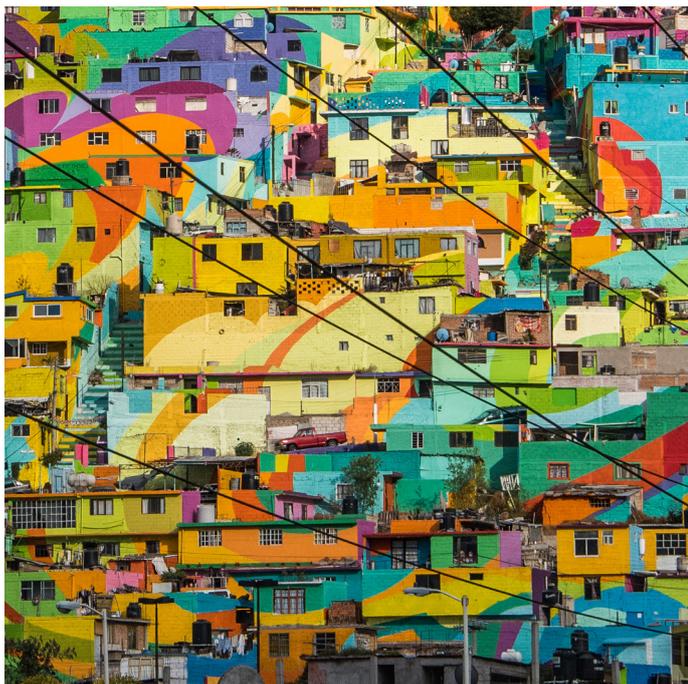
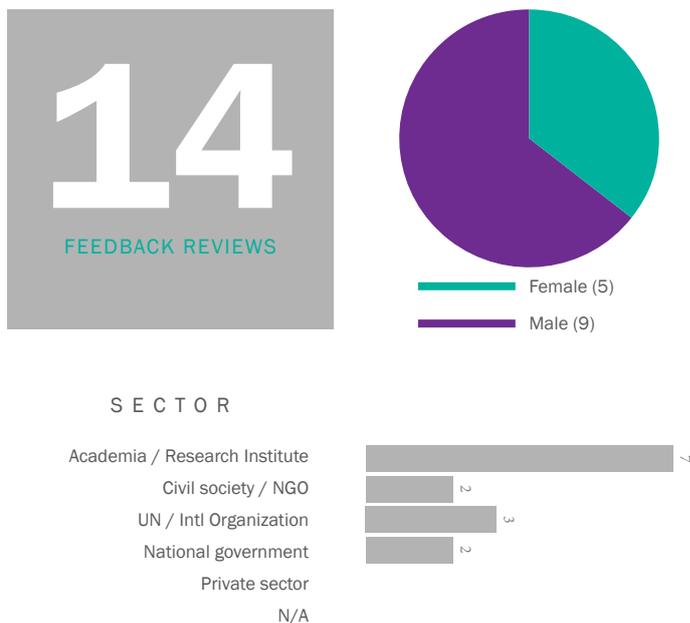


# Policy Innovations *for* Transformative Change

(Full Report)



Demographic data about users who read and commented on the full report:



**A**s a learning organization that aims to be inclusive of diverse perspectives and responsive to our constituents, we held a consultation prior to the launch of our 2016 Flagship Report to make sure our work reflects the needs of our users.

On a scale from one (low) to five (high), users rated the full report based on three criteria:



Scroll down to read the full comments

# Compendium of substantive feedback

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Based on your knowledge and understanding, are we presenting an accurate picture of the topic?

**Participant 1**

At a more generic, conceptual level - yes. But, we have had that for many years. What we now need is operationalization of the buzzwords we have been promoting - the "how".

**Participant 4**

Use "vulnerable" instead of "disadvantaged".

**Participant 6**

It is very good to highlight the governance issues.

**Participant 7**

Yes, all parts related to social innovation are very interesting and inspirational. However, using notion "elderly" may be considered as discriminatory language. It is better to use terms such as "older adults", "older people" or "older citizens".

