

# Argentine Section of CIRIEC, activities 2016-2018

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## Year 2016

### Institutional Framework of the IAIES

#### Publications

In August 2016, a special edition of the Notebooks of Social Economy N°XIV-19 was published, in three languages (EN, ES, FR), "Social, Public and Cooperative Economy: Innovative responses to global problems", referring to the activities and outcomes of the 30<sup>th</sup> CIRIEC International Congress, held in Buenos Aires on 29-31 October 2014, the first one to take place in South America.

#### Events

- **24-25 November 2016: IAIES 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. 1<sup>st</sup> Seminar "The Public, Social and Cooperative Economy. Opportunities for an evolutionary development"**

This 1<sup>st</sup> national seminar has witnessed six plenary sessions with ample attendance, where 30 prestigious panellists exhibited.

Dr Eduardo H. Fontenla, member of the Board of Directors of INAES and IAIES authorities, participated in the opening ceremony. He congratulated the IAIES on his behalf and as spokesman for President Marcelo Collomb and members of the INAES Board of Directors for its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and for holding the seminar.

Homages were also offered (In Memoriam) to Doctor Arturo O. Ravina (former President of IAIES), to Doctor Julio H. G. Olivera, and to Accountant Leticia Topa. The homages were made to Dr. Arturo O. Ravina by Héctor Polino and Edgar Gigena; to Dr Julio H. G. Olivera by Roberto Drimer and to Cra Leticia Topa by Luis Valladares.

After the six plenary sessions followed by discussions and debates with the audience, the conclusions and the closing ceremony were held on the end of the second day by José Pablo Puzino (President of IAIES), Edgar Gigena (Secretary of IAIES), Osvaldo Peiretti (from IAIES representation in Santiago del Estero) and Jorge Vallati (from IAIES representation in Bahía Blanca).

From a general analysis, three common elements were pointed out in the plenary sessions, which are based on evidence, ideas and commitment,

demonstrating: the realities of the positioning of the social economy, its importance and the descriptions of its environment.

The outcomes also depicted the profound changes made in comparison with the prevailing structures of the Mercantilist economy and the commitment of the exhibitors and speakers to the principles and values of the social economy.

– **25 November 2016: 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration Dinner**

An institutional video with historical references of IAIES, its present and future projections and a video of salutations of the Presidents of various national sections and authorities of the CIRIEC International were screened.

The President and the Secretary of IAIES presented a recognition medal to the associate co-founder in 1966, Dr Abraham Austerlic, for the work done since (over five decades), now as Honorary President of the Institute.

### **Other activities**

11 April 2016

External auditing of IAIES quality system according to the ISO 9001 standard with the presence of the auditor of the Bureau Veritas. Re-certification obtained.

28 April 2016

Annual Ordinary IAIES General Assembly.

6 May 2016

The Representation of IAIES in Santiago del Estero was finalized in a ceremony held at the Cooperative Mercado Armonía. The President of IAIES and the advisors Silvia Hidalgo, Eduardo Domínguez and Bernardo Ceballos attended the meeting.

The President of the Cooperative, Mr. Pellicer, the President of IAIES, Authorities of the Professional Council of Economic Sciences of Santiago del Estero, authorities of FEMUS, Bernardo Ceballos and the Director of the IPAC, among others, attended the event.

22-23 September 2016

IAIES participated in the 31<sup>st</sup> International Congress of CIRIEC held in Reims (France), with the presence of its President and the titular member Silvia Hidalgo.

The president of IAIES spoke at plenary session 1, with a report on the 30<sup>th</sup> Congress of CIRIEC 2014 in Buenos Aires.

Likewise, 55 free copies of Notebooks N° 19 (see above) were delivered to the panellists of the 30<sup>th</sup> International CIRIEC Congress who were present.

On that occasion, the Argentine delegation received the appreciable international recognition of CIRIEC authorities for the activity developed by the IAIES-CIRIEC Argentina.

4 November 2016

The representation of IAIES in Bahía Blanca was finalized. The President of IAIES, his secretary and the members Silvia Hidalgo, Eduardo Domínguez and Juan Carlos Vera were welcomed by the President of the Cooperative Obrera, Dr Vallati and several officials of the entity.

