



4 February 2014 : Side-event of the Mont-Blanc Meetings at the United Nations Headquarters in New-York in the framework of the 8th session of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals



Summary

On 4 February 2014, the Conference Room n°9 of the United Nations Headquarters in New-York was full. Representatives of Member States, of UN agencies and civil society organizations gathered for the side-event on "Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE): Changing economic relations for equity and sustainable development in the post-2015 agenda" in the framework of the eighth session of the [Open Working Groups](#) on Sustainable Development Goals.

Organized by the Mont-Blanc Meetings (MBM) – International Forum of the Social and Solidarity Economy Entrepreneurs in collaboration with the Research Institute of the United Nations for Social Development (UNRISD) and the United Nations Liaison Service with the Non-Governmental Organizations (UN-NGLS), along with the support of Ecuador, France and Morocco, three States which affirmed their respective government’s commitment to SSE, notably as members of the international [leading group](#) on social and solidarity economy.

Around 60 participants from different countries and from various civil society organizations attended the side-event. It seems that the role of the SSE in sustainable development and for a social and economic development has appeared clearly to the participants who appreciated the multi-stakeholders speakers sharing their experience and knowledge. The event ended up with a discussion with the audience where the need for enlarged partnerships and cross-cooperation among several actors (States, international institutions, civil society organisations, SSE enterprises, trade-unions, interregional banks...) was highlighted.

This is the third exercise in this way organized by the MBM association. Indeed, a first side-event had taken place in March 2012 in New-York, then a second one in June 2012 in Rio de Janeiro for the [Earth Summit Rio+20](#), both to underline the contribution of the SSE to the sustainable development. Therefore, this third event shows again the MBM’s commitment to promote social and solidarity economy as a sustainable economic model in response to the current global challenges, taking advantage of its special consultative status to the UN Social and Economic Council (ECOSOC).



Programme and speakers:

- **Presentation of the side-event :**
Mr. Claude Dorion (Board of Directors of the Mont-Blanc Meetings (MBM) – International Forum of the Social and Solidarity Economy Entrepreneurs)

- **Promoting equality, including social equity:**
Mrs. Natalia Bento-Rodriguez (member of the MBM Scientific Committee)

- **Gender equality and women’s empowerment:**
Mrs. Anaïs Amazit (MBM)

- **UN inter-agency task force on SSE : a recent creation, an important step for the SSE recognition:**
Mr. Vinicius Pinheiro, Deputy Director of the ILO office in NY

- **The SSE international leading group :**
 - o Mrs. Nathalie Cely Suarez (Ambassador of Ecuador in Washington D.C., USA)
 - o Mrs. Fanny Benedetti (France European and International Affairs Office)
 - o Mr. Soulaïman El Hajam (Deputy National Coordinator of the Human Development National Initiative of the Kingdom of Morocco)

- **Moderation :** Mrs. Anita Nayar (Chief of the NY Office of UN-NGLS)

Annexes :

- (1) The entire powerpoint presentation of the speakers
- (2) Speech of the Ambassador of Ecuador in Washington D.C. Mrs. Nathalie Cely Suarez
- (3) A link to a few pictures : <http://minu.me/-sideventpic>