**Participant 8**

Votre rapport manque des explications théoriques. Toutefois sa richesse est sa base empirique bien que restant confuse quelquefois.

**Participant 10**

The report falls into the same pattern that most general sustainability-related reports have to date. That is conflating impacts of the production and consumption of all 'food'. Considering the wealth of peer-reviewed evidence there now is regarding the massive difference in impacts and GHG footprints between food groups, and especially meat production, this is a gross oversight and obfuscates the biggest issue in efforts to improve the sustainability and security of food systems.

The report advises: "Overcoming unsustainable practices and inequitable outcomes requires multiple changes in how our societies and economies work" (22). It needs to at least acknowledge that this includes dealing with meat production and consumption. Treating 'food' in such a generalized manner is no longer sufficient or accurate. It is actually misleading and prevents consideration of more sustainable options.

**Participant 12**

The Spanish Business Confederation of Social Economy (CEPES) [www.cepes.es](http://www.cepes.es) puts great value on the particular attention paid by the UNRISD to the Social Economy in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals, and to the open consultation to address this subject which we consider to be of the utmost importance and where we, at CEPES, have been working with the Spanish Government, with the networks that represent the Social Economy in Europe (Social Economy Europe <http://www.socialeconomy.eu.org> and Cooperatives Europe, <http://www.coopseurope.coop>) and the Mediterranean (the Euro-Mediterranean Network of Social Economy - ESMED [http://www.cepes.es/principal/cepes\\_mediterraneo](http://www.cepes.es/principal/cepes_mediterraneo) <http://www.cepes.es/publicaciones&Ing=en>) of which CEPES is a member, as well as the African Network of Social and Solidarity Economy (RAESS).

Taking into account this experience, we at CEPES feel that:

1. The report mainly addresses the situation of the Social Economy in Latin America, and up to a point that of Sub-Saharan Africa and Asia. Given that the Social Economy is a global phenomenon, we propose completing the report by including a description of the situation of the Social Economy in Europe, and providing data regarding the Social Economy in the Mediterranean.

2. CEPES, like Social Economy Europe and the ESMED Network, defines the Social Economy as a business model based on the following characteristics, all of which were adopted by the main organizations representing the Social Economy in Europe in 2002, and are accepted by the members of the ESMED Network:

- People and the social objective take precedence over capital
- Joining is voluntary and open
- Democratic control on the part of members
- The coming together of the interests of user members and those of the general public
- The upholding and application of principles of solidarity and responsibility
- Autonomous management and independence from public authorities
- The majority of surplus profits are aimed at achieving objectives which encourage sustainable development, the interests of member services and those of the general public

These principles serve as the basis for the Social Economy laws which currently exist in Europe, and which define the Social Economy in each country and identify the bodies that it is comprised of, and which regulate the recognition, visibility and socio-economic contribution of this business model (the texts of the Law in Spain, 2011, Portugal, 2013, and France, 2014, maybe be consulted at: <http://www.cepes.es/documentacion/402&lng=en>), and have been taken into account by the European Institutions, as is highlighted in the European Union Council conclusions: “The promotion of the social economy as a key driver of economic and social development in Europe”, from December 2015 (<http://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-15071-2015-INIT/es/pdf>).

These principles are shared by all legal entities that make up the Social Economy (cooperatives, mutual societies, associations, foundations, social enterprises, and so on), and as such:

- We propose the inclusion of a reference to these Principles in the section dealing with the characteristics of the Social Economy, in such a way as to summarize the elements on which the management and running of Social Economy bodies and companies are based.

- Based on our experience, we do not consider the statement that the Social Economy is founded on a lack or limited profit motive to be correct. Social Economy companies and organizations operate within the market and need to make profits in order to ensure the sustainability of their economic plans. The distinctive element of the Social Economy is the use made of that profit which, as was indicated in the Principles set out above, is reinvested in order to attain the social objective of the companies, or is distributed in accordance with social criteria which, moreover, are not always of an ethical or environmental nature. It is as such that we propose the removal of the reference to profit motive as a differentiating element of the Social Economy.

