Promoting social and solidarity economy - SSE

The Up Group Experience

Jean-Philippe POULNOT
1964: creation as a worker’s co-operative

The Up Group established in France as a worker’s co-operative called Chèque Déjeuner, and is deeply rooted in Social and Solidarity Economy - SSE

Strong values as:
- reconcile economic and social utility activity,
- Managing the company as democratically as possible,
- Reinvest the profits in the collective project.

A common goal: The sustainability of the employment and of the co-operative
50 years of economic and social development

From a unique product to 5 markets...

100 trademarks

A wide variety of media (voucher, card, mobile apps, platforms ... )
50 years of international development

From France to ... 17 countries
50 years of development of the co-op model

2014: Chèque Déjeuner celebrated its 50 years

2015: Groupe Chèque Déjeuner became the UP Group

2016: The Cheque Dejeuner co-operative merged with its French subsidiaries
50 years of economic and social development at the international level

- 6.6 Billion € of issuing volume
- 21 million users of our products and services in the world
- 17 countries
- Up Group is the leader in Mexico, Slovakia and Turkey, and co-leader in France.
- 3,000 employees
- 345 million € turnover
- 1.2 million Customers

*Datas: 2015*
Focus on MBM

The Mont-Blanc Meetings provide a cross-mission function of KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTION AND PROMOTION which serves its three fields of action:
1/ GATHER SSE LEADERS AND ACTORS
2/ CO-BUILD SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE INITIATIVES AND PROJECTS
3/ INFLUENCE INTERNATIONAL POLICIES AND AGENDAS FOR SSE
What about the activities of MBM?

Created in 2005

MBM are a worldwide meetings any two years:
- SSE leaders and entrepreneurs, non-govermental bodies, researchers, ministers …
- 7th edition in 2015, the next one will be in 2017

The co-branding of numerous events in the world

A project place and an initiatives report

The permanent co-secretary of the ILGSSE – UN

The latest working program, launched in 2015, is as follows:

Axis 1. Cities and territories financing: food sovereignty, climate change, global governance
Axis 2. Social policy and inequality in human settlements: housing, transport, education, health, social protection, social inclusion
Axis 3. Urban local economy, entrepreneurial transformation modes: culture and development, technical innovations, forms of employment, alternative energy, digital

To finish, the Mount Blanc Meetings has created a Scientific Committee, chaired by Prof. Abdou Salam Fall, from Senegal, and has signed a partnership with CIRIEC International.
Focus on the ILGSSE - UN

The international Leading Group on SSE UN -ILGESS-UN- was created in 2014, thanks to the French President and the Mount Blanc Meetings. Its main objectives are:

- promote the social and solidarity economy (SSE) in the world, making this form of entrepreneurship accessible to all people and to increase the recognition of this economic model in public policies implementation

- submit concrete suggestions promoting SSE to national and international bodies during major international summits or national consultations on SSE (law bills and financing in particular).
- Involve the SSE to a new model of development and the development of solutions for climate change, its necessary inclusion in the Agenda of cities and urbanization policies, financing for sustainable development…

It is composed of:

• States from all continents
• Civil society organizations
• International institutions

The Leading Group adopted a joint declaration on September 2015, the 28th during the High level side event organized in parallel to the 70th UN General Assembly-New York.

And the same high level side event took place this year in NYC 3 days ago …
Thank you for your attention

Feel free to join at jphpoulnot@up-group.coop
Or research@up-group.coop