



# **Social Solidarity Economy (SSE) as a tool and public policy to localize SDGs: CASE OF SEOUL**

**Jinkyung Choi(Project Team Manager)**

**Email: [jkchoi68@gsef-net.org](mailto:jkchoi68@gsef-net.org)**

**Phone: +82 (0) 2 352 4208**

# Key Questions

1. What is the Social and Solidarity Economy(SSE)?
2. Why is the SSE relevant tool for localizing SDGs?
3. How is the SSE adopted as a strategy for Seoul's inclusive and sustainable development?
4. Resources

# Economy for People, not for Profit

## Purpose

Products or services provided with clear **Social or Environmental Objectives**

## Core Values

Cooperation  
Solidarity  
Rooted in the community  
Democratic self-management

# Who are SSE actors?



# Common characteristics of SSE Organizations

Common features	Comments
<b>Economic and Social Function</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Combined social and economic objectives</li> <li>• Produce goods and services on a permanent basis</li> <li>• Do not seek profit maximisation but some SSEOs can be for-profit or generate surpluses (e.g. cooperatives)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Legally-binding, strict rules on use of surpluses/redistribution of surpluses</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Collective Dimension</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Based on the will of people/groups to join forces in order to meet their own needs or those of others</li> <li>• Collective dimension depends on the definition and type of organisation               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Very strong in cooperatives (collective ownership);</li> <li>◦ Less strong in some social enterprises</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Collective dimension is not in contradiction with a strong leadership</li> </ul>
<b>Solidarity</b>	<p>Operating methods based on solidarity (either altruism or reciprocity)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Goals not primarily oriented to accumulated capital or generating profits</li> <li>• Aims to include rather than to exclude</li> </ul>
<b>Autonomy</b>	Autonomy of the organisation in management and in decision making processes
<b>Voluntary involvement</b>	No compulsory affiliation
<b>Participation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members/users/beneficiaries have the opportunity to be the owners of the organisation and/or to actively take part in the decision making process</li> <li>• Participation can take various forms (from one person/one vote to more flexible ways) but should be defined and done on a systematic and explicit basis (as being mentioned in formal documents and/or clearly known and understood by all involved stakeholders)</li> <li>• Participation should ideally give the possibility to control and/of imposing sanction</li> </ul>

# What are the relations between SDGs and SSE ?



# Realizing the 2030 Agenda through SSE...

SSE can be an alternative model of development by promoting its inclusive, democratic and sustainable values and practices.

## SDGs

Poverty eradication, equality and good governance  
(SDG 1, 10, 16)

Social services and assistance  
(SDG 3,4)

Employment, infrastructure, and inclusive growth  
(SDG 8,9)

## SSE value and practices

Fair employment generation, enhancing rights to economic resources, women's economic empowerment

Prominent in health care, elderly and child care, education sector

Decent jobs, fair access to social and energy infrastructure, energy, finance, facilitating economic diversification.

and.. Other SDGs goals can be also realized through SSE.

## **Localizing SDGs through SSE : employment, infrastructure and inclusive growth (SDG Goals 8 and 9)**

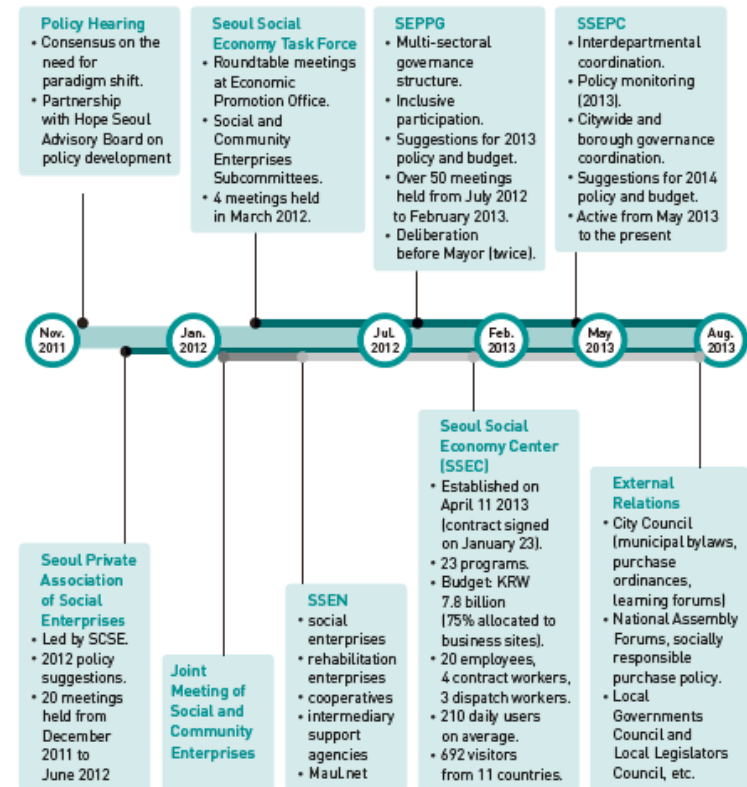
- The role of SE in generating employment in the aftermath of the global financial crisis.
- SE contributes to countering the growth of precarious employment and the inability of the traditional economic sector to fulfil its role of absorbing surplus labor : rates of “Inheritance of enterprises” is 84 % (in ROK) vs 20 % (global).
- The role of SE in relation to infrastructural development is mainly centered on social and energy infrastructure, Seoul has developed an eco-system that burgeoning fast growth of SE.



