THE WORLD SOCIAL FORUM OF TRANSFORMING ECONOMIES

PRESENTATION FOR FUNDERS
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1. THE WORLD SOCIAL FORUM OF TRANSFORMING ECONOMIES (WSFTE)

The World Social Forum of Transforming Economies (WSFTE) is a process of confluence of the different movements of the alternative economy, which we call transformative economies, at a local and international level.

These social movements and initiatives were built with the sediments of the "other world is possible" of the anti-globalization movement and broad-path traditions such as cooperativism and community economies. They share the will to put people and the environment at the center of the economy, end the economy based on extraction, growth, competitiveness and the financial market, and move towards resilient and collaborative societies that work together and build and strengthen alliances.

At the last World Social Forum, held in Salvador de Bahia (Brazil) in 2018, it was decided to organize a thematic edition of this forum, focused on the transforming economies. The city of Barcelona was chosen to host this event, taking into account that Catalonia is a world leader in cooperativism and solidarity economy, with a history marked by social struggles.

Thus, the main drivers of the Thematic Forum are Xarxa d'Economia Solidària (XES), which brings together entities transforming economies in Catalonia; the Network of Alternative and Solidarity Economy Networks (REAS), which brings these initiatives together in Spain; and the Intercontinental Network for the Promotion of Social and Solidarity Economy (RIPESS), which operates internationally. The three networks formed the Forum Booster Group until September 2019 and created a partnership as a basis to begin the process towards the Forum, provide it with funding, and create the technical team in charge of the organization.

Currently, and since the meeting of international networks that took place on July 17 and 18 in Barcelona, a new governance model called the Coordinating Committee has been put into operation, consisting of a Facilitating Committee and eight commissions, of which representatives of more than 25 international networks participating in the process towards the FSMET are part:

1) Mapping (of transforming economies initiatives)
2) Logistics
3) Contents
4) Facilitation and methodology
5) Communication and extension
6) Economy and financing
7) International Mobilization
8) Virtual Mobilization

In these commissions the technical team of the Association FSMET is also represented, which is part of who executes the tasks of organizing the Forum from Barcelona.
What are the Transforming Economies?

In practice, we realize that this "other possible world" already exists. It is manifested in the various proposals for socio-economic transformation that attempt to transcend the traditional frameworks of capitalism. These initiatives are what we call transforming economies, which are all those proposals for socio-economic reorganization that introduce points of criticism on the dominant economic framework, and formulate proposals for socio-economic change.

The main difference between these proposals and the hegemonic capitalist system is that they are based on two principles: putting the sustainability of life at the center, which includes nature, communities and our own bodies, and betting on an equal distribution of power through a democratic and non-profit organization of productive systems.

Why a World Social Forum of Transforming Economies?

These proposals are still scattered and do not have a common account that allows reaching the majorities with a clear and attractive message. It is essential to propose a plural alternative, and to make visible this mosaic of proposals of the transforming economies as a whole, which allows us to go beyond the marginal position they now occupy.

Therefore, the Forum intends to give public visibility and recognition to the projects of transformative economies and provide an alternative narrative to address the hegemonic capitalist discourse. In addition, it wants to serve to join forces between all those processes of confluence that are already taking place and the existing practices of transformative economies. The purpose will be to build an inclusive global agenda together to vindicate the other world that already exists.

Until now, the Forum process has been developed in two stages:

- **First meeting: April 5, 6 and 7, 2019**
  It was a working meeting with entities linked to transformative economies, representatives of networks and social movements at local and international level. In this first meeting, the challenges to be discussed, the methodology of the Forum and the process towards 2020 were established.

- **Second meeting: July 17 and 18, 2019**
  A two-day meeting of representatives of international networks in order to agree on work plans, redefine the governance model to make it more comprehensive and representative, and validate the next steps to follow.
  This two-year process will culminate from June 25 to 28, 2020 with the celebration of the WSFTE, which is planned as a week of activities, with talks, assemblies and cultural activities open to citizens. It is intended as a useful interconnection space between the areas that represent alternative economies, where the other world that already exists can be made known, and a common global agenda on transforming economies, with collective commitments and specific agreements. It also wants to ensure the continuity of the movement after the two-year confluence process.
What will be discussed in the Forum?

In order to organize the different areas of debate of the transforming economies, the Forum calls for the participation of the various movements that represent them: feminist economies, the agroecological movement and food sovereignty, the commons (natural, urban and digital), and the solidarity economy.

Transversal to these thematic areas, the Forum will also work on transformative actions, such as education and research (schools, academies, research centers...) or the co-construction of public policies (public institutions, administrations...).
2. THE WSFTE AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF GLOBAL JUSTICE

The alternatives proposed in the World Social Forum are opposed to a process of globalization, commanded by large multinational corporations and by governments and institutions that serve their interests, with the complicity of national governments. These alternatives that emerged within the Forum are aimed at consolidating a globalization of solidarity that, as a new stage in the history of the world, respects universal human rights, all citizens of all nations and the environment, relying on democratic international systems and institutions that are at the service of social justice, equality and sovereignty of peoples.

