ESSGLOBAL
Inter-connecting social solidarity economy (SSE)

**HOW TO PARTICIPATE
ORIENTATIONS, CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES**

**Technical Guidelines
for the mapping and interoperability of SSE initiatives**

Summary

Part I - Introduction

I.1. About the project

The ESSglobal is an initiative of some members of the RIPESS network[1].

Interaction among single initiatives using ICTs (Information and Communication Technologies) to map Solidarity Economy initiatives have been taking place at least since the third World Social Forum in Porto Alegre (2005).

During the 4th RIPESS assembly in Luxembourg (LUX 09), a workshop (Workshop #10) was held on Communication and Information Systems. As a result of this workshop, a working group on "mapping" was formed in the RIPESS framework in order to:

- Facilitate international visibility of activities and products of the solidarity economy

- Pool methods and tools for existing and planned mappings (to be made available in the form of a resource center for existing partner sites and for new networks that wish to join)

- Develop cross-functional projects of human and economic cooperation between partners of the working group

- Cooperate with other initiatives to track Solidarity Economy actors and existing or planned networks.

The Working Group initiated an international mapping project involving several RIPESS members that had already developed or were in the process of developing ICTs: Germany, Austria, Spain, France, Italy, Luxembourg, Brasil and Canada (Quebec).

At the same time, an analysis of the state of the art on the existing ICT tools and online collaboration (internet platforms) in Europe has brought together players in the SSE[2]. In the framework of RIPESS Europe, a Working Group was created with the aim of conducting a methodological study of European SSE mapping projects. This European Working Group also aimed to contribute to the international mapping initiative by submitting a project to

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1 RIPESS (Reseau Intercontinental pour la Promotion de l'Economie Social et Solidaire – Intercontinental Network for the Promotion of Social and Solidarity Economy) is an intercontinental network that connects social and solidarity economy networks throughout the world. As a network of networks, it brings together continental networks, that in turn bring together national and sectoral networks. From Lima to Quebec, from Dakar to Luxembourg, RIPESS organizes global forums every four years and is a nexus for learning, information sharing and collaboration. See: www.rispess.org
2 Throughout this document we will use SSE as abbreviation for Social and Solidarity Economy

the European Commission and to the private foundation FPH[3]. The project was approved by FPH and has been in development since March 2011.

The European mapping group decided to launch two actions:

- A methodological study on European SSE mapping projects called "the mapping of the mappings"

- A reflection on the establishment of an international SSE mapping project, without centralizing the information

Six European countries have developed SSE online mapping initiatives so far. These are: Spain, France, Italy, Germany, Austria and Luxembourg. The specificities of these mapping initiatives vary in terms of objectives, features, participants, processes and tools of development.

Other mapping initiatives outside of Europe joined in, namely from Brasil and Canada.

The main objective of the Mapping group was thus formulated as: "Building means for the intercommunication between Social Solidarity Economy information systems and implementing a public global map of social and solidarity enterprises and their products / services".

The global map (ESSglobal) is not a centralised database: instead, it pulls data from each IT system / portal and displays it for demonstration purposes. This is defined as the interoperability of the SSE databases.

The website for the project was first presented in Quebec, during the FIESS on October 2011: **www.essglobal.info**.

I.2. About Mapping

Mapping refers to the drawing and the study of geographical maps. Its main principle is the representation of data on a reduced surface that represents an area that is generally considered to be real.

The map's goals are the concise and effective representation as well as the simplification of complex (political, social, economic, etc.) phenomena that are at work in the represented area in order to allow the public to understand them quickly and to interpret them correctly.

But the mapping of SSE initiatives is also a network analysis, tracing the relationships and exchanges (be they material or virtual) among the different actors involved – as well as their potential relations.

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3 FPH – Fondation Charles Léopold Mayer pour le Progrès de l'Homme – www.fph.ch

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I.3. About Interoperability

"Interoperability is a property of a product or system, whose interfaces are completely understood, to work with other products or systems, present or future, without any restricted access or implementation." (Wikipedia)

To allow the interoperability – i.e. the exchange of data through common formats – among the SSE mapping initiatives, there needs to be both a conceptual and a technical effort towards the development of open common standards, which will allow the systems to "speak a common language". The process of constructing an international mapping of SSE necessitates the establishment of a shared recognized basis which enables comprehension of different objectives, values, and methods of validation and integration, as well as the technical standards necessary for its realisation.

This is the first step for the building up of an ontology of SSE: establishing controlled vocabularies which from now on will be called **standards.** They will be "evolving" standards, open to new versions and to the evolution of the ICT platforms.

All of this must be done preserving the "biodiversity" and cultural approaches to SSE worldwide.

I.4. From taxonomies towards an SSE Ontology

The categorization of products and services is only a simple step towards a true interoperability among SSE information systems. In fact, we're talking about SSE enterprises, which have contacts and addresses, belong to particular sectors of activities, and so on. We are also talking about the offerings of these SSE enterprises, which have many more properties than

only the category and name of a product and service. There is a description, pictures, price, composition of the price, methods of payment, accepted geographical range for selling (be it regional, national or international), just to cite some examples.

In computer science and information science, an **ontology** formally represents knowledge as a set of concepts within a domain, and the relationships between those concepts. It can be used to reason about the entities within that domain, and may be used to describe the domain. In theory, an ontology is a 'formal, explicit specification of a shared conceptualisation'. An ontology renders shared vocabulary and taxonomy, which models a domain – that is, the definition of objects and/or concepts, and their properties and relations.

Ontologies are the structural frameworks for organizing information and are used in artificial intelligence, the Semantic Web, systems engineering, software engineering, biomedical informatics, library science, enterprise bookmarking, and information architecture as a form of knowledge representation about the world or some part of it. The creation of domain ontologies is also fundamental to the definition and use of an enterprise architecture framework

The set of all these properties and, more importantly, the way they are related, is an ontology; in other words, a complete knowledge system. Several of these properties have international standards, so that interoperability goes beyond the properties and their relations. One simple example is the currency of the price. The currency is a property of the offer, which is related to the price. Besides that, there is a recognition of some standard that categorizes the currencies in international ids. In this case, the commonly used standard is the ISO 4217, which says, for example, that USD means "US Dollars" and BRL means "Brazilian Real". This categorization is a taxonomy.

So, while the ontology describes a whole knowledge system through properties and the ways they are related, the **taxonomies** are categorization standards that allow different systems to understand the values of some of the properties in a more meaningful way than just a simple text.

What we are doing in this moment is building some taxonomies for Social and Solidarity Economy (products & services; macro-themes; qualifiers; activity sectors). But that's not enough. There will be a need to develop an ontology for it that expresses its values, principles and singularities. There is already a good basis from which to start. The "good relations" ontology1 was developed to describe commercial relations in the internet. This ontology, however,must be adapted for new relations and properties that are different from conventional capitalist commercial relations. An inspiring initiative is being put forward by Quinode for the CREDIS project, in France, and will be very helpful for the further developments towards an SSE

Ontology: it is a RDF vocabulary for SSE, available on http://ns.economie-solidaire.fr/ .

In terms of research, Mariana Malta is doing a Doctorate in Minho University (Portugal) on SSE Interoperability. This involves participatory research and aims at helping the development of the SSE Ontology as well. Cirandas, in Brazil, is also undertaking some research on vocabularies and linked open data for SSE.

A few examples outside Social and Solidarity Economy

The **Economic Activity Ontology** (link: http://mayor2.dia.fi.upm.es/oeg-upm/index.php/en/ontologies/99-hrmontology) models knowledge of economic activities and sectors. It is based on the NACE Rev. 1.1. This standard is expressed in MS Access database format and is a classification of 849 economic activities. Of course we would encourage opensource database formats. The resultant Economic Activity Ontology has 849 concepts. In this case we have defined a concept for every element of the NACE taxonomy in order to preserve the hierarchy.

In the Economic Activity Ontology, the most general concept is the Activity concept. This concept is organized in the taxonomy based on the NACE. The Activity concept has four relations: 'Activity is associated with Objective' (with the Objective concept from Job Seeker Ontology), 'Activity is associated with Offered Work Experience' (with the Offered Work Experience concept from Job Seeker Ontology), 'Activity is associated with Job Vacancy' (with the Job Vacancy concept from Job Offer Ontology) and 'Activity is associated with Requested Work Experience' (with the Requested Work Experience concept from Job Offer Ontology).

This means that a specific SSE ontology could have datasets which are compatible with the international statistical norms and classifications we have examined and, in our case, the SEE Activity Ontology would have an Activity concept with a number of direct relations.

Another example is the "GoodRelations" ontology on e-commerce (see description in the Product/Services part, page XX) which is already integrated with the ISIC/NACE classification. The "BusinessEntityType" (gr: BusinessEntity) is the "instance of this class [which] represents the legal agent making (or seeking) a particular offering. This can be a legal body or a person. A business entity has at least a primary mailing address and contact details. For this, typical address standards (vCard) and location data (geo, WGS84) can be attached". If we were to use it, there would be thousands of referenced products on e-commerce websites that would already be identified with the same criteria and framework (or "vocabulary").

Once the ontology is established (it may change over time with the development of new versions), it will be possible to use each system to "brand" their own data using the terms of the common ontology. If a class

"Activity_Sector" (for example) is defined in the ontology, each system can add the label to its own data when publishing their data in RDF format. Resource Data Format (RDF) is the standard format for data exchange in the Semantic Web. RDF can use multiple syntaxes, and can even be integrated directly into the HTML.

I.5.   Perspectives / further developments

I.5.1.   Other standards sets

Up to now, the standards developed are all related to two broad sets: the SSE initiatives and their offers and inputs.

In the SSE movement worldwide, other types of information might be gathered to allow visibility through global maps and direct exchange among initiatives. In a series of meetings, the SSE Interoperability Work Group developed the following sets that will be next targets for defining new standards:

- **Public policies:** A global map of public policies of SSE would be very important for the movements and governments in different countries. Examples of possible standards for this set are: nature of the policy (typology); field covered (like finances, education and training, tax advantages, procurement, etc); supported actors; indicators of participation of civil society; territorial level (local, state, national); annual budget; etc…

- **Good practices in SSE:** there are information systems which have several resources and systematization of experiences in SSE, like articles, bulletins, documents, photos, etc. One example is the Socioeco initiative (www.socioeco.org). Some standards that might be developed/used for this set are: thematics); territorial range; methodology typology; actors involved; etc.

- **SSE promoters and supporters:** A map of the networks, organizations and universities which provide education, training, consulting, incubation, and other services to support SSE initiatives would be very important. Some examples of standards to be developed in this set are: type of support; type of organization; target actors; territorial level; type of methodology; knowledge available to the organization; etc.

- **Research centers on SSE:** There are some networks of researchers in different countries and regions. These networks have already some data on the profile of the different research initiatives being

done. Some standards might be developed to facilitate the exchange inside and among these networks. Examples of standards are: theme of the research; duration; type of methodology; scientific fields involved; etc.

- **Mapping and validation methods:** In order to realize a mapping of SSE, national or subnational networks need to use a specific methodology in their mapping projects. There are already important knowledges and practices in this field given the successful mappings have already been done in several countries. A common map showing these methodologies would also be important for new networks to study the accumulated experiences and define their own method. Examples of standards in this set are: a typology on the methodology used; type of participation of the actors of the movement; duration; costs level (common reference frame per initiative mapped, for example); typology of validation methods; actors involved; etc.

Besides these 5 sets of information, the Interoperability Work Group produced a new standard for the SSE initiatives and their products and services:

- **Concepts typology** (aspects/dimensions of the SSE initiatives): Solecopedia has made some advances in creating a typology of aspects defining SSE in different countries. The character of this typology will depend strongly on the results of the debate being carried out in RIPESS about the parameters and different perspectives of SSE.

For each one, we must think about the core information, look at existing vocabularies and ontologies, and create new standards where the existing vocabulary is insufficient.