- The distinction between “traditional forms” of the Social Economy and others, such as social enterprises, is inadequate, and as such we would propose making a change to that wording which establishes an artificial classification. According to recent European Commission and European Parliament communications, social enterprises are an integral part of the Social Economy.

- We do not share in the picture given in the report of increases in social enterprises in Europe as a new phenomenon. The actions of so-called “social enterprises” (integration and social care) have had a marked presence in the Social Economy since the start of its history in the 19th century.

3. For CEPES, based on our involvement with Social Economy Europe and the ESMED Network, the report ought to be emphasizing the fact that the Social Economy is a business model ranging from micro-SMEs to large-scale corporate groups, which share the aforementioned principles and which operate in the market across all economic sectors. It is as such that we propose that:

a. The report clearly set out that Social Economy enterprises and bodies act across all economic sectors. We propose removing from the report the idea that the Social Economy is focused only on specific sectors

b. The document make clear that there are also large-scale and global-leading Social Economy enterprises that continue to respect the principles and values of the Social Economy, as is made clear in the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA) report on the 300 largest co-operatives in the world (<http://monitor.coop/> ).

c. The report not forget that Social Economy enterprises are bodies which operate independently of public and political authorities, given that in certain sections this independence is called into question, serving as negative messaging which discredits a business model that is present across the world.

4. The report points to a large number of weaknesses, problems of, and threats to, the Social Economy. However, the report could spend more time addressing the specific contribution of the Social Economy to the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals in order to reinforce the structural role of the Social Economy in achieving these goals.

5. With regard to the networks representing the Social Economy, we would propose reference be made to global networks (ICA <http://ica.coop> or AIM <http://www.aim-mutual.org> ), as well as regional ones such as Social Economy Europe <http://www.socialeconomy.eu.org> and the ESMED Network <http://www.cepes.es/publicaciones&lng=en>

### Participant 13

See the list of "Global challenges of our time" (Figure 1.2. Global challenges of our time). It is a partial structure, without modern and old crying problems. Where are the provoked regional or national destructions and military budgets? Where are the irrational economy, the irrational barriers in socity, the irrational closure of innovations through commercialization of patents and intellectual property? Where are the irrational concentration labor forces in kinds of economy in planetary regions and in countries?

My additional comments are present in some chapters.

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## Are the policy conclusions and recommendations useful?

### Participant 1

They seemed to be in terms of raising awareness, but those are not sufficiently actionable.

### Participant 4

Yes, if implemented by government.

### Participant 5

Yes it will help involving more stakeholders in ensuring the Agenda is achieved more so at the domestic level. Because the key stakeholders alone cannot achieved this; but the way the recommendations are model will force the involvement of many players as major partners.

### Participant 6

The recommendations are useful. Perhaps you could clarify the various actors to whom they are addressed (not just national governments, but other organizations).

### Participant 7

Partially. 1 It will be better to present a clear summary of all recommendations in the form of a table and/or graph. 2 So far IMHO it is not clear "who" should implement recommendations [States? Some social groups? International organizations?]

### Participant 12

CEPES considers that the conclusions and recommendations on page 25 are useful for promoting the Social Economy. However, we feel it to be necessary to include a general recommendation on the incorporation of the Social Economy into general debates around the implementation of Agenda 2030 and its monitoring mechanisms.

Furthermore, it is important to emphasize once again the support work of public authorities in fostering and strengthening the Social Economy, respecting the independence of Social Economy enterprises with regard to public authorities.

### Participant 13

Let's see the resume. "While the main focus is on social policy innovation in developing countries, a number of developments in Europe are also noted as a means of highlighting variations in the

contemporary reforms being pursued by a number of developing countries. This contrast suggests not only that developing countries have adopted a different policy response in the aftermath of the global financial crisis, but also that they are pursuing an approach to social protection that differs from the conventional European welfare state model, which pre-supposed a large formal economy.”

Let's see offered recommendations "Inclusive and democratic political institutions and practices, preferably combined with competent bureaucracies, are essential elements of an enabling institutional environment". (Page 6 (47 in full text) in Chap.2 "New Trends and Innovations in Social Policy" in section "Inclusive and democratic institutions are key enabling factors for universalization inclusive and democratic"). Would they be have practical using for a rise?

