

Financial Technologies Cooperative Ecosystem

IIII

whitepaper v2.5



eco
fintech
coop

Cooperative Ecosystem of Financial Technologies

Whitepaper v2.5

Juan Manuel Torroba Lamamiè de Clairac: Project Manager & Concept Idea

Ivana Andelkovic: Socio-economic & Humanistic Research

Cindy Zahnd: Data Analysis & Programmer

Camilo Andrés Toro Mejía: Software Developer & Blockchain Research

Web page: <https://ecofintech.coop>

Lean Canvas Business Model.



Corporate visual identity design by Ivana Andelkovic ([Brand guide](#))

Certificates:



Universidad Europea
Miguel de Cervantes



Associates:



0. Introduction.

Ecofintech Coop is a cooperative and activist ecosystem of financial technologies (guerrilla fintech) through which different participants, freelancers, projects and developers of distributed Blockchain and Information Technology solutions can collaborate to carry out fintech interventions of positive impact and sustainable local development.

Ecofintech Coop is a programme of application of financial technologies for development of sustainable and resilient local economies based on three axes of work:

- ▼ Digital infrastructure: open source, non-proprietary software and hardware tools for digital sovereignty and privacy.
- ▼ Financial infrastructure: Market access channels and cooperative crypto-economic strategies on Blockchain for economic sovereignty.
- ▼ Eco-industrial infrastructure: Decentralised, sustainable means of production based on renewable energy resources attracting investment capital to the circular economy, mutual property and the commons. Sovereignty in production and energy consumption.

Following these working axes, Ecofintech Coop offers fintech solutions for three general points on which Economic Democracy construction proposal is based:

- ▼ Self-management and independence of workers.
- ▼ Access to markets liberated from the corporate monopoly.
- ▼ Channeling of financial capital towards infrastructures of the common good.



1. Background.

Ecofintech Coop was born as a conceptual idea in 2017 as a result of long experience in projects and networks of alternative economy, fair trade, international cooperation and agro-ecological productive activities.

The idea that has lead us to design Ecofintech Coop is the transformative potential offered by the implementation of the new technologies of Blockchain (Internet of Value) and distributed peer-to-peer networks for use in the field of social economy, sustainable productive economy and models that facilitate liquid direct democratic governance and the development of financial sovereignty for cooperatives, associations, projects and communities. Ecofintech Coop intends to cover a necessary space of coordination, technical and professional financial planning that it will offer to existing initiatives and those that will be initiated in the years to come.

"In the same way, blockchain technology has made possible appearance of new projects and initiatives conceived around principles of decentralisation and disintermediation, offering a new platform for large-scale experimentation on the design of new economic and organisational structures."

Xavier Lavayssière, Primavera De Filippi

According to CEPES, social economy generates around 8% of the GDP of the EU, up to 10% in countries like Spain, and is formed by more than 43,000 companies that have created more than 2,000,000 direct and indirect jobs so far. The effects of the economic and environmental crisis, as well as the increase of distrust in the official control bodies, together with the progressive extension of decentralised and free access technologies, enable us to project the scope of potential growth of alternative economic and social sectors.

By expanding these small economies interconnected with each other in digital social networks, creating new economic spaces and replacing the old monopolist economic order, we can assume that new models of more participatory democratic political administration and internal structures of digital governance will also appear around them. They will act as an autonomous small-business sector offering quality services to the social movements, citizens and associations around them.



2. Objective.

Ecofintech Coop aims to promote and extend the use of conscious financial technologies (Conscious Fintech) making a positive impact on its surroundings; as well as offer tools and technical strategies necessary to provide digital and financial autonomy to individuals, communities and small businesses or cooperatives. Ecofintech Coop adheres to the political-philosophical principles of federative free association through which new models of administrative management based on systems of democratic autonomy and respect for individual liberties are revitalised; as well as the intention to replace global market controlled by large unethical monopolistic entities in favor of a liberated market built by fair and sustainable cooperative economies.

However, new technologies and especially new financial technologies – due to their novelty and technical complexity – are not easily accepted or used correctly by most people. Corporate and State actors are quickly taking over what was originally created by the Open Source community for the common good and are transforming its initial meaning into a new tool of social control and for acquiring selfish commercial benefits.

