



LASERMed Community

The SSE as a means of environmentally responsible social inclusion

2nd Online Exchange

October 24, 2024

LASERMed24 is the second edition of a project funded by the Province of Barcelona and managed by MedCities. The cities directly involved in the LASERMed 24 project are Zarqa and Agadir. The project aims to provide tailor-made support to Mediterranean municipalities to foster local economic development through strengthened governance, environmental transition measures, and job creation for vulnerable groups.

One of the transversal objectives of the project is to form and nurture a community of partners involved and interested in the design, implementation and evaluation of local public policies for local socio-economic promotion and climate resilience. We call this community the "LASERMed Community". The project, therefore, envisaged the organisation of two virtual sessions and a study visit to some municipalities in the province of Barcelona, with the support of specialised external experts. The sessions have a mixed participatory workshop format, encouraging exchange and providing theoretical and practical content for their members.

This 2nd online workshop follows two previous moments of interaction between the member towns of the LASERMed network and the participants in the 2024 edition:

- 1st moment of exchange: the first online workshop was organised on June 4, 2024. The aim was to reconnect the participating cities, remind them of the LASERMed objectives, discuss the municipalities' pilot projects, and introduce the programme for the forthcoming study visit.
- The 2nd opportunity for exchange was the study visit organised in Barcelona in June 2024, which enabled the network members to strengthen their ties once again, visit pilot projects and discuss in greater depth the subjects of interest to the municipalities and the potential synergies between them. Considering the results of the final workshop of the study visit, during which everyone appreciated the relevance of the experiences presented and the

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progression of the reflections and interactions throughout the study trip, three significant themes were of particular interest to the participants. communes :

1. Social enterprise for the integration of disabled people, integrating the circular economy.
2. Silver Economy: the benefits for older people, the opportunities to create new jobs, new businesses, tailor-made services, etc.
3. Job creation through the circular economy: improving waste management efficiency, a core municipal responsibility from the point of view of creating innovative economic opportunities around waste recycling, such as construction waste or other waste.

We, therefore, want to continue to consider **how the municipalities in the LASERMED Community can use the Social Solidarity Economy to make a positive local impact on social inclusion and environmental issues.**

The objectives of the first online LASERMed Community meeting are:

- Carrying on the exchanges on the main subjects of interest expressed by the towns.
- Consolidating the input and knowledge transfer on the topics covered during the field visit and on which the municipalities have expressed a desire to learn more and broaden the debates.
- Identifying opportunities and obstacles for the municipalities in the community regarding the information presented.
- Organising the information in the capitalisation guide.

The members of this community are the old and new LASERMed cities, the Diputació de Barcelona, and the municipalities participating in the study visits we set up in the first and second editions. In this second meeting, the people invited are:

- Representation of the Agadir, Assalt, Sousse, Zarqa, Zgharta-Ehden municipalities.
- Representation of the communes of Santa Coloma de Gramenet and El Prat del Llobregat.
- Representation of Rubricatus Foundation.
- Representation of the Province of Barcelona (DIBA) and MedCities
- Experts relating to the implementation of LASERMed24 pilot projects.

An interpretation service from/to Arabic will be available at all meetings.

Programme

12-12.05 am MOR/TUN 1-1.05 pm CET 2-2.05 pm LEB/JOR	Welcome <i>Konstantia Nikopoulou, MedCités</i> <i>Núria Ferrés, Barcelona Provincial Council</i>
12.05-12.15 MOR/TUN 1.05-1.15 pm CET 2.05-2.15 pm LEB/JOR	Presentation of the context, objectives and proceedings of the workshop <i>Mariem Oueslati, Attractive City</i>

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12.15-12.35 MOR/TUN 1.15-1.35 pm CET 2.15-2.35 pm LEB/JOR	How can local authorities address social inclusion challenges and environmental issues by maximising the Social Solidarity Economy? <i>David Sanchez, Barcelona Provincial Council</i>
12.35-12.45 MOR/TUN 1.35-1.45 pm CET 2.35-2.45 pm LEB/JOR	Discussions, Q&A and reactions to the items presented <i>Moderator: Mariem Oueslati, Attractive City</i>
12.45-1.30 MOR/TUNE 1.45-2.30 pm CET 2.45-3.30 pm LEB/JOR	Testimonials and experiences of local authorities in developing social and solidarity economy projects Case study 1: <i>El Prat Del Llobregat local authority representative, role and scope of action of local authorities</i> Case study 2: <i>LA CIBA municipal service representative, Organising the scaling up of a municipal service</i> Case study 3: <i>RUBRICATUS Foundation representative, Viability and sustainability of a social enterprise</i> <i>Moderator: Mariem Oueslati, Attractive City</i>
1.30-2 pm MOR/TUN 2.30-3 pm CET 3.30-4 pm LEB/JOR	Exchange and future projections <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● How replicable are these projects for LASERMed municipalities? ● What can be done to boost the adoption of the SSE to achieve other objectives? <i>Modération : Mariem Oueslati, Attractive City</i>
2 pm MOR/TUN 3 pm CET 4 pm LEB/JOR	Closure of the workshop and next steps <i>Alba Guitart, MedCités</i>

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