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## Are we missing something? (Examples, data, etc.)

### Participant 1

- Firstly, I would like to congratulate you on a very good report. It is comprehensive and the topic is one of the most critical (transformation, innovation, systemic approach to SDGs). I offer here some comments that you might want to address to further improve the report.

- While transformation is approached in systemic terms, it is still not clarified how a change (even if that cuts across policy domains) differs from transformation (these notions are not different merely in terms of the degree of change). Moreover, not all transformative change ought to include all of 3 dimensions of Agenda 2030.

- It is often forgotten (as in this report) that integration is not needed only across the 3 dimensions, but also (and often more importantly) within individual dimensions (especially the social).

- The report refers to what is known as “weak sustainability” and it also makes distinction between social and environmental - both of which wrong and misleading - but this is anyway the problem of the Agenda 2030, not specifically of this report. However, your reference to “eco-social” is a good headway to a more systemic and integrated approach to sustainability...

- The references to integrated, holistic, cross-disciplinary, etc. approach are very important. But, it should be emphasized that we still do not have either a shared understanding of those concepts or ways to measure / operationalize them.

- I very much like the Box 1. and how different innovations are grouped. However, you may wish to be selective in what you call innovation (it is not just any change). Plus, what is referred to as “policy innovation” (page 6) is not necessarily related to “policy” - most of it is (downstream) innovation of public services of policy instruments. This confusion should be avoided.

- Figure 3 - I like it very much and I appreciate that you acknowledged that these links are only “most direct”. SDGs are not complicated but complex problems, so their relationships are too evasive to be represented in the 2-dimensional map. And I like very much the “key domains” / “policy areas” - but I suggest you explain why you selected those specifically and also how you framed them (e.g. the difference between social and care policies). I am not sure this is an exhaustive list, but you might have wanted to limit the report to only those, which would then be valid.

- In general, it might be good to distinguish between innovations and trends - they are very different and in some aspects even opposite.

-The figure 10 looks very nice, but it is actually very confusing (especially without any explanation in the text). Moreover, it is not very informative: this is the generic story we, in the development community, have been preaching for at least 15 years, and when asked what does “integrated” really means in real-life terms, most would not have any idea. Operationalization of such concepts is the next step that should be taken.

### Participant 3

Infographics are good. These are communicative. The design challenge is to balance the "classic" UN report "feel" with the use of such visual tools.

**Participant 4**

You may wish to add more data to justify some areas of discussion.

**Participant 5**

What I can say regarding what is missing is that, there should be a general data by sects (region by region) which can easily help in knowing the variances between the LDCs and the Middle Income countries.

**Participant 6**

There is one issue that is not treated well, in my opinion. The report takes for granted that corporations are what they are, and treats the SSE as a satellite that will never replace the main private sector. But ordinary businesses can change under suitable regulation, and one could argue that this is where a key potential for social change lies. This idea is completely absent from the report.

**Participant 7**

1 Glossary of selected used terms. 2 Examples of best practices [so far some parts of the text are highly theoretical...].

**Participant 8**

J'aurais aimé plus de détails sur l'économie solidaire.

**Participant 9**

Yes, i suggest you to integrate the A Global Charter's for the Public's Health (developed by the World Federations of Public Health Associations as collaboration with WHO): <http://www.wfpha.org/wfpha-projects/14-projects/171-a-global-charter-for-the-public-s-health-3>

**Participant 10**

Meat and animal products need to be treated separately from general 'food'. This is a particularly significant oversight in Chapter 5 dealing with climate change. For an article on this topic, please see: Arcari P. (2016) Normalised, human-centric discourses of meat and animals in climate change, sustainability and food security literature. Agriculture and Human Values. 11 April doi:10.1007/s10460-016-9697-0 (<http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10460-016-9697-0>)

**Participant 12**

We propose including the following information

1. Data regarding the Social Economy (co-operatives and mutual societies) at international level, in Europe and in the Mediterranean:

a. Co-operatives: The International Co-operative Alliance provides figures on co-operatives at global level and for a range of different countries on its website: <http://ica.coop/en/whats-co-op/co-operative-facts-figures>, that it to say, 250 million jobs and a billion members.