# The quality of life in human settlements (SDG Goals 10 & 11)

Establishing multi-sectoral partnership with the active citizenship associated with SE was a key to promote participatory governance system that are essential for community renewal and inclusive development in all urban districts of Seoul.

[Figure 3] Formation of the multi-sectoral partnership on the Seoul social economy



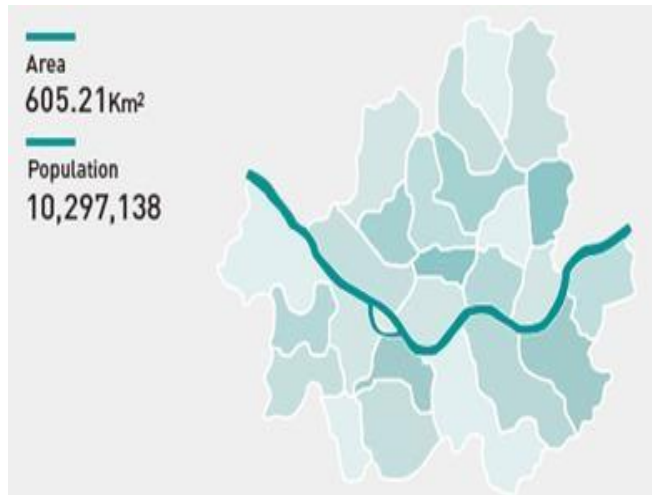
Source: Lee (2014).

# SE in Seoul: Policy and legal development since 2009

- The SMG amended a number of municipal laws including:
  - the Municipal Ordinances on Fostering Social Enterprises
  - the Creation and Administration of the Social Investment Fund
  - the Municipal Ordinances on Supporting Cooperatives and other related projects.
  - the enactment of the Basic Municipal Ordinance on the Social Economy, etc.
- The SMG completed a comprehensive system of support for the SE, extending to the formation of a new business ecosystem and international relations (establishment of GSEF).
- **There are currently 52 municipal ordinances**, including **6 at the SMG and 46 borough-specific ones**, which provide the statutory basis for the social economy policies of the SMG and local boroughs.

# Social Economy of Seoul : fast and sustainable growth (in 2017, 519 SE, 2926 C, 103 CE)

## Basic info on Seoul



Administration: 25 self-governing gu (boroughs), 424 dong (neighborhood unit)

- Average gu-size: Area 24.2Km<sup>2</sup>, Population 413,980
- Average dong-size: Area 1,43Km<sup>2</sup>, Population 24,285



