

GUIDE



BILBAO2018

GLOBAL SOCIAL
ECONOMY FORUM

Social Economy and Cities

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

**CALL FOR
INITIATIVES**



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www.gsef2018.org



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THE GSEF2018 IN BRIEF

The Global Social Economy Forum-GSEF2018 represents the fourth edition of the Global Social Economy Forum (GSEF), a major international conference which was initiated in the City of Seoul in 2013, in collaboration with its local social economy agents. The 2014 edition, held once again in the South Korean capital, led to the GSEF being established as a permanent international association, bringing together local governments and civil society players who recognize the social economy (SE) as a key factor for local economic development. In 2016, the City of Montreal and the Chantier de l'Économie Sociale co-organized the forum in Montreal, enhancing collaboration between local governments and social economy actors for the development of cities.

The GSEF 2018 will be held in Bilbao, in the Basque Country, in the first week of October at an event organized by Bilbao City Council. The central theme is the combination of values and competitiveness for inclusive and sustainable local development. More specifically, the GSEF2018 will present initiatives that have created jobs, improved the quality of life, strengthened social cohesion and inclusion, contributing to the competitiveness of cities and regions, taking into account the key factor of sustainability, ultimately fostering inclusive local development and sustainable cities.

At GSEF 2018, participants will share their views and experiences on integrating economic efficiency, social inclusion, sustainable development and greater participation in economic performance and urban development.

More than 1,500 participants from around the world are expected to attend this event, mainly from:

- Local governments
- Social economy agents
- International organisations
- Universities
- Civil society

Similarly, the participation of organizations from the private sector and civil society interested in collaborative work with governments and the SE is also expected.

Regional and local governments, policy makers, SE organizations, such as cooperatives, community firms, social firms, credit and mutual cooperatives, social finance and non-profit institutions are all welcome to attend GSEF 2018.



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OBJECTIVES OF THE GSEF2018

- Share best practices from around the planet of public policy co-constructed for the development of the SE in urban areas
- Integrate the key elements of competitiveness taking into account the core values of the social economy
- Enable international actions to foster the development of the SE
- Identify opportunities and issues pertaining to collaboration between local governments and SE actors
- Promote awareness of the SE and recognition of its role in local development, especially among public stakeholders, the general public, and the private sector
- Reinforce the GSEF and its capacity to carry out its mission

The Forum is meant to be a dynamic and participatory gathering, constructed in collaboration with local and international partners.

THEMATIC AREAS

The Forum's central theme is the Social Economy and Cities: Values and competitiveness for inclusive and sustainable local development.

The theme revolves around three central ideas (values, competitiveness and inclusive and sustainable development), which are directly related to one of the main current debates at European and global level considering the social economy, in its various expressions, as a real and viable option to advance and grow socially and economically in a different way.

The values are the pillars of a new growth model and the roots that feed the social economy initiatives: self-management, mutual support, autonomy, equity, democracy, economic solidarity and commitment to society, the environment and sustainability.

On the other hand, it aims to demonstrate that competitiveness is not alien to the Social Economy, but rather, it accepts that it is the parameter used to measure part of its value. Combining competitiveness with values or, in other words, proposing an economic model where factors linked to people and their work as opposed to capital and its performance are the main reference, is the foundation of including this strong idea. The Social Economy is demonstrating its ability to enable local development capable of addressing the challenges linked to a sustainable growth model for economic activities, while meeting the requirements linked to a multicultural, ageing society with increasingly diverse ways.

Along these lines, the main thematic lines of the GSEF 2018 are:



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Theme	Sub-Theme
Co-creation of public policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public-Private collaboration strategies• Public purchase and social clauses• Social Economy in the public policies• Social Economy in Community Policy• Social Economy in the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development• Behavior of the social economy in critical contexts: economic crisis, institutional crises
Contribution of the SE to regional transformation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Entrepreneurship and Social Innovation• Socially Responsible Regions• Ecosystems of social innovation• Social Economy and citizenship in cooperation: transformation binomial• Social Economy and its contribution to post-conflict processes• The Basque Local Development System• MONDRAGON story
Challenges to the growth of SE entities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• International Scope in the entities of Social Economy: financing instruments, visibility and regulatory framework• Experiences of alliances between entities of Social Economy• Fundraising and other tools for the creation and sustainability of Social Economy initiatives• Democratization of the governance models of SE entities• Monetization of the social value of organizations. A stakeholder-based approach
The future of work and employment: the role of SE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The value of work in society• Productive and reproductive work binomial• Education and youth, ensuring the future of the Social Economy• Irruption of technology and disappearance of jobs• Social & labour inclusion• Business transformation through social economy

For a detailed description of the themes and sub-themes, please visit our website <https://gsef2018.org/>



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INITIATIVE SELECTION CRITERIA

The academic committee will give priority to the initiatives that best fit with the topics proposed and best promote the inclusive and sustainable local development of cities.

The academic committee will also consider the diversity of agents and initiatives (gender, geographical area, type of organisation, sector of activity and so on) when making the selection.

HOW TO PRESENT AN INITIATIVE AT THE GSEF 2018

People interested in presenting an initiative at the GSEF 2018 must fill in the downloadable form providing a description of the proposed initiative (maximum 1000 words).

COMPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

An initiative is a project already underway that contributes to the development of cities through the Social Economy. This project may come from a Social Economy enterprise or organisation, a local government or from the collaboration between different agents.

From all of the initiatives that are presented, the most interesting will be selected for presentation in one of the sessions of the official forum programme:

- Each session will include between three to six initiatives from different countries or areas of activity and sharing a common topic.
- Expected duration of sessions: There will be one-hour sessions and two-hour sessions (for the total of the initiatives presented in each workshop).
- **Deadline for the submission of initiatives: Friday 23rd March 2018** (at midnight, Central European Time, UTC/GMT +01:00 (CET)).
- Languages: Initiatives can be presented in French, English, Spanish or Euskera. GSEF2018 is a quadrilingual event.
- **IMPORTANT:** Only proposals presented via the official website of the event www.gsef2018.org will be considered.
- The decisions regarding the selected or rejected initiatives will be communicated by email. It is expected that the communication of this decision will take place in the two months following the submission deadline.
- If selected, the individual representing the organisation will be able to access the three days of the forum free of charge and the GSEF2018 organisation will cover the expenses of accommodation up to three nights, in addition to providing financial assistance to cover transport costs (flights etc.).



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- Those who wish to apply for financial assistance to cover transport costs may do so by emailing academic@gsef2018.org and outlining the reasons for their request.
- Should you have technical difficulties with the online form, send a message to info@gsef2018.org
- For any other doubts or queries related to the presentation of initiatives, do not hesitate to write to us at academic@gsef2018.org

The remainder of the initiatives that have not been selected for the official programme will be evaluated for exhibition in poster format in the exhibition area set up for this purpose.

For reasons of capacity and of striking a balance between the expected topics, the academic secretary reserves the right to select the initiatives that will be presented in workshop or poster format.

See you in Bilbao!