



CHANTIER
DE L'ÉCONOMIE SOCIALE



LE CHANTIER DE L'ÉCONOMIE SOCIALE: Renewing social innovation

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L'ÉCONOMIE SOCIALE.
ÇA PARLE D'ARGENT ET DE VALEURS HUMAINES.

OUTLINE OF PRESENTATION

- Social economy in Quebec in numbers
- Context of its emergence
- Mission and mandates
- A cohesive movement and development tools
- A pluralist governance
- New challenges
- Conclusion



Quebec social economy: some statistics

- 39% of Canadian coops; 23,6% pop.
(Bouchard, Lévesque, 2010)
- 3 300 cooperatives et mutuels (CQCM)
 - 8,8 million members
 - Total sales 25,6 billion CAD (21 M Euros)
 - 92 000 jobs
- Unions, associations, cultural organisations
- 4 000 non-profit enterprises and 8 000 community organisations
- Two labour funds (pensions funds with combined assets of 9 billion CAD (7,2 billion Euros))



Origins

- Quebec Summit on the economy and employment (1996): a working group made up of social movements
- A permanent structure (1999) with shared governance: networks of collective enterprises, territorial development organisations, social movements,



Mission/mandates

- **Mission:** promote the social economy as an integral part of Quebec's socio-economic infrastructure and thus achieve recognition of the plural nature of the economy
- **Four mandates:**
 - promotion,
 - national and international representation
 - Support for consolidation, experimentation and development of new sectors and projects
 - Foster collaboration among diverse actors within the social economy
- **A financial tool:** le Réseau d'investissement social du Québec (social economy investment fund)



The period 2000-2010: A « mouvement identitaire » and development tools

- Federal social economy initiative (2004)
- Summit on the social and solidarity economy (2006)
- A new financial tool offering patient capital
- A research partnership on the social economy
- International networking and recognition (FIESS 2011)
- Towards a platform for commercialisation 'Commerce Solidaire'



A pluralist governance

- A network of networks
- Actors from :
 - Labour, women's, community, cooperative movements
 - Networks of collective enterprises (cooperatives, non-profits)
 - Networks of territorial development organisations
 - First Nations
 - Researchers
- Regional hubs in action (18)



Some challenges

- Respond to new needs
- Scaling up the social economy: tools, public policy, mobilisation
- New sectors, big scale projects
- Reinforce strategic alliances
- Conciliate consolidation/innovation, managing tools /exploration
 - A renewed governance (territory, tools, democratic governance)
 - Knowledge transfer activities
 - Alliances, new partnerships



In conclusion

- A pluralist governance ...
- innovative et contemporary ...
- at the origin of a 'mouvement identitaire'
- that has been capable of reconciling structured collaboration 'concertation' and development...