433

Social enterprises



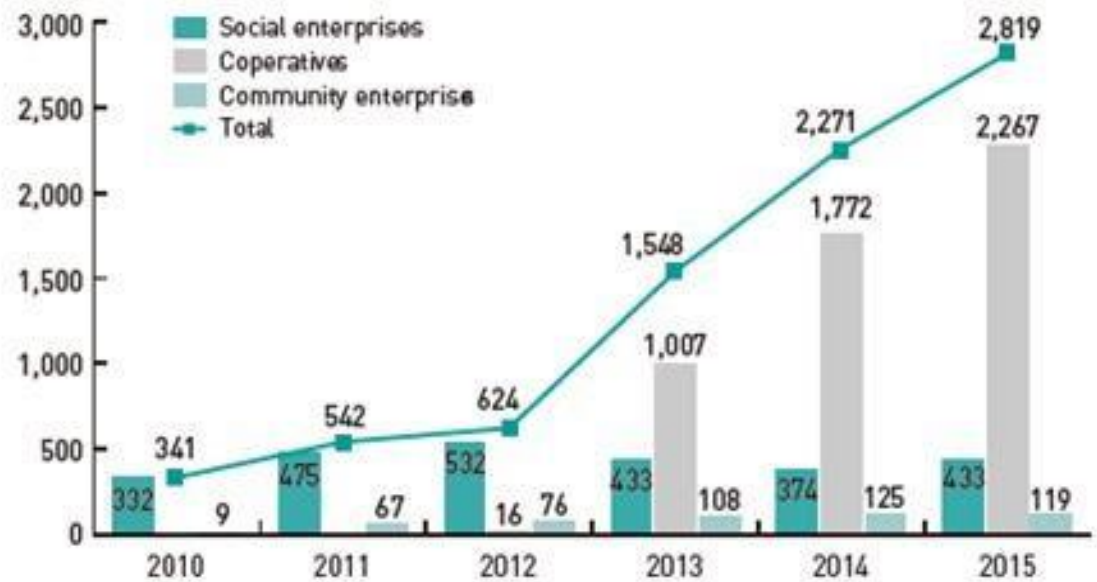
2,267

Cooperatives



119

Community enterprises



| Annual Growth of the Social Economy in Seoul |

# Ensuring the quality of life in human settlements (SDG Goals 10 & 11) and sustainable production and consumption and climate change (SDG Goals 7 & 12 through creating Social Economy Zones (in 2017, in 11 boroughs /25)

## Social Economy Networks in Seoul today

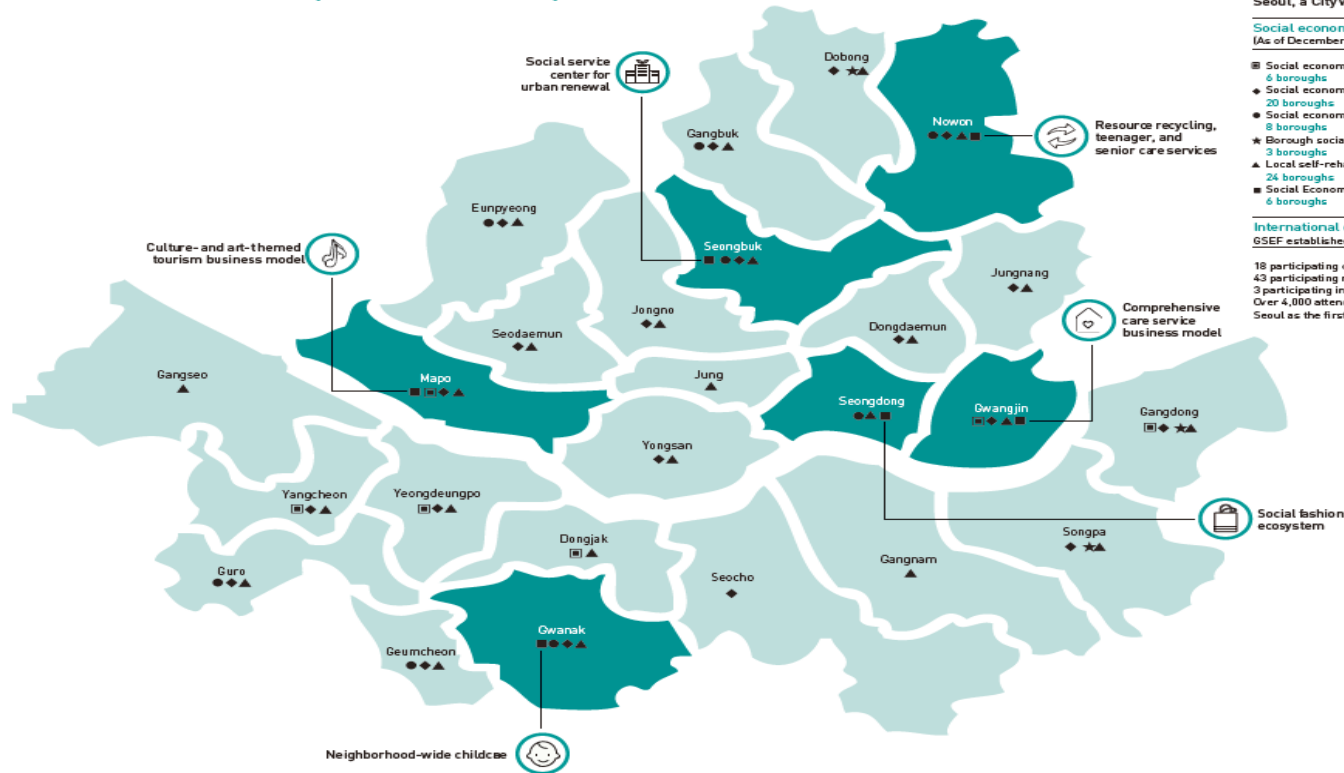
### Seoul, a City with a Burgeoning Social Economy

