

GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

13-15 June 2024

L'ESPACE, Chem. du 23-Août 1, 1205

Genève, Switzerland



PARTICIPANT'S INFOPACK



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Welcome, members and all participants!



Dear Ripess members,

We are very happy to announce the Ripess Europe General Assembly 2024 which will be held on 13-15 of June in Geneva, Switzerland. This is the most important yearly meeting for the Solidarity Economy Europe Network since it is a unique opportunity to meet and inspire each other through structured and more convivial moments. This year the topics will revolve around a new shared-governance proposal scheme, uptakes on decided priorities and projects, ways to strengthen our contribution to the communities and societies, advocacy procedures and policies with citizens' decisive participation.

This year is also a festive time since our hosting member APRES-GE is celebrating its 20 years of Solidarity Economy activism and networking, thus we will actively participate in our members' celebration moments.

Let's meet in Geneva to salute them and express gratitude to our continuous and dedicated struggle for a fairer world.

Welcome and enjoy!

The RIPESS Europe Coordination committee and GA team



1. Venue



L'ESPACE is powered by APRES-GE, the Geneva network of the social and solidarity economy.

Opened in November 2021 in the heart of the Jonction eco-district, it hosts the headquarters of APRES-GE and Monnaie Léman, the local currency of the Lake Geneva basin.

L'ESPACE pursues the following goals:

- be an accessible and efficient tool for those involved in the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) in order to help them develop their business models,
- encourage collaboration and collective intelligence to contribute and spread the actors of the SSE,
- make the link between “SSE” and “culture” to change the collective imagination,
- to be a “third place”, pilot in the heart of the Jonction eco-district, which can be replicated in other districts.

Website: <https://lespacedapres.ch/>



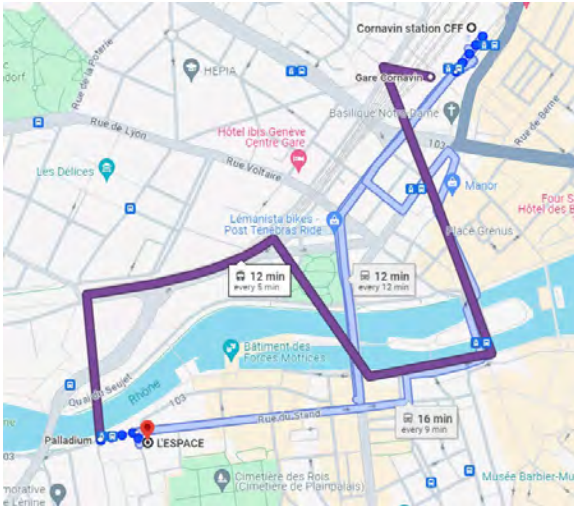
2. How to get to L'ESPACE

Address

[Chem. du 23-Août 1, 1205 Genève, Switzerland](#)

From the Train station Cornavin

From the [Cornavin](#) train station: Tram 14 (direction Bernex) to the Palladium stop, approx. 12 minutes



ON

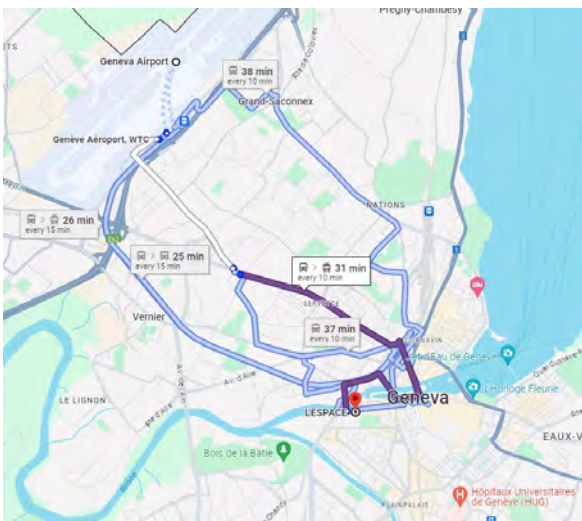
By walking from the station, you are 17 minutes from L'ESPACE.

From the airport

There are several choices of route to reach [L' Espace](#) from Geneva International Airport.

