

# ICS MED Meeting

## Building a European Cooperative System

20, 21 June 2012, Lyon, Rhône-Alpes

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### 20<sup>th</sup> June: Steering committee and inter-cooperatives professional exchanges

Woopa – Carré de soie, Vaulx-en-Velin

9.30 am : Welcome reception and registration

For the project's partners :

- 10am – 13.30 am : Steering committee for ICS MED

For the invited cooperatives:

The following workshops aim at identifying potential synergies between attending cooperatives and at encouraging connections within the related fields.

- 10.00am – 12.00 : Working groups
  - o Workshop 1: Transverse approach involving environment, tourism, agriculture, fishing.  
How to develop innovative cross-cutting activities?

*Territory can become an economic asset, a place for cooperation and synergy, and a product of differentiation as well. By having structures from different fields cooperating in a transversal way, a territory can develop innovative and coherent supply for goods and services, giving it a real economic advantage. It can also allow it to come up with new responses to social and environmental complex issues. An endogenous and efficient local development has to go through this transversal approach.*

*Examples: Agritourism, ecotourism*

- Workshop 2: Developing a European cooperative exchange network  
*Thinking about the interest of setting a platform up to encourage exchanges between cooperatives at a European level. In order to support the cooperatives working on the commercialization of ethic, local and organic goods, is there any better way than getting the products required in other cooperatives? Support a European fair trade!*  
*Examples: Online solidarity stores, directory of producers, transports' pooling, carbon compensation, transports' effectiveness.*
- Workshop 3: Growing sectors: which position to adopt on green economy for cooperatives?  
*The ecological and economic crisis urges us to adopt new behaviors encouraging the creation of new services and activities. How can the cooperative sector co-operate to gain access to new markets? Which entrepreneurship consistent with sustainable development to propose?*  
*Examples: renewable energies, eco-friendly building, waste management, recycling.*

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- **12.00-1.30pm : Workshop on European funds**

*The aim is to improve knowledge about European programmes and funds related to the cooperative economy and more generally speaking to cooperation between companies.*

*The programs introduced here will be related to the thematic working groups in order to help cooperatives to develop concrete transnational projects.*

**The speakers presenting this workshop will be on duty during the afternoon to support the cooperatives which would be interested in European projects engineering.**

*Interactive workshop led by Laurent Labrot (professor at Grenoble University & specialized in European projects building) and the CRESS (Chambre Régionale de l'Economie Sociale et Solidaire) Rhône-Alpes. (To be confirmed)*

**1.30 pm : Lunch**

### **3.00– 5.30 pm: Collective work time**

**The participants will be working on pilot projects led by the ICS project concerning clusterization and the creation of transnational groups.**

*Workshop led by the cooperative network LEGACOOOP (Italy)*

During the afternoon, the cooperatives which will have identified convergence points during the workshops held in the morning will be provided with offices and translators available to work on concrete working opportunities.

**8.30 pm: Diner and « network aperitif »**

## 21st June: International meeting of cooperative economy

### Conseil Régional Rhône-Alpes

9.00 am: Press conference

9.00 am: Welcome reception and registration

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#### Plenary session

9.30 am: introduction speech

10.00 am: Round table: Cooperatives: a specific actor of innovation and European economy?

#### Covered issues :

- *The specificities of cooperative economy*
- *Cooperation, a social innovative factor*
- *Structuration and representation of the cooperative movement at a European level and political issues*
- *Internationalization of cooperatives issues*

11.00 am: Debates with the audience

11.30 am: Coffee break

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#### Workshops and experiences sharing

##### 12.00: workshops 1<sup>st</sup> round

- **Workshop 1: Local distribution networks and local cooperation**
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*How cooperation allows the development of new types of distribution and sustainable exchanges, based on proximity and promotion of local actors? How to shape it? For which economical results? What part for local producers and consumers?*

Experiences analysis: Success, failures, challenges and development perspectives

- **Workshop 2: Green economy and cooperatives – Development opportunities**

*How cooperative economy takes position on new markets related to environment and on services and uses resulting from it? Which synergies to access research-development? How to promote the activities' europeanization?*

Experiences analysis: Success, failures, challenges and development perspectives

- **Workshop 3 - Local production and tourism – Towards local cooperative systems**

*How does local cooperation between touristic actors, local producers and structures protecting environment enable a win-win exchange and a local endogenous development? Which impact for ecotourism and agritourism? Which structuration? Which public? How to develop this touristic supply abroad?*

Experiences analysis: Success, failures, challenges and development perspectives

**1.30 – 3.00 pm : Lunch**

**3.00 pm: Workshops 2<sup>nd</sup> round**

- **Workshop 4 : Comparative analysis of public policies supporting cooperatives**

*Comparative analysis of the different local and national public policies implemented in South European countries. What part for the European Union and what impact for the European directives? What triggers to encourage good practices' exchanges and to have the specificities of cooperative economy recognized?*

Experiences analysis: Success, failures, challenges and development perspectives

- **Workshop 5 – Financing tools and European projects**

*The current situation of financial tools available at a European level and the part to be played by the cooperatives banks. What kind of internationalization? Which facilities for the cooperatives? How to articulate it between projects and financial sources?*

Experiences analysis: Success, failures, challenges and development perspectives

- **Workshop 6 –Cooperatives' networking and incubation of European projects**

*How to encourage, in an open and continuous way, a better mutual knowledge between European cooperatives and the development of exchanges. Which interest in the creation of transnational cooperative clusters? Which opportunities to set up an incubator for cooperative projects at a European level? Uses and interests of the European Cooperative Society.*

Experiences analysis: Success, failures, challenges and development perspectives

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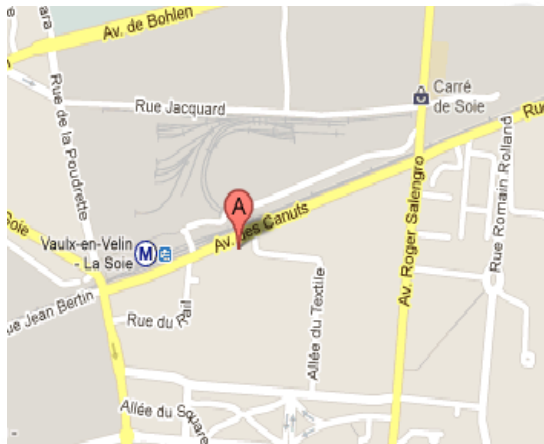
## Conclusions and follow ups of the project

**4.30 pm: Collective assessment of the workshops and reflections on experimentation**

**5.00 pm: Closing speech**

## Maps and access

Woopa , Carré de Soie, Vaulx-en-Velin  
10 avenue des Canuts  
69120 Vaulx-en-Velin



Stop **Vaulx-en-Velin La Soie**  
Tram T3 (trolley): Stop **Vaulx-en-Velin La Soie**

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Tram T1 (trolley) : Stop **Montrochet**