

CONFERENCE DECLARATION

Caribbean World of Work Forum 2025





PREAMBLE



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The participants of the Caribbean World of Work Forum 2025 (CWWF 2025), including representatives from government, labour organizations, civil society, academia, co-operatives, indigenous communities, and international development partners, gathered under the theme: The Future of Work: A Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) Approach over the period July 23 – 25, 2025.

The deliberations were conducted in the context of the UN declaration of 2025 as the International Year of Co-operatives and the United Nations General Assembly 2023 Resolution A/77/L.60, formally recognizing the importance of the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.



PREAMBLE

We affirm our shared commitment to building inclusive, resilient, and sustainable Caribbean^S societies by placing people, communities, and the environment in focus and commit to undertaking activities to facilitate economic transformation and social justice via the Social and Solidarity Economy model.





CONTEXT AND CHALLENGES



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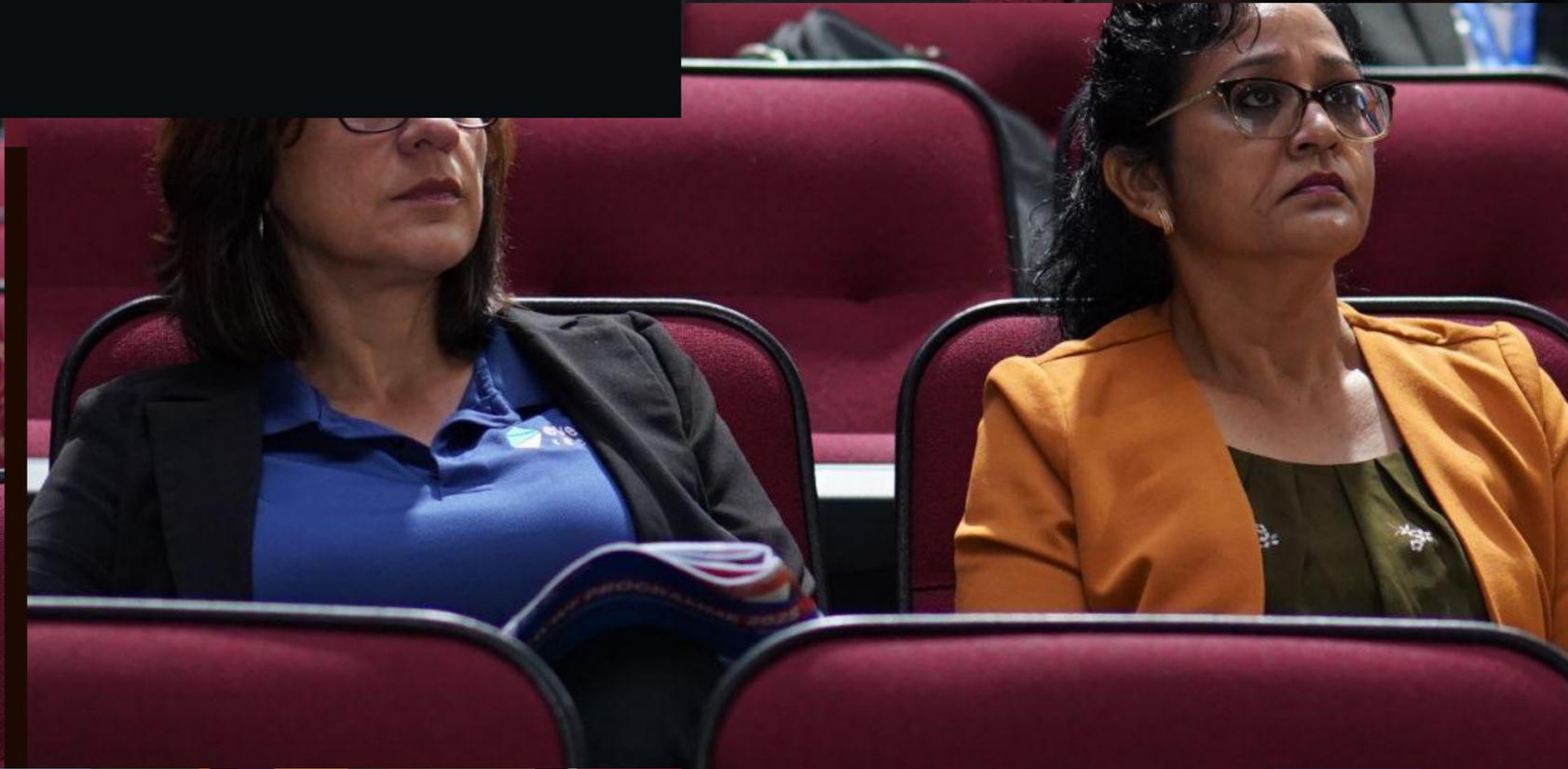
We acknowledge the pressing challenges that define the current and future landscape of work in the Caribbean, including:

- **Persistent informality**, unemployment, and job insecurity, particularly among women, youth, persons with disabilities and other marginalized groups;
- **Climate vulnerability**, which threatens livelihoods, especially in agriculture, fishing, and indigenous economies;
- **Technological disruption**, automation and artificial intelligence reshaping the scope of labour markets and exacerbating inequalities;
- **The weakening of the social contract**, rising inequality, and increasing precarity across the region;
- **Outdated legal and policy frameworks** hindering effective worker protections, cooperative development and the broader SSE movement;
- **Inadequate data** to inform policy and strategies.





KEY THEMES EMERGING FROM THE FORUM





OUR COMMITMENTS

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Given the consensus developed in stakeholder discussion, the collective commits to the following:

- i. Advocate for the integration of the SSE into national and regional development agendas;
- ii. Support the modernization and development of labour laws, co-operative legislation, regulatory frameworks, related policies and action plans;
- iii. Promote youth, elder, gender and indigenous people inclusion in the world of work through education, leadership training, and entrepreneurship;
- iv. Establish regional cooperation platforms for knowledge exchange and joint action in labour and SSE development;
- v. Advance social justice through just transitions, engagement of indigenous people, and sustainable economic models.





CALL TO ACTION



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The collective Social and Solidarity Economy stakeholders issue the call to regional actors to engage in the following:

- i. Governments to embrace the SSE as a pathway to equitable development and provide the necessary infrastructure to facilitate development;
- ii. Governments to support community-based models of social dialogue to foster SSE spaces amongst vulnerable communities;
- iii. Trade unions, worker organizations and co-operatives to mobilize around decent work, labour rights, social justice and economic alternatives;
- iv. CCLCS to cement its position as the primary education and research institution to provide labour and cooperative education with expansion to the SSE segments across the region;
- v. Caribbean integration bodies to support harmonized approaches to SSE regulation, innovation, and finance.



CONCLUSION

This declaration is a reaffirmation of our belief that the Caribbean's future of work must be built on solidarity, sustainability, and social justice to all for enhanced **RESILIENCE**, **TRANSFORMATION** and **SUSTAINABILITY**.

