Meeting of African Network of social and solidarity economy

April 26-30, 2016, Bamako


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1- Presentation of the 4th meeting of the African Network of Social and Solidarity Economy in Bamako.

1.1-Organizers:

1.1.1-African Network of Social and Solidarity Economy (RAESS)

The African Network of Social and Solidarity Economy has been created in October 2010 in Kenitra (Morocco) during a founding meeting organized by the Moroccan Network of Social and Solidarity Economy (REMESS) which has seen the participation of the national networks from 17 countries of West Africa, Central Africa and Maghreb.

Its 3rd meeting was held in April 2014 in Marrakech: http://www.labo-raess.org; http://www.remess.ma

Since the creation of RAESS, it is coordinated by the Moroccan network. With the objective of ensuring a rotation in the responsibilities towards the African network, it has been decided that the coordination of RAESS will be transferred to Mali in April 2016, during the Bamako meeting.

1.1.2. The National Network to Support the Promotion of Social and Solidarity Economy of Mali (RENAPESS-Mali).

RENAPESS is a nonprofit association created in July 2003.

- **Vision:**

The national network of Mali (RENAPESS) seeks to influence the definition, development and implementation of national economic, social and cultural policies so that they meet at best possible the expectations of citizens in terms of local development.

RENAPESS-Mali wishes to stimulate a dynamics of partnership between the actors of social and solidarity economy, both at the national and international level.

- **Mission:**

Promoting the social and solidarity economy in Mali through strengthening member organizations and the convergence of their actions.

- **Goals:**

Promote social and solidarity economy at the national, continental and international levels as a sustainable alternative to the ultraliberal economy.

At the present, the network is comprised by:
- 67 socio professional organizations of all the priority sectors of the economy: (farming, handicrafts, fishing, animal husbandry).

- Non-Governmental organizations and unions organized around six (06) operational and complementary sectors:

  1) **farming, fishing, animal husbandry and environment.**
  2) **handicrafts and social entrepreneurship.**
  3) **social development and gender.**
  4) **youth and employment,**
  5) **Solidarity finance**
  6) **fair trade and solidarity tourism.**

The national network is part of RAESS—the African Network and of the Intercontinental Network for the Promotion of the Social Solidarity Economy (RIPESS) which federates movements of the SSE of all continents.

The national networks of Morocco and Mali represent RAESS on the Board of RIPESS.

Visit the website: [http://www.renapess.org](http://www.renapess.org)

**1.2-Objectives of "Bamako 2016".**

Since 2010, the African network holds biennial rotating continental meetings.

Three (3) meetings have been already held, first in Kenitra, Morocco, in October 2010, on the occasion of the creation of the African network, then in Hammamet in Tunisia in May 2013 and in Marrakech, Morocco, in April 2014. These meetings were spaces for exchange on practical experiences of the Social and Solidarity Economy and development in Africa, as well as occasions for SSE enterprises from RAESS to showcase their work.

At the end of the Marrakech meeting, the national network of Mali has been chosen to host the 4th meeting of the African network in 2016 in Bamako. With the facilitation of the network of Morocco, the African network allowed its members to develop partnership relations with different actors from Morocco, in the context of their participation to different international meetings organized by this country.

The theme of this 4th meeting is: ‘’The Social and Solidarity Economy: a source of the strong resilience of African peoples’’
The "Bamako 2016" event will be held from April 26-30\textsuperscript{th}, 2016, at the International Conference Centre and the Palais des cultures Amadou Hampaté BA in the residential area of Badalabougou, in Bamako.

The goals of Bamako 2016 aim to assess the progress made by RAESS in promoting the SSE in Africa, in particular by evaluating the implementation of the African roadmap 2010-2015 for promoting the SSE and by discussing the challenges related to the development of the legal framework of the SSE across the continent.

The meeting will permit also to identify roads of actions to be will to take place well ESS on the continent mainly to share capitalized experiences.