Likewise, an event was held in the Cooperative's hall, where Dr Jorge Vallati, Dr Edgar Gigena and Mr. José Pablo Puzino spoke about the importance of representation as an element of integration and participation.

### **Social Framework of the IAIES**

On 9 May 2016, IAIES provided, free of charge, the facilities of the institute (Assembly Hall) for the meeting organized by the Cooperative "El Hogar Obrero", and convened by the College of Graduates in Cooperativism and Mutualism. The theme was "Open and free Talk and on cooperativism in Venezuela and its counterpoint with the Argentine one", with the participation of Venezuelan Professor Oscar Bastidas-Delgado.

During the event, Prof. Bastidas-Delgado, a Venezuelan cooperatives specialist with a long and renowned international career, spoke about the special characteristics of cooperatives in his country and finally delivered his book "Self-Management as Social Innovation in Cooperatives" to the IAIES Library and "The Case of the Consumer Fairs of Lara in Venezuela", 2007, with a manuscript dedication to the memory of Dr Arturo O. Ravina.

## **Year 2017**

### **Institutional Framework of the IAIES**

#### **Publications**

August 2017: Notebooks of Social Economy N°XV-20 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of IAIES "The Public, Social and Cooperative Economy: Opportunities for an evolutionary development", presented in the 2<sup>nd</sup> National Seminar on Social Economy held in Santiago del Estero.

This new edition of our traditional publication presents historical reviews of the IAIES activities and projections, collecting, in addition, the papers of the 1<sup>st</sup> National Seminar 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, conducted in November 2016, with the purpose of disseminating the papers presented during the Seminar. The main message being that the Social Economy contributes to a sustainable and inclusive development for a territory and its inhabitants.

## Events

The 2<sup>nd</sup> National Seminar on Social Economy **“Identity of regional economies in the development of the Social, Public and Cooperative Economy - hopeful Vision of a new economy”** was organized by the IAIES Delegation of Santiago del Estero, with the auspices of: Ministry of Production, Natural Resources, Forestry and Land, (through the IPAC, the Provincial Institute of Cooperative Action); the Assistant Secretary of Tourism dependent on the Head Cabinet of the Government of the Province of Santiago del Estero; the Municipality of Termas de Río Hondo; the Professional Council of Economic Sciences of Santiago del Estero (CPCSE); the National University of Santiago del Estero; the Cooperativa Obrera de Bahía Blanca (Province of Buenos Aires); the Credicoop Bank Branch Santiago del Estero; the Cooperative “La Armonía”; COESA; “La Union” drinking water cooperative; Villa Zanjón; FEMUS (Mutual Federation of Santiago del Estero), among other entities of the Third Sector.

The Seminar was held on 15-16 September 2017, in the House of History and Culture of the Bicentennial in the city of Termas de Río Hondo, Province of Santiago del Estero, and was attended by 130 participants from different social economy organizations, cooperatives, mutual, civil associations, non-profit organizations, among other groups. In addition, 58 young professionals and students of Higher Level of Education from the Provinces of Santa Fe, La Rioja, Catamarca and Santiago del Estero participated in the Seminar. Researchers, experts and academics from the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires (CABA), the provinces of Buenos Aires, Santa Fe, La Rioja, Jujuy, Santiago del Estero, among others, attended the event. Mirta Vuotto, graduated in psychology of the Faculty of Economic Sciences of the University of Buenos Aires (UBA), author of various books, writings, cultural and research notebooks at the national and international levels also participated in the Seminar.

The opening ceremony was attended by:

- the President of IAIES and Member of the Praesidium of CIRIEC International based in Liège (Belgium) José Pablo Puzino;
- the Mayor of Termas de Río Hondo, architect Miguel R. Mukdise;
- the Secretary of General Coordination and Institutional Affairs, Dr Raul Lorenzo;
- the Director of IPAC, Dr Osvaldo A. Peiretti, from the Production Ministry, Natural Resources, Afforestation and Land of Santiago del Estero;
- the Director of the House of Culture, Lic. Carlos Ansaldi;
- Lic. Elias Osvaldo Gonzalez, representative of the Delegation IAIES Santiago del Estero.

