# Joint Manifesto of

## Joint Manifesto of WSM, ANMC,[1] INSP!R, RIPESS and WIEGO

## **For a Social and Solidarity Economy** that guarantees Decent Work, Social Protection and Care for all people.

[1]Alliance Nationale des Mutualités Chrétiennes (Belgique)

WSM We Social Movements | WIEGO Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing | ripess | MUTUALITE CHRETIENNE | INSP!R

**Amb la col·laboració:**

Generalitat de Catalunya | ACCD Agència Catalana de Cooperació al Desenvolupament

# Preamble

Within the framework of the 2025 Global Social and Solidarity Economy Forum (GSEF 2025), the networks INSP!R, RIPESS, WIEGO, together with WSM and ANMC, unite their voices in a joint manifesto.

We are brought together by a shared conviction: **the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE)** is a strategic pathway to achieving social justice, decent work, universal social protection, and the sustainability of life.

In the face of the inequality and precarity that affect millions of workers – particularly those engaged in informal employment – the **SSE** represents a structural alternative to the dominant economic model.

# Our shared visión

A society in which all people have the right to dignified livelihoods, comprehensive social protection, and quality care, through democratic, inclusive, and sustainable economic systems, in which Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) entities – such as cooperatives, associations, and mutuals, among others – are central actors of transformative change.

# Common principles

***Centrality of Workers:*** full recognition of those working in the informal economy as rights holders and political actors.

***Universality and Equity:*** effective access to decent work, social protection, and care throughout the life cycle, without discrimination based on gender, class, age, ethnicity, or nationality.

***Economic Democracy:*** collective management and meaningful participation of Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) entities.

***Shared Social Responsibility for Care:*** recognition and redistribution of paid and unpaid care work as a public good and a human right.

***Just Socio-Ecological Transition:*** sustainable production and consumption, strengthening community resilience and respect for life.

# Three axes of transformation

## *1. From Informality to Decent Work*

In a world where more than half of the labor force – 58% according to the ILO (2024) – works in the informal economy, the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) serves as a bridge toward decent work.

Its collective entities enable access to dignified incomes, safe working conditions, partial or full social protection, and representation before the State.

Examples from Latin America, Africa, and Asia show that collective organization generates real political power and transforms labor relations.

Moreover, SSE entities promote self-managed solutions for health, education, and care, creating work environments centered on people and their territories.

## *2. Universal Social Protection and Access to Health*

The Social and Solidarity Economy **(SSE)** contributes to ensuring social protection as a human right.

According to the ILO World Social Protection Report 2024–2026, only 52.4% of the world's population enjoyed at least one form of social protection benefit in 2024. In contexts where public systems are absent or insufficient, mutuals, cooperatives, and associations develop adapted solutions that enable access to social protection systems–whether public or community-based–and to health services.

To strengthen this function, favorable legal, fiscal, and financial frameworks are needed, along with institutionalized participation in policy design and solidarity- based international cooperation.

## *3. Care and the Sustainability of Life*

Care work sustains life, yet it remains invisible and feminized. The Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) drives systemic change by recognizing care as a public good and a universal right, challenging the extractivist logic of capitalism. It promotes community-based care models grounded in democratic participation, solidarity, and gender equity.

Organizations created by workers within the SSE – whether associations, cooperatives, or formal and informal collectives of domestic workers, mutual support networks, or territorial care initiatives – demonstrate the transformative potential of the SSE in building a fairer and more sustainable care economy.

Strengthening these models requires recognizing the SSE as a key actor in the development of national care systems and in the cultural transformation necessary for the sustainability of life.

In this regard, it is essential to promote the ratification and implementation of relevant international labor standards for the care economy, including all fundamental ILO Conventions, as well as to highlight national constitutions that recognize unpaid domestic work.

## Call to action

**We call upon governments, multilateral organizations, local authorities, social movements, and citizens to strengthen the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) as a pillar of inclusive development,** particularly by fostering legal, economic, and social environments that enable its full potential as a pathway toward decent work for organizations of workers in informal employment.

## We claim

Labor rights, universal social protection, and public care systems.

Comprehensive public policies that link the transition toward formalization with labor rights, universal social protection, and care systems.

Framework laws on the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) with dedicated institutions and budgets, establishing enabling legal and regulatory environments to fully realize the potential of the SSE in the transition toward decent work.

Responsible public procurement that prioritizes and promotes SSE entities.

Meaningful participation of networks and movements of organized workers within SSE entities in the governance of labor and social policies.

## Shared Commitment

As global and regional networks and actors, **WSM, ANMC, INSP!R, RIPESS, and WIEGO** commit to:

- Promoting joint advocacy within national and international agendas.
- Advancing participatory action research on **the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE)**, decent work, social protection, and care, as well as education and training agendas aligned with institutional frameworks.
- Fostering territorial alliances that strengthen inclusive **SSE** ecosystems.
- Communicating a shared narrative that highlights the social and transformative value of the **SSE.**

**The Social and Solidarity Economy is not a marginal sector:** it is the foundation of a new economy centered on people, justice, and the sustainability of life.

WIEGO Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing | WSM We Social Movements | MUTUALITE CHRETIENNE | INSP!R | ripess

## About the protesting organizations

**WIEGO** (Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing) is a global network dedicated to promoting decent work for people in informal employment, with a particular focus on women. Its work combines research, policy advocacy, and organizational strengthening. Through these actions, WIEGO connects workers' movements, researchers, and strategic allies to advance labor rights, social protection, and economic recognition.

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**RIPESS Intercontinental** (Intercontinental Network for the Promotion of the Social and Solidarity Economy) is a global network that brings together movements, networks, and organizations of the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) across the five continents. It promotes democratic, solidarity-based, and sustainable economic models, centered on people and oriented toward the common good. Its action focuses on global advocacy, knowledge exchange, and the strengthening of regional networks to consolidate a transformative solidarity economy.

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**WSM** (We Social Movements) is an international solidarity network made up of social movements, trade unions, and grassroots organizations. It supports processes aimed at social justice, decent work, and universal social protection through cooperation, education, and collective action. Its mission is to strengthen the collective power of workers worldwide, driving **structural transformations toward equity and labor dignity.**

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**INSP!R** (International Network for Social Protection Rights) is a global network that promotes the human right to universal social protection, with particular attention to women, youth, and informal workers. It operates through alliances among social movements, trade unions, and civil society organizations in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and Europe, influencing national, regional, and international policy. It promotes a rights-based approach with a life-cycle and financial sustainability perspective, engaging state, private sector, and civil society actors.

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**Alliance Nationale des Mutualités Chrétiennes** (ANMC) is Belgium's national union of Christian-inspired mutual benefit societies, bringing together regional mutuals and representing millions of members. Its mission is to ensure social protection–through health insurance, benefits, and solidarity-based services– within a framework of equity and social cohesion, upholding the values of solidarity and mutual support that characterize the Belgian mutualist movement.

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