I.5.2.   Sharing the accumulated know-how

One important perspective is to make available the accumulated know-how among the participants of the SSE Interoperability working group, especially in three areas:

1. Collaborative cartography methodologies;

2. Development and implementation of information systems on SSE, and also sharing the opensource codes of the software developed;

3. Adoption of the SSE standards in the existing local SSE information systems.

This might be done through the website ESSgobal and through studies and systematization.

I.5.3. Support for networks wanting to develop mappings or to implement an information system on SSE

One of the byproducts of building up the standards is that other networks will become interested in developing mappings and implement information systems on SSE. The Interoperability Working Group should be able to help provide documents and identify experts or support organizations which could support their process, both methodologically and technically (information technology). There are already networks of SSE asking for this kind of support.

I.5.4. Other uses for the standards

Up to now, the demonstration of the usage of the standards for intercommunication has been a simple global map in ESSglobal.info. In the last meetings of the Interoperability Work Group, two other uses of the standards have been suggested:

- **Economic exchanges and intelligence:** use of the standards to develop tools for promoting international supply chains, direct exchanges, and commercial trading among SSE initiatives around the globe. A global search machine for consumers to find products and services on SSE might be one of the visible demonstrations in ESSglobal.info.

- **Semantic web applications:** global search engines, gadgets for facebook, twitter, orkut, wordpress, and applets for mobile phones (find the nearest SSE initiative from where you are), etc.

In addition, the actual map should be upgraded to incorporate the new standards (products/services, and qualifiers) as filters for the SSE initiatives. Today the only filters are the country and the activity sector.

Part II - How to participate: Criteria and Procedures

II.1. The Working Group

From the initial idea, the working group of the ESS global mapping project has been meeting and sharing ideas and criteria to build common standards upon which the interoperability of mapping platforms could be established. The guidelines that have emerged are based on the following working principles and goals.

II.1.1. Working Principles

In workshop 10 of Lux09, the following principles of collaboration were defined and have inspired the projects henceforth:

1. Work in the respect of diversity
2. Start from what exists, respect the initiatives of the networks and enable their inter-communication
3. Promote direct exchanges through meetings
4. Work with a participatory approach in all phases, activities and methodologies
5. Work in conjunction with other projects of RIPESS
6. Never think of tools as an end to themselves: the territorial and human relationships are always a priority
7. Work in the spirit of opensource / free software

II.1.2. Goals of ESSglobal

Since 2010, the ESSglobal mapping and interoperability initiative has thus reformulated its mission. The current mission is to:

- Build and maintain international standards for SSE
- Increase the international visibility of the activities and products of solidarity economy

- Pool the methods and tools of mapping projects that already exist and that are being developed

- Develop transversal projects of human and economic cooperation among the participants of the working group

- Cooperate with other initiatives (existing or being created) that specialise in information systems, in the georeferencing of actors in the solidarity economy, and in networking.

II.1.3.   Who is participating

As of June 2011, the following mapping initiatives are taking part in the ESSglobal initiative:

- Cirandas.net – Brasil

- Economiasolidaria.org – Spain

- Economiesocialequebec.ca – Quebec, Canada

- Ecosolux.lu – Luxembourg

- La-bdis.org – France

- Solidarius.net – Brasil / International

- Kmfn.de/rnf – Germany

- Vivirbien – Austria / International

- Zoes.it - Italy

II.1.4.   Open to new actors

The ESSglobal initiative is naturally open to new initiatives to join and share their information on SSE actors in different regions, countries or categories of enterprises and other initiatives. There are, of course, many differences inthe methods of mapping, the validatation and presentation of information, and the kind of data collected, as well as in the uses made of the maps . The inclusion of new initiatives and participants is welcome, so long as they work on the common grounds and comply with the minimum requirements specified below.

II.2. Criteria and orientations

Anyone can adopt the standards defined by the ESSglobal for their own project or platform, since these are public and open. But to be part of the ESSglobal and recognized by the other projects who are participating, there are some minimal requirements, the first of which is to be recognized within the RIPESS framework. In fact, the challenge is to be both open to diversity and exclusive: to not lose the identity built by the movement worldwide with its diversity.

ESSglobal does not set any general criteria in order to determine if a single initiative is allowed or not allowed to be registered in a map as a solidarity economy actor, but every project is requested to clearly indicate its source database as well as to explain its criteria, principles and values.

Thus ESSglobal allows a comparison between the different methods and between the different criteria of validation and recognition. On the other hand, the system does not want to eliminate the cultural diversity of Social Solidarity Economy and recognises RIPESS as the international political network of reference for the SSE movement and RIPESS's approval remains the main criteria for a network of initiatives to be considered as SSE.

II.2.1. Levels of Engagement

A single initiative (nonprofit group, non governmental organisation, cooperative, enterprise, solidarity buying group, etc.) cannot join the ESSglobal system directly, but has to be registered in one of the already existing partner mappings.

The number of partners is unlimited and can be concurrent in the same geographical region.

Participation in the ESSglobal mapping and interoperability initiative is possible with three different levels of engagement, from adoption of the standards to membership in the working group that defines and maintains them.

II.2.2. Basic requirements to each level of engagement

Level 1: Adhering to the SSE standards

At a first level, a mapping initiative can share and exchange its information:

- If you already have an online mapping project (territorial or thematic), you only need to adopt a procedure to exchange your data with the standards proposed by ESSglobal

- If you would like to develop a mapping project, you will have a toolbox at your disposal that enables you to benefit from the global mapping standards and to create your own system capable of sharing information on a global level right from the start.

The mapping initiative must:

- Have a basic mapping of SSE initiatives and direct access to the data

- Have an online database of the mapping

- Possibly have the data already geo-referenced

Procedures and orientations (level 1):

- Read the technical documentation on the interoperability standards (defined on Sections III.1.6, III.2.4, III.3.4 and III.4.2) and agree on their adoption

- Make a correspondence table between the structure of your database and each of the standards. Where necessary, new fields might be needed for missing information
- Create a script in your system in order to respond to calls with xml, rss and rdf outputs

Level 2: Being recognized as an information technology system on SSE

At a second level, a mapping initiative may become a partner of the project, engage directly with the members of the RIPESS network, and be recognized as a valid source for SSE information by complying with the guidelines described here.

For a network to be included as a valid source in ESSglobal, it must be recognized by RIPESS. In other words, any information system may use the SSE standards (taxonomies, typology, and in the future an ontology), but only those information systems that belong to networks recognized by RIPESS will appear on the ESSglobal map.

Besides complying with the conditions stated on level 1, the mapping initiative must:

- Be recognized by RIPESS
- Make the mapping / sourcing methods and inclusion / exclusion criteria explicit
- Give evidence / credits to who is doing the mapping (active/interactive or passive/research-led)
- Explain how the information is validated and who is responsible
- Declare the rate and method of keeping the data updated

Procedures and Orientations (level 2):

- RIPESS is organized by continental networks. It's necessary for the mapping initiative to get in contact with the continental board and ask to be recognized as an SSE initiative. Contacts are available at the RIPESS website (www.ripess.org)
- Fill out the form for engaging in level 2 in one of the 3 languages (English, Spanish, French). The form is available in essglobal.info
- This form must be technically validated by the Working Group on SSE interoperability

Level 3: Being a member of the SSE interoperability Working Group

At a third level, a partner can participate in the Working Group (Mapping-Interoperability-Standards) and help build the standards proposal and evolution. In this case, there is a steering committee of the project (composed by members of RIPESS) who will consider the application and welcome the new partner to join. The working group is mainly composed by members of existing mapping initiatives, but also welcomes researchers, IT/interoperability experts and observers from forthcoming mapping projects.

Besides complying with the conditions stated on levels 1 and 2, the mapping project must follow a set of steps:

1. The first step is to contact the working group by filling in the questionnaire [link]. A reference member of the working group will recontact the candidate partner to exchange information on its mapping initiative.

2. The second step is to contact a RIPESS continental representative [see reference here: link], in order to be recognized as a valid SSE initiative.

3. Once the new member has joined officially the ESSglobal initiative, it can adopt the standards and share the information, which will allow it to be fully part of the working group.

4. The new member will then subscribe to the mailing list [Interop4ess] and be able to exchange and participate in the dynamic construction of common standards for SSE in the Interoperability Working Group.

Part III – Version 1 of the SSE Standards

III.1. Economic Activities / Sectors

III.1.1. Premises

In order to work on a common grouping of SSE initiatives and to have the possibility of comparing them to existing mainstream economic activities and sectors, the first challenge is to evaluate how similar or different they might be, starting from the existing examples we have access to.

The interest here is to have a system of classification that allows us to take into account not just the single activities / initiatives, but their relationships (social, territorial and as part of production / distribution / consumption / regeneration chains), as well as the values and practices they enact.

So even if we start with a simple and general classification of activities, we must make sure that it will allow us to build the value(s)-chain that makes solidarity economy what it is, and that it can evolve through experimentation and what emerges from the grassroots practices.

As of today, we have a number of general "families" of SSE, based on small and local actors which are increasingly networking together, with initiatives and activities that frequently are not entirely clearcut and often describe themselves in different ways, depending on the accent they put on different principles, values or methods used. So, for instance, there is organic agriculture, responsible tourism, ethical finance, fair trade, renewable energy, open-source technologies, sustainable mobility, etc., while other organisations are dedicated to the promotion of the human rights, culture of peace, anti-racism, multiculturalism, gender rights, etc.

Many of these "families" cross-over and have differently structured organisations developing the activities. Moreover, the boundaries between "traditional" economic activities and SSE ones are sometime blurred or ambiguous, making it difficult to have clearcut definitions or nomenclatures.

One way to approach the issue is to look at the existing (international) classifications, both commercial and public, and try to match SSE initiatives and activities to those classificatory schemes This would require evaluating those places where the fit is poor and reclassification is required. In instances where appropriate categories are missing, an additional taxonomy

and/or an open system of qualifiers which can supplement the missing information and help clarify the value relation that exists will need to be created.

Furthermore, in order to maintain the "production chain" relations, it is necessary to adopt a system that links the economic activities to the products and services taxonomies.

In the industrial world, classifications such as the ICB (Industry Classification Benchmark) look at market sector (the top level is made of 10 "industries"). But in SSE, there is little if no industrial production; rather, the relationship is more "organic" and ecosystemic.

On the technical side, in order to have comparable data among different platforms (and different languages), the information to be exchanged must be matched to the "standard" classification with unique identifiers through export scripts.

III.1.2.   Existing International Classifications

Among the many ways in which economic sectors and activities are classified (see table below), the most widely used is the one developed by UNSTATS, The United Nations Statistics Division. So it seems most natural to start from here.

ISIC Rev. 4/ NACE v.2

The International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities is a [United Nations](#) system for classifying economic data. UNSTATS describes it in the following terms:

Wide use has been made of ISIC, both nationally and internationally, in classifying data according to kind of economic activity in the fields of production, employment, gross domestic product and other statistical areas. ISIC is a basic tool for studying economic phenomena, fostering international comparability of data, providing guidance for the development of national classifications and for promoting the development of sound national statistical systems.

The ISIC (now at its 4th revision) is the corresponding classification of economic activities in Europe (NACE). The two are quite similar and are used by most statistical institutes. At level 1, they are identical; at levels 2 and 3 they have [matching tables](#) .

ISIC v.4 has 21 items at the first level (section), 99 at the second (division), 238 at the 3rd   (group) and 419 at the 4th (class).

ID	Name
A	Agriculture, forestry and fishing
B	Mining and quarrying
C	Manufacturing
D	Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply
E	Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities
F	Construction
G	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles
H	Transportation and storage
I	Accommodation and food service activities
J	Information and communication
K	Financial and insurance activities
L	Real estate activities
M	Professional, scientific and technical activities
N	Administrative and support service activities
O	Public administration and defence; compulsory social security
P	Education
Q	Human health and social work activities
R	Arts, entertainment and recreation
S	Other service activities
T	Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services-producing activities of households for own use
U	Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies

Table 1 – ISIC v.4 classification

The ISIC code groups together enterprises if they produce the same type of goods or service or if they use similar processes (i.e. the same raw materials, process of production, skills or technology).

