



## **History of the first year of the Campaign for a Global Curriculum of the Social Solidarity Economy**

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## **Introduction:**

### **Presenting the Campaign for a Global Curriculum of Social Solidarity Economy**

This Campaign is an educational initiative on Social and Solidarity Economy collectively built by organizations from different countries . It was formally launched in October 2016 from a collective of organizations of the Education and Social and Solidarity Economy Network - REESS, seeking to articulate and complement a Global Curriculum of Social Solidarity Economy , what means the plans of studies, educational proposals, knowledge, epistemologies, methodologies, science and practice of formal education non-formal and informal, developed around the world, in schools, universities, social movements, cooperatives, trade unions, associations, indigenous peasant communities and Afro-descendants, while building a just, sustainable not capitalist economy.

It wants to mobilize wills and resources for the construction of a Global Map of Education for Social and Solidarity Economy's initiatives, carried out worldwide in formal and non-formal contexts; a portal that enables access to plans and training programs in Social Solidarity Economy, educational materials and pedagogical tools produced in all countries by social movements, communities, civil society organizations, governmental organizations, Universities, and schools. Moreover, it has the intention of stimulating public policies in education for a Social Solidarity Economy, contributing to balance the overall conservative wave in economy and education.

The proposal to make concrete and visible a Global Curriculum of Social Solidarity-based Economy was born in the beginning of the second decade of the 2000's, in organized rural communities of Santiago del Estero Argentina and has germinated for a long time in congresses and Latin American Forums towards Another

Economy. It emerges from a need that has been slowly maturing and enters in synergy with the approaches of the Global Curriculum Project developed between 2010 and 2012 by organizations from 5 countries, especially with its Brazilian version, the Global Curriculum for Sustainability Project.

This self-managed global civil society Campaign promotes connections between social actors worldwide, to strengthen an education that goes beyond the school and the Academy, stimulating dialogue with life, with social movements, in the construction of “another possible economy”.

In less than a year, and without any external financial resources, the Campaign for a Global Curriculum of Social Solidarity Economy has gained membership of 44 organizations in 18 countries, not only in Latin America, but also in Europe and in Africa. Currently the Campaign has the adhesion of 6 international Networks of Education for Social Solidarity Economy s (1). It also has the support of schools and institutions that promote Education for Global Citizenship and Peace. Voices from other continents will soon be heard, as more networks join the campaign.

The First Face-to-Face Meeting of the Campaign’s participants has taken place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, at the headquarters of CECIP – Center of Popular Image’s Creation, on March 17-18, 2017, to discuss future strategies.

The Second Face-to-Face Meeting will take place on August 22, 2017, in the Faculty of Economics of the Benemérita Universidad de Puebla - BUAP, Mexico, on the occasion of the First International Conference on Cooperatives and Social and Solidarity Economy / 9th Meeting of the Researchers and Educators in Cooperativism and Solidarity Economy National Network (RedCoop), included in the activities of CLACSO, in celebration of its 50th anniversary.

This publication, based on texts which can be found on the web site. <https://curriculumglobaleconomiasolidaria.wordpress.com/> , is intended to be a brief record of the first steps of a great journey without time to finish and that will, step by step, make possible another education and another economy.

## Notes

- 1 - Education and Social Solidarity Economy Network ( *Red Educación y Economía Social Solidaria* REESS); Intercontinental Network for the Promotion of the Social Solidarity Economy ( *Red Intercontinental para la Promoción de la Economía Social Solidaria* RIPESS); National Network of Researchers and Educators in Cooperative Work and Social Economy of Mexico (RedCoop), National Forum of Solidarity Economy ( *Fórum Nacional de Economía Solidária* Brazil), Universidade Popular dos Movimentos Sociais (UPM); Canadian Community Economic Development Network (CCEDNet).

## **1. A letter of invitation triggers the Campaign**

In the year 2016, participants of the Education and Social Solidarity Economy Network - *Red Educación y Economía Social Solidaria*- REESS collectively produced a text in which the principles and fundamentals of the Global Campaign for a Global Curriculum of Social Solidarity Economy were presented and that became an invitation to participation. The text was translated in English, French and Polish by a volunteer.