b. Mutual Societies: Mutual societies affiliated to the International Association of Mutual Benefit Societies (AIM) provide cover to 240 million people (<http://aim-mutual.org/about/>).

c. Europe: The European Institutions estimate that there are 2 million social economy enterprises in the European Union, accounting for 10% of all European enterprises (source: [http://ec.europa.eu/growth/sectors/social-economy\\_en](http://ec.europa.eu/growth/sectors/social-economy_en)), providing employment for 14.5 million people (see the European Parliament report on the Social Economy (source: [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2016/578969/IPOL\\_STU\(2016\)578969\\_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2016/578969/IPOL_STU(2016)578969_EN.pdf)).

d. The Mediterranean: In Algeria, Egypt, Spain, France, Italy, Morocco, Portugal, Tunisia and Turkey, it is estimated that there are more than 900,000 social economy enterprises and organisations generating more than 8 million jobs and bringing together more than 100 million people (source: Red ESMED <https://t.co/giUWVgces6>)

2. References to the main organisations that represent the Social Economy and to its networks:

Online Global Consultation Results

- a. At global level: The International Co-operative Alliance and the International Association of Mutual Benefit Societies.
  - b. In Europe the Social Economy is represented by Social Economy Europe (see presentation and members on [socialeconomy.eu.org](http://socialeconomy.eu.org))
  - c. In the Mediterranean, through the Euro-Mediterranean Network of Social Economy (ESMED), see presentation and members on: <https://t.co/giUWVgces6>
3. Give information regarding the institutional spaces provided to the Social Economy in European Union member States (for instance, the Ministry of Social and Solidarity Economy in Luxemburg) and in European Institutions such as:
- a. The European Parliament Social Economy Intergroup: <http://www.socialeconomy.eu.org/social-economy-intergroup>
  - b. The European Economic and Social Committee's Social Economy Category <http://www.eesc.europa.eu/?i=portal.en.categories-social-economy>
  - c. The European Commission's Social Economy Unit: [http://ec.europa.eu/growth/sectors/social-economy\\_en](http://ec.europa.eu/growth/sectors/social-economy_en)
4. With regards to State plans and policies for developing the Social Economy, we propose that the report include a reference to other governmental initiatives from European countries, which various States have adopted, such as the case of the Spanish Government's recently published Programme Development and Promotion of Social Economy 2015-16 ([http://www.empleo.gob.es/es/sec\\_trabajo/autonomos/economia-soc/NoticiasDoc/NoticiasPortada/Programa\\_Fomento\\_e\\_Impulso\\_de\\_la\\_Economia\\_Social.pdf](http://www.empleo.gob.es/es/sec_trabajo/autonomos/economia-soc/NoticiasDoc/NoticiasPortada/Programa_Fomento_e_Impulso_de_la_Economia_Social.pdf)).
5. Include references to:
- a. The existence of Social Economy laws in a range of European countries as is the case of Spain, France and Portugal (the texts of these laws may be downloaded on the CEPES website: <http://www.cepes.es/documentacion/402>)
  - b. In Morocco and Tunisia work is also being carried out on the drafting of proposed Social Economy Law bills.

**Participant 13**

Let's see the title "Innovations Policy for Transformative Change". The super-modish term "Innovations" is present. Where are determined Innovations in the Report, which had been researched here? Where are typical examples of Innovations and their using? This is an empty document without real effectiveness. No determinations, no examples, no rules, only liquid phrases. No innovations. It is a few about some initiatives, which based on European-conventional approaches.

**Participant 14**

I think the last chapter addressing global social governance issues needs to set out much more clearly the kinds of global social governance reforms that might help this transformative agenda and be clear about the obstacles to that generated by the insistence within much of the Global South that national policy space comes first. Sovereignty is the obstacle to progress. I refer you to the two articles of mine sent to Katja after the Bielefeld conference.

I also think the care chapter can be strengthened by reference to the more recent work of Williams: chapter in Kaaasch and Stubbs (eds 2014) Transformations in Global and Regional Social Policies