Facilitation Guide for Solidarity Economy Principles and Practices Reflection Tool

This tool was developed to offer Solidarity Economy (SE) organizations opportunities for collective learning and reflection on the five themes and twenty-four principles outlined in www.solidarityeconomyprinciples.org. We are building a Community of Practice around these principles through popular education workshops, peer-to-peer learning spaces and larger group convenings.

This tool is intended to:

- support your organization to reflect internally on where you are, where you want to grow, and how you want to prioritize that growth and intentional change
- support your organization to participate in a larger community of practice
- support all of us to build solidarity economy movements, which requires alignment in our politics and actions

No SE entity follows every principle and practice at all times. There is no perfect score or right answer.

If you are unfamiliar with solidarity economy movements, and the principles and practices at www.solidarityeconomyprinciples.org, this tool might still help but its potential is limited. If you'd like to explore solidarity economy more before you undertake this reflection, use this form to request a workshop or get in touch with the SE organizers who produce and maintain this tool.

You may encounter concepts or words that you don't know or understand fully. There are political choices and language justice concerns about linking to specific definitions for these concepts, so we encourage you to explore in an internet search. Our movements do a good job of sharing opinions and resources about these ideas online!

HOW THIS TOOL IS ORGANIZED:

The tool's questions correspond to each principle under the following themes:

- Collective Care and Responsibility
- Shared Resources and Shared Vision
- Liberation Culture
- Democracy and Process
- Education and Leadership Development

Since there is no right answer, you do not need to search through the SEPP website to find it. However, if you want to explore ideas in the SEPP as you go or after you've filled out the tool, exploring the site may help your organization discover new ways to grow. Each question in the tool corresponds to a particular principle, and they are organized in the same order.

If you are using a .PDF version of the tool, you will find two questions on each page. Next to each question are two columns. One that asks group members to rate their growth in that particular area using acorn__ 🌰, seedling__ 🌱, sapling__ 🌿 and tree__ 🌳 emojis, and another that asks your group to reflect on what kind of support you would need to grow and what your next steps in that area might be.

HOW TO USE THE TOOL:

Step 1: Choose whether to work on paper or computer

If you want to work on paper, you can download and print copies from this PDF or this google doc. If you choose to type your answers, you can copy the google doc to your drive, or download it as a Microsoft Word doc.

Step 2: Work through the questions

This tool is meant to foster collaboration and discussion within SE organizations. If you're a group of more than 5 people, we recommend that you work in small groups of 2-5 to think about and answer a subset of questions together, then discuss your answers with everyone present in the larger group. If you're a small group we recommend that you consider a few questions at a time over multiple sessions with everybody's participation.

Step 3 : Prioritize your next steps

After you've reflected on the questions, the worksheet at the end of the tool will help your group to prioritize the top three areas you'd like to work on. This should be done with the full group, which can also offer responses to the questions on the final page about how you might share your strengths with other SE organizations and what you have found helpful to support your organization's growth in these areas.

Step 4: Decide how you want to relate to the SEPP Community of Practice

We are building the Solidarity Economy path as we walk, and doing so collectively is facilitated by sharing our learning and practices with others who are striving to embody SE values and principles. If you decide that you'd like to share your data, insights, or any other aspect of your learning with the SE Principles and Practices Community of Practice, you can do so in the following ways:

- Scan, download or take a photo of your working documents and email them to contact@solidarityeconomyprinciples.org.
- Add your practices or any suggestions for principles at this form or by visiting our website and clicking on the Suggest a Practice button on the right side.
- Join the SEPP Community of Practice by making a formal commitment to aligning your work with the principles over time and with support. Joining the community is free and offers regular opportunities to meet with peers to reflect, share, and support each other in the hard work of practicing and living out these principles. You can express interest in joining by filling in this form.

You can share as much or as little as you'd like from your reflection tool, and add your organization's name or not. We won't sell your data or share it outside of the SE Principles Community of Practice, but *with the consent of the group* we may share anonymized, aggregate information based on our collective experience with the tool.