



Press release for immediate distribution

**Canadian professionals head to Dakar 2005,
for the International conference on the social solidarity economy**

Montréal, October 20, 2005 – Uniterra unveils the names of the delegation members who will take part in the ***Dakar 2005 Professional Seminar*** to be held from November 12 to 27 in Dakar, Senegal during the ***Third International Meeting on the Globalization of Solidarity***. These Canadian professionals are of all ages, work in different sectors of activity and come from across Canada. They will all participate in workshops promoting discussion and networking and take part in the work done during the *Third Meeting*.

We are also going to Dakar to get trained, share ideas, and build new, solid partnerships, explains Gérald Larose, President of the Groupe d'économie sociale du Québec (GESQ), one of the three Uniterra partners participating in this seminar. *If we fail to reinsert social issues into the heart of the economy, our capacity for dignified survival on the planet will soon be compromised,* adds Mike Lewis of the Canadian Community Economic Development Network (CCEDNet). *I've noticed that young people want to play a role in this change and want to be part of the solution to improving living conditions both in the South and in the North,* specifies Christian Clément, Coordinator of the Table Jeunesse Papineau in the Outaouais region.

Motivated by the common goal of fighting global poverty, participants will explore the different avenues of economic development and social solidarity through partnerships among organizations in the South and in the North in local economic development and the social solidarity economy.

This seminar, organized by the Uniterra program and funded by CIDA, allows nearly 50 Canadian professionals to be initiated to international cooperation and raise Canadian awareness of the challenges associated with the struggle against poverty and how to reach the Millennium Development Goals.

Participants are available for interview before, during and after the event.



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Uniterra is an initiative of the Canadian Centre for International Studies and Cooperation (CECI) and the World University Service of Canada (WUSC) and supported by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). Uniterra mobilizes citizens and organizations in Africa, Asia and the Americas to meet the Millennium Development Goals. www.uniterra.org

-30-

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