The coding systems used in ISIC and NACE are, wherever possible, identical: to easily distinguish between the two, NACE places a dot between the first two digits (division level) and the last two (groups and classes). Since some groups and classes in ISIC Rev. 4 are disaggregated into NACE groups and classes, without introducing additional hierarchical levels, some ISIC codes differ from the corresponding NACE codes. An activity at group or class level may therefore have a numerical code in NACE Rev. 2 which differs from that in ISIC Rev.4.

CPC / CPA - Central Product Classification (v2) Equivalent EU activity classification (2008).

The CPA is a product classification promoted by the United Nations, whose elements are related to activities as defined by NACE Rev. 2. Each product - whether it be a transportable or a non- transportable good or a service - is assigned to one single NACE Rev. 2 activity. The linkage to activities as

defined by NACE Rev. 2 gives the CPA a structure parallel to that of NACE Rev. 2 at all levels distinguished by NACE Rev. 2. However, the detailed linkage between products and activities could only be established to a certain degree.

The CPA is the European version of the CPC, and the purposes it serves are in line with those of the CPC. While the CPC is merely a recommended classification, the CPA is legally binding in the European Union.

There are 9 sectors at the top level:

ID	Name
1	Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery Products
2	Ores and minerals; Electricity, gas and water
3	Food products, Beverages and tobacco, textiles, apparel and leather products
4	Other transportable goods, except metal products, machinery and equipment
5	Metal products, machinery and equipment
6	Constructions and construction services
7	Distributive trade services, accommodation, food and beverage serving services, transport services and Electricity, gas and water distribution services
8	Financial and related services, real estate services and rental and leasing services
9	Business and production services
10	Community, social and personal services

Table 2 – CPA classification

Both the CPA and the NACE classifications are managed and maintained by the Statistical Office of the European Communities (Eurostat). Eurostat and the EU Member States have put in place a number of web-based information sources[4].

Investment Map (International Trade Center – Unctad/Wto)

The data in Investment Map is adapted from Revision 3.0 of the International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (ISIC). The main differences between Investment Map and ISIC Rev. 3.0 lie in the definitions of levels and the creation of additional residual categories, such as "Unspecified Secondary" or "Unspecified chemicals and chemical products" which have been introduced primarily to capture FDI data that cannot be classified accurately. For example, when a country only provides

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4 See: The Central Product Classification (v2), A summary document (English) on differentiated functions of CPA / CPC and ISIC / NACE. A comparison between NACE and other national/regional systems.

the total FDI data for the manufacturing sector, without any further breakdown, the data is allocated to industry "Unspecified Secondary".

A more general aggregation is done into Primary (Agriculture, Mining, Petroleum, etc), Secondary (Merchandise production) and Tertiary (Services)

SIC / NAICS

The Standard Industrial Classification (abbreviated SIC) is a United States government system for classifying industries by a four-digit code. Established in 1937, it is being supplanted by the six-digit North American Industry Classification System (NAICS code), which was released in 1997; however certain government departments and agencies, such as the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), still use the SIC codes.

ICB (FTSE/Dow Jones)

The Industry Classification Benchmark (ICB) is an industry classification taxonomy developed by FTSE. It is used to segregate markets into sectors within the macroeconomy. The ICB uses a system of 10 industries, partitioned into 19 supersectors, which are further divided into 41 sectors, which then contain 114 subsectors.

The principal aim of the ICB is to categorize individual companies into subsectors based primarily on a company's "source of revenue or where it constitutes the majority of revenue".[3] If a company is equally divided amongst several distinct subsections, authorities from the FTSE may be summoned to make a final judgment. Firms may appeal their classification at any time

GICS (MSCI/Standar & Poor's)

The Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS) is an industry taxonomy developed by MSCI and Standard & Poor's (S&P) for use by the global financial community. The GICS structure consists of 10 sectors, 24 industry groups, 68 industries and 154 sub-industries into which S&P has categorized all major public companies. The system is similar to ICB (Industry Classification Benchmark), a classification structure maintained by Dow Jones Indexes and FTSE Group.

III.1.3. Comparison chart of the studied Taxonomies

Abbr.	Full name	Sponsor	Criterion/ Unit Node	Count by level	Issued
ISIC	International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities	United Nations Statistics Division	production/ establishment	4 digits 21/99/238/419	1948–present (Rev. 4, 2008)
NAICS	North American Industry Classification System	Statistical bureaus of US, Canada, and Mexico	production/ establishment	6 digits 17/99/313/724/ 1175 (/19745)	1997, 2002, (2012)
ANZSIC	Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification				
SIC	Standard Industrial Classification	US / SEC	production/ establishmen	4 digits 1004 categories	1937–1987 (superseded by NAICS, but still used in some applications)
ICB	Industry Classification Benchmark	Dow Jones, FTSE	market/ company	10/20/41/114	
GICS	Global Industry Classification Standard	Standard & Poor's, Morgan Stanley Capital International	market/ company	2-8 digits 10/24/68/154	
TRBC	Thomson Reuters Business Classification	Thomson Reuters	market/ company	10/25/52/124	

Table 3 – Taxonomies comparison

III.1.4. Linking Activity to Products and Services

One of the more important aspects to consider in choosing a classification system that can be functional not only for statistical purposes, but for the interoperability of the ICT systems who are willing to adopt it, is the possibility to link the structured data in order to have, as a result, a flexible system of in-depth filters and researches that can be made available. For instance, it is important to note that "within the range of such industrial

services, repair and installation services are the most important. However, not all the repair services are industrial, as CPA follows NACE Rev. 2 which also classifies repair activities in the services part, e.g. 45.20 (Maintenance and repair services of motor vehicles), 95.2 (Repair services of personal and household goods), 95.11 (Repair services of computers and peripheral equipment). CPA includes items for repair services, wherever such services are characteristic of a manufacturing activity and where repair services are possible, depending on the products that are produced by that manufacturing activity. The same principle was applied for installation services." [ref. CPA 2008 introductory guidelines]

Similarly, "the revised ISIC and NACE distinguish separate activities for collection, treatment and disposal of waste and scrap (in NACE Rev. 2 groups 38.1 and 38.2) and for materials recovery (in NACE Rev. 2 group 38.3). During the NACE and CPA revision process it was decided to classify in CPA 2008 all waste and scrap intended for further treatment in group 38.1 (Waste; waste collection services), whether they originate from households or businesses (the latter were classified into manufacturing classes in CPA 2002). Waste and scrap resulting from treatment or disposal are included in group 38.2 (Waste treatment and disposal services)" [ref. ibidem]. For SSE these elements are quite important, not only for the environmental aspects, but also for the economic and value-chains that rely on materials collection, recovery, reparation, reuse, etc.

III.1.5. Comparing SSE portals

ISIC/NACE are not perfect classification systems, of course. And with regards to SSE they present some problems already at the top level, since they contain industries that are not covered by the structures or "families" of the SSE, such as: Mining and quarrying (B), Public administration and defense; compulsory social security (O), Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies. More detailed activities involving nuclear energy or chemicals production appear at the second and third levels as well. There are also some questionable hierarchy structures, especially if we look at it from the values standpoint of the SSE approach.

Yet this is not an issue in as much as those items are not used. What is more difficult to solve is how to classify a Consumer Solidarity Buying Group (GAS, AMAP, CSA, etc.) - which could go under membership organisation but really needs its own level - or a co-housing enterprise, a cultural exchange organisation or even an NGO working on micro-credit or other partnership economic and exchange activities.

While LA-BDIS (France) and Ecosolux (Luxembourg) already adopted ISIC/NACE as basis for the activity classification (though with some

differences – see tables 1 and 2), the other portals are less standardized or open / user defined (Economiasolidaria in Spain, Vivirbien in Austria, Economiesocialequebeq in Canada) or have no activity classification at all (ZOES Italy, Solidarius Brasil). While the "open" tagging approach allows more creativity and "biodiversity" in the definitions of activities, it tends to duplicate even at the top level, either because users don't use existing tags or because they might be in a different language (eg. Essen and Eat, in Vivir Bien; or Inserción sociolaboral and Inserción socio-laboral in Economiasolidaria). Zoes and Solidarius use textual descriptions and match by theme or just product/service.

The more advanced study on sectorial / economic activity classification has been made by the MES and implemented in the portal LA-BDIS. It considers three degrees to describe the economic sector of an enterprise / organisation:

- Economic "production chain" (Filières économiques)
- Economic activity
- SSE "production chain" (Filières ESS).

It then takes into account socio-economic innovations and highlights the NAF (NACE) code.

For instance:

Filières économiques	Activités économiques	Filières ESS
Agriculture, pêche, Espaces verts, bois et forêts	Développement agricole	Développement d'une agriculture écologique

Innovations socio-économiques: Autoproduction, Circuits courts - Code NAF: 9499Z

To make the taxonomy more comprehensible than the INSEE (French national statistiques agency) one, LA-BDIS defines the following economic chains, which then have correspondences within the NACE classification (though this is not explicit – the French nomenclature is "inspired" by the national statistics one). There are 21 economic chains at top level and 129 second level sub-chains:

Acronym	Description (FR)	Description (EN)	ISIC/NACE corresp.
AGR	Agriculture, pêche, Espaces verts, bois et forêts	Agriculture, fishing, green spaces, woods and forests	A
ART	Artisanat d'art	Craftsmanship	R
AUT	Autres produits	Other products	C

Acronym	Description (FR)	Description (EN)	ISIC/NACE corresp.
BAT	Bâtiments et Travaux publics, habitat	Buildings and Public Works, Housing	F
BNQ	Assurances, banque	Insurance, banking	K
CLT	Art, spectacle, audiovisuel, culture	Art, entertainment, audiovisual, culture	R
COM	Edition, Information et communication, publicité	Edition, Information and Communication, advertising	J
COO	Coopération internationale	International cooperation	S? U?
DIS	Commerce, distribution	Trade Distribution	G
ELC	Électricité, électronique, énergie	Electricity, electronics, energy	D
FOR	Enseignement, formation, études/projet	Education, training, research / project	P
GES	Gestion, administration	Management, Administration	N
HEB	Hébergement, restauration	Accommodation, meals	I
INF	Informatique,TIC, téléphonie	IT, ICT, telephony	J
LSR	Loisirs, sports et tourisme	Leisure, Sport and Tourism	N
NAT	Environnement	Environment	A ?
REP	Récupération, réparation, dépannage, entretien	Recovery, repair, repairs, maintenance	S / C
SAN	Santé, social, emploi	Health, social, employment	Q
TEX	Textile, habillement, cuir, ameublement	Textile, clothing, leather, furniture	C
TRA	Transport, logistique, manutention	Transport, logistics, handling	H
URB	Urbanisme, logement	Urban Development, Housing	L

Table 4 – MES / La-BDIS nomenclature (summary)

It is not surprising that some of the main international classification sectors are missing (such as B - Mining and quarrying; E - Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities; O - Public administration and defense; compulsory social security), but some sectors perhaps still in early development in SSE could be there (eg. M - Professional, scientific and technical activities). In any case, what can certainly help here is that enterprises that are formally registered as economic activities will have their "NAF" (or equivalent code in their country).

