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The European Institute for Solidarity based Economy (INEES) staged the organisation of the 4th international forum Lux'09 "Globalisation of Solidarity" last week, which ran from Wednesday 22nd to Saturday 25th April. The social and solidarity-based economy refers to socially-oriented economical activities which are run in favour of the setting up of a new way to live and devise the economy through about ten thousands projects worldwide. In this type of economy, jobs and people come first, before money. It is based on a democratic decision-making system, on a strong social involvement and on quality relationships.



This International forum attracted more than 1200 people from six continents representing social enterprises, co-operatives, associations, NGOs, development and co-operation organisations, academics, trade unions, governments and local authorities, all mobilising their efforts to promote Social Solidarity Economy in a sustainable development perspective.

Interactive forums and workshops were organised each day on social and solidarity-based subjects, including responsible production and consumption, solidarity-based entrepreneurship, food sovereignty, democratic participation, communication and the environment. Three members of RREUSE were present at the

event: AERESS from Spain, RUSZ from Austria and RESsources from Belgium. The Environment workshops were organised by RESsources with the support of RREUSE and moderated daily by Thibaut Jacquet with great success.

RREUSE President Sepp Eisenriegler (above) delivered a 30 minute presentation on RREUSE member's work, the environmental and social benefits of the network and its achievements. He also showed a DVD film which highlighted the work of RepairNetwork Vienna, which involves the tuning of washing machines instead of timely replacement.