The fact that it is possible to eliminate dependence on central entities such as banks and large corporations implies an increase in responsibilities concerning individual and collective financial management, as well as a need for technical training and access to new digital and electronic tools. This represents an obstacle to its adoption in a sovereign way, without relying on intermediaries or commercial products.

Ecofintech Coop will promote the extension of federated global networks of local nodes with technical specialisation that, following these principles, will be able to offer services to cooperatives, movements, communities, innovative companies and ethical investors, with the aim of contributing to their financial autonomy, local economic growth, and the extension of self-managed forms of governance. The Ecofintech Coop nodes will at all times use the most appropriate Blockchain tools without commercial affiliation to any specific platform (which is referred to as "platform agnosticism") and prioritising those platforms and networks that promote a fair and sustainable economy.

Objectives to be reached by the nodes in their immediate surroundings are:

- ▼ Financial autonomy.
- ▼ Resilient and sustainable growth.
- ▼ Self-organised governance and decentralisation.



Ecofintech Coop will act as an adviser in aspects related to financial technologies for these social and economic actors, as well as online security and privacy; communication infrastructure; digital governance; crypto-economic strategies; management of crypto-assets and decentralised digital commerce; and any other related aspect.

EcoFintech's work philosophy is based on the following points:

Education, training and information – informing about the potential for social transformation available through new financial technologies and their practical application for bringing about concrete strategies. Analysing their risks and how to manage them. Informing and advising the community and their administrative organs about the use of the new blockchain technology for economic cooperativism and its use as a financial tool for free and democratic federalist entities.

Commitment to the community – promoting sustainable development, economic solidarity and social responsibility.

Social justice – supporting and energising fair and social local economies which allow for the development of effective public services accessible by anyone in any part of the world.

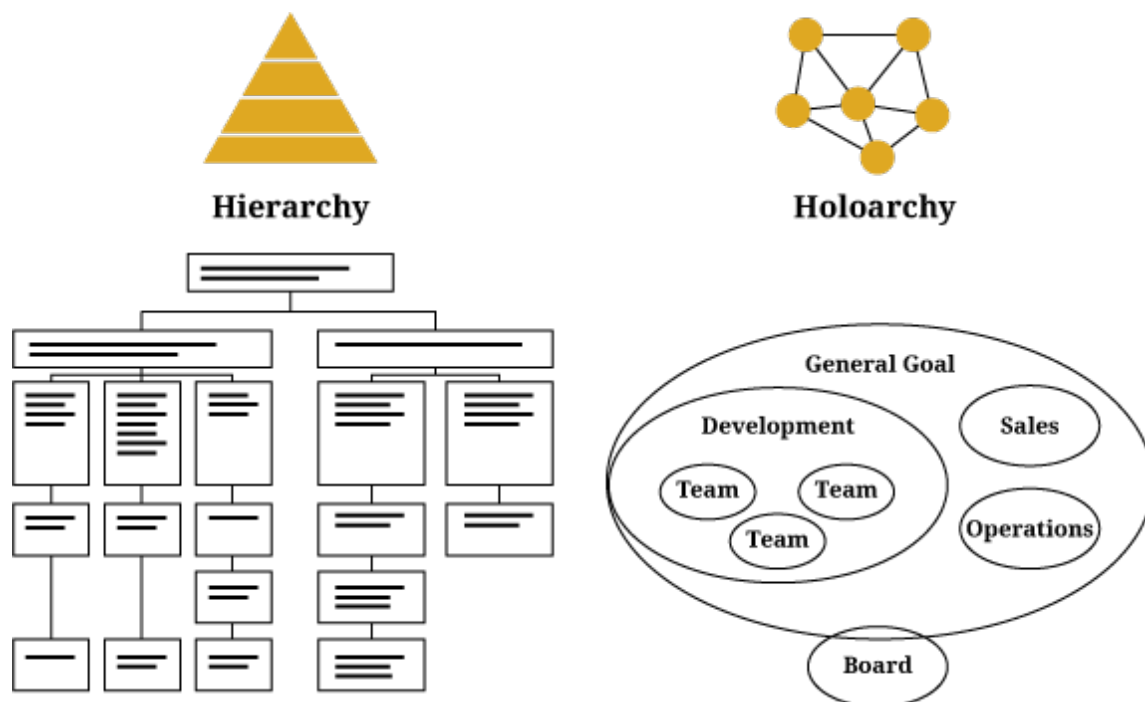
Supportive and moral economy – connecting autonomous territories, cooperative productive projects, innovative enterprises and grassroots democratic movements within an alternative global economic space.



