



**Chaire**  
d'économie  
**sociale**  
et  
**solidaire**

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**Arousing the banking and financial resources as a common:  
the role of SSE banks and finance  
An action search in progress**

Creation of an action-research group "La Banque en communs?" within La Coop des Communs

The communication presents the original action-research approach carried out within the group "The Bank in common?" and the content and issues which have be shared.

- 4 points:
- The framework and concept
- The research question
- The structure of our working paper
- -What next?

# The framework and the concept

- a need for reciprocal understanding between commoners and financiers,
- a need for collective solutions in addition to individual solutions.

=> explain the commons to the bankers and the bank  
to the commons

To have any chance to co-build banking and financial solutions adapted to the commons => understanding a set of concomitant evolutions:

- the financing needs of "commons" and transitions to a world in which they would not be condemned to marginalization;
- the trades and institutions of the bank
- those of non-bank financial institutions, including participatory finance;
- those of public finances;
- but also those of philanthropy.

# The research question

- Can the commons make it possible to put financing at the service of the programmatic framework of the SDGs?
- Can the bank itself be seen as a "common", and if so, how?
- Can we use the example of banking legislation (banking system historically seen as a "common" for financial actors) for new collective instruments « of place » and / or for general interest?

**What are the financial and banking resources which are weakened, threatened ..., which are important for the customer/member of the bank and which deserve to be managed in common, rather than via market regulations or state (alone)?**

Three complementary fields of application:

- the data "in common" necessary for a bank "in common",
- the "territorial" commons to be preserved, promoted and financed,
- the "financial commons", tools of place or financial tools "in common".

# The structure of our working paper

## ***I - THE COMMONS: A REFLECTION ON THE COMMON BANKS AND FINANCE***

1 - The commons, how to explain them to bankers?

2 - The challenges of the commons for banking and finance:

21- Can we think of the bank as a common?

22- Financing the commons without distorting their purpose?

23 - Think of the financing of the commons as a common (one more step):



# II - THE CHALLENGES OF THE EVOLUTIONS OF THE BANK AND FINANCE AND THEIR IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITIES

## *1 - The regulatory issues*

=> impact on the commons: disintermediation

=> no private property indivisible common but a bundle of rights distributed,

## *2 - Tax Issues:*

Tremendous progress has been made, impact on the commons:

## *3 - Technological issues:*

Impacts on the commons:

- Can bank and mutual data be considered as "common"?
- The fintechs,

## *4 - Societal challenges:*

The rise of consumer actors, Participatory finance,

## *5 - Specific issues of cooperative banks:*

- Guarantee fund/new regulations.
- Power of the community of customers in relation to the weight of the group's technostructure

# III- CONCRETE APPLICATIONS OF THE QUESTION "THE BANK IN COMMON?«

Three complementary fields of application have been identified:

- the data "in common" necessary for a bank "in common",  
Testing "data cooperatives" emerged, in an specific approach to the ESS?
- the "territorial" commons to be preserved, promoted and financed,  
How can banks or financial organizations contribute to the development of the Commons on the territories? In what way can the reflection on the commons at the territorial scale bring something to the representation of the bank (bank as a third of reliance and trust)?
- the "financial commons", tools of place or financial tools "in common".

## IV - What next?

Hypothesis: solution will come from micro-emancipations, how to build basic solutions, local initiatives and how to put them in link?

How banks or financial organizations can contribute to the development of the Commons on the territories? In what way can the reflection on the commons at the territorial scale bring something to the representation of the bank (bank as a third of reliance and trust)?

# ACTTES action-research program (Activate Territorial Communes for Ecological and Solidarity Transition)

Carried out jointly with the Marne la Vallée ESS Chair and La Coop des Communs



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