The construction of a common story, which is proposed as one of the objectives of the process and the celebration of the WSFTE, is based on two main axes that are both part of the foundations of Global Justice:

- the sustainability of life in relation to nature, with our bodies and with our communities;
- the equal distribution of power: the democratic and non-profit organization of the different formulas in which we organize productive systems, be it public, social-solidarity and even private, breaking the structures and culture of power established in the current economic order.

That is why we can talk about transformative economies, as an agglutinating concept of socio-economic transformation proposals, as alternatives that contribute to the objectives of Global Justice:

- The promotion of economic justice
- The promotion of global justice
- The promotion of gender justice
- The promotion of the right to the city

And they do it basically from four movements of movements and two transformative actions:

**Movements**

- From the **social and solidarity economy**, including fair trade and ethical finance, built on the foundations of cooperativism and the construction of social markets, bringing the traditional social economy closer with new practices of self-organization and democratization of the economy in all links of the economic cycle, providing goods and services for the satisfaction of needs instead of profit.

- From **agroecology and the movement for Food Sovereignty**, with its key role in the rethinking of the agrifood model as a basic piece for the maintenance of life, which is also the rethinking of our relationship with the Earth and natural cycles, and that, therefore, connects its struggle with all the struggles for the defense of the land, led by social ecology and movements such as Degrowth.

- From **feminist economies**, to displace markets and capital as the center of socio-economic organization and place life there and all the processes that make it possible in a sustained way, with special importance of the care economy and the key role of women and feminized values within these processes.
- From the **economy based on the commons**, with its three large subfamilies: urban commons, natural commons and digital commons. Common, as a third way in the way of managing resources and producing value, based on community management, breaking the state-market duality as the only visible and legitimate spaces for the production, management and allocation of resources of the economic system.

**Actions**
- Transformative and liberating education, and the co-construction of public policies.
3. FUNDING THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

How is the WSFTE funded?

The expectation of the Forum organization is that at least half of the budget is generated by its own activity (registration fees, food services, crowdfunding campaigns, etc.). On the other hand, contributions from the organizations of the transforming economies are expected. Another way of financing comes from public institutions, through grants and collaboration agreements; of progressive philanthropy foundations and social transformation projects.

Criteria and values of the funding strategy

The funding strategy proposed by the Forum organization is based on the following essential values:

- Consistency with the paradigm shift to which we aim.
- Transparent accountability.
- The visibility of contributions in all materials and dissemination media.

Likewise, the selection of donors or funders will be done following the criteria established by the World Social Forum, which exclude the receipt of funds from the bodies responsible for the application of the neoliberal model, especially from international financial institutions, transnational corporations or any other body that does not adhere to the WSF letter of principles.

The role of funders

Consistent with these values, the organization wants to establish a collaborative relationship with the funding organisations that is not based on the mere provision of funds. It is about, on the one hand, giving them an active role in the process so that they can contribute with their view of economic change and of ethical and sustainable finance. On the other, to turn them into allies that contribute not only money, but also resources of different nature: hours of work, experience, resources in kind, dissemination of the Forum, contacts of other funding bodies related to the FSMET, or other intangible goods or services.

How can funders support the process and organization of the WSFTE?

- Disseminating the Forum and adopting an active role in participation.
- Giving support to the organizations of the transforming economies by facilitating their participation both during the process (local confluences) and in the 2020 meeting (covering travel and accommodation costs, for example).
- Co-financing the structure that makes the WSFTE possible: dissemination campaigns, logistics, structure, technical team salaries, etc.
**Budget lines that need funding**

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<tr>
<th>ÁREA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Communication</strong></td>
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<td>Advertising and dissemination campaign in the networks</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Logistics and production</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment of spaces (for the celebration of the Forum)</td>
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<td>Interpreter team and technical equipment for translations</td>
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<td>Facilitators team</td>
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<td>Costs of travel and accommodation of participants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Options of accommodation at reduced prices (i.e. youth hostels, students/researchers halls of residence, etc.)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mobilization, programming and content</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Support in the mapping of initiatives</td>
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<td>Support for mobilization and local and international participation</td>
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<td>Content creation support</td>
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<td>Participation in the co-construction of public policies</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Structure</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Contribution of fungible material for workshops, talks and debates</td>
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<tr>
<td>Technical team salaries</td>
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<td>Structure support (technical office)</td>
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WSFTE CO-FUNDERS:

- Generalitat de Catalunya
- ACD
- Agência Catalana de Cooperação al Desenvolupament
- Ajuntament de Barcelona

WSFTE PROMOTERS:

- reas
- ripess
- xes