In October 2016, social economist Claudia Álvarez, Co-Director of REESS project, member of the State Employees Association – *Asociación de los Trabajadores del Estado*- ATE, and of the Institute of Studies on State and Participation – IDEP Saúde, with collaboration of pedagogue Madza Ednir , CECIP's Editor and Consultant in Education for Global Citizenship and Sustainability, published an invitation/manifesto in Spanish and other three languages on a page created for free on the Internet.

Were initially invited to compose the Campaign's international coordination group organizations of North America, Latin America, Europe and Africa, participants of REESS and/or organizations acting in the field of Education for Global Citizenship but the Campaign is permanently open to the participation of all.

In July 2017 the Campaign had representatives of 18 countries, being 7 in Central and South America (Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador and Peru), 3 in North America (United States, Mexico and Canada), 5 in Europe (Austria, Czech Republic, Poland, Spain and United Kingdom) and 2 in Africa (Benin and Kenya)

<http://curriculumglobaleconomiasolidaria.com/english/invitation-to-participate/>

## **2. Forming a Multi Coordination Volunteer Team to promote the Campaign**

The Campaign for a Global Curriculum of Social Solidarity Economy adopts the principle of horizontal organization, in a polycentric net's format, where each node in the net has autonomy to exercise the role of coordinating the Campaign – establish /reinforce interactions, propose actions, implement, register, systematize them communicate them - or supporting the Campaign, take knowledge of its activities and disseminate its proposals.

That means to put in practice a radically democratic governance in which there is not a "higher court" that defines who coordinates the Campaign. In principle, all coordinate / animate the campaign. Those who do not do it will become supporters until they again become protagonists. That gives the Campaign the fluidity and flexibility that characterize the processes of Life, of Mother Nature.

The list available on the website of the Campaign presents 44 organizations from 18 countries who in July 2017 coordinated or supported the Campaign.

<http://curriculumglobaleconomiasolidaria.com/participantes/>

### **3. Starting the collective construction of the concept of “Curriculum Global of Social Solidarity Economy”**

In the first virtual meeting of the Campaign on Skype, conducted by Pedro Orden de Cátedra Germán Abdala de UNLP-Argentina, on November 30, 2016, 10 participants, representing universities, networks, associations, civil society organizations linked or not to schools in Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Colombia and Mexico (\*) shared their views on Curriculum. The consensus was that the Global Curriculum of Social Solidarity Economy includes and transcends the Curricula/ study plans of formal educational institutions; it is a project agreed, through a collective dialogue, to educate formally, non-formally and informally; a dialogue of cultures, political processes and knowledge, deeply linked to life and people.

Participants registered as a challenge to make more clear and operating what the Campaign really wants to accomplish. Proposals for ‘practical action in the short term’ emerged, such as to link agendas so that they can be articulated to the Campaign; define stages – for example: dissemination in social networks; collect adhesions, experiences and proposals; define a minimum of agreements on communication procedures and possible lines of contact; assemble the Campaign’s coordinators/supporters on Facebook and e-mail communication groups; produce another virtual meeting in the second half of February 2017 to prepare the First Face-to-Face meeting of campaigners in Rio - CECIP, one of the organizations supporting had offered its facilities to host the event.

The intention, expressed by one of those present, is that participants of the Campaign could build a ‘communication’s journey’, in such way that initiatives depend less on planning than the on the synchronicity of their agendas and wills.

(\*) Representatives of Austria and Benin justified their absences.

### **4. First ideas for the Campaign’s objectives and expected results campaign: Preparation of the First Face-to-Face meeting**

From November 2016 on, the Campaign's Multi Coordination Team and supporters, in addition to the WordPress page, began to communicate regularly by an e-mail group, and a page on Facebook.