While it is not in the scope of this document (since we will remain at the top level of classification in this first version), it is useful for further analysis to have the whole table developed by MES presented here:

Filières économiques	Activités économiques classiques		Activités de l'ESS	
Agriculture, pêche, Espaces verts, bois et forêts	Production de fruits et légumes	AGR.c.01	Production d'une agriculture écologique	AGR.s.01
	Production de viande et de laitage	AGR.c.02	Jardins partagés	AGR.s.02
	Production de poissons	AGR.c.03	Transformation de produits alimentaires écologiques	AGR.s.03
	Transformation de produits alimentaires	AGR.c.04	Développement d'une agriculture écologique	AGR.s.04
	Production de coton	AGR.c.05		
	Production de céréales	AGR.c.06		
	Production de bois	AGR.c.07		
	Création et entretien des espaces verts	AGR.c.08		
	Gestion et exploitation forestière	AGR.c.09		
	Création, entretien, exploitation de jardins	AGR.c.10		
	Développement agricole	AGR.c.11		
	Autres produits liés à l'agriculture et filières associées	AGR.c.12		
Textile, habillement, cuir, ameublement	Production de meubles et d'équipement de bureau	TEX.c.01	Production de textiles et vêtements écologiques	TEX.s.01
	Production de textiles	TEX.c.01		
	Production de vêtements et de chaussures	TEX.c.02		
	Production de cuir	TEX.c.03		
	Autres produits liés aux textiles, cuirs, meubles	TEX.c.04		
Artisanat d'art	Fabrication de bijoux	ART.c.01		
	Poterie	ART.c.02		
	Travail du bois	ART.c.03		
	Autres produits d'artisanat d'art	ART.c.04		
Electricité, électronique, énergie	Production et services d'électricité	ELC.c.01	Production des énergies renouvelables	ELC.s.01
	Production de composants électroniques	ELC.c.02	Soutien aux énergies renouvelables	ELC.s.02
	Autres prestations liées à l'électricité et l'énergie	ELC.c.03	Economies d'énergie	ELC.s.03
Autres produits	Production de cosmétiques	AUT.c.01	Produits cosmétiques écologiques	AUT.s.01
	Production de produits d'entretiens	AUT.c.02	Produits d'entretiens écologiques	AUT.c.02
	Produits phytosanitaires	AUT.c.03	Produits phytosanitaires écologiques	AUT.c.03
	Herboristerie	AUT.c.04	Herboristerie écologique	AUT.c.04
	Produits provenant de l'industrie	AUT.c.05	Papier et cartons recyclés	AUT.c.05
	Papier et cartons	AUT.c.06	Autres produits écologiques	AUT.c.06
	Autres produits	AUT.c.07		
Environnement	Protection des espaces nat., faune et flore	NAT.c.01	Valorisation des déchets	NAT.s.01
	aménagement des espaces naturels	NAT.c.01	Protection de la biodiversité	NAT.s.02

Filières économiques	Activités économiques classiques		Activités de l'ESS	
	Collecte, traitement, recyclage déchets	NAT.c.02	Récupération, recyclage et commerce d'occasion	NAT.s.03
	Gestion de l'eau	NAT.c.03	Ecologie, étude des écosystèmes	NAT.s.04
	Prévention des pollutions, risques, sécurité	NAT.c.04		
	Bruit, qualité de l'air	NAT.c.05		
	Autres activités liées à l'environnement	NAT.c.06		

Filières économiques	Activités économiques classiques		Activités de l'ESS
Bâtiments et Travaux publics, habitat	Démolition de bâtiments	BAT.c.01	Habitat écologique
	Construction de bâtiments	BAT.c.02	Restauration du patrimoine
	Voierie/assainissement	BAT.c.03	
	Réhabilitation de logements	BAT.c.04	
	Peinture	BAT.c.05	
	Maçonnerie	BAT.c.06	
	Menuiserie	BAT.c.07	
	Peinture et revêtement	BAT.c.08	
	Plomberie	BAT.c.09	
	Architecture et Dessin industriel	BAT.c.10	
	Autres activités liées au BTP et à l'habitat	BAT.c.11	
Urbanisme, logement	Location immobilière	URB.c.01	Droit à l'habitat
	Vente immobilière	URB.c.02	Ecologie urbaine
	Conseil en urbanisme et aménagement	URB.c.03	Habitat groupé
	Logements sociaux	URB.c.04	
	Autres activités liées à l'urbanisme et au logement	URB.c.05	
Transport, logistique, manutention	Déplacement en voitures, motos et vélos	TRA.c.01	Déplacements alternatifs et solidaires
	Déplacement en bateaux	TRA.c.02	
	Déménagement	TRA.c.03	
	Autres activités liées au transport	TRA.c.04	
Commerce, distribution	Vente de produits alimentaires	DIS.c.01	Groupements de consommacteurs
	Vente de produits issus de l'artisanat	DIS.c.02	Montage de filières équitables
	Vente de tissus, vêtements ou chaussures	DIS.c.03	Promotion et vente de produits du commerce équitable
	Autres ventes de produits	DIS.c.04	Promotion et vente de produits écologiques et locaux
			Vente de produits récupérés ou recyclés
Hébergement, restauration	Hôtellerie	HEB.c.01	Restauration et distribution de boissons alternatives
	Gîtes, chambres d'hôte	HEB.c.02	Hébergements et lieux d'accueils alternatifs
	Camping	HEB.c.03	
	Restauration collective	HEB.c.04	
	Restauration individuelle	HEB.c.05	
	Traiteur	HEB.c.06	

	Restauration à domicile	HEB.c.07	
	Autres activités liées à l'hébergement et la restauration	HEB.c.08	
Loisir, sports et tourisme	Activités sportives	LSR.c.01	Tourisme solidaire
	Activités d'animation	LSR.c.02	
	Tourisme	LSR.c.03	
	Autres activités liées aux loisirs	LSR.c.04	
Edition, Information et communication, publicité	Edition	COM.c.01	
	Presse	COM.c.02	
	Multimédia	COM.c.03	
	Marketing	COM.c.04	Marketing solidaire
	Imprimerie, reproduction	COM.c.05	Médias solidaires
	PAO, mise en page	COM.c.06	
	Télévision et radio	COM.c.07	
	Autres activités liées à l'information	COM.c.08	

Table 5 – MES/La-BDIS complete nomenclature

The entire document and table can be downloaded from this link: http://www.la-bdis.org/Nomenclature.html

As we can see, the second level already offers much greater detail and allows us to compare and add SSE activities that are not contemplated in the traditional economic classification.

In addition to the 21 redefined 1st level sectors (or economic chains) and the 129 2nd level divisions, 67 items of "SSE sub-economic chains" are defined, which make up a different and diverse taxonomy connected to the classical subdivision, but sometimes do not "fit" well. A part of these could be qualifiers of a traditional activity (eg. Rural tourism), but others are activities which are not traditionally included in the market economy (eg. Promotion of freesoftware or copyleft materials; microcredit; etc).

Here is the list:

CLASSIFICATION	DESCRIPTION
AGR.s.01	Production d'une agriculture écologique
AGR.s.02	Jardins partagés
AGR.s.03	Transformation de produits alimentaires écologiques
AGR.s.04	Développement d'une agriculture écologique
AUT.s.01	Produits cosmétiques écologiques
AUT.s.02	Produits d'entretiens écologiques
AUT.s.03	Produits phytosanitaires écologiques
AUT.s.04	Herboristerie écologique
AUT.s.05	Papier et cartons recyclés
AUT.s.06	Autres produits écologiques
BAT.s.01	Habitat écologique
BAT.s.02	Restauration du patrimoine
BNQ.s.01	Epargne solidaire
BNQ.s.02	Financement solidaire
BNQ.s.03	Micro-crédit
CLT.s.01	Echanges culturels
CLT.s.02	Lieux de culture et d'échanges alternatifs

CLT.s.03	Pratiques artistiques participatives
CLT.s.04	Préservation des cultures et du patrimoine
CLT.s.05	Télévisions participatives
CLT.s.06	Théâtre forum
COM.s.04	Marketting solidaire
COM.s.05	Médias libres
COO.s.01	Association de solidarité internationale
DIS.s.01	Groupements de consommacteurs
DIS.s.02	Montage de filières équitables
DIS.s.03	Promotion et vente de produits du commerce équitable
DIS.s.04	Promotion et vente de produits écologiques et locaux
DIS.s.05	Vente de produits récupérés ou recyclés
ELC.s.01	Production des énergies renouvelables
ELC.s.02	Soutien aux énergies renouvelables
ELC.s.03	Economies d'énergie
FOR.s.01	Ecoles alternatives
FOR.s.02	Education populaire
FOR.s.03	Education à l'environnement
FOR.s.04	Education à la citoyenneté
FOR.s.05	Accompagnement
FOR.s.06	Éducation au développement
GES.s.01	Expertise et étude dans l'économie solidaire
HEB.s.01	Restauration et distribution de boissons alternatives
HEB.s.02	Hébergements et lieux d'accueils alternatifs
INF.s.01	Internet solidaire
INF.s.02	Promotion des logiciels libres
LSR.s.01	Tourisme solidaire
NAT.s.01	Valorisation des déchets
NAT.s.02	Protection de la biodiversité
NAT.s.03	Récupération, recyclage et commerce d'occasion
NAT.s.04	Ecologie, étude des écosystèmes
REP.s.01	Collecte et valorisation d'habits
REP.s.02	Collecte et valorisation de meubles
REP.s.03	Collecte et valorisation d'informatique et d'électroménager
SAN.s.01	Insertion par l'activité économique
SAN.s.03	Insertion sociale
SAN.s.04	Santé solidaire
SAN.s.05	Education à la santé et à l'alimentation
SAN.s.06	Education à la consommation responsable
SAN.s.07	Accompagnement à l'émergence d'activités
SAN.s.08	Accompagnement à la création d'activités
SAN.s.09	Accompagnement au développement d'activités
TEX.s.01	Production de textiles et vêtements écologiques
TEX.s.02	Production de textiles et vêtements solidaires
TRA.s.01	Déplacements alternatifs et solidaires
URB.s.01	Ecologie urbaine
URB.s.02	Droit à l'habitat
URB.s.03	Habitat groupé

Table 6 – SSE sub-economic chains classification

III.1.6. Version 01 of the economic activities / sectors for SSE

From the analysis of ISIC / NACE we come to the following conclusions:

1. The United Nations Statistics agency international standard covers the existing activity sectors for SSE at the 1st level, with a few problematic general items, such as Environment and International Cooperation which are not at the top level and others that don't exist in SSE (such as Public administration and Defense, Mining, Water supply, etc).

2. Yet the advantages of having an internationally recognized standard on which to build are greater than starting one from scratch.

3. The naming of the general sectors in ISIC/NACE is not always intuitive.

4. If we go deeper to the second levels, the industrial conventional classification is not sufficient, and needs to be complemented by a set of SSE-specific activities. The hierarchy must also be revisited, with more importance given to SSE families or value-chains.

We could also rename or add more intuitive terms to the ISIC top level, carrying the risk of generating some confusion when confronting the two, but this is manageable with a comparison table, as other ISIC-related classification systems have adopted.

Yet if we do go deeper, we need to adopt a new classification, adding to the international standard taxonomy.

The chosen first version adopts an alternative proposal for the ISIC classification, but keeps the direct correlation, at least at the top level.

Table 7 – SSE vs ISIC nomenclature

SSE ID	ISIC ID	Original ISIC nomenclature	SSE proposed nomenclature
a01	A	Agriculture, forestry and fishing	Agriculture and environment
a02	B	Mining and quarrying	Natural resources extraction
a03	C	Manufacturing	Craftmanship and manufacturing
a04	D	Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	Energy production and distribution
a05	E	Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	Water cicle, waste treatment and ecological restoration
a06	F	Construction	Construction, public works and refurbishing
a07	G	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	Trade and distribution
a08	H	Transportation and storage	Transport, logistics and storage
a09	I	Accommodation and food service	Hospitality and food service activities

		activities	
a10	J	Information and communication	Information, communication and technologies
a11	K	Financial and insurance activities	Financial, insurance and related services
a12	L	Real estate activities	Habitat and housing
a13	M	Professional, scientific and technical activities	Professional, scientific and technical activities
a14	N	Administrative and support service activities	Administration and management, tourism, rentals
a15	O	Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	Public administration, social security
a16	P	Education	Education and training
a17	Q	Human health and social work activities	Health, social services, employment
a18	R	Arts, entertainment and recreation	Arts, culture, recreation, sports
a19	S	Other service activities	Membership activities, repairing, wellness
a20	T	Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services-producing activities of households for own use	Houshold activities, self-production, domestic work
a21	U	Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies	International diplomacy and cooperation

III.2. Macro-Themes

III.2.1. Premises

Though probably the most transversal and open to any website dealing with solidarity economy (and not specifically mapping portals we refer to for the interoperability project foundations), the thematic approach is also quite complex, as it presents many different interpretations depending on the framework and context it refers to. Themes are themselves tied to concepts, principles, and values, and as these change in different cultures, territories and movements, it is difficult to find a unifying or all-inclusive systematization that allows a comparative and coherent exchange of data, be it news, documents, practices, events or other contents.

