

**Statement on Financing For Sustainable Development: The Global Context.**  
**A groundswell providing the financing and other resources for sustainable Development**

*read by*

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A powerful new movement is emerging based on caring, sharing, community and cooperation. Its various aspects are referred to as commons, cooperatives, collaborative or solidarity economies and shared societies. These are actually implementing sustainable development and providing both traditional and alternative financing. They consist of networks that link people from local to global levels.

Three examples:

1. **Commons** are characterized by democratic decision making processes,, care for the resources they manage/steward and the equitable sharing of benefits. The Internet is a commons which contains many commons within it, provides the equivalent of USD 1.3 trillion in Intellectual Property, including education in every conceivable field and blueprints for developing renewable energy. If ODA were to be spent to provide universal access to the Internet, it would help unleash the full potential of all person and close the gap between rich and poor.

2. Cooperatives are for profit businesses that do not require any financial incentives to contribute to sustainable development. Their Cooperative Identity requires them to share profits with all of their members as well as communities from local to global levels. With annual revenues of 3 trillion dollars and one billion members, they provide earnings to 250 million people. Cooperatives are not associated with neocolonialism.

GOVERNMENTS are also a part of these sharing economies. Examples include national health and educational systems. Also Senegal's Ecovillage Ministry, the Norwegian Pension Fund and the management via the UN of Global Commons.

90-odd democratically elected former Heads of State and Government meeting as the Club of Madrid, suggested 10 commitments Governments could make to support and build on Shared Societies.

*Commitment 1: Locate responsibility to ensure the promotion of social cohesion clearly within government structures.*

Here each person in Missions are crucial in conveying what civil society has to offer to their governments and feedback back to civil society so that we can better serve the process. We also respectfully but urgently request all MS to send representatives to interactive sessions with CS. We have invaluable contributions to make.

The rest of this statement will be sent to the Secretariat.