What role for the Social and Solidarity Economy in the post COVID-19 crisis recovery?

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1. Can’t achieve SDGs 1-10 with existing economic models
2. The recovery should be GRIC = GREEN + INCLUSIVE + RESILIENT + CIRCULAR
3. Proven emerging economic models to achieve that including SSE
4. But, SSEO and MSMES need national & international recognition and our support
Pandemic exposed fragilities in our economies

• Worse economic recession since Great Depression
• DCs have limited fiscal space given high debt servicing, capital outflow, decline in remittances, low commodity prices and collapse of tourism
  • Global FDI expected to decline up to 40% in 2020
  • Trade contraction of 30%
• Poorest nations & most vulnerable in all nations hit hardest by pandemic due to existing socio-economic conditions
• 4 billion people without any form of social protection
• 71 million people are being pushed in extreme poverty in 2020
• Deepened inequalities & highlighting the need for resilience, job creation, innovation, and cooperation
Also highlights MSMES, missed opportunity for SSEO?

• Wake-up call of the crucial role of MSMES in the fabric of our communities and economies, in immediate relief and recovery!

• Of the $7.5T stimulus (9% of GDP), specific packages are for MSMEs:
  • Tax and utility break: Egypt, China, US, Singapore
  • Funds to support them: Nigeria, South Africa, Singapore
  • Wage support: Japan, Canada
  • Business facilitation, etc.

• How do we ensure SSE entities are also recognized & reflected in stimulus packages?
  • SSEO provide close to 10% of jobs, if also delivered on GRI.
The challenge of Sustainable Development is giving all people access to the finite resources necessary to allow continued INCLUSIVE development → Economic Transition needed!

Leaving no one behind: SSE is people-centered and community-resilience enhancing
2. Using alternatives economic models to foster SEE

- Circular economy
- Frugal innovation
- Creative Economy

Models great to deliver on green and social but not necessarily inclusive
Frugal innovation

• build upon and repurpose existing technology and innovation aiming to provide low-cost and high-quality solutions to the most pressing issues.

• view inequalities and climate change and other environment issues as business opportunities instead of as liabilities.

• SSEOEs are best fit to deploy frugal innovation – that do “better with less” and develop creative, resilient, and inclusive solutions.

Eg. Jugaad
Business Opportunities advancing SDGs

785 million people still lack even a basic drinking water service

3 billion people without basic handwashing facilities at home.

701 million people still practiced open defecation

10 million people fell ill with tuberculosis, and now millions have COVID-19

840 million people around the world are without access to electricity

Close to 3 billion people still rely primarily on inefficient and polluting cooking systems
Creative Economy

• Role in supporting sustainable entrepreneurship, stimulating innovation,

• Influence people’s values, consumption and lifestyle choices

• Increase take up of sustainable models as young people tend to prefer purpose in their work

• Allows developing countries to benefit from the trade of creative goods and services and to diversify their economies
SSE to Recover better

• SSE benefits include jobs creation, economic diversification, resilience and reduced inequalities by incorporate marginalized groups in value chains, ownership and means of production, benefit sharing

• Addresses 2 of 5 UNSG Socio-Economic Response to COVID19
  • Health First: Protecting health services and Systems
  • Protecting People: Social Protection and Basic Services
  • Economic Response & Recovery: Protecting jobs, MSMES, and the informal sector workers
  • Macroeconomic response and Multilateral Cooperation
  • Social Cohesion and Community resilience
3. THE NEED FOR INCREASED FOCUS AND SUPPORT OF UNITED NATIONS INTERGOVERNMENTAL BODIES FOR SSE

• Cant’ waste another crisis!
• Add SSEO along MSMEs in stimulus packages
• SSEOs can be key agent of implementation of the UN SG socio-economic response to Covid-19.
• SSEOs can also be planet-sensitive & SDG accelerating
• If they receive necessary support, market info and capacity building to deliver bottom up pro-poor frugal innovations, applying circular and creative economy principles