

The LEDA experience presented in the International Forum of Social and Solidarity Economy of Montreal, Canada

October 2011

ILS LEDA participated to the International Forum on Social and Solidarity Economy (FIESS 2011) held in Montreal from 17 to 20 October, with an invitation from the organizers to present a report on the experience of LEDAs.

More than 1.000 actors of social and solidarity economy from different countries met together to share ideas, in order to enhance partnerships among civil society and governmental institutions fostering these new economy approaches. In particular, the event was attended by representatives of national governments, trade union movements, research institutes and regional and international organizations.

ILS LEDA's intervention was made by Heber Cabrera, Director of Guatemala IXCAN LEDA on *The LEDA as a social enterprise: the case of Ixcán*.

The presentation emphasized that the ILS LEDA Network operates with the focus and purpose of human development and Millennium Development Goals, with particular reference to aspects such as Governance, Services, and Sustainability. The LEDAs are typical social enterprises and Ixcán LEDA is emblematic. It in facts:

- promotes inclusion of the poorest and most marginalized people into the labor market and economy, strengthening their capacities and dialogue with local, national and international actors
- provides services (credit, technical assistance, projects, communications) in a strategic framework that valorizes local resources and value chains, providing beneficiaries with more sustainable living conditions (improving employment and income, such as environment and infrastructures)
- works to foster national policies against poverty and exclusion, for the promotion of social economy, equity and environmental protection, through the example of good practices and trusted relationships with the national government.



In the near future, the strategy of the LEDA IXCAN is to strengthen his action according to the indicators of human development, promoting social entrepreneurship and solidarity networks, establishing a Service Center for Women Entrepreneurship, and supporting organic farming and alternative energy sources.

To know more about the Forum

www.fiess2011.org

To know more about ADEL IXCAN

www.adel.org.gt

