POTENTIAL AND LIMITS OF SOCIAL & SOLIDARITY ECONOMY

Can SSE significantly contribute to gender equality, decent work, and food and livelihood security?

Under what conditions might the potential of SSE be realized and sustained?

How do markets, states and civil society movements and networks impact the development of SSE?

As SSE expands, how can constraints and contradictions be addressed?

In a context of multiple global crises (food, finance/economic, energy/climate) and heightened concerns about the social and environmental consequences of market- and corporate-led development, there are increasing calls for an alternative approach.

Considerable attention is currently focusing on “social and solidarity economy” (SSE) involving organizations such as self-help groups, social enterprise, cooperatives and new forms of association and solidarity of producers, workers and consumers.

UNRISD invites researchers to submit proposals that critically examine the potential and limits of SSE as a distinctive approach to development.

Key themes:
- Conceptualizing, measuring and appraising SSE
- Expanding SSE through market relations
- Enabling SSE through public policy and the state
- Social movements, networks and the politics of change

The research focus and questions of interest are outlined in the full call for papers.

Selected papers will be presented at an international symposium to be held at the United Nations in Geneva in May 2013.

This project forms part of a broader UNRISD inquiry into ‘alternative’ development policy that will feed into UN debates and processes about development strategy beyond the MDGs.

To read the full call for papers, and to submit your abstract (500-1,000 words): www.unrisd.org/SSE

Date limite: 15 November 2012

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