The second virtual meeting of participants of the Campaign was an Webinar organized by the Universidad Cooperativa de Colombia and took place in two stages. The stage in Spanish, on February 16, 2017, was attended by 14 participants representing organizations and networks in 6 countries: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, Colombia, Ecuador and Mexico. The stage in English, on the following day, had 4 participants representing organizations from 4 countries: Czech Republic, Kenya, United Kingdom and United States.

Speakers of Spanish who had already participated in the first virtual meeting, told how they had worked within their organizations to disseminate the principles of the Campaign. The intention of articulating formal educational institutions to non-formal educational processes, dialogue with movements and popular organizations and seeking alliances and durable connections, which may include support in resources, was affirmed. Those who were participating for the first time, presented their organizations and networks. The presence of leaders of the Forum of Solidarity Economy/ *Forum de Economia Solidária* and of the Center of References in Wholesome Education /*Centro de Referencias em Educação Integral*, Brazil; Alforja, Member of the Board of Latin America's Popular Education/ *Consejo de Educación Popular de América Latina*, Costa Rica; the Salesian Polytechnic University, *Universidad Politécnica Salesiana*, Ecuador, was highlighted.

For participants of the webinar's first stage, the Face-to-Face Meeting in Rio could be a space to clarify overall objectives of the Campaign, such as expanding the connections between countries and initiatives, to strength resistance and create greater unity to achieve effective responses to face the powerful global interests against Social Solidarity based Economy.

Also, it was expressed the expectation that the meeting's participants could plan for Campaign's concrete actions, creating committees or work teams with different objectives. It was recommended that from the meeting could emerge definitions about : strategies of communication and dissemination of the principles of the campaign (awareness raising , occupying spaces of dialogue, participating in conferences, publishing, editing, strengthening alliances); strategies for financing; strategies to identify and disseminate pedagogical content including new ideas to reach illiterate populations and individuals with visual impairment, as well as how to continue learning with indigenous communities who already work in accordance with the principles of the EcoSol); strategies to systemize the actions of the campaign. Also, it was noted the need to reach agreement on concepts that have many "readings" or interpretations - such as the concept of Social Solidarity Economy.

In sum, according to the participants of this first stage of the virtual meeting, of the First Face-to-Face Meeting should emerge a preliminary definition of the Campaign's general bases, signaling in the direction of a Second Face-to-Face meeting where more specific aspects of the Campaign would be detailed. Jesús Rivera, of the Benemérita Universidad Autónoma of Puebla-Mexico, reported an International Congress in August was been prepared, where there would be a specific space for the Campaign.

In the webinar's second stage have taken the word representatives of Amani Kibera Centre for Education for Peace through Sport in Kenya; Development Education Center of Leeds; Na Zemi, a Czech Republic organization supporting fair trade, responsible consumption and promoting Education for Global Citizenship; World Learning, from United States. They reinforced the idea that from the Face-to-Face Meeting came out definitions of how the Campaign could help influence policy to balance the overall conservative wave in economy and education. They suggested that the specific approach of the Campaign, its specific objectives and central flags be clarified. Also, it was suggested to discuss how this Campaign is related to other Social and Solidarity Economy initiatives that are happening in the world.

Another suggestion was to bring to Rio's meeting the proposal to create a virtual platform divided into thematic areas (the areas to be covered are to be defined) - a web site that could bring information, ideas, resources, documents, - even educational programs with a focus on the ancestral knowledge of indigenous peoples - in such a way that would be useful to all the organizations involved.

## **5. The international Campaign for a Global Curriculum of Social Solidarity Economy as a democratic invention**

The First Face-to-Face Meeting in Rio was publicized in the Campaign's Facebook Page, by word of mouth information and in the Blog "Combate ao Racismo Ambiental" (Fighting Environmental Racism), through an article published in March 2017, one or two weeks prior to the event. The text presents the Campaign - that spontaneous planetary civil society initiative - as a **Democratic Invention**, defined by Paul Singer and David Calderoni as movements that arise in many different sectors, but have in common the fact that they are creative ways for the development of autonomy and cooperation, where solidarity is central.