This 4\textsuperscript{th} meeting is organized jointly by the permanent secretariat of the African network and the national network of Mali.

The choice of the national network of Mali which has been validated by African national networks has been motivated by i)-the successful experience of the organization of the meeting in Bamako in 2005 on the “African vision of the SSE”. .

ii)-The performances achieved by the national network of Mali and its grassroots actors during their participation to the international meetings of the globalization of the solidarity (Dakar 2005, Luxembourg 2009, FIESS 2011 in Quebec). iii)-The context of the development of an institutional partnership characterized by the existence of a ministry department with technical services dedicated to the promotion of the social and solidarity economy in Mali.

iv)-The existence of a common agenda between RENAPESS-Mali and the Ministry of Solidarity, Humanitarian Action and Reconstruction of the North of Mali regarding the aspects relating to social and solidarity economy, namely through the implementation of the National Policy on the SSE which is the result of a co-production process.

v)-The constant support to RENAPESS-Mali of the Canadian program for volunteers abroad “UNITERRA” (Consortium CECI/EUMC).

3)-National organizing commission:

One national organizing commission for “Bamako 2016” has been set up and active since April 2015. It is composed of members of different commission of the national network e.g. associations of women, youth, and persons with disabilities, AIDS, and supporting centers.
The goals of the commission is to prepare the organization of the event in collaboration with the network of Morocco which is hosting RAESS. The organizing commission is comprised of 5 sub-commission.

A) promotion and communications sub-commission.

B)-Technical/pedagogical sub-commission

a)-mobilization of financial resources sub-commission

b)-Logistics sub-commission

2-Participants to the meeting:

2.1-Typology:

- Cooperatives and associations (production- transformation- distribution - consumption - culture-tourism-community media).
- Associations and N.G.Os
- Institutions of solidarity finances
- Community health mutuals
- Women and youth’s associations
- Foundations
- Unions
- Research organizations
- Universities.

- Organizations facilitating the access to financial resources, key factors for implementing individual or collective projects.
- Organizations facilitating the access to infrastructures and basic social services.
- Organizations facilitating the production and distribution systems.
- Organizations taking part in social protection services provision through an alternative coverage of social care and social risks (sickness, old age).
- Institutions and organisations of international solidarity
- Territorial collectivities
- Networks of parliamentarians.
2.2-Origin and number of participants

300 participants with 1,000 expected guests during the week, coming from:
- Germany - Belgium - Spain - France - Italy - Great Britain - Ireland - Luxembourg - Australia - Bolivia - Brazil - Mexico - Peru - Japan - Philippines - Netherlands.

Partnership-sponsorship

The Ministry of Solidarity, Humanitarian Action and Reconstruction of the North of Mali, as the department in charge of the National Policy for the Promotion of the Social and Solidarity Economy in Mali, is the strategic partner of the national network. Bamako 2016 will be achieved under the patronage of its highest authorities.

3.1-Identified partners:

The technical and financial partners are those who accompany the networks and the dynamics of solidarity and social economy, initiatives in relation with emigration, the equality between men and women.

A sponsoring booklet is available to give opportunities of visibility before, during and after the event to partners and sponsors.

3.1-Three (03) levels of partnership:

- National level: The president of the National Assembly
- Continental level: The ministry of Tourism and Handicrafts of Morocco.
- International level: The President of the Board of CECI

4-Preliminary program:

4.1-Official opening

- Brief presentation of the program
- Word of welcome of the Mayor of Bamako
- Speech of the National Network
- Speech of RIPESS.
- Speech of the President of the board of CECI
- Speech of Madam the Minister of Handicraft and Social Solidarity Economy of Morocco.
- Speech of the Minister of Solidarity, Humanitarian Action and Reconstruction of the North of Mali
- Official opening speech by the President of the National Assembly
- Visit of the exposition stands

4.2-Presentations:
- Networks and initiatives from Mali and other African countries
- Other member networks of RIPESS
- Partner organisations.

