

**TOGETHER, LET PREPARE DAKAR 2005**

# **RIPESS INFO**

**VOLUME 1, BULLETIN N° 2**

**Newsletter for activists and friends of the network**



**Intercontinental Network for Promotion of Social  
and solidarity-based economy**

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### **1. An intercontinental fair trade village building project**

Less known in Africa, the ethical and solidarity-based trade is one of the five themes retained for the organization of the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Meeting on Globalisation of Solidarity: Dakar 2005. In that regard the RIPESS plans to Set an intercontinental fair trade village during Dakar 2005. The village should allow the different actors of the sector to sell their products and at the same time display their achievements and projects.

The village will be the place where activists in the sector from the world will meet. In addition, it will host a space for the exhibition of African dishes. In the same purpose, the RIPESS in partnership with the “world shop” and the vessel known as “ESTELE” a property of a Finnish organisation, could carry about 400 tones of fair products .

We could jump at the occasion of the accosting the vessel alongside the west African coast to organize a fair in order to promote social and solidarity-based economy. The fair will especially aim at promoting fair trade at the landing stage of the Isle of Gorée : an historic place, symbol of the triangular trade ; that is to say the place where African slaves were brought together and then sent to Europe then to America.

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### **2. Le GSESS, The Senegalese group for social and solidarity-based economy**

GSESS, the Senegalese Group for social and solidarity-based economy is now taking action. The GSESS which is going to host the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Meeting on Globalisation of solidarity, organised on the 14 May 2004 a methodological workshop. Its goal was to reflect on the organization of the event Dakar 2005 in the premises owned by a cultural association for educational and social promotion known as ACAPES. In this regard, four committees have been constituted : organization and logistic; communication and mobilization; promotion of social and solidarity-based economy and the committee in charge of the cultural aspect. A global plan of action on Dakar 2005 as well as a marketing document for the 1<sup>st</sup> announcement of the event have been elaborated during that initiative. The place, the date, the global budget and the preparatory activities which are to be undertaken for the organization of the event have also been approved by the members of the GSESS.



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### 3. The movement for a fair agriculture (Maé-Maé)

The acronym Maé-Maé is a wolof word meaning “to give”. It is an initiative by UPA international, a union for agricultural production based in Longueil ( Quebec-Canada). The movement was created in March 2004 in the context of the WTO negotiations which have been a failure. Its members everywhere in the world are getting more and more numerous. It advocates a vision of agriculture based on equity values, social justice and self-sufficiency food. Six rights are the underlying concepts of Maé-Maé : the right to food safety ; the right for national territory integrity ; the right for family farming, the right to a fair price concerning farming products ; the right for handling home market.

In pass June, UPA international contacted the RIPESS so as to join our dynamics Lima-Quebec-Dakar. It did so because, from the one hand it would like to insert in the program of Dakar 2005, a claiming forum and a reflexion on fair agriculture and on the other hand allow their partners in the world to participate in.

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### 4. Dakar 2004 official announcement ceremony

On July 7 2004, the organisation called ENDA tiers-monde which is a member of GSESS took charge of organizing a workshop to analyse the cultural project of Dakar 2005. This took place at the cultural centre known as Douta Seck. After that, a ceremony meant to announce officially Dakar 2005 followed before the national authorities and the representatives of the international cooperation. In the morning, about one hundred artists representing different disciplines ( theatre, cinema, dance, music, etc.) came to validate the cultural program of 2005 and also to show their commitment in the struggle for international solidarity.

In the afternoon, about 200 persons attended the official announcement of the event. On that occasion , the executive Secretary of ENDA tiers-monde with the agreement of the GSESS made the welcoming speech. After, Idiatou Bah a member of the technical team of the RIPESS and who is in charge of the networking presented the dynamics Lima-Quebec-Dakar. Then Karine Mbengue also a member of the team and who is in charge of communication showed the objectives and activities to be implemented before and during the celebration of Dakar 2005. Finally, Abdou Salam Fall, The President of the RIPESS made the speech for the official announcement of the event.



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The ceremony closed with the speech by the Senegalese Minister of Small business, for women entrepreneurship and of micro finance. She reaffirmed her commitment and that of the government in favour of the initiative taken by the RIPESS. According to her, it aims at bettering people life.

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### 5. News and advertisements

- A Mediterranean network for the promotion of social and solidarity-based economy was created in March 2004 during the assessment of the project MED 2000 for a sustainable future in the Mediterranean ; precisely in Tetouan ( Morocco). This network would like to become member of the RIPESS and then partake actively in the preparation of Dakar 2005.
- Five executives of the RIPESS ( Nancy Neamtan, Mike Levis, René Lachapelle, Abdou Salam Fall and Dan Swiney) have organized in Trois-Rivière (Quebec) a workshop on the international dimension of social economy. That took place during the Pan-Canadian Convention on collective economic development. Just after the announcement of Dakar 2005, the GESQ, the Group for Solidarity-based economy of Quebec, the cooperation Council of Quebec, different organizations from the English speaking part of Canada and those from Washington DC, altogether affirmed their commitment to the effective organization of the meeting.
- Estel Coté, a member of the International Committee of Liaison was awarded the “prix d’honneur coopératif 2005” during the giving of the Ontario cooperation prizes in Canada. Let notice that before, Estel was elevated in 2001 in Paris to the rank of “chevalier de la Pleiad”, French speaking areas order, dialogue between cultures. She is also the President of the firm “L’Art du développement”.
- Adou Salam fall, Louis Favreau and Gerald Larose participated, at Grenoble (France ) the 12 and 13 July 04, in a summer university organized by IEP the Institute for Political Studies. It was about “the international development of social economy.



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- The Department for social cohesion , Council of Europe in collaboration with the European network for ethical and solidarity-based economy will organize the “FORUM 2004” at Strasburg ( France) on the 4 and 5 of November 2004 at the “Palais de l’Europe”. The themes of the forum are :” Solidarity-based finance and objective consumption ; Authorities and citizens committed to social cohesion”. For more information, please contact Xavier Boos the regional corresponding member of the “économie social et solidaire / SGARE-Alsace. He can be joined at 03.88.21.67.65 or at : [Xavier.Boos@alsace.pref.gouv.fr](mailto:Xavier.Boos@alsace.pref.gouv.fr)
- The Youth is joining in the fight. Two youths associations have just become member of the GSESS. These are : AIESEC, an international association of students in social and economic science and the RJJS, a regrouping of youth for social justice. These ones say that they are ready to provide more than twenty volunteers for the preparation and the organization of Dakar 2005. For more information, please contact the general coordinator named Aka Alexis Anouan at (221) 555.4264 or at [dakarou\\_2@hotmail.com](mailto:dakarou_2@hotmail.com)

***Please send all your news, advertisements and comments to the editorial staff of the RIPESS INFO at [dk2005@sentoo.sn](mailto:dk2005@sentoo.sn)***

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