We just mention 2 different routes:

1. From Geneva Airport WTC take Bus no 10, Geneve Rive from Platform T and exit at Bouchet Station. From Bouchet station take Tram no 14 and exit at Palladium Station. (approx. 30 minutes)
2. From Geneva Airport WTC take Train IC5 or IC1, St. Gallen, from Platform 3 and exit at Geneva Station. Walk to the Gare Cornavin and take Tram No 4 (direction Bernex) and exit at Palladium Station. (approx. 30 minutes)





From the Airport to Accommodation

1. For those staying at L' Espace follow the previous instructions
2. For those staying at [the Palette](#) neighborhood, Chem. des Palettes 8B, 1212 Lancy, follow the instructions from the [Google Maps](#) (for example you can take Bus no 23, Carouge GE, from Platform T and exit at Station Palettes), approx. 30 minutes.
3. For those staying at Geneva Hostel, Geneva Hostel, Rue Rothschild 28, 1202 Genève, follow the instructions from the [Google Maps](#) (for example you can take Train IC5 or IC1, St. Gallen, from Platform 4, exit at Geneva Station and walk for 13 minutes to the Hostel, approx. 23 minutes)

From the Accommodation to L'Espace

1. For those staying at [the Palette](#) neighborhood, Chem. des Palettes 8B, 1212 Lancy, follow the instructions from the [Google Maps](#) (From the Palette station take Tram No 15 and exit at Stand station, then a 7 minutes' walk to L' ESpace, approx. 30 minutes).
2. For those staying at Geneva Hostel, Geneva Hostel, Rue Rothschild 28, 1202 Genève, follow the instructions from the [Google Maps](#) ((From the Butini station take Tram No 15 and exit at Stand station, then a 6 minutes' walk to L' ESpace, approx. 20 minutes

Other information

Local currency

The Swiss franc is the official currency of Switzerland. 1 Swiss franc is equal to 1,02 euros.



3. APRES-GE












APRÈS-GE, the social and solidarity economy (SSE) network is committed to the promotion and recognition of the SSE in the Geneva region. Our mission: to contribute to making the economy a major lever for transition towards a society respectful of humans and the biosphere. Founded in 2004, APRÈS now has more than 800 members, including 400 companies and organizations active in all fields of activity, employing 6,000 people and generating 600 million in annual turnover. This multitude of economic actors are concretely committed to the ecological and social transition on a daily basis.

In 2024 APRÈS-GE completes 20 years since its establishment. Throughout this anniversary year, they will offer meetings to network, get inspired and co-build a more sustainable economy within their third place, but also outside the walls. To find all the information on the events use this link <https://www.apres-ge.ch/actualites/20-ans-apres-une-programmation-evenementielle-renforcee>



4. GA Programme

DAY 1	Thursday June 13th		
09.00 – 10.30	General Assembly Welcoming & Introduction of the 3 Days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TR • Online 	
11.00 – 12.30	Circular Economy- Maco Reuse Centre (10.30 to 11.00 way to MACO)		 Visit
13.00 – 14.30	Lunch at L'ESPACE	Lunch	
14.30 - 16.30	Urban Planning & Economy «One Planet» neighborhoods to develop SSE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TR 	 Presentation & Discussion
16.30 – 18.00			Break
18.00 – 19.30	Rethinking economics for Social and Solidarity Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TR • Live streaming 	 Round Table
20.30	Collective meal	Dinner	

DAY 2	Friday June 14th		
09.00 – 10.00	Working Group on RIPESS Governance (intro)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TR • Online  Working Groups
10.00 – 13.00	Working Group on RIPESS Governance	RIPESS Working Group on our SSE Knowledge Commons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TR • Online  Working Groups
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch at L'ESPACE		Lunch
14.00 – 15.00	Shared experiences Housing & Food Presentation of a housing cooperative (Codha)		 Presentation
15.00 – 16.30	Walk to «Feminist strike» at Parc des Bastions (10min walk) to join the "Cri de l'égalité"		
16.45 – 17.30	Shared experiences Housing & Food Visit of a housing cooperative (Codha) and a food cooperative - grocery shop (Le Nid)		 Visit
18.00 – 19.30	Public Policies From local to global SSE public policies		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TR • Live streaming  Round Table
20.30	Apero of APRES-members & Meal in L'ESPACE		Dinner



DAY 3	Saturday June 15th		
10.00 – 12.00	General Assembly	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• TR• Online	
12.00 – 13.00	General Assembly Conclusion and farewell	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• TR• Online	
13.00 – 14.30	Lunch at L'ESPACE	Lunch	
14.30 - 16.30	CoCo meeting		
16.30 – 17.30	RIPESSE Europe Public statement		
	Departure		

TR ➡ Translation EN<>FR

Online ➡ Online Participation



5. Working groups and Main sessions



Working Groups

- **Working Group on RIPESS Governance**

June 14th, 10.00 – 13.00

Proposal for a new governance of RIPESS Europe

Following the General Assembly in September 2023, the working group "Shared governance Circle" made up of Bruno Lasnier, Constance André-Aigret and Jason Nardi, reflected on a new governance for RIPESS EU. Elements were also worked on at the Budapest Strategic CoCo held in February 2024. In order to carry out this reorganization, a survey was sent out, the results of which were taken into account for the proposal. Thank you all for your contributions.