The Architect Mukdise welcomed all participants and expressed his thanks for having chosen the City Termas de Río Hondo to implement, for the first time, this type of event. He remembered his family roots having participated in the institutional life of a cooperative environment, highlighting the benefits offered by the cooperatives in the practice of the values and principles which are their own. He also expressed that the Municipality provides all the assistance needed to make the visitor feel comfortable and be aware of the

growth of tourism of the city through public policies emanating from National and Provincial Governments.

Lic. José Pablo Puzino, President of IAIES and Member of the Praesidium of CIRIEC International, expressed his appreciation for the support of the local Municipality and stressed the kindness and friendliness of the inhabitants of the place, also expressing that this Second National Seminar on Social Economy was the continuity of the first seminar held in the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires on 24-25 November 2016, celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of IAIES.

The themes developed were:

- "Development of the Public, Social and Solidary Economy and its central role in the field of the Regional Economy",
- "Social Innovation in the face of growing social and territorial inequality",
- "Public Policies that accompany the Development and Consolidation of the Social and Solidary Economy",
- "Real introduction of the Social Economy in different levels of Education",
- "Social and Solidary Economy as the transformer in the world of work",
- "Environmental Crisis and Global Risk",
- "New Challenges of the Digital Transition".

Conclusions were drawn on the need for local and regional development, through Social and Solidarity Economy, to achieve the goals set by the United Nations until the year 2020:

- the care of the environment,
- the labour alternative,
- the social and economic organizations which provide the Social Economy to face a globalized world with a market inclined to neoliberalism,
- fighting unfavourable balances, mainly, to people of limited resources,
- the urgent need for governments to include, in their Public Policies, true lines of strengthening in the education system at all levels,
- implementing the Social Economy as a true engine of consolidation,
- the promotion, establishment and operation of Co-operatives and Mutuals.

The performance of the young people was framed in the colloquium: "Youth, Reality and Proposals", with representatives from Santa Fe, La Rioja, Catamarca, among others. A final document summed up the general conclusions of the colloquium, stressing the need for young people to be protagonists in the entities of the social economy sector, with the support of leaders with more experience to enable the entities a real importance, sustainability and durability, as well as compliance with the standards set for Co-operatives and Mutual.

The closure of the seminar was held with the reading of the conclusions and delivery of the corresponding certificates.

## **Other activities**

3 April 2017

External audit of the management system of the IAIES according to ISO 9001, with the presence of the auditor of the Bureau Veritas.

27 April 2017

Annual Ordinary IAIES General Assembly.

17 May 2017

The President of IAIES, Dr José Pablo Puzino, participated in the meeting of the Praesidium of CIRIEC International held in Paris, France.

15 December 2017

Traditional Dinner of the End of the Year at the IAIES.

Presentation of the annual activities 2017 and expression of thanks to all those involved in the development of the Institute IAIES.

## **Social Framework of the IAIES**

On 22 June 2017, the IAIES ceded free of charge the facilities of the Institute for the meeting organized by the CIESO Foundation (Centre for Research in the Social Economy) for the presentation of the book "The Other Economy - Between the Popular and the Social Economy", the 5<sup>th</sup> book in the collection *Local Development and Social Economy*.

On 27 June 2017, the IAIES ceded free of charge the facilities of the Institute for the meeting organized by the Graduate School in Cooperativism and Mutualism of the Argentine Republic (CGCyM) on the occasion of the presentation of the book "Manual of Social Economy" by Domingo Godoy.

## **Projections – Strategic Plan 2018**

The following actions are established in the Institutional Framework.

### **Events**

- Colloquium on the Social aspect of the means of Transport in Argentina.
- Participation of the President of IAIES, José Pablo Puzino in the 32<sup>nd</sup> International Congress of CIRIEC International in Liège, Belgium (30 May-1 June 2018), as a panellist and representative of CIRIEC-Argentina, in the Praesidium meetings and General Assembly.

## **Investigations**

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

## **Growth-Development**

- Continue and intensify the expansion policy of the Institute, with the addition of new partners and institutions.
- Continue the policy of incorporation of new researchers.
- Continue the development of representations of the IAIES.

## **Varia**

- Continue and improve the Reform of Library through the codification and implementation of the Virtual Library project.