#### Social economy networks in Seoul today (As of December 2015)

- Social economy ecosystem groups  
6 boroughs
- ◆ Social economy councils  
20 boroughs
- Social economy integrated support centers  
8 boroughs
- ★ Borough social economy support centers  
3 boroughs
- ▲ Local self-rehabilitation centers  
24 boroughs
- Social Economy Zones (preliminary)  
6 boroughs

#### International cooperation on social economy GSEF established in November 2014.

- 18 participating cities
- 43 participating nongovernmental organizations
- 3 participating international organizations
- Over 4,000 attendees
- Seoul as the first chair city.



## Gentrification

## Seoul's gentrification and its characteristics

## Gentrification of residential areas

- New Town and urban renewal projects leading to rising rent and deposit
- As a result, residents (both homeowners and tenants) do not return → they migrate to other areas, while the middle-class and the affluent pour in from other areas



## Securing sustainability in urban regeneration

# Ways to induce a positive gentrification

### WinWin Partnership Agreement through strengthening Governance(4 Areas)

- 창동상계('15.10) / **세운상가('16.1)** / 성수지역('15.12) / 신촌 ('15.9)

#### 세운상가 상생협약서

- 규약을 통한 젠트리피케이션 방지책 마련
- 임대차 분쟁조정 위원회 구성 지원
- 표준계약서 작성 및 배부
- 5년 영업 보장 및 임대료 상승 9%제한 명기



최근 2년간 임대료 35% 폭증



산업, 사회적경제, 예술문화활성화 + 소상공인 상가임대차 상담

장기임대료 동결 유도

워크숍

간담회

협업·연계 활동

공모사업



Management of an exclusive lawyer in each urban regeneration areas (42 times)

- 성수동 (39회) / 세운상가(3회)

## Community Empowerment

# A citizen-led urban regeneration project

- Securing the anchor facilities, maintaining infrastructure, and pushing forward various business for community vitalization

- securing the anchor facilities for community

- making the safe town

- installing CCTV
- upgrading security lights

- promoting a pleasant village

- improving main roads
- promoting the environment of allies
- supporting to make 'green zone'

- making 'Ssamzi park' etc.

- Building up unused open area as 'Ssamzi Park'
- rearranging public space
- making trails around village



# The foundation to stabilized housing and revitalized communities Living together, sharing space

## Community housing?

### externality



Community shared space

육아, 회의실 등 공동체 지향에 적합한

Public purpose facility



Community rules

공동체 생활관련

Operating program for residents' practice



### function



Sharing talents/goods



Sharing space



Sharing time

Resolving daily life problems by communication



# http://www.unrisd.org/sse-sdgs-seoul

1963-2013 · 50 years of Research for Social Change



# UNRISD

United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

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Social Dimensions of Sustainable Development

Research-Related Activities

ALL RESEARCH BY DECADE

2000s

1990s

1980s

1970s

1960s

IDEAS INCUBATOR

Ideas Incubator

Stacked Odds: Exploring Overlapping Inequalities

Engaging the Elites: Class Coalitions for a 21st Century Social Compact

The Gig Economy and Social Security: Towards a (New) Digital Precariat?

