



w Working Together for More Inclusive and Sustainable Development

Annual Policy Community Conference – February 2022

(What is Social Economy in Quebec?)

- Social economy enterprises, also called “collective enterprises,” take the form of co-ops, NPOs and mutuals
- Enterprises that respond to the needs and aspirations of the community and its members
- Defined in a framework law (2013) that enshrines a government Action Plan (PAGES 2020-2025) and a Partners’ Table
- A world-wide economic movement whose development in Quebec is recognized internationally

SOCIAL ECONOMY IN QUEBEC

220,000

EMPLOYEES
ALL ACROSS
QUÉBEC

8,400 NPOs

2,410 NON-FINANCIAL
COOPERATIVES

320 FINANCIAL
COOPERATIVE

30 MUTALS

13.4

MILLION
MEMBERS

39%

OF ENTERPRISES ARE
OVER 30 YRS OLD

11,200

ECONOMY
ENTERPRISES

47.8

BILLION
IN REVENUES

-In the social economy as a whole, two thirds of the employees are women (66%)

-90,000 volunteer directors, 50.5% of whom are women and 18% are aged 35 or under

-93% of revenues are self-generated. For NPOs, grants represent an average of 30% of revenues

-A relatively high proportion of social economy enterprises have been in existence for over 30 years (39%), while 15%, for less than 10 years, and 46%, between 10 and 30 years.

-They have a relatively higher presence in regions far removed from major urban centres

Source: INSTITUT DE LA STATISTIQUE DU QUÉBEC (2019), L'économie sociale au Québec

EXPLANATORY FACTORS

Crisis and solidarity:

- Desjardins, agricultural coops: early 20th century
- Chantier de l'économie sociale: 1996

Social actors with an economic focus:

- Workers
- Communities
- Women
- Cultural organizations
- Environmental organizations

THE SOCIAL ECONOMY SECTOR

Mission: To promote the social economy as an integral part of Quebec's plural economy and, in doing so, participate in the democratization of the economy and the emergence of this development model based on the values of solidarity, equity and transparency.

Mandates:

- **To bring together** various regional and national social economy actors and partners
- **To promote** the social economy as a vector for social and economic change
- **To create the conditions and tools** conducive to the consolidation, experimentation and development of new niches and projects
- **To participate in the building of alliances** with other socioeconomic actors and social movements in support of this development model, including international alliances

COLLECTIVE DEVELOPMENT

In terms of projects:

- Requires mobilization and collaboration: to identify needs, priorities and available resources
- Requires arrangements in support of the collective interest and specific needs
- Generates innovative projects, often beyond government policy and program niches (or that respond to several of them)
- More resilient long-term projects when there is a general commitment and an understanding of potentials and constraints

COLLECTIVE DEVELOPMENT

In terms of programs:

- The ideation of new tools and the mobilization to acquire them require that the priorities specific to a network or public be set within a global vision.
- Changing approaches and needs require dialogue to ensure really useful policies
- The duration of the dialogue enhances the knowledge of the government and the engagement of the actors
- Having a resource in government facilitates dialogue outside and inside the machinery of government

REGARDING COVID AND RECOVERY

Toward Economic Recovery

**LET'S DARE...
A DECENT
QUALITY OF LIFE
FOR EVERYONE**



Toward Economic Recovery

**LET'S DARE...
FAIR RECOGNITION
FOR WORK**



Toward Economic Recovery

**LET'S DARE...
COMMUNITY-
BASED PROPERTY**



Toward Economic Recovery

**LET'S DARE...
FOOD SECURITY
AND SELF-
SUFFICIENCY**



Toward Economic Recovery

**LET'S DARE...
BUYING LOCALLY**



Toward Economic Recovery

**LET'S DARE...
ECOLOGICAL
TRANSITION**





THANK YOU!

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