<http://racismoambiental.net.br/2017/03/10/por-dentro-de-uma-invencao-democratica-a-campanha-internacional-por-um-curriculo-global-da-economia-social-solidaria/>

## **6. Clarifying the Campaign's objectives and strategies: proposals for the 1st Face-to-Face Meeting of coordinators, consultants and supporters**

On 16 and 17 March 2017, 26 social educators/activists from seven countries, connected to organizations and institutions engaged in education for Another Possible World, met at the headquarters of the Centro de Criação de Imagem Popular (Creation of Popular Image's Center), CECIP, Rio, to begin to define specific objectives and strategies of the Campaign for a Global Curriculum of the Social Solidarity Economy. They mobilized its own resources and came from **Argentina** (ATE, Universidad Nacional de Quilmes, Bienvenidos los Pobres/ REESS), **Brazil** (Faces do Brasil, Forum Brasileiro de Economia Solidária (Brazilian Solidarity Economy Forum), Rede Nacional pela Primeira Infância (Early Childhood National Forum) - RNPI, Magic RM Communications, Area Leão School, among others), **Ecuador** Universidad Politécnica Salesiana- (Salesian Polytechnic University) UPS, **Mexico** Benemérita Universidad de Puebla (Benevolent University of Puebla) BUAP, **Portugal** Universidade de Coimbra (University of Coimbra, EcoSol-CES) and **Kenya** (Amani Kibera - Center for Education and Peace through Sport).

The meeting was coordinated and facilitated by Claudia Alvarez (ATE / a Quilmes), Laura Fernández (BePe) and Madza Ednir (CECIP), with the collaboration of Noemi Bottasso (UPS) and Ben Ooko (Amani Kibera), from an Agenda drawn up collectively, incorporating the recommendations of the 2nd virtual meeting. Spanish - English volunteer translators were Bill Calhoun (World Learning/SIT), Noemi Bottasso (UPS) and Rui Maricato (Oficina de Corte e Costura de Ideias -Cutting and Sewing Ideas Atelier). Madza Ednir, Simone Petitet, Simone Valadares, Soraia Melo (CECIP), Tania Pacheco (Fighting Environmental Racism Blog) offered solidarity hosting to participants from Argentina, Kenya and Brazil. Dinah Frotte (CECIP) and Silvia Fittipaldi (CECIP/Magic RM) offered solidary transport.

The participants raised proposals for the Campaign's specific objectives, which included to create a website/digital platform (a friendly digital tool) that could enable experiences interchange and the collective construction of the Curriculum and allow to join different actors, integrating social sectors, respecting and valuing the knowledge and experiences of each one of them. Work teams/commissions were formed: mobilization, communication, systematization. Volunteers presented themselves or were indicated in plenary and agreed to take these 4 teams, with specific tasks (\*).

**Mobilization:** Rosemary Gomes (FacesBrasil-FBESS - Br), Cida Reis (Empreendimento-FBESS, Br), Bill Calhoun (World Learning, US), Jesus Rivera (BUAP -

Mexico), Ben Ooko (Amani Kibera, Kenya), Aline Santos (Univ. Pelotas, Univ. Coimbra - Br and Port.), Claudia Alvarez (ATE-REESS - Ar)

**Communication:** Luciana Oliveira (CECIP - Br), Tania Pacheco (Blog CRA, Br), Silvia Fittipaldi (CECIP/Magic RM, Br) Soraia Melo (CECIP-Br), Tati (CECIP-Br), Claudia Alvarez (ATE-REESS - Ar)

**Systematization:** Adriana Ramos (EcoSol Secretary Maricá, Br), Bill Calhoun (US), Claudia Alvarez (Ar), Laura Fernández (Ar); Madza Ednir (CECIP-Br), Maria Mostafa (CECIP Br), Noemi Bottasso (UPS-Ecuador)