4.3-Introductory High-Level Conference co-chaired by the public authorities of Mali and Morocco
- Sustainable development agenda of the U.N.
- Role of the state and collectivities in the development of the SSE (the challenge of constructing a legal framework and access of social solidarity economy enterprises to market (potentiality, strategy to minimize barriers and partnerships development).

4.4-Thematic workshops

Workshops 1: Role of the state in the development of the SSE (challenge of the construction of public policy, role of the SSE in participatory development, partnership issues etc.).

Workshop 2: Role of gender to the development of SSE (women’s leadership in the SSE, SSE and women empowerment, social cohesion, etc..)

Workshop 3: Solidarity finances (role of micro finance and mutual informal savings)

Workshop 4: Promotion of the SSE and mobilization of resources (how to mobilize actors of networks in the SSE, role and responsibility of territorial collectivities, role of new media, etc.)

Workshop 5: Role of the SSE in the creation of decent jobs (SSE as means of professional and economical insertion for youth, women and persons with disabilities, migrants, resilience of crisis-affected populations, etc…)

Workshop 6: Sustainable agriculture and SSE development.

4.5-Field visits on three (03) sites:
- One innovative experience on the development of youth’s entrepreneurship for the creation of decent employment.
- A citizenship initiative for the development of districts.
- A federation of cooperatives valorizing local products.
-These visits are followed by a restitution in a plenary session with the support of the actors of the initiatives visited.

4.7-Youth entrepreneurship camp:

The opportunity is given to all members of the national networks of RAESS to recommend the participation of youth SSE enterprises and associations in an exchange and training space dedicated for them in the market for products and knowledge of the SSE. During a week, they will be accompanied by specialized mentors of social entrepreneurship clubs.

4.8-A market of SSE products and knowledge:

The African network want to emphasize the actions of promotion of SSE products, the access of enterprises to markets and the development of partnerships in order to reinforce their resilience.

During a week, a space for exhibiting and selling products of the SSE and organizing thematic debates on the challenges of the access of SSE enterprises to markets will be animated by technical resources the of African network, institutions and partners.

4.9-Networking:

The African network will also focus on the challenges relating to its animation and development at the continent level. It will hold a statuary meeting and will facilitate the adhesion of new members, as well as contacts and exchanges between participants and their partners.

4.10-A cultural evening at the closure of the event:

- African wearing recommended
- African music, songs and dances
- African foods and collective kitchen
- The official handover ceremony of the permanent secretariat between the network of Morocco and the Malian network.
- Speeches
- Closure.
5-Communication Plan:

5.1-Monitoring:

The commission works according to a plan of operations elaborated in a participatory manner with its members. This plan is followed and evaluated each month since April 2015 during its monthly meeting.

5.2-Communication strategy:

- Internet presence
- List of African networks of RIPESS and partners (about 1.000 contacts across the world)
- Documents in pdf format on different websites:
  - RENAPESS: www.renapess.org
  - REMESS: www.remess.org
  - RAELL: www.labo-raess.org
  - RIPESS: www.ripess.org

Contacts with the organizers of similar events across the world

- Broadcasting of information to encourage the participation of targeted groups and keep them informed (conferences, contacts, announcements on television).
- Sharing materials:
  - Booklet of complete sponsoring (50 copies)
  - Flyer presenting the meeting (1,000 copies)
- Gadget advertising in local materials (various copies).
- Targeted actions of web marketing

- Achievement of “campaign Google ad word” to make announces in relation with the meeting in researches in a head of results before national results of researches (visibility with targeted public)

Dedicated internet lines:

Opening: February 20, 2015, to give all the information on the meeting and its context and to guide to partner’s and sponsor’s internet line.
5.3-Public relations:
Scientists and cultural public figures have been called as spokespersons of the event.

5.4-Press:
- Sharing of the event
- Specialized press
- Local press
- Television
- Private radio/community radio
- Embassy
- Sharing of a booklet to participants and to welcome them on the venue.

6-Contacts:
6.1-The Malian network
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