The new governance organization proposal for RIPESS EU (will be sent out soon), which will be discussed on June 14 in the morning, through a facilitated activity that will allow to explore options and implications, for the structure (Assembly, CoCo, Team) and the members. The resulting proposal will then be validated during the AGM on Saturday 15th and the Shared Governance circle will work on updating the by-laws to give concrete form to the new governance and will submit them to you at an Extraordinary General Meeting to be established by the CoCo.

- **RIPESS Working Group on our SSE Knowledge Commons**

June 14th, 10.00 – 13.00

During this session, we will be taking forward the developmental work around our knowledge sharing tools in the form of three World Café tables. We want to define better what our knowledge commons is about; to find more answers to the question as to how to make our knowledge sharing tools at large be more useful for us and yet better facilitate our networking, and to reflect on the functioning of our Knowledge Commons circle itself.



Round Tables

- **Rethinking economics for Social and Solidarity Economy**

June 13th, 18.00 – 19.30

The positive impact of the social/solidarity-based economy on the climate and decent work is well established. In an April 2023 resolution, the UN General Assembly now recognizes that only the SSE can enable us to achieve the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as well as the carbon reduction targets of the Paris Climate Conference (2015-2030). Can the social and solidarity economy (based on cooperation between companies) and the capitalist market economy (based on competition between companies) obey the same rules? In universities and higher education establishments, particularly in business schools, it is not only a question of "rethinking economics", but also, and perhaps above all, of rethinking the implementation of public policies and digital tools that enable synergy rather than competition between SSE companies, and between SSE networks and the traditional market economy.



Speakers:

1. **Dr. Ilcheong Yi**, UNRISD
2. **Aylin Cigdem Kone**, Professor of Economics at Mugla Sitki Kocman University (Turkey) founder of Sosyal Ekonomi blog, (member of Ripess)
3. **Christian Arnspenger**, Professor at the University of Lausanne
4. **Dr. Elodie Ros**, Université de Paris 8, UCOOP student cooperative network, (member of Ripess)
5. **Dr. Jean-Luc Falcone**, University of Geneva

Moderated by: RIPESS

• **Public Policies From local to global SSE public policies**

June 14th, 18.00 – 19.30

In April 2023, in a landmark resolution, the United Nations General Assembly considered that enterprises working according to the criteria of the Social Solidarity Economy (SSE) have, beyond their impact on social justice, a much better impact on the Climate than other companies. The resolution adopted therefore calls on every member state to implement genuine public policies, from the local to the global level, offering a specific legal, regulatory or financial framework to promote and develop SSE local enterprises networks.

For its General Assembly 2024, RIPESS-Europe, at the invitation of its members APRÈS-GE and APRÈS-VD, is taking the opportunity of its presence in Geneva, European headquarters of the United Nations and headquarters of the ILO, to open a round table on this theme and request the Geneva and Swiss authorities to seize the opportunity to promote, in conjunction with Geneva International Hub, a new policy in favor of Decent Work, Social and Climate Justice.

Speakers:

- **Alfonso Gomez**, City of Geneva, Mayor of Geneva, Administrative Councilor (DFEL), in charge of economic development
- **Simel Esin**, ILO, co-chair of the UN Inter-Agency Working Group on the Social Solidarity Economy
- **A representative of the Canton of Vaud (to be confirmed)**
- **Judith Hitchman**, RIPESS Intercontinental

Moderator: RIPESS



Visits

- **Circular Economy – MACO Reuse Centre**

June 13th, 11.00 – 12.30



Located in the Zone Industrielle des Charmilles in Geneva since 2019, the Manufacture Collaborative is a third-party space dedicated to do-it-yourself projects and the circular economy.

The project, the fruit of a partnership with the City of Geneva and the

Resources Urbaines cooperative, brings together under one roof the complementary organisations Matériuum, La Manivelle, Sipy, Le Grand Atelier and the On'l'fait fab lab.

A convivial space covering more than 1,200 m², open to the public and professionals, it comprises a factory with manual workshops (wood, metal, bicycles, sewing) and a digital workshop (fab lab); a recycling centre (reused materials, loan of objects and tools, clothing barter) and artists' studios.

A place to meet, experiment and create, MACO offers a concrete alternative to over-consumption. It offers a stimulating new playground for social, economic, and ecological transition.