**Campaign's Letter of Principles** :It has been formed a working group with the task of drafting in the Campaign's Letter of Principles , based on the *Invitation Letter to call for participation in the Campaign*: Aline Santos (Univ. Pelotas, Br, Univ. Coimbra,Port), Antonio Oscar (FBESS-Br), Claudia Alvarez(Ar), Laura Fernandez (BePe – Ar), Madza Ednir, (CECIP-Br)

(\*) The following participants have joined those teams after the meeting: Colombia Pérez (Indesco - Colombia), Raul Luna of RIPESS, Peru and Rui Maricato, (Cutting and Sewing Ideas Atélier) Brazil. The teams are open to the participation of anyone who wants to join them

A proposal was made to elaborate a funding plan (which should be adequate to the challenges and projects to be conceived and to the necessity to maintain an organizational structure). In relation to the coordination of the Campaign, it was indicated the creation, in each continent, of “political spaces” - or Mobilization Collectives (more than 3 people) and/or promote a rotating leadership of organizations; having a team of animation/facilitation that changes every year and where working on international institutional pairs.

The participants recommended to prepare the participation at the Congress of BUAP – Mexico, to give visibility to the Campaign, organizing the second Face-to-Face Meeting of coordinators, consultants and supporters of the Campaign (side event) in which it could occur the presentation of the event of March's systematization document; advancing in the construction of the Campaign's objectives and strategies; and approval of its Charter of Principles.

<http://curriculumglobaleconomiasolidaria.com/espanol/encuentro-rio-2017/>

## **7. Outlining the Campaign for a Global Curriculum of Social Solidarity Economy's Charter of Principles**

Starting from March 19, 2017, teams formed at the Rio meeting began to work on the Campaign's communication (trying to improve the WordPress page, for example, and stimulating participation in other virtual spaces), mobilization (through contacts and articulation with other organizations and networks; organizing and promoting the Second Face-to-Face Meeting in BUAP - Mexico) and systematization (producing texts with summaries of virtual meetings and Face-to-Face Meeting and documenting the history of the campaign). In the group responsible for drafting the Charter of Principles continued a debate that was initiated in Rio by some of those present: to what extent the Campaign should be articulated to the Sustainable Development Objectives, since in Brazil and on the global stage, there are organizations of workers and their intellectual allies questioning the legitimacy of the UN, Unesco and the ODS. The decision was to maintain the connection of the Campaign to the ODS, considering that the organizations and networks, had accepted the invitation made in the WordPress Site in October 2016, that in its first paragraph says that the Campaign's proposal is born "within the framework of the implementation of the Agenda 2030 and considering that the basis for the realization of all the Sustainable Development Objectives (ODS) is a Quality Education (Goal 4)" (...)

In May 2017, the Letter of Principles was posted on the Campaign's Website and shared in the Facebook Page. The Letter, that must be submitted to the appreciation of the Second Face-to-Face Meeting in Mexico (August 22-2017) participants, says that the Campaign wants to mobilize wills and resources for the construction of a Global Map of Education for Social Solidarity Economy initiatives carried out in formal and non-formal context worldwide; a portal which enables access to plans and training programs in Social Solidarity Economy, educational materials and pedagogical tools produced in all countries by social movements, communities and civil society organizations, governmental organizations, universities and schools; it also stimulates public policies in education for Social Solidarity Economy.

<http://curriculumglobaleconomiasolidaria.com/english/letter-of-principles/>

## **8- Preparation of the 2nd Face-to-Face Meeting - Puebla and of the virtual discussion group in the context of the activities of the World Social Forum**

The Third Virtual meeting by Webinar took place in two stages - in the 27th of June involved 16 participants from 6 countries - Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Colombia and Mexico, -among 18 countries involved so far; 3 networks, CCEDNet, REESS, RedCoop, and 9 organizations (between the 6 international networks and 44 organizations). In the 27th, presented for the Webinar in English besides the

representative of Kenya, representatives of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia and Mexico, in a total of 7 participants.