Back | Programme Area: Social Dimensions of Sustainable Development

## Social and Solidarity Economy for the SDGs: Spotlight on the Social Economy in Seoul

Project from: 2017 to 2018



This project examines the social economy (SE) in Seoul, Republic of Korea, and how it is contributing to implementing and, ultimately, achieving, the city's "localized" SDGs. Characterized by a rapid development of the social economy, the Seoul Metropolitan Government's strong commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the city's experience offers a valuable opportunity to further enrich understanding of social and solidarity economy (SSE) and the SDGs which UNRISD is planning to undertake.

### The Research Issue in Context

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development emphasizes the need to "achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions—economic, social and environmental—in a balanced and integrated manner, as the transformative vision of the Agenda is to be certain that the interconnected challenges facing humanity can be addressed. A socio-transformative, innovative and inclusive approach to development is required to ensure that no one is left behind."

# UNTF on SSE

## <https://unsse.org/>

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The UN logo consists of the letters 'UN' in white, bold, sans-serif font, centered within a solid blue square.

## Inter-Agency Task Force on **Social and Solidarity Economy**

The international development community recognizes the need to **rethink development**. Business-as-usual has not prevented the recent financial and food crises, climate change, persistent poverty and rising inequality. As a **post-2015 development agenda** is crafted, we need to consider **Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE)** as a pathway to sustainable development.

The **UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Social and Solidarity Economy (TFSSE)** was established to raise the visibility of the SSE in international knowledge and policy circles. We believe that SSE holds considerable promise for addressing the **economic, social and environmental** integrated approaches of sustainable development.

TFSSE brings together **UN agencies** and other inter-governmental organizations, as well as umbrella associations of **SSE networks** as **members and observers**. Task Force **activities** include organizing **events** at UN and other international conferences, dialoguing with policy makers, preparing and disseminating **publications**, and engaging in **collaborative projects** involving TFSSE members and observers.

*"Social and Solidarity Economy encompasses organizations and enterprises that: 1) have explicit economic and social (and often environmental) objectives; 2) involve varying degrees and forms of cooperative, associative and solidarity relations between workers, producers and consumers; 3) practice workplace democracy and self-management. SSE includes traditional forms of cooperatives and mutual associations, as well as women's self-help groups, community forestry groups, social provisioning organizations or 'proximity services', fair trade organizations, associations of informal sector workers, social enterprises, and community currency and alternative finance schemes".*

Peter Utting, former UNRISD Deputy Director

**UCLG**

## **Community of Practice on Social Economy**

- **UCLG World Council (Nov. 2018 Milan)**
- **Africities Summit (Dec. 2018 Marrakesh)**

**<https://www.uclg.org/en/organisation/structure/socialeconomy>**

**#21**

## **Vital Neighborhoods in Metropolitan Cities**

Power of Urban  
Transformation through Social  
and Solidarity Economy (SSE)

UCLG peer learning  
Montreal, June 2017

**Learning**  
UCLG



**BILBAO2018**

GLOBAL SOCIAL  
ECONOMY FORUM

EUSKALDUNA  
CONFERENCE CENTER

**OCTOBER 1-3,  
2018**

Social Economy and Cities

**Values and  
competitiveness  
for an inclusive and  
sustainable local  
development**

[www.gsef2018.org](http://www.gsef2018.org)



**GLOBAL  
SOCIAL  
ECONOMY  
FORUM**





Established in Seoul in 2014 as a global network of local governments and social and solidarity economy(SSE) stakeholders to pursue inclusive and sustainable development through SSE values and practices.

Knowledge  
Transfer

Policy  
Dialogues

Research &  
Publications

International  
Advocacy

Capacity  
Building &  
Trainings

AREA of WORK





The Mont-Blanc Meetings



RIPESS



Bamako City



Groupe SOS



City of Montreal



Seoul Social Economy Network (SSEN)



전국 사회연대경제 지방정부협의회

Association of Korean Local Governments for Social Economy and Social Enterprise



Bangladesh Bank

## 43 Global Members of Local Governments, SSE networks and International Organizations

Asia: 21, Americas: 10, Europe: 4, Africa: 6, International 2 members

12 Local governments, 29 SSE networks, 2 Individuals

(As of Feb. 2018)



Bilbao City



Non-Profit Incubator (NPI)



Grameen Telecom Trust



Bandung Creative City Forum (BCCF)



United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD)



Locality



Le Chantier de l'économie sociale



Japan Workers' Co-operative Union (JWCU)





**Thank you!!**  
**For more inquiries: [gsef@gsef-net.org](mailto:gsef@gsef-net.org)**