Another risk and challenge is the inclination to have an "encyclopedic" coverage with themes that in reality are much more theoretical than actually being practiced, discussed or developed by any of the SSE groups and networks - leaving them conceptual empty containers. Therefore the suggested approach is to use what is generally defined as "practices" and thematic ideas or areas, while being conscious as well that there may be many cases of overlap and ambiguity with the "economic activity" or sectors classification.

III.2.2. Comparing the SSE portals

A website like **Solecopedia** (http://www.solecopedia.org), which uses Mediawiki and has user generated content (but an editing team that groups the content or orders it by keywords in alphabetical order), offers an incremental way to create and describe themes, but may differ substantially from language to language and has links between articles, but only very generic categories (ESS, Practices, Ecological economics, etc).

Out of the 8 portals which have participated to the mapping project, only the Brasilian **Cirandas** (www.cirandas.net), the Italian **Zoes** (www.zoes.it) and the Spanish **Economiasolidaria** (www.economiasolidaria.org) have organised thematic content (respectively in 21, 10 and 7 categories).

Vivir bien (http://vivirbien.mediavirus.org) is based on "views", which are thematic or sectorial, but there is no hierarchy so there can be "Natural Commons" and "Hitchhiking" at the same level. Yet there are some focuses, for instance on "food production, processing and consumption" (as specific editorial projects).

La BDIS (www.la-bdis.org), based in France, has no declared themes, although the "Socio-economic innovations" look much like "practices" found in other portals and there is the possibility of adding supplementary themes of reference in its thesaurus. Thus, they have referred to the Socioeco website (www.socioeco.org), which is also based in France and is described below.

Ecosolux (www.ecosolux.lu), in Luxembourg, does not have thematic tagging of its contents, nor does **Solidarius** (www.solidarius.com.br), while the Canadian portal **Economiesocialequebec** (www.economiesocialequebec.ca) mainly uses the Activity classification, with a few general categories for documents and articles such as "Responsible consumption" and "Social Economy". In this case, we have looked as well at the thematic axes of the FIESS (Forum International de l'Economie Social et Solidaire – www.fies2011.org) to complete the picture. Finally, the German website **Solidarische Betriebe Nord Hessen** (http://www.kmfn.de/rnf/) has "Areas of Practice" which resemble thematic content (as well as activities).

SOCIOECO (www.socioeco.org) is a "resource-site" for social and solidarity economy. Information on Social and Solidarity Economy is found scattered on many websites in different languages. In an effort to ensure consistency among concepts on SSE, the proponents of Socioeco.org have gathered as many documents as possible - case studies, analysis, interviews, accounts of experiences, good practices proposals - in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese from the five continents. The site offers easy access to all documents structured on 10 thematic axes. Its documents were chosen for their thematic content related to SSE at large, and their summaries are available in one of four languages (sometimes more).

The **RELIESS** (www.reliess.org) is an international reference and networking centre focused on public policies on Social and Solidarity Economy. It has information regarding public policies at the municipal, regional, national and international level that have had an impact on the social economy, and provides information on the creation process and the impact of specific public policy that has affected the SSE in a certain sector or target audience. The content is organized by policy type (target audience, sectoral, territorial, financial tool, generic development measure, institutional). The equivalent to "themes" are the tags: each article has tags, which are not hierarchical and therefore are more flexible, like in Vivir Bien.

III.2.3. Practical issues

As discussed in the March 2011 Paris meeting of the RIPESS interoperability mapping group, the application of the wiki methodology (the same themes, but different contents and concepts in different languages) "is an

opportunity to structure the themes. Another may be to create hierarchies of values in different countries and make the connection between them (eg. fair trade in Brazil is 'broader' or 'narrower' than fair trade in Italy)".

We may consider both solutions - which are not necessarily mutually exclusive - by means of an inductive comparison among the existing portals. But for the time being, this first proposal tries to agglutinate the most common thematic areas in a first level with a manageable number of categories, in order to allow the mapping scripts for each website to be done in a short time.

Another aspect to keep in mind is that often content may be multi-thematic or cross-thematic, and therefore be "tagged" in more than one category. This makes it more difficult to choose one (macro) theme; therefore the suggestion is to keep it related to more than one category if needed.

III.2.4.   Version 01 of the Macro-Themes for SSE

The following proposal is meant as a first level (macro) for a dynamic structuring of the thematic areas. Many "sub-categories" can be tested with contents from the cited portals as well as comparing to other SSE websites, international (such as Geofairtrade), national (Konsumoresponsable in Spain, Platforme d'echange solidaire in France), or local (such as Reesmarche in Italy and many, many others).

Some of the 19 categories could seem secondary, but they are of importance for practices which are extensively engaging the SSE movements. The suggested alternative naming (see "short" column) tries to be as "neutral" as possible, without adjectives in order not to create preferences in the different definitions – but of course this is not always possible nor advisable. Therefore, in the first version we could also provide a number of synonyms / alternatives or a thesaurus derived from the tags of the correlated categories coming from the different portals. This is especially important for the development of ESS-global, as a "hub" or "exchange port", but also for the translations of the terms in the different languages.

ID	Thematic area / Category	Short [no adjectives]
T01	Transition towns and housing rights	Housing and mobility
T02	Food sovereignty and small scale agriculture	Food and agricolture
T03	Social and solidarity finances	Finance
T04	Concepts and values related to Solidarity Economy	Economies
T05	Environment and commons	Environment, energy and commons

ID	Thematic area / Category	Short [no adjectives]
T06	Public policies	Public policies
T07	Free culture and knowledge	Culture and knowledge
T08	Popular education and training	Education and learning
T09	Solidarity and Responsible production, commerce and consumption	Production, trade and consumption
T10	Territorial development and "Bien Vivir"	Local development and "Bien vivir"
T11	International Cooperation	International Cooperation
T12	Social Justice and insertion and fight against poverty	Social justice and fight against poverty
T13	Decent work and Self-Management	Decent work and Self-Management
T14	Women	Women
T15	SSE movement organizing and networking (national and international)	Networking and social movements
T16	Research and technology	Research and technology
T17	Indigenous peoples and communities	Indigenous peoples and communities
T18	Alternative communication and information	Communication and information
T19	Other themes	Other themes

Table 8 – Thematic classification

III.3. Products and Services

III.3.1. Introduction

Why a global categorization of products and services for SSE?

There are some informational systems that have already been built and many others that are being planned with the aim of integrating and presenting solidarity enterprises and their products and services. Therefore, thinking about ways to allow for the intercommunication among these systems, without the imposition of a single global system, is a natural idea.

If we are more ambitious, and think about the possibilities of economic exchanges among different countries through the existing networks and with the support of information systems, there is a need to build up a common "language" and "grammar" understood and agreed by all of them, and built gradually from their own structures and particular solutions.

Of course, a simple solution of simply having a set of products and services, without any categories and only the translation of their nature in different languages is a possible approach. But this solution has one important limitation: if we want to build up international solidarity economy supply chains, where one solidarity enterprise can have its inputs bought from other solidarity enterprises, and offer their products or services to other solidarity enterprises that need them as inputs as well, there is a need to think about the relationships among products and services, and also to group them hierarchically in sets of varying levels. This is categorization: it means, for example, that a cookie is a kind of sweet, which is a kind of processed food.

"Free" vs "hierarchical" model

There are several ways to categorize products and services. This can happen through a single hierarchical tree or in a freer environment, where each product or service is simply tagged to a category, and each one of these tags can be a child of other tags, or categories. Both ways are equally useful, and have different pros and cons.

In the "freer" way to categorize, there is much more spontaneity: tags (and therefore products/services or categories) can be created all the time and can freely be assigned as children of others without much fuzz or "bureaucracy". We can observe this model very powerfully designed in the

Vivir Bien solution, which is a global platform for sharing solidarity economy resources.

On the other hand, this approach works better if there is a single global platform, so that the changes in the ways products and services are defined and tagged are naturally incorporated by the system.

The "tree" way to categorize is more bureaucratic and slow in its changes. It needs some kind of legitimate collective of representatives from different SSE networks and platforms that develop from time to time a new tree, to which is assigned a version number or name to differentiate it from its precedent version. Its advantage is that it can be universally used by different systems, assigning a global ID to each product and service and to its category. This allows for very different structures and solutions worldwide to "translate" their products and services structure and to dialogue with other systems, allowing the construction of common maps, cartographies, supply chains, catalogs or even international "barcodes".

It's important to note that categorizing through free tags can be a very good way to utilise the users' collective intelligence, and therefore it can be a first step for studying its usage and then deciding upon a more structured hierarchical categorization in a second step.

During the meeting in Paris in March 2011, the participants didn't discuss these different approaches deeply, but decided to create a first simple tree of broad categories that would be compatible and dialogue with some existing classifications. The categorization chosen was the UNSPSC, which is recognized by the UN.

III.3.2. Existing products and services taxonomies in SSE

The majority of existing SSE information systems don't have a specific categorization of products and services. These systems use economic sectors of activity as a way to filter SSE enterprises and their products and services. The only exceptions right now are the Cirandas (from FBES – Brazil) and Vivir Bien (Austria) portals.

The Cirandas categorization was built up from the more than 7000 different products and services mapped during a participative census done by the government in partnership with the Brazilian Forum of Solidarity Economy (FBES) from 2005 to 2007. This was therefore the rough basis from which members of FBES have done their work of organizing categories and subcategories.

The tree has a first version, concluded in the beginning of 2011, and will evolve from time to time through the study of the usage of the actual version and the needs coming from the SSE enterprises for new categories, more specific or deeper categories, or different logics of categorization.

In this first version of the tree there are two categories in level zero: products and services. From then on, there are 23 products categories and 22 services categories that go deeper and deeper, in some cases up to seven levels. Many products and services are still uncategorized or are mis-categorized after the third level. In other words, we can say that this first version of the tree of Cirandas is better organized up to the third level, which has more than 500 categories.

Vivir Bien has adopted a much freer approach: users, when including their offers, can use existing category tags or propose new tags on the spot. To be a user, one must be invited by some already accepted user to take part in the system, like Orkut or Solidarius.

Nowadays, Vivir Bien has some used tags for categorizing products and services. For each product, besides having a tag describing a category, there is a "is part of" tag which allows for hierarchical grouping of the category. Since Vivir Bien is an international platform, these tags will become a rich source of collective intelligence and therefore a good basis from which perfecting the "suggested" tags that can be viewed as a tree of categories. On the other hand, the developers of Vivir Bien have interest in integrating their set of products and services categories into an international taxonomy, when this taxonomy become mature and interesting for their platform.

III.3.3. Some existing taxonomies of products and services outside SSE

Since there is a very active international trading system developed for conventional enterprises, there are international standards for categorizing products and services with an international ID. Here we describe some of these existing standards:

UNSPSC - United Nations Standard Products and Services Code

Website: https://www.unspsc.org/

This classification is described as follows in their website: "The United Nations Standard Products and Services Code® (UNSPSC®) provides an open, global multi-sector standard for efficient, accurate classification of products and services. The UNSPSC offers a single global classification system that can be used for: Company-wide visibility of spend analysis; Cost-effective procurement optimization; Full exploitation of electronic commerce capabilities".

The United Nations assigned an organization called GS1 US as manager of this standard. Any company, individual or organization may become member of UNSPSC (although the payment of a fee is needed) and

members may suggest new categories and products/services in the tree for new versions.

The UNSPSC has 4 levels: Segment, Family, Class and the fundamental building block, called Commodity. The classification is translated in several languages, although the number of languages covered depend on the version: newer versions have fewer languages, since it takes time to have complete translations for all supported languages. As an example, the latest versions (13 and 14) are available only in English, while version 6 can be found in English, Japanese, French, Spanish, Portuguese, German, Korean, Chinese, Italian, Danish, among other languages.

In its latest version, the UNSPSC has more than 50 thousand products in the fourth level. The first level (Segment) has 37 product categories and 20 services categories and the second level (Family) has 477 products and services.