Confirming what had been announced in the First Face-to-Face Meeting of Rio, Dr. José Jesús Rivera, from BUAP and member of the Campaign's Mobilization Team, had invited, by the Facebook group and email group, all participants of the Campaign to attend the **9th Meeting of the Researchers and Educators in Cooperativism and Solidarity Economy National Network (RedCoop) Mexico 21-25 August 2017** -Facultad de Economía de la Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla (<http://www.eco.buap.mx/>), stressing that **Tuesday, August 22** would be dedicated to the Campaign for a Global Curriculum of Social Solidarity Economy, with discussion on its principles and objectives.

On May 29, Dr. Rivera and other representatives of the Campaign in Argentina, Brazil and Colombia had a conversation on Skype to prepare the third Virtual meeting of the Campaign's Multi coordination and supporters group- a webinar organized by Indesco - Colombia, where would be detailed the objectives and the Agenda of the Second Face-to-Face Meeting in Mexico.

That meeting defined the basic guidelines of the Second Face-to-Face meeting. (See item 9).

It was also settled that in an activity organized by the Doctorate in Social Solidarity Economy on the 23rd or 24th of August, one of the presentations would be made by a representative of the Campaign's Multi coordination team.

Thanks to the articulation between representatives of the Campaign in Argentina and organizers of the Social Forum World activities, a virtual space was opened on 23 August allowing participants of the Campaign to invite the World Social Forum activists to join the Campaign. <http://openfsm.net/projects/curriculumglobal-ecosol/project-home>

<http://openfsm.net/projects/fsm-extendido/fsmextendido-act367-conversatorio-sobre-la-campana-curriculum-global-economia-social-solidaria>

Link for online registration in Spanish, 12hs (México)

<https://join.skype.com/CSr4Bd8DdY0c>

Link for online registration in English 10hs (México )

<https://join.skype.com/aYb5LYafgBbi>

There was the suggestion of creating a moment on the Congress's last day for systematization of issues raised at the tables/conferences/talks of the days 23 and 24 and the issues raised in the 22nd by the directly involved in the Campaign.

As a follow-up to the Third Virtual Meeting, in talks with Ben Ooko, coordinator of the Amani Kibera Center-Kenya, and Javier Collado of the National University of Ecuador and editor of the Global Education magazine, it was stressed out the importance of

involving Unesco in support to the Campaign and perhaps beginning the preparation of a Campaign Summit in Kenya, Africa, in 2018.

## **9 - A preliminary Agenda for the 2nd. Face-to-face Meeting of the Multi coordination team and supporters in Puebla, Mexico**

The preliminary Agenda was developed considering the recommendations of the participants of the Campaign and it was sent to the organizers of the 9th **Meeting of the Researchers and Educators in Cooperativism and Solidarity Economy National Network (RedCoop)** of Mexico in the BUAP, Benemérita Universidad de Puebla (Benevolent Puebla University), which entered it in the Program, with few modifications. It is as follows:

- Opening with the presence of representatives of the original community Nahuatl, doing a ritual and telling about their 38 years of struggle against extractivism
- Presentations of short videos on the more diverse experiences of participants in creating spaces of solidarity
- Brief discussion on the Campaign's origins and purposes
- Group dynamics on the Campaign's Letter of principles
- Group dynamics on the Campaign's objectives and strategies
- Presentation of the Campaign's website with identification of pedagogical tools used by the participants, which can then be uploaded in this site. In this informal research, it must be considered informal education experiences that prove solidarity is present in all spheres of existence

Campaign's participants who reside outside of Mexico and are planning to be present at the event will receive invitation letters from BUAP what will assist them in trying to get funding for the trip. Solidarity lodging for those participants in Puebla may be expected.

### **Conclusion: This is not THE END...**

Countless will be the consequences and repercussions of the Second Face-to-Face Meeting in Puebla on August 22, 2017, of the virtual discussion group among those activists and participants of the World Social Forum on the next day, and of all interactions, formal, non-formal and informal learning in the context of the BUAP's event, which will host the two activities.

The story of this innovative Campaign will continue to be written by us. We hope that briefly we can register the next steps of the journey.

Systematization Team, July 2017