



building up social & solidarity economy

# BUSSE PROJECT

Ekumenická akademie, z. s. / Ecumenical Academy  
Karolína Silná



Ekumenická  
akademie

**Social Solidarity Economies and Cooperatives in Europe.  
East-West and West-East Dialogue Colloquium**

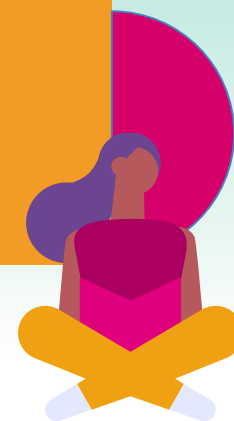
**8 May 2021**



Our vision is a socially just, sustainable and tolerant society

# ECUMENICAL ACADEMY

- NGO established in 1996 in the Czech Republic
- human rights and finding solutions for economic, social, gender and ethnic inequalities
- support alternative forms of economical democracy, such as social solidarity economy (SSE), fair trade, co-operatives
- organise campaigns and events to raise awareness of these issues



Ekumenická  
akademie

[www.ekumakad.cz](http://www.ekumakad.cz)

- FAIR TRADE pioneers in the Czech Republic
- Fair & Bio shop and 1<sup>st</sup> co-op coffee roasting house (<https://www.fair-bio.cz/>)
- Supporting development of local economy – CSAs, SSE Forum, ...
- Members of local and international networks (SSE, food sovereignty, fairtrade, climate, ...)
- Education: Building Up SSE a Employ SSE (Erasmus+)



# BUILDING UP SOCIAL SOLIDARITY ECONOMY

- Erasmus+ project aimed at disseminating SSE know how and practices in Central Eastern Europe
- contribution to enhancing skills and knowledge of SSE and its transformative potential
- **OBJECTIVES**
  - informal educational programme – developing and testing educational materials and training tools
  - people and organisations interested in learning about SSE in Central Eastern Europe
  - important aspects of SSE at a regional level



# PARTNERS



- [Ekumenická akademie](#) (Prague, Czech Republic)
- [Stowarzyszenie Kooperatywa Spożywcza “Dobrze”](#) (Warsaw, Poland)
- [Utopia](#) (Bratislava, Slovakia)
- [Katholische Sozialakademie Österreichs](#) (Wien, Austria)
- [RIPESS EUROPE](#) (European network)

**CONFERENCE Social Solidarity Economy as an answer to the crisis  
(09/2020):**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jjjTdSGI5aw>



# STARTING UP



## STARTING UP

Social Solidarity Economy (SSE) is about "real utopia". Explore existing alternatives, copy them, develop them, invent a new approach.

- **Learn from case studies:**  
Look out for good practices and ones that failed: on the internet, by contacting projects and enterprises.
- **Take part in field visits:**  
Visiting "practices" is always inspiring. Talk to real people involved in a SSE initiative! Be clear which aspects you would like to learn about.
- **Organize democratic meetings:**  
They are at the center of SSE. Once you have a community, discuss what makes meetings democratic and effective.

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**Building Up Social Solidarity Economy** is an Erasmus+ project focused on disseminating SSE know-how and practices in Central and Eastern Europe. To read more and download training material on Starting up SSE, Community Building, Cooperatives, and Food Sovereignty visit [socioeco.org/busse](http://socioeco.org/busse)

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Graphic design: @Baroni\_Vietnau



# COMMUNITY BUILDING



## COMMUNITY BUILDING

To ensure healthy development, sustainability and resilience of a social and solidarity economy (SSE) enterprise it has to be supported by building a community around it. Building a community creates lasting bonds between members and ensures the commitment needed to develop an economic model that is based on people's needs and a common good. In SSE, it is the people, their skills and knowledge, that are at the centre.

- **Learn to work together.** A community is processual and continually in flux. Foster the ability of everyone to articulate their views, attitudes, and needs and create procedures to address conflict and disagreement.
- **Know your Community.** Find out who are the people in and around your community and choose the best ways to approach them.
- **Reach out.** Besides working on communication and relations within the community remember to reach out for new members and look for alliances among other social actors and relevant movements.

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# COOPERATIVES

## CO-OPERATIVES

A co-operative (co-op) is an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social, and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly-owned and democratically-controlled enterprise. The co-operative movement is an important part of social and solidarity economy (SSE).

- **Democratic decision-making and ownership.** All decisions in co-ops are taken democratically by their members. Primary members have equal voting rights – one member has one vote. Members also democratically control the capital of the co-op.
- **Cooperation as a means of relating to the world.** Co-ops are cooperating with other co-ops or other SSE initiatives and organisations and participate in building the co-operative movement, support their local community and respect non-human nature.

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Graphic design: @ilianafernando





# FOOD SOVEREIGNTY

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

BIODIVERSITY

COOPERATION

FAIR PRICE & FAIR SHARE

FARMERS & ANIMALS RIGHTS

## FOOD SOVEREIGNTY

Food Sovereignty aims to transform the entire food system: from socially and environmentally destructive to a regenerative one – employing resilient agricultural practices and respect to nature and all people.

Easy ways to join the movement:

- **Become local** - Choose from plentiful varieties on a local market rather than uniform industrial production in supermarkets.
- **Become a gardener** – on your own, in an allotment garden, or a community garden. Or get inspired by guerilla gardeners and look for a forgotten spot in the city!
- **Become part of a local Community Supported Agriculture group** (or start one)!
- **Join (or start) a food co-operative** - distribute healthy and sustainable food.
- **Be part of a policy change** – promote Food Sovereignty values!

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# BUILDING UP SOCIAL SOLIDARITY ECONOMY

*for  
trainers!*

# INFO PACK

BUILDING UP SOCIAL SOLIDARITY ECONOMY





## FIND US HERE

→ [HTTPS://RIPOSS.EU/EN/BUSSE-BUILDING-UP-SSE](https://riposs.eu/en/busse-building-up-sse)

→ [HTTPS://EDU.RIPOSS.EU](https://edu.riposs.eu)

→ EDUCATION AND KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE

→ [HTTPS://WWW.KSOE.AT/PUBLIKATION\\_BUSSE](https://www.ksoe.at/publikation_busse)

→ GERMAN VERSION

[socioeco.org](https://socioeco.org)

→ RESOURCE WEBSITE OF SOCIAL AND SOLIDARITY ECONOMY



# EMPLOY SSE PROJECT

Promoting Employability through Social Solidarity Economy

- Implement and promote the framework of Social Solidarity Economy (SSE) in Vocational and Educational Training (VET)
- comprehensive training and professional development of younger generations, which integrates alternative socioeconomic models in their framework of ideas and attitudes

- ***VET Trainer's Guide on SSE*** (skills, competences, knowledge, learning outcomes).

It will introduce the SSE occupational area to VET system by developing a particular toolkit needed to VET trainers.

- A common ***package on VET training modules for the inclusion of SSE***. The modules will offer increased knowledge and innovative methodologies in order to deliver more comprehensive and inclusive curricula.
- An ***advocacy paper for the inclusion of these VET training modules in VET curricula at national and European level***.



<https://employsse.eu/>

# OTHER PROJECTS



- School of Alternatives
- Restart Your Life and Thrive – Innovative Models for Sustainable Local Living - Visegrad Fund
- Teaching about co-ops in secondary schools
- Partnership for transnational Education for Sustainable Development and Degrowth education – Erasmus+ Youth

THANKS

FOR YOUR ATTENTION !

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