GPC - Global Product Classification system

Website: http://www.gs1.org/gdsn/gpc

This classification is owned and managed by GS1 and is the basis for some important international barcode systems, like EAN-13 and GTIN-14. They define it as "a system that gives buyers and sellers a common language for grouping products in the same way, everywhere in the world."

The GS1 group uses this categorization for the so called GDSN - Global Data Synchronization Network, a system that provides these codes for the companies and web e-commerce systems in real time.

This classification system has four levels: Segment, Family, Class and Brick. The deepest level, called "Brick", has several related properties, where it's possible to say, for example, that a given product is perishable or organic. As GS1 states, "The foundation of GPC is called a "Brick;" GPC bricks define categories of similar products. Using the GPC brick as part of GDSN ensures the correct recognition of the product category across the extended supply chain, from seller to buyer. Bricks can be further characterized by Brick Attributes."

There is an effort to align UNSPSC and GPC categories. "Under the leadership of the user community, GS1 launched an initiative to align GPC with another classification system managed by GS1, the United Nations Standard Products and Services Code (UNSPSC)."

eCl@ss - Classification and Product description

Website: http://www.eclass.de

eClass is an international association of enterprises, like GS1, that maintains a standard with the same name.

According to its website, eClass holds "an established position in industry, commerce, crafts, food, services and much more. With its 38,000 product classes and 16,000 properties, eCl@ss covers the majority of traded goods and services. Many industry standards (e.g. from the electronic industry, medical technology, construction engineering, paper industry / office technology) are looking for interoperability to realize the potentials of a cross-industry standard."

We can say that eClass is a direct concurrent of UNSPSC and GPC standards.

Product Ontology

Website: http://www.productontology.org/

The Product Ontology is not exactly a classification of products and services. Rather, it's a huge glossary of products and services, similar to the approach of Bien Vivir, where each term has its translations to several languages, a description taken directly from Wikipedia, and a set of suggestions of properties from GoodRelations Ontology assigned to them.

One of the properties normally present in these products is the "gr:Category" which allows for classification under some other product or service. But there is no global hierarchical proposed taxonomy.

CPC – Central Product Classification

Website: http://unstats.un.org/unsd/cr/registry/regcst.asp?Cl=25&Lg=1

This is another classification developed by the United Nations for products and services. This system was practically abandoned after the UN decided to assign GS1 to develop the UNSPSC standard. It's cited here because it was developed directly by the UN, and not by any other organization assigned by the UN, and also because it's a very comprehensive classification, with 10 main categories that come to 40 products categories and 31 services categories.

The problem with this classification is that it's mainly intended to be used for statistical purposes, and not for commercial exchange. This means that the enumerated products and services are not as detailed as they should be for a meaningful usage of the standards.

III.3.4. Version 01 of the products and services taxonomy for SSE

After analyzing the different standards and coming to two proposals (a modified version of the Cirandas categorization or the UNSPSC standard up to the "family" level), the SSE Standards Working Group decided to adopt

the UNSPSC categorization as the controlled vocabulary for SSE. The reasons for this decision are the following:

1. UNSPSC is well established internationally, allowing for future comparisons of SSE trade processes and capitalist trading;

2. It is frequently updated with new versions;

3. It covers all the existent categories in Cirandas, so it can be considered a satisfying classification;

4. It's open to contributions from their associates. After some consulting, there were possibilities for the Working Group to join for free. This must still be confirmed.

In addition to these positive points, there are some observations that were considered less important, but should be stated here:

1. The way the main categories (Segments) are organized and named is very non-intuitive if we think about practical uses like filtering of products or services in a global map. The UNSPSC standard is more complete than Cirandas, but the Cirandas organization of the first level is more practical and intuitive;

2. If we go deeper to the third and fourth levels, the industrial products and conventional services are much more detailed than artisanat, alternative and cultural or community based products and services;

3. It's not an open-source set of informations. It will then be restricted to the SSE systems that adhere to the SSE standards.

The decision to use UNSPSC in its first two levels, despite its being less intuitive for final users, was not a major issue. Each system can use its own organizational categories and have a map from their internal categories to the international standards. This was successfully achieved by Cirandas, for example.

Although the SSE standards Working Group decided in March 2011 that we should use only the first level, it was proved that this would not be enough for Social and Solidarity Economy, since many important categories for SSE are only to be found in the second level of UNSPSC (Family).

We present here the UNSPSC standard up to its second level. The version is from the beginning of 2012 (version 13). The SSE products and services standards in its first version will be aligned to this UNSPSC version. Whenever changes in UNSPSC are important for SSE, the SSE standards Working Group will release new versions.

Nothing guarantees that, in the future, SSE can build up its own classification independently from UNSPSC. For the time being and with the existing SSE information systems, the UNSPSC is quite satisfactory.

The UNSPSC has 37 main products categories and 21 services categories, which become 477 categories in the second level, as follows:

Products

UNSPSC – Products *37 categories in main level (in bold letters)*	
UNSPSC ID	**Name**
10000000	**Live Plant and Animal Material and Accessories and Supplies**
10100000	Live animals
10110000	Domestic pet products
10120000	Animal feed
10130000	Animal containment and habitats
10140000	Saddlery and harness goods
10150000	Seeds and bulbs and seedlings and cuttings
10160000	Floriculture and silviculture products
10170000	Fertilizers and plant nutrients and herbicides
10190000	Pest control products
10200000	Live rose bushes
10210000	Live plants of high species or variety count flowers
10220000	Live plants of low species or variety count flowers
10230000	Live chrysanthemums
10240000	Live carnations
10250000	Live orchids
10300000	Fresh cut rose
10310000	Fresh cut blooms of high species or variety count flowers
10320000	Fresh cut blooms of low species or variety count flowers
10330000	Fresh cut chrysanthemums
10340000	Fresh cut floral bouquets
10350000	Fresh cut carnations
10360000	Fresh cut orchids
10400000	Dried cut roses
10410000	Dried cut blooms of high species or variety count flowers
10420000	Dried cut blooms of low species or variety count flowers
10430000	Dried cut chrysanthemums
10440000	Dried cut carnations
10450000	Dried cut orchids
10500000	Fresh cut greenery
11000000	**Mineral and Textile and Inedible Plant and Animal Materials**
11100000	Minerals and ores and metals
11110000	Earth and stone
11120000	Non edible plant and forestry products
11130000	Non edible animal products
11140000	Scrap and waste materials
11150000	Fibers and threads and yarns
11160000	Fabrics and leather materials
11170000	Alloys
11180000	Metal oxide
11190000	Metal waste and scrap
12000000	**Materials**
12130000	Chemicals including Bio Chemicals and Gas Explosive materials
12140000	Elements and gases
12160000	Additives
12170000	Colorants

UNSPSC – Products *37 categories in main level (in bold letters)*	
UNSPSC ID	**Name**
12180000	Waxes and oils
12190000	Solvents
12350000	Compounds and mixtures
13000000	**Resin and Rosin and Rubber and Foam and Film and Elastomeric Materials**
13100000	Rubber and elastomers
13110000	Resins and rosins and other resin derived materials
14000000	**Paper Materials and Products**
14100000	Paper materials
14110000	Paper products
14120000	Industrial use papers
15000000	**Fuels and Fuel Additives and Lubricants and Anti corrosive Materials**
15100000	Fuels
15110000	Gaseous fuels and additives
15120000	Lubricants and oils and greases and anti corrosives
15130000	Fuel for nuclear reactors
20000000	**Mining and quarrying machinery and Accessories**
20100000	Mining and quarrying machinery and equipment
20110000	Well drilling and operation equipment
20120000	Oil and gas drilling and exploration equipment
20130000	Oil and gas drilling and operation materials
20140000	Oil and gas operating and production equipment
21000000	**Farming and Fishing and Forestry and Wildlife Machinery and Accessories**
21100000	Agricultural and forestry and landscape machinery and equipment
21110000	Fishing and aquaculture equipment
22000000	**Building and Construction Machinery and Accessories**
22100000	Heavy construction machinery and equipment
23000000	**Industrial Manufacturing and Processing Machinery and Accessories**
23100000	Raw materials processing machinery
23110000	Petroleum processing machinery
23120000	Textile and fabric machinery and accessories
23130000	Lapidary machinery and equipment
23140000	Leather-working repairing machinery and equipment
23150000	Industrial process machinery and equipment and supplies
23160000	Foundry machines and equipment and supplies
23180000	Industrial food and beverage equipment
23190000	Mixers and their parts and accessories
23200000	Mass transfer equipment
23210000	Electronic manufacturing machinery and equipment and accessories
23220000	Chicken processing machinery and equipment
23230000	Saw-milling and lumber processing machinery and equipment
23240000	Metal cutting machinery and accessories
23250000	Metal forming machinery and accessories
23260000	Rapid prototyping machinery and accessories
23270000	Welding and soldering and brazing machinery and accessories and supplies
23280000	Metal treatment machinery
23290000	Industrial machine tools
23300000	Wire machinery and equipment
24000000	**Material Handling and Conditioning and Storage Machinery and their Accessories and Supplies**
24100000	Material handling machinery and equipment
24110000	Containers and storage
24120000	Packaging materials

UNSPSC – Products 37 categories in main level (in bold letters)	
UNSPSC ID	**Name**
24130000	Industrial refrigeration
24140000	Packing supplies
25000000	**Commercial and Private Vehicles and their Accessories and Components**
25100000	Motor vehicles
25110000	Marine transport
25120000	Railway and tramway machinery and equipment
25130000	Aircraft
25150000	Spacecraft
25160000	Non motorized cycles
25170000	Transportation components and systems
25180000	Vehicle bodies and trailers
25190000	Transportation services equipment
25200000	Aerospace systems and components and equipment
26000000	**Power Generation and Distribution Machinery and Accessories**
26100000	Power sources
26110000	Batteries and generators and kinetic power transmission
26120000	Electrical wire and cable and harness
26130000	Power generation
26140000	Atomic and nuclear energy machinery and equipment
27000000	**Tools and General Machinery**
27110000	Hand tools
27120000	Hydraulic machinery and equipment
27130000	Family Family Title Pneumatic machinery and equipment
27140000	Automotive specialty tools
30000000	**Structures and Building and Construction and Manufacturing Components and Supplies**
30100000	Structural components and basic shapes
30110000	Concrete and cement and plaster
30120000	Roads and landscape
30130000	Structural building products
30140000	Insulation
30150000	Exterior finishing materials
30160000	Interior finishing materials
30170000	Doors and windows and glass
30180000	Plumbing fixtures
30190000	Construction and maintenance support equipment
30240000	Portable Structure Building Components
30250000	Underground mining structures and materials
30260000	Structural materials
31000000	**Manufacturing Components and Supplies**
31100000	Castings and casting assemblies
31110000	Extrusions
31120000	Machined castings
31130000	Forgings
31140000	Moldings
31150000	Rope and chain and cable and wire and strap
31160000	Hardware
31170000	Bearings and bushings and wheels and gears
31180000	Packings glands boots and covers
31190000	Grinding and polishing and smoothing materials
31200000	Adhesives and sealants
31210000	Family Family Title Paints and primers and finishes
31220000	Dyeing and tanning extracts
31230000	Machined raw stock
31240000	Industrial optics
31250000	Pneumatic and hydraulic and electric control systems