More info: <https://lamaco.ch/>

- **Shared experiences ON Housing and Food Presentation and Tour on a housing cooperative (Codha) and a food cooperative - grocery shop (Le Nid)**

June 14th, 14.00 – 15.00 presentation, 16.45 – 17.30 visit



CODHA was founded in 1994 as a not-for-profit organization bringing together people who wanted a different kind of housing, a different quality of life, a different relationship with housing, based on participation, conviviality, and solidarity.

The cooperative carries out its projects by pooling financial resources and through the active participation of residents. Internal management of the buildings by the residents also enables them to define a living environment that is closer to their aspirations. More info:

<https://www.codha.ch/>

Today, CODHA is:

- 6,000 members
- 20 apartment buildings
- 761 housing units
- 1,185 co-operators housed
- 11 construction projects under way, which will eventually produce almost 700 new homes
- 368 million in property and project assets



- 15 million in annual rental income

Guillaume Käser, Member of the Executive Board of CODHA

[Le NID, food cooperative – grocery store](#)



Presentation and Discussion

- **Urban Planning & Economy: “One Planet” Neighborhoods to develop SSE**

June 13th, 14.30 – 16.30 presentation, 16.45 – 17.30 visit



In consultation with its members and experts, APRÈS has built a vision of "Socio-economic activities" that is compatible with planetary limits, by tackling issues such as: food, mobility, recycling, local currency, neighbourhood governance, and so on.

Come and discover and discuss this vision and its potential for developing a social economy in our neighbourhoods and towns!

Presenters:

Benoît Molineaux – Coopérative Equilibre and Forum Grosselin

Antonin Calderon – APRÈS-GE



6. General Assembly – Statutory meeting

The statutory assembly of the network members is the moment when decisions are taken collectively and democratically concerning the life of the association, strategies, investments, forms of representation and governance. This year it will take place on June 15.

The session is introduced by the Co-coordinators. The presentations will follow, by CoCo members and the RIPESS Europe team, in particular on:

- Activity report 2023
- Financial report 2022-2023
- Membership's Guidelines
- Shared Governance Model
- SSE Knowledge Group creation
- Project updates

Members will validate according to the [Articles of Association \(statute\)](#) and can represent other members who have delegated them through a proxy vote.

Relative documentation you will find on the [website's GA page](#).



7. Participants' Checklist

Online participation

If you are not able to be in Geneva, this doesn't mean you cannot participate... though unfortunately you will miss the more social, informal and convivial parts of the event! But you are still welcome to be with us virtually... online!

In order to allow for members and observers to participate from a distance and be able to interact as much as possible, we are going to use 2 online tools:

- 1) BBB (meet.ripess.eu) - for the meetings
- 2) Framavox.org (loomio) - for offline discussions
- 3) The chat group (whatsapp this year) - for live support and requests

What do you have to do ?

- Please [register to the GA here](#). Don't forget to leave your phone number as we create each year a GA Whatsapp to help with travel and emergency topics.
- Check the program and mark what you want to follow. Not all sessions will be online (the group work might not be possible for logistical and connectivity reasons).
- Voting: during the GA statutory meeting, we will vote to validate proposals or delegates. Members who cannot be present should delegate another member with a proxy vote.
- To record the discussions and documentation of the working groups and of the meetings, we will use Framavox. If you haven't accessed it yet, please register here: <https://framavox.org/ripesseu>

Before attending the General Assembly meeting, please make sure to:

- Read** all the documentation that you will receive (or check on the [website's GA page](#))
- Remember to pay the **membership fee!**
- Help with the event documentation**... bring your camera and take pictures, videos... post on blogs, social media, radio interviews... any contribution is welcome!



8. Membership fee

Remember to pay your membership fee (100,00 euro) before the General Assembly!

You can pay the fee by bank transfer to:

RIPESS Europe asbl

Bank: Banca Etica – Italy

IBAN: IT77S0501802800000011664091

BIC/SWIFT: CCRTIT2T84A



9. Contact us

Here are the main contacts you can use in case of need:

- **Jason Nardi**, jason.nardi@ripess.eu, mobile: +39 340 525 4247 (also telegram, signal and whatsapp)
- **Georgia Bekridaki**, gebekr@yahoo.gr - mobile: +30 697 722 7879 (whatsapp, viber, telegram, signal)
- **Antonin Calderon**, antonin.calderon@apres-ge.ch, mobile +41 788129481
- **Jean Rossiaud**, jean.rossiaud@les-idees.ch, mobile +41 792572922



See you in Geneva!