), which looks beyond narrow forms of economic development and seeks ways to make social and environmental improvements in people's lives, is particularly well aligned with the commitment of the 2030 Agenda to achieve sustainable development in a balanced and integrated manner. SSE aims to tackle deeply rooted social and economic problems such as poverty and inequality by embracing those who are most marginalized in society. SSE organizations often also have strong environmental principles and goals. In emphasizing social and environmental objectives within economic activity, SSE can contribute to realizing the vision of the 2030 Agenda to strengthen sustainable development and leave no one behind.

This report explores the actual and potential roles of SSE in bringing about inclusive and sustainable development by drawing on evidence from Seoul, Republic of Korea. It reviews the evolution of social economy organizations and enterprises in the country and underlines their capacity facilitate the achievement of the SDGs, particularly in the capital city. While identifying limitations and challenges within the current social economy ecosystem at the municipal and country levels, the report presents a number of valuable lessons to those who seek to learn from experience in promoting and strengthening SSE. We hope this report will serve as a useful tool for policy makers and SSE actors around the world.

On behalf of UNRISD, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Seoul Metropolitan Government and the Global Social Economy Forum (GSEF) for their generous financial support for the research project and this report. Kyong Yong Song, Laurence Kwark and Jinkyong Choi provided consistent support throughout the project process that has been crucial to the success of this joint effort. I would also like to acknowledge support given by the following Advisory Group members: Euiyoung Kim

(Seoul National University), Eun Sun Lee (Gyeongnam National University of Science and Technology), Eunae Lee (Seoul Social Economy Center), Hong Kil Kim (Seoul Metropolitan Government), Jongick Jang (Hanshin University), Joon Young Yi (Yonsei University), Marguerite Mendell (Concordia University), Moo-Kwon Chung (Yonsei University), Peter Utting (Centro para la Economía Social), Tae In Jung (Karl Polanyi Institute Asia), Tae-In Kim (Suwon Sustainable City Foundation, Social Economy Center) and Young Kim (Seoul Social Economy Network). They have provided excellent guidance and advice throughout the project. The research benefited greatly from the active participation of numerous people in surveys, interviews and data collection in the Republic of Korea and beyond. I would like to particularly thank Augustine Seokjo Son, Chang-Woo Lee, Denise K.H. Yoon, Garam Lee, Hyo Kwan Jun, Hyungmi Kim, Hyunmyung Dho, In Dong Cho, Ji Yeon Lee, Jinkyung Choi, Jinseok Kim, Jinyoung Lee, Jiyeon Jang, Joon Ryeong Kang, Kyeongheum Kang, Kyung Hee Lee, Kyung Young Song, Laurence Kwark, Mihyun Ahn, Myung-Hee Lee, Seon-seop Kang, Seung-gi Hong, Seungjoo Woo, Soyeon Song, Su-jin Ahn, Yeon Sook Eom, Young Woo You and Youngbae Kim, Without their intellectual contribution, the project would not have been possible.

UNRISD also gratefully acknowledges the generous institutional support we receive from our funding partners at the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, and the Finnish Ministry of Social Affairs and Health.

Lastly, I would like to express my personal gratitude and congratulations to my colleagues at UNRISD, particularly Ilcheong Yi as project leader; his team members Suyeon Lee, Hyuna Yi, Michelle Jaramillo Velasco, Hee Jin Ahn and Ye Jin Lee; and our communications and outreach team, who all worked tirelessly on this long journey to publish the report.



**PAUL LADD**

Director of UNRISD  
Geneva, June 2018

# Contents

Foreword	ii
Overview	1
<b>CHAPTER I</b>	
<b>Introduction</b>	23
<b>Localizing internationally agreed development initiatives</b>	23
<b>SSE as a means of implementation of the SDGs in local settings</b>	26
Integrated and balanced approach	26
Designing locally specific development goals	27
Empowerment of actors	28
Subsidiarity based on solidarity beyond locality	28
<b>Social economy in Seoul</b>	29
<b>Structure of the report</b>	30
References	32
<b>CHAPTER II</b>	
<b>Localization of the SDGs through Social and Solidarity Economy</b>	34
<b>SSE and sustainable development at the local level</b>	35
Local social development initiatives	35
Local economic development initiatives	36
Local environmental initiatives	38
Local governance	40
Local systems of development financing	42
<b>Conclusion</b>	44
References	45
<b>CHAPTER III</b>	
<b>Social Economy in the National Context: Origins and Development in the Republic of Korea</b>	48
<b>Historical origins of social economy in the Republic of Korea</b>	49
Social economy during the colonial period	49
The emergence of cooperatives after independence	50
Social economy under the authoritarian regimes	50
<i>The emergence of credit unions as a civic movement</i>	50
<i>Government-led civic economic organizations</i>	51
The spread of different forms of SEOEs during democratic transition	51

<i>Producer organizations and new social policy</i>	51
<i>Saenghyup cooperatives and social welfare corporations</i>	52
<b>The Asian financial crisis and the growth of SEOEs</b>	53
The National Basic Livelihood Security Programme, and Self-Reliance Communities and Enterprises	53
The growing number of credit unions and Saenghyup members	54
The concept and practice of SE emerges in the Republic of Korea	55
<i>The emergence of SE as an alternative strategy</i>	56
<i>Socially Useful Employment Projects and SE</i>	56
<i>Legislation concerning social enterprises and cooperatives</i>	56
<b>The current landscape of the SE sector in the Republic of Korea</b>	57
Self-Reliance Enterprises	58
Saenghyup cooperatives	58
Certified and Pre-Certified Social Enterprises	59
Village Enterprises	62
Cooperatives other than <i>Saenghyup</i> cooperatives	63
Other forms of social economy	64
Social financing	64
<b>Conclusion</b>	65
References	67

CHAPTER IV

## Institutions and Policies for Social Economy in Seoul

69

<b>Origins of SE in Seoul</b>	69
Emergence of social movements to reduce poverty	69
Cooperative movements	70
Democratization and SE	70
NBLS, and Self-Reliance Communities and Enterprises	71
<b>Factors shaping development trajectories of SE in Seoul</b>	71
Decentralization	72
Growth of social economy actors in civil society	73
Social economy–friendly mayorship	74
The SE ecosystem	75
Seoul Metropolitan Government	77
Seoul Metropolitan Council	79
District governments	79
Engagement of private business with SE	81

<b>SE in Seoul, and policies and institutions supporting it</b>	82
Seoul's ecosystem policies for SEOEs	82
SEOs in Seoul	84
Cooperatives	84
Self-Reliance Enterprises (SREs)	86
Village Enterprises (VEs)	87
Certified Social Enterprises (CSEs) and Pre-Certified Social Enterprises (PCSEs)	88
Social ventures	90
Intermediary organizations and networks	90
<b>Conclusion</b>	90
References	92

CHAPTER V

## Impacts of Seoul's Social Economy on Sustainable Development

94

<b>Methodologies to measure the impact of SSE</b>	95
<b>Methodology for measuring the impact of Seoul's social economy on sustainable development</b>	97
Four dimensions of SE impact	97
Data on SE in Seoul	98
<b>Economic, social and environmental impacts of SE in Seoul</b>	98
Poverty and inequality	98
Employment and decent work	101
Care for the elderly and children	103
Sustainable and affordable energy	104
<b>Political dimensions of SE impacts in Seoul</b>	105
Increased opportunities for SE voices to be heard	105
Politicization of SE	106
Democratic self-management and solidarity	106
<b>Conclusion</b>	108
<b>Appendix</b>	109
References	110

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

[https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5\\_20718](https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_20718)