UNSPSC – Products *37 categories in main level (in bold letters)*	
UNSPSC ID	**Name**
31260000	Housings and cabinets and casings
31270000	Machine made parts
31280000	Stampings and sheet components
31290000	Machined extrusions
31300000	Machined forgings
31310000	Fabricated pipe assemblies
31320000	Fabricated bar stock assemblies
31330000	Fabricated structural assemblies
31340000	Fabricated sheet assemblies
31350000	Fabricated tube assemblies
31360000	Fabricated plate assemblies
31370000	Refractories
31380000	Magnets and magnetic materials
31390000	Machinings
31400000	Gaskets
31410000	Seals
31420000	Sintered parts
32000000	**Electronic Components and Supplies**
32100000	Circuit assemblies and radio micro-assemblies
32110000	Discrete semiconductor devices
32120000	Passive discrete components
32130000	Electronic component parts and and accessories
32140000	Electron tube devices and accessories
32150000	Automation control devices and components and accessories
39000000	**Electrical Systems and Lighting and Components and Accessories and Supplies**
39100000	Lamps and lightbulbs and lamp components
39110000	Lighting Fixtures and Accessories
39120000	Electrical equipment and components and supplies
39130000	Electrical wire management devices and accessories and supplies
40000000	**Distribution and Conditioning Systems and Equipment and Components**
40100000	Heating and ventilation and air circulation
40140000	Fluid and gas distribution
40150000	Industrial pumps and compressors
40160000	Industrial filtering and purification
40170000	Pipe piping and pipe fittings
40180000	Tubes tubing and tube fittings
41000000	**Laboratory and Measuring and Observing and Testing Equipment**
41100000	Laboratory and scientific equipment
41110000	Measuring and observing and testing instruments
41120000	Laboratory supplies and fixtures
42000000	**Medical Equipment and Accessories and Supplies**
42120000	Veterinary equipment and supplies
42130000	Medical apparel and textiles
42140000	Patient care and treatment products and supplies
42150000	Dental equipment and supplies
42160000	Dialysis equipment and supplies
42170000	Emergency and field medical services products
42180000	Patient exam and monitoring products
42190000	Medical facility products
42200000	Medical diagnostic imaging and nuclear medicine products
42210000	Independent living aids for the physically challenged
42220000	Intravenous and arterial administration products
42230000	Clinical nutrition
42240000	Orthopedic and prosthetic and sports medicine products

UNSPSC – Products 37 categories in main level (in bold letters)	
UNSPSC ID	**Name**
42250000	Physical and occupational therapy and rehabilitation products
42260000	Postmortem and mortuary equipment and supplies
42270000	Respiratory and anesthesia and resuscitation products
42280000	Medical sterilization products
42290000	Surgical products
42300000	Medical training and education supplies
42310000	Wound care products
42320000	Orthopedic surgical implants
43000000	**Information Technology Broadcasting and Telecommunications**
43190000	Communications Devices and Accessories
43200000	Components for information technology or broadcasting or telecommunications
43210000	Computer Equipment and Accessories
43220000	Data Voice or Multimedia Network Equipment or Platforms and Accessories
43230000	Software
44000000	**Office Equipment and Accessories and Supplies**
44100000	Office machines and their supplies and accessories
44110000	Office and desk accessories
44120000	Office supplies
45000000	**Printing and Photographic and Audio and Visual Equipment and Supplies**
45100000	Printing and publishing equipment
45110000	Audio and visual presentation and composing equipment
45120000	Photographic or filming or video equipment
45130000	Photographic and recording media
45140000	Photographic filmmaking supplies
46000000	**Defense, Security and Safety Equipment and Supplies**
46160000	Public safety and control
46170000	Security surveillance and detection
46180000	Personal safety and protection
46190000	Fire protection
46200000	Security and safety training equipment
47000000	**Cleaning Equipment and Supplies**
47100000	Water and wastewater treatment supply and disposal
47110000	Industrial laundry and dry cleaning equipment
47120000	Janitorial equipment
47130000	Cleaning and janitorial supplies
48000000	**Service Industry Machinery and Equipment and Supplies**
48100000	Institutional food services equipment
48110000	Vending machines
48120000	Gambling or wagering equipment
48130000	Funeral equipment and materials
49000000	**Sports and Recreational Equipment and Supplies and Accessories**
49100000	Collectibles and awards
49120000	Camping and outdoor equipment and accessories
49130000	Fishing and hunting equipment
49140000	Watersports equipment
49150000	Winter sports equipment
49160000	Field and court sports equipment
49170000	Gymnastics and boxing equipment
49180000	Target and table games and equipment
49200000	Fitness equipment
49210000	Other sports
49220000	Sports equipment and accessories
49240000	Recreation and playground and swimming and spa equipment and supplies
50000000	**Food, Beverage and Tobacco Products**
50100000	Nuts and seeds

UNSPSC – Products 37 categories in main level (in bold letters)	
UNSPSC ID	**Name**
50110000	Meat and poultry products
50120000	Seafood
50130000	Family Family Title Dairy products and eggs
50150000	Edible oils and fats
50160000	Chocolate and sugars and confectionary products
50170000	Seasonings and preservatives
50180000	Bread and bakery products
50190000	Prepared and preserved foods
50200000	Beverages
50210000	Tobacco and smoking products and substitutes
50220000	Cereal and pulse products
50300000	Fresh fruits
50310000	Organic fresh fruits
50320000	Dried fruit
50330000	Dried organic fruit
50340000	Frozen fruit
50350000	Frozen organic fruit
50360000	Canned or jarred fruit
50370000	Canned or jarred organic fruit
50380000	Pureed fruit
50400000	Fresh vegetables
50410000	Organic fresh vegetables
50420000	Dried vegetables
50430000	Dried organic vegetables
50440000	Frozen vegetables
50450000	Frozen organic vegetables
50460000	Canned or jarred vegetables
50470000	Canned or jarred organic vegetables
51000000	**Drugs and Pharmaceutical Products**
51100000	Anti infective drugs
51110000	Antineoplastic agents
51120000	Cardiovascular drugs
51130000	Hematolic drugs
51140000	Central nervous system drugs
51150000	Autonomic nervous system drugs
51160000	Drugs affecting the respiratory tract
51170000	Drugs affecting the gastrointestinal system
51180000	Hormones and hormone antagonists
51190000	Agents affecting water and electrolytes
51200000	Immunomodulating drugs
51210000	Miscellaneous drug categories
51240000	Drugs affecting the ears, eye, nose and skin
51250000	Veterinary nutritional supplement
52000000	**Domestic Appliances and Supplies and Consumer Electronic Products**
52100000	Floor coverings
52120000	Bedclothes and table and kitchen linen and towels
52130000	Window treatments
52140000	Electronic Products Domestic appliances
52150000	Domestic Appliances and Supplies and Consumer Domestic kitchenware and kitchen supplies
52160000	Consumer electronics
52170000	Domestic Appliances and Supplies and Consumer Domestic wall treatments
53000000	**Apparel and Luggage and Personal Care Products**
53100000	Clothing
53110000	Footwear
53120000	Luggage and handbags and packs and cases
53130000	Personal care products

UNSPSC – Products _37 categories in main level (in bold letters)_	
UNSPSC ID	**Name**
53140000	Sewing supplies and accessories
54000000	**Timepieces and Jewelry and Gemstone Products**
54100000	Jewelry
54110000	Timepieces
54120000	Gemstones
55000000	**Published Products**
55100000	Printed media
55110000	Electronic reference material
55120000	Signage and accessories
56000000	**Furniture and Furnishings**
56100000	Accommodation furniture
56110000	Commercial and industrial furniture
56120000	Classroom and instructional and institutional furniture and fixtures
56130000	Merchandising furniture and accessories
56140000	Home furnishing adornments
60000000	**Arts and Crafts and Educational Equipment and Materials and Accessories and Supplies**
60100000	Developmental and professional teaching aids and materials and accessories and supplies
60110000	Classroom decorations and supplies
60120000	Arts and crafts equipment and accessories and supplies
60130000	Musical Instruments and parts and accessories
60140000	Toys and games

Services

UNSPSC – Services _21 categories in main level (in bold letters)_	
UNSPSC ID	**Name**
70000000	**Farming and Fishing and Forestry and Wildlife Contracting Services**
70100000	Fisheries and aquaculture
70110000	Horticulture
70120000	Livestock services
70130000	Land and soil preparation and management and protection
70140000	Crop production and management and protection
70150000	Forestry
70160000	Wildlife and flora
70170000	Water resources development and oversight
71000000	**Mining and oil and gas services**
71100000	Mining services
71110000	Oil and gas exploration services
71120000	Well drilling and construction services
71130000	Oil and gas extraction and production enhancement services
71140000	Oil and gas restoration and reclamation services
71150000	Oil and gas data management and processing services
71160000	Oil and gas well project management services
72000000	**Building and Facility Construction and Maintenance Services**
72100000	Building and facility maintenance and repair services
72110000	Residential building construction services
72120000	Nonresidential building construction services
72140000	Heavy construction services
72150000	Specialized trade construction and maintenance services
73000000	**Industrial Production and Manufacturing Services**

UNSPSC – Services *21 categories in main level (in bold letters)*	
UNSPSC ID	**Name**
73100000	Plastic and chemical industries
73110000	Wood and paper industries
73120000	Metal and mineral industries
73130000	Food and beverage industries
73140000	Fibers and textiles and fabric industries
73150000	Manufacturing support services
73160000	manufacture
73170000	precision instruments
73180000	Machining and processing services
76000000	**Industrial Cleaning Services**
76100000	Decontamination services
76110000	Cleaning and janitorial services
76120000	Refuse disposal and treatment
76130000	Toxic and hazardous waste cleanup
77000000	**Environmental Services**
77100000	Environmental management
77110000	Environmental protection
77120000	Pollution tracking and monitoring and rehabilitation
77130000	Pollutants tracking and monitoring and rehabilitation services
78000000	**Transportation and Storage and Mail Services**
78100000	Mail and cargo transport
78110000	Passenger transport
78120000	Material packing and handling
78130000	Storage
78140000	Transport services
78180000	Transportation repair or maintenance services
80000000	**Management and Business Professionals and Administrative Services**
80100000	Management advisory services
80110000	Human resources services
80120000	Legal services
80130000	Real estate services
80140000	Marketing and distribution
80150000	Trade policy and services
80160000	Business administration services
81000000	**Engineering and Research and Technology Based Services**
81100000	Professional engineering services
81110000	Computer services
81120000	Economics
81130000	Statistics
81140000	Manufacturing technologies
81150000	Earth science services
81160000	Information Technology Service Delivery
82000000	**Editorial and Design and Graphic and Fine Art Services**
82100000	Advertising
82110000	Writing and translations
82120000	Reproduction services
82130000	Photographic services
82140000	Graphic design
82150000	Professional artists and performers
83000000	**Public Utilities and Public Sector Related Services**
83100000	Utilities
83110000	Telecommunications media services
83120000	Information services
84000000	**Financial and Insurance Services**
84100000	Development finance
84110000	Accounting and bookkeeping services

UNSPSC – Services	
21 categories in main level (in bold letters)	
UNSPSC ID	**Name**
84120000	Banking and investment
84130000	Insurance and retirement services
84140000	Credit agencies
85000000	**Healthcare Services**
85100000	Comprehensive health services
85110000	Disease prevention and control
85120000	Medical practice
85130000	Medical science research and experimentation
85140000	Alternative and holistic medicine
85150000	Food and nutrition services
85160000	Medical Surgical Equipment Maintenance Refurbishment and Repair Services
85170000	Death and dying support services
86000000	**Education and Training Services**
86100000	Vocational training
86110000	Alternative educational systems
86120000	Educational institutions
86130000	Specialized educational services
86140000	Educational facilities
90000000	**Travel and Food and Lodging and Entertainment Services**
90100000	Restaurants and catering
90110000	Hotels and lodging and meeting facilities
90120000	Travel facilitation
90130000	Performing arts
90140000	Commercial sports
90150000	Entertainment services
91000000	**Personal and Domestic Services**
91100000	Personal appearance
91110000	Domestic and personal assistance
92000000	**Security and Safety Services**
92120000	Security and personal safety
93000000	**Politics and Civic Affairs Services**
93100000	Political systems and institutions
93110000	Socio political conditions
93120000	International relations
93130000	Humanitarian aid and relief
93140000	Community and social services
93150000	Public administration and finance services
93160000	Taxation
93170000	Trade policy and regulation
94000000	**Organizations and Clubs**
94100000	Work related organizations
94110000	Religious organizations
94120000	Clubs
94130000	Civic organizations and associations and movements
95000000	**Land and Buildings and Structures and Thoroughfares**
95100000	Land parcels
95110000	Thoroughfares
95120000	Permanent buildings and structures
95130000	Portable buildings and structures
95140000	Prefabricated buildings and structures

III.4. Qualifiers

III.4.1. Introduction

What are Qualifiers?

