

## **Argentine Section of CIRIEC, activities 2014-2016**

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### **Institutional Area of IAIES –**

#### **National and International Events 2014**

Several meetings, events and organized video-conferences exchanges took place in 2014 with CIRIEC International to coordinate tasks and define modalities of the 30th International Congress of CIRIEC to be performed in Buenos Aires in October.

March

With the presence of the Directing Council, the Scientific Committee, the Executive Committee and partners, a meeting was organized to plan the definition of objectives, necessities and requirements as well as the different tasks to perform, referring to the 30th International Congress.

May

Video-conference with the Praesidium of CIRIEC International related to the planning of the program.

July

Creation of the congress website ([www.ciriec-30congress.org](http://www.ciriec-30congress.org)) in English, French and Spanish languages, with information about place of implementation, program, registration fees, instructions to participate, accommodation, tourism and promotional video.

September and October

Further meetings took place in IAIES, with the presence of the Directing Council, the Scientific Committee and the Executive Committee and partners to coordinate the different tasks to be performed during the 30th International Congress of CIRIEC.

#### **“The Public, Social and Cooperative Economy: innovative responses to global issues”, October 29, 30, 31 and November 1st 2014**

In Buenos Aires took place the 30th International Congress of CIRIEC. The organization was taken over by IAIES-CIRIEC Argentina.

The official opening of the Congress took place on October 29th in the Palace of the Legislature of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires. The Deputy Edgardo Form welcomed the visitors on behalf of the authorities of the Government of the City of Buenos Aires. Then, the President of CIRIEC International, Léopold Beaulieu and the President of IAIES-CIRIEC Argentina, José Pablo Puzino, took the floor to thank the attendees who filled the Golden Hall of the Legislature.

On October 30th the Congress was opened at the NH City & Towers Hotel. It was attended by 350 participants from 20 countries from America, Europe and Asia.

At the Opening Session were present authorities from the National Government, represented by the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Security, Dr. Carlos Tomada, Dr. Patricio Griffin, President of the National Institute of Partnership and Social Economy (INAES) and Dr. Oscar Gonzales, Secretary of Parliamentary Relations of the Office of the Cabinet of the National Government. The President of CIRIEC International, Léopold Beaulieu, the President of IAIES, the Vice-President of the Government of Wallonia and Minister of the Economy, Industry and Innovation, Mr. Jean-Claude Marcourt (Belgium) and Mr. Jean Lacharité, Vice-President and in charge of the International Solidarity of the National Confederation of Trade Unions (CSN) of Canada were members of the panel. The speakers referred to the importance of the event and its various themes.

The Congress continued on October 30th and 31st with 6 Plenary lectures in the morning and 12 Workshops with presentations, questions and answers in the afternoon. The different topics on Social Economy were tackled by 80 notable experts, professors and researchers from 16 countries, including 25 delegates from Argentina.

Posters of scientific papers were presented and sent from different places in Argentina and abroad; thematic books and presentations by the sponsors of the event were handed out.

There were also numerous scientific articles and papers approved by the Directorate of Planning and Conducting Scientific Work of IAIES as a contribution to the event.

Among the topics addressed in the plenaries and workshops of the event:

- The importance of partnerships between the social economy and trade union movements;
- The solution offered by the entities of the social economy in the performance of essential public services such as water;
- The institutional and legislative development of the social economy: experiences of different countries and regions;
- The appropriation in the public action and common property;
- State alliances with the private partnerships and the social economy;
- The social economy action and cooperative source of inspiration in the sustainable development;
- The social impact of public policies and its recipients;
- The depletion of natural resources; the ecological aspect as a priority of the social economy;
- The importance of prevention against unemployment; employment programs for young people; proposals and experiences of the social economy; the fight against inequality;
- The local development and the positive activities of the cooperative sector: experiences of integrated territory, such as the dairy basin in Argentina;
- The importance of public international cooperation and social economy in the generation of employment and efficiency: the example of UNISOL (Brazil-Canada);

- The prevention of addiction: a new mission of cooperatives as social commitment;
- The importance of education and cooperative training: its incorporation into formal education at the various levels of education as a model of socio-economic development. Experiences and proposals. Human rights. Gender equality and the elderly;
- Public policies of energy. Proposals for energy-saving systems; renewable energies; purification through cooperative networks; the importance of social networks in the innovation and as an instrument for promoting the social economy;
- The importance of health services. Experiences; the role of the social economy in the right to health; discussions on financing.

On October 31st the Congress concluded with a farewell cocktail with the words of the President of IAIES-CIRIEC Argentina, José Pablo Puzino and the new elected president of CIRIEC International, Alain Arnaud.

On November 1st, visits were made to:

- Water and Argentine Sanitation S.A. (AYSA, re-nationalized company)
- The Home Worker Cooperative (emblem institution of the cooperatives)
- *Bauen* Hotel (company recovered by workers).

The Congress ended with a traditional "ASADO" of farewell at the facilities of IAIES.

## **Follow-ups**

In November 2014 at the meeting of the Directing Council, the realization of the 30th International Congress of CIRIEC in Buenos Aires was evaluated with exposure by the presidency of graphics and statistics, with the unanimous approval of what has been done.

