



Global Social Economy Forum

THE ASIA POLICY DIALOGUE 2017 CALL FOR PROPOSALS / CONTRIBUTIONS

Asia Policy Dialogue (APD) 2017 Summary

Main organizer: GSEF & Seoul Metropolitan Government

Date: 30 June - 1 July, 2017

Venue: Seoul City Hall, Seoul, South Korea

Theme: Effective public policy design for fostering Social Enterprises (SEs) as a leverage for inclusive socioeconomic and sustainable development in Asia.

Participants: approx. 80 participants (local authority representatives, policy makers, practitioners, researchers, private sector players and SE entrepreneurs) in the Asia-Pacific region.

Structure: Two day events (detailed APD 2017 programs TBA)

※ *The Asia Policy Dialogue 2017 will be held back-to-back with the 8th ITC - International Labour Organization (ILO) Social and Solidarity Economy Academy 'Innovative Ecosystem for SSE Public Policies – A Contribution to the Future of Work' in Seoul (26 - 30 June 2017).*

APD Background

The Global Social Economy Forum (GSEF) is calling for proposal papers or contributions to be presented at the 'Asia Policy Dialogue 2017'; an initiative to promote regional dialogues on public policies for fostering social economy and social innovation. APD 2017 aims to promote policy discussions on the effective public policy designs that enable SEs to scale up their social and economic impacts and utilize SEs not as a compliment, but as *a main driver* of social progress and inclusive economic development from different perspectives of Asian countries.

Call for Proposals / Contributions

We invite applicants to submit their respective city and/or country's innovative initiatives relating to the central theme of the APD 2017. Selected proposals/contributions by the GSEF APD organizing committee, will be presented during the forum; the contents of the presentations will be broadcasted through SNS media and will be published in the APD 2017 report. Also, the three winners of best selected proposals will have an opportunity to receive a grant to take part in the 2017 APD meeting in Seoul for two days.

Global Social Economy Forum Secretariat

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Summary

Eligibility: Local authority representatives, SE entrepreneurs, central/local government officers responsible for the construction / implementation of public policies, private sector players, practitioners / representatives of civil society and intermediary organizations and academics.

Subthemes: Subthemes of APD 2017 in which applicants **may** focus on their proposal writings can be broad 'social service and SE public policy initiatives' or sector specific as described below

- *Women and SE public policy initiatives which are realized in collective dimension with shared responsibilities, including environmental considerations to generate employment for women in the traditional labor market*

- *Youth and SE public policy initiatives that generate solidarity and social inclusion in their efforts to respond to current challenges faced by youths in Asian countries*

- *Housing and SE public policy initiatives to generate solidarity and public-private partnership for low income and vulnerable populations*

Format: Maximum 1,000 words that outline the overall situation of the respective city and/or country's public policies and development status of SEs. The proposal should be focused on one or more of the exemplary sub-themes listed above. (Applicants can submit further supporting materials such as the full length of research paper, audio-visual materials related to the project proposal, policy brief as attachments)

Submission: Applications (please find attached the application format) should be submitted to gsef@gsef-net.org by the 10th of March

Contacts: For all queries, contact Jongduk Jung (jd.jung@gsef-net.org)

Context of the Theme

Finding the best way of constructing public policy that enables an environment in which social enterprises generate substantive and sustainable impacts on tackling socioeconomic problems at both central (such as issues of unemployment and inequality) and local government levels (urban challenges such as housing issues) is the underlining purpose of APD 2017.

SEs in Asia are sometimes understood as an alternative to social service providers supported by state or local authorities, for the benefit of vulnerable groups. SEs are generating social utility for the public which cannot be measured by the mainstream paradigm of economic outputs and efficiency. In the meantime, outcomes of pursuing economic efficiency and its adverse impacts on the environment

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and society are being overlooked. By generating social utility as well as economic outputs, SEs have a potential to be a leverage to change the paradigm of the current economy.

Nevertheless, many public policies are being constructed and implemented in a way that the governments shift their responsibility in the context of budgetary constraints of providing social services and tackling unemployment problems. In order SEs indeed contribute to the sustainable development, adequate public policies should be formulated to nurture an eco-system for SEs to thrive and serve as a catalyst for innovation rather than an outsourced provider of social services.

Disjointed efforts of incubating social entrepreneurships without clear strategies and connections to the mainstream economy have a limit to generate systemic changes. How public policy can enable SEs to serve as one of the main players of the economy that invigorate the structure of existing industries and bringing in social values that can enhance economic and social development is also one of the important questions that APD 2017 would like to answer throughout the discussions.