There are some qualities in the products and services offered by SSE enterprises and also in their activities organization that are important information for consumers and other actors in the SSE movement.

The qualifiers are properties that denote these special qualities in the way the SSE initiatives were organized, or the actors involved, or the production process, independent of specific products or services.

Below are two examples, one for a product, and one for a service:

- Let's say an SSE initiative produces shoes. These shoes might not use animal materials (q01), or they might be done by women (q05), or they can be artisanal (q08). And it might have more than one of these qualities.

- Imagine an SSE initiative that offers cleaning services. These services might be Environmentally Sustainable (q01) and/or promote Social Inclusion (q03).

Why developing a Qualifiers taxonomy?

This kind of information could be in the description of the product, service or activity sector of an SSE initiative. But consumers, researchers or general users might be interested in finding SSE initiatives and their products and servers based on the quality more than the product or service itself.

As an example, there might be consumers looking for products from Original or Indigenous People, independent of the nature of the product: the products they're seeking could be anything from cloth to food to a wooden toy. The qualifiers become then an important filter for searches of mapping.

III.4.2. Version 01 of the Qualifiers taxonomy for SSE

The Brazilian information system Cirandas was the only system to have qualifiers, and inspired the SSE standards Working Group to create an international and more general classification.

Cirandas has 25 qualifiers, and its classification served as a basis for discussions among the Working Group. The Group concluded that it would be better, in a first version, to have a broader and more general classification that in the future might have subclasses.

This first version has thus only 8 general qualifiers:

- Ecologically or Environmentally Sustainable *(q01)*
- Democratic and decent working conditions *(q02)*
- Socially fair *(q03)*
- Economically democratic and sovereign *(q04)*
- Gender Equity *(q05)*
- From original / indigenous people or traditional communities *(q06)*
- Commons and free knowledge/free culture *(q07)*
- Handicraft *(q08)*

We present below a table that gives a definition followed by some examples for each one of the qualifiers:

id	Qualifiers (eng)	Definition (eng)	
q01	**Ecologic or Environmentally Sustainable**	**Products and Services which are developed in a process that is focused on environmental sustainability, like the usage of renewable energy, recycling, ecologic packing, reused inputs, etc.** **See some illustrative examples below:**	
		Agroecological	*Agriculture Products or Services that ally social justice (no workers exploration) and organic farming.*
		Agroextrativism	*Extractivism of natural fruits, seeds and other plants that's done in a traditional manner without harming the biodiversity and natural environment*
		Animal Welfare	*Products and Services which are developed in a process that doesn't do any harm to animals, like animal testing or the usage of animal material as inputs.*
		Made from Recycled or Recovered Material	*Products and Services that use inputs that are recovered or recycled, totally or partially.*
		Natural Cosmetics and Herbal Medicines	*Medicinal or Cosmetic Products and Services that use only natural essences, without human made chemical compounds.*
		Organic	*Agricultural Products produced organically, without the use of agrotoxics and other chemical based seeds, fertilizer or other inputs. It might also be Products and Services that use only organic agricultural products as inputs.*
q02	**Democratic and decent working conditions**	**Work relations, structure and conditions which are democratic and decent.** **See some illustrative examples below:**	
		Self-management	*SSE enterprise owned by the workers. Decisions about the initiative and the work are done by the same people.*
q03	**Socially fair**	**Products and Services developed by people normally marginalized from society and the work market.** **See some illustrative examples below:**	
		Old people	
		Youth	
		Ex-prisoners	
		Immigrants	
		Handicapped	
		Social insertion initiatives	*Unemployed people work for an established timespan in an insertion enterprise to be better qualified for the market.*
q04	**Economically democratic and sovereign**	**Products and Services which are economically democratic and fair, bringing autonomy to local SSE enterprises and fair relations along chains, and contributing to a sovereign, territorial and solidarity development.** **See some illustrative examples below:**	
		AMARP, SELS, Barter clubs, etc	
		Fair trade	*Products and Services which are offered in a trading chain that respects several criteria and code of conducts from production to the consumption, like direct relationship among consumers and producers, international fair trade, open/transparent price composition, trading process owned by the producers, etc.*
		Local or From Community	*Products and Services issued and traded locally.*

id	Qualifiers (eng)	Definition (eng)	
q05	**Gender Equity**	**Products and Services developed in ways that empower women, as in women-owned SSE initiatives or initiatives that have an internal charter granting gender equity in all steps of the economic activity.**	
q06	**From original / indigenous people or traditional communities**	**SSE initiatives from local and traditional communities, indigenous people, "campesinat". Some examples below:**	
		From Original or Indigenous People	*Products and Services developed by original or indigenous people.*
		Peasant or Family Agriculture	*Products and Services developed by small farmers, normally organized in the community, and normally families, that might be using traditional ways to do farming.*
q07	**Commons and free knowledge/free culture**	**The outcomes of the work have licenses which allow for reproduction and sharing of knowledge and culture. Some examples below:**	
		Free Culture	*Artistic and Cultural Products which have licenses like the Creative Commons and similar initiatives, where it can be copied and in some times transformed under some conditions (eg., citing the original author, prohibition of commercial trading, etc.)*
		Free Knowledge or Software	*Products, like software and machinery, that are licensed in a way that allows the public to know the source code (the way it has been produced) and to produce derivatives, under some conditions like citing the original author and having to also use the same license,as in GPL.*
q08	**Handicraft**	**Non-industrial Products and Services made in a traditional and artisanal way.**	

III.5. Technical specifications for exporting data on solidarity enterprises

III.5.1. General orientations

This section provides the technical specifications for receiving requests from the global map and for the format of the results to be given.

There is a demonstration world map in www.esglobal.info where a user can use some filters to look for solidarity economy enterprises. When the user chooses his/her filters, each system will receive the request and share data for the map rendering. And when a user clicks on a point in the map, the map will request more information about the SSE enterprise from the system to which this point belongs. This would then be displayed in the window tab.

This means that each information system should have a script that receives the request, processes the search in its database, and provides the result for the global map.

Every system that adheres to the ESSglobal standards and is recognized by RIPESS as an SSE information system must share the URL of its own script and also provide a unique keyword for the system. For example, the CIRANDAS keyword is 'cirandas', the ZOES keyword is 'zoes', the BDIS keyword is 'bdis', etc. Each one of them provided also he link to their own script. In Cirandas' case, the link is the following:

```
http://www.fbes.org.br/essglobal/gera_xml_sies.php
```

This is the url that the demonstration page will use to request and receive data from Cirandas.

III.5.2. Request attributes

The requested data is a set of points with the localization, name and ID of the SSE enterprises. The ID is the local ID for the local system. It's not a global ID.

In the table below we propose some attributes for requesting data from the local system.

Name	Description	Possible values
type	It states if the system should provide the list of SSE enterprises ("points") or the extra info of a single SSE enterprise for the window ("point_info"). *This is for both types ("points" and "point_info")*	points, point_info
id	It gives the ID of the SSE enterprise for which the system should give extra info. *This is only for the type "point_info"*	
lang	The language for the results. *This is for both types ("points" and "point_info")*	
search	It's the text string that should be searched in the system's database. It's up to each system to decide which fields will be searched. For example, the local system might search in the name and address fields of the SSE enterprises, in their products and services offered, or in their economic sector... This is only for the type "points".	
product_service	The global ID for filtering products and services. This is only for the type "points".	Ids of the SSE products and services taxonomy, separated by the character **|**
activity	The global ID for filtering the SSE enterprises by specific economy sectors. This is only for the type "points".	Ids of the SSE economy sectors taxonomy, separated by the character **|**
qualifier	The global ID for filtering the SSE initiatives by qualifier(s). This is only for the type "points".	Ids of the SSE qualifiers taxonomy, separated by the character **|**
countries	A list of countries to filter the results. This is mostly useful for systems that are international, like Zoes, Solidarius and Vivir Bien. This is only for the type "points".	List of country IDs, separated by the character **|**

As an example, let's say that a user looks for the word "coop" and chooses the activity sector "Agriculture and environment" (id=a01), and wanted only points in France (id=FR) and Spain (id=ES). Each of the systems will then receive a request like that:

{system_script_URL}?
type=points&search=coop&activity=a01&countries=FR|ES

In the Cirandas, this would look like:

```
http://www.fbes.org.br/essglobal/gera_xml_sies.php?
type=points&search=coop&activity=a01&countries=FR|ES
```

In order for local systems to accept filtering of products/services and of economy sectors (activity), they'll need to ensure their local classification of products/services and activity sectors can be translated into the ESSglobal taxonomies.

When the user clicks in a point in the map, the map will request the source system for detailed information about that point. This is made using the type "point_info" and the ID of the SSE initiative in the source system. In Economie Sociale Quebec, this would be:

```
http://economiesocialequebec.ca/essglobal.php?
lang=FR&type=point_info&id=5365
```

This request returns detailed data of the SSE initiative that has local ID **5365**.

III.5.3. Results attributes

The script must then look at the system's database and export the requested data. We're using a simple XML structure for this data. The objective is eventually to build an ontology for Social and Solidarity Economy, using the standards developed by the SSE Working Group and other commonly used standards and having it formatted in RDF.

There are two types of results, one for the list of SSE enterprises (type="points"), and other for a specific SSE enterprise (type="point_info").

Format for the list of points

Here is an example of how a list of points from a system would look like:

```
           example of the list of points returned by BDIS
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<essglobal>
     <config source="bdis" lang="fr" />
     <markers>
          <pt    id="2"    lat="43.288878"    lng="5.386085"
tit="Agence   Provençale   pour   l'économie   alternative   et
solidaire (APEAS)" country="FR"/>
          <pt    id="3"    lat="43.288772"    lng="5.383305"
tit="Education,  Promotion  Information  pour  un  Commerce
Equitable (EPICE)" country="FR"/>
          <pt    id="4"    lat="43.295316"    lng="5.381075"
tit="RECYCLODROME" country="FR"/>
     </markers>
</essglobal>
```

There are two sections: <config> and <markers>.

The <config> section states some basic information, like a name for the source system (in this example, BDIS from France), and the language in which the data is going to be presented.

The <markers> section presents the list of points. Each SSE initiative is a <pt> tag, that has the ID (attribute "ID"), the latitude and longitude (attributes "lat" and "lng"), the name of the enterprise (attribute "tit") and the country where it's located (attribute "country").

One important remark is that the "id" attribute is a local ID of the SSE initiative. It's not a global ID, because it's only used to retrieve extra data about that single SSE enterprise in the target system when the user clicks on the marker in the map.

If there is no filter, the script should return the full list of points.

If some specific set of filter gives no points as result, a correct formatted xml file with <markers></markers> must be given as result, as follows:

```
                 example of NO results:
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<essglobal>
     <config source="bdis" lang="fr" />
     <markers>
     </markers>
</essglobal>
```

Format for the extra info about a single SSE enterprise

Below is an example of how the extra info of a single SSE Initiative would look like in ZOES (Italy):

```
        example of the result to a 'point_info' request:
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<essglobal>
     <config source="zoes" lang="it" />
     <id>6487</id>
     <country>IT</country>
     <link>http://zoes.it/it/users/mogi</link>
     <msg       html="<div       style='background-color:#aa'><p
style='font-weight:bold'>Mogi caffè</p><p><b>Type:</b> impresa
<img
src='http://zoes.it/themes/garland/immagini/mappa_impresa.png'
/></p></div>" />
</essglobal>
```

In this case there is again the <config> tag, with the "source" and "lang" attributes. After that come the <id>, <link>, <country> and <msg> attributes, with the local ID of the SSE initiative (the Zoes ID of the "Mogi

Caffè" enterprise, in this example), the link for the Zoes page where the user can find more details, the country where it's located, and finally the HTML formatted code for the window tab in the map that displays all the extra info that the local system might want to present: the description of the SSE enterprise, the products and services offered, some logo, etc.

The HTML formatted data can come in the language requested by the user. If the system does not have a way to translate its data, then it should state clearly what language it's using in the <config> tag.