On the congress web page ([www.ciriec-30congress.org](http://www.ciriec-30congress.org)), the summary of the 30th International Congress, with photographs of the event and three videos of activities can be found.

A video-conference with the Praesidium of CIRIEC International (gathering in Brussels on December 12, 2014) took place to present the analysis of the Post Congress by the President of the IAIES Eng. Jose Pablo Puzino, the summary and the conclusions. Congratulations were made to IAIES for the organization of 30th International Congress of the incoming President, Mr. Alain Arnaud, the outgoing President, Mr. Léopold Beaulieu, the Managing Director, Mrs. Barbara Sak and the General Director, Mr. Bernard Thiry.

The very same evening was conducted in IAIES the traditional dinner of the end of the year.

Videos and photographs of the 30th International Congress of CIRIEC in Argentina were screened. A set of folklore sent by the house of the Province of Santiago del Estero in the City of Buenos Aires gave gala to the meeting, whose authorities attended the dinner. Finally, the chairman, Eng. Puzino invited a toast of good wishes for the New Year.

## **Social Area of IAIES**

On May 20th and 21st, IAIES ceded free of charge the facilities of the Institute for the assembly hall to the College of Graduates in Cooperatives and Mutualism (CGCM) to carry out a training course on Social Economy to a delegation of the brotherly country of Ecuador.

## **Year 2015**

### **Institutional Area of IAIES**

#### **Publications**

The first quarter of the year was devoted to programming and designing the Notebook of Social Economy No. 19, referring to the activities of the 30th International Congress of CIRIEC carried out in Buenos Aires on October 29th, 30th and 31st, 2014.

In the second quarter, the first translations into three languages, English, French and Spanish, of the biographies of the exponents were then realized as well as the first tests of printing.

In the third and fourth quarter the translations were continued for the summaries of the plenary sessions.

Following proofs and corrections it is estimated to finalize and submit the notebook in the second quarter of 2016, in order to be handed out at the next international Congress in Reims in September 2016.

#### **Other activities**

March 2015

An external audit of annual maintenance of the quality system of the IAIES took place according to the standard ISO 9001 with the presence of the auditor of the Bureau Veritas. Approval resulted out of it.

December

The traditional IAIES end of the year dinner took place with a toast of good wishes for the New Year by the President Eng. Puzino.

## **Social Area of IAIES**

The IAIES ceded free of charge the facilities of the Institute (assembly hall) to the College of Graduates in Cooperatives and Mutualism (CGCM) in 2015 to carry out the following activities:

May: Course dedicated to "Training on social economy to Ecuadorians members of cooperatives".

June: Open Chat on "Management tools for the work cooperatives".

July: Open Chat on "Safety and hygiene in organizations of the social economy".

October: Open Chat on "On the economy of the common good".

## **Year 2016**

### **Institutional Area of IAIES**

April

An external audit was conducted in order to obtain the annual recertification of the quality system of the IAIES according to the standard ISO 9001 with the presence of the auditor of the Bureau Veritas, approving what was done.

The Lead Auditor concluded: In accordance with the objectives set for the current audit, that the organization has established and maintains its management system in line with the requirements of standard audited, it has effectively implemented its planned activities and has demonstrated the ability of the system to achieve the requirements of the services within the scope, objectives and policies of the Organization.

May

Inauguration of the representation of the IAIES in Santiago del Estero with a trip of President Eng. José Pablo Puzino and the members of the Directing Council, Silvia Hidalgo, Eduardo Dominguez and Bernardo Ceballos for the inauguration of the representation of the IAIES in that province. The Opening ceremony took place in the assembly hall of the Cooperative La Armonia.

The President presented a statement on the importance of the Social Economy as well as slides of the IAIES and of the 30th International Congress of CIRIEC.

May

An Open and Free Discussion took place on "The cooperative movement in Venezuela and its counterpoint with Argentina", with the participation of the Venezuelan Professor Oscar Bastidas Delgado, specialist in cooperatives, long recognized expert at the international level. The book "Fairs of Consumption of Lara in Venezuela", 2007, dedicated to the memory of Dr. Ravina, was presented.

## **Projections - Strategic Plan Second Half 2016**

### **Events**

- Presentation of the Booklet on Social Economy No. 19 related to the 30th Congress of Social Economy, with photos and comments.
- Participation in the 31st International Congress of CIRIEC to be carried out in Reims (France).
- Seminar at the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the IAIES.
- Act and dinner in commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the IAIES.

### **Investigations**

- Study on new line of research, to coordinate with CIRIEC International.

### **Publications**

- Realization of the notebook on Social Economy No. XIV-19 referring to the 30th Congress.

### **Growth-Development**

- Continuing the policy of expansion of the Institute, with the incorporation of new partners and institutions.
- Continuing the policy of incorporation of new researchers.
- Culmination project on the development of representations and/or subsidiaries of the IAIES.

### **Continuous Improvement**

- Pursuing the Library Reform, Codification and Implementation of Virtual Library.
- Implementation of a Video Conference System in the Assembly Hall.
- Updating the web page.