Sub themes of the APD are SE & (women/youth/housing) and below are some of the issues/aspects that can be addressed in relation to the subthemes throughout proposals.

** Legal frameworks: Legal frameworks for certifying SEs can be crucial as it establishes and justifies various supporting programs from the public. Nevertheless, narrowly defined certification and administrative red tape can cause adverse effects.*

** Multi-sector partnership: An ecosystem should be in place where public - private – civil society collaborates to sustain and stimulate innovations. Public policies should be carefully co-constructed by inviting all major stakeholders for this end.*

** Financing: In order SEs to generate substantive social impacts at the regional and national level, funding from both public/private is crucial for scaling up. Related issues such as ‘measurements’ that allows investments flow should be addressed.*

** Community: Role of SEs in vitalizing community and generating employments is crucial and public policies can play an important role to foster communities through SEs.*

Below is an exemplary table by the subthemes (sectors) and possible topics that can be addressed

	Housing	Women	Youth
Legal Framework			
Multi-sector Partnership	Case of Seoul*		
Financing			
Community			

**Case of Seoul: Seoul may present their urban housing policies and SEs with particular focus on financing and multisector partnership N.B: Regional commonalities as well as political and historical saliences of each country to be considered*

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Attachment A.

About the Asia Policy Dialogue (APD)

As a continuation of the previous editions of APD at the GSEF forums (2014, 2015) as well as our first APD event outside of Korea, which took place in Hong Kong (2016) in partnership with the Asia Venture Philanthropy Network (One of the Steering Committee of the GSEF), BMW foundation and British Council; attracted more than 80 delegates from 15 different countries in the region, The 4th edition of APD in 2017 will be held in Seoul as back to back forum with the 8th GSEF-ILO SSE Academy. APD has played a key role in promoting knowledge exchanges between policy makers and practitioners in searching for the best ways of co-constructing an eco-system for promoting the social & solidarity economy (SSE) and social innovation to tackle various societal and urban challenges in Asia wherein SSEs increasingly playing a pivotal role in the provision of social services as well as a catalyst for industrial innovations. The emergence of SSEs in Asia and attention from both traditional NPO sector as well as from public and private sectors shall be understood in the context of rapid socioeconomic changes under the absence of well-established public welfare system and increasing demands for social services from the citizens. APD seeks to promote regional policy dialogues to resolve imminent regional challenges through the SSE and social innovation.

About GSEF

The Global Social Economy Forum is a global social and solidarity economy (SSE) network that aims to serve as a hub for sharing visions and experiences through cross-border collaboration.

The development of the GSEF began following the Seoul Declaration, which was adopted by eight local governments and nine social economy organizations during GSEF 2013, held in Seoul on November 5 – 7, 2013 on the theme “New Discovery of Collaboration” (www.gsef2013.org). The Seoul Declaration was the outcome of the determination of local governments and social organizations who recognized the need for global solidarity in the area of social economy.

Following this first successful event, GSEF2014 (www.gsef2014.org) was held simultaneously with the foundation general assembly of GSEF. It included the participation of 18 local governments and 43 international SSE organizations pursuing the expansion of knowledge-sharing and cooperative relationships among global social economy actors. The GSEF2014 inaugural meeting led to the permanent creation of an international association of SSE based on the adoption of the GSEF Charter.

The third edition of GSEF, GSEF2016 (www.gsef2016.org) took place in Montreal with the theme ‘local governments and social economy stakeholders – allies for the intelligent and sustainable development of cities.’ The C.I.T.I.E.S (international center for innovation and knowledge transfer on the social and solidarity economy) forum was officially launched at GSEF2016. The ‘Montreal Declaration’ was also adopted to affirm the commitment of participants to the promotion of the social economy. The 4th edition of the forum GSEF2018 will be convened by the City of Bilbao.

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Attachment B.

APPLICATION FORM

ASIA POLICY DIALOGUE 2017

General Information							
Name		Salutation		Place of Employment		Position	
Email		Mobile Phone		Office Landline		Fax inutile	
Date of submission							
Title of proposal							
Summary (100words max)							
Contents (1,000 words max)							

Applying for the APD grant <i>* Please type YES only in the case, if there is no funding sources to fund your travel expenses to Seoul without the APD grant</i>	(Yes or No)
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C'est contre intuitif. SI on n'a pas de subvention, on a tendance à marquer NO plutôt que YES

* The application form should be submitted to gsef@gsef-net.org no later than 10th March. For any queries contact Jongduk Jung (jd.jung@gsef-net.org).

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