3. Structure.

Ecofintech Coop is part of the s. Coop. “Cooperativa Integral Estraperlo” (Albacete, Castilla La Mancha, Spanish State) although the scope of its activities is international. Our organisational model is based on the Commons Oriented Open Collaborative Governance Model, adapted to its own digital holoarchic management structure type DACoP (Decentralised Autonomous Cooperative), whose characteristics have following advantages:

- ▼ Permitting a canal of logical extension for the network and the integration of as many people as desired for the development of missions and tasks.
- ▼ Catalysing the network and organising the participants towards common objectives.
- ▼ Providing a transparent governance mechanism based on consensus and voting.



Hierarchy vs. Holoarchy

Activities and tasks, collaboratively carried out by specialised teams, are organised into separate sections as follows:

Open-comms – Design of solutions for the construction of network infrastructure and points of access to an internet network. Advice on online security and privacy software tools (Open-source, VPN, kernel hardening, GnuPG, XMPP and Matrix clients, etc). Open



communications act as facilitators of services as providers, for example, guifi.net, ses-taferia.net or altermundi.net.

Ecophone – Distribution of mobile devices and other useful products of communication based on Open-source without Google analytical services or other forms of firmware invasive of privacy and spyware. Ecophone works mainly distributing software developed by [LineageOS](#) and [CopperheadOS](#), although soon it will include more advanced alternatives, but with decreased usability, such as [PostmarkerOS](#) or DIY hardware constructions on RaspberryPi. Ecophone is registered under the [Freedom-coop](#) cooperative (International Professional Platform SCE, Gäsele 31, 9495 Triesen, Liechtenstein, reg.No.: FL-0002.517.776-1). It initially used OCP platform, inspired by [REA](#) protocol (Resource Event Action) of accounting in circular economy systems. Ecophone is currently in its redesign phase although it has kept its commercial activity in Bazar.komun.org marketplace.

Permastructures – Project design section for permacultural productive infrastructures and eco-industry. Permastructures connects initiatives and ideas projected by experts in these new fields with local entities, development agents and investors. Permastructures promotes new forms of investment supported by the token-economy, which will offer crowdfunding services with STOs or utility tokens, token fragmentary properties of commons 2.0, experimentation in the application of IoT in the technification and eco-industrial automation, green energies, traceability, or other innovations in these areas.

Some of Permastructures' partners are [Editorial Kaicron](#), participating projects in [Fair-coop](#) ecosystem and [Pylon Network](#) platform.

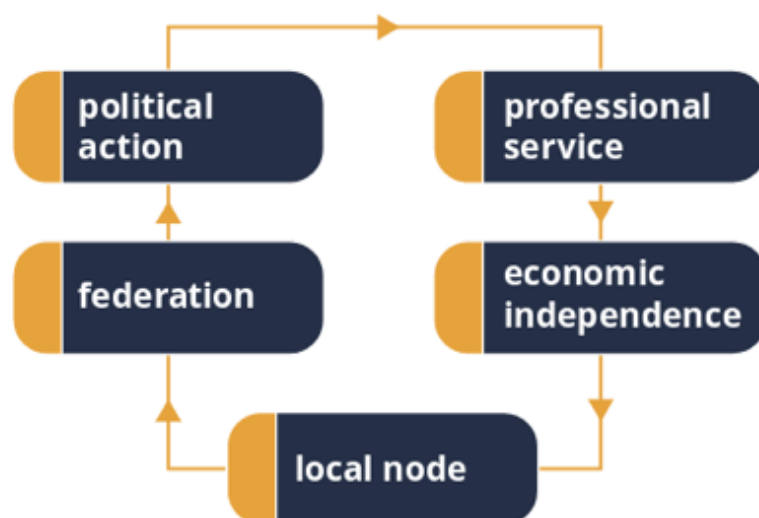


4. Activities.

The fintech services offered by the Ecofintech Coop nodes can be ordered in the following categories:

- ▼ **Education** for the extension and ethical use of Blockchain technology; advice in the new field of crypto-economy and conceptualisation of use of financial technologies, p2p networks and secure communications around sustainable economy projects.
- ▼ **Facilitation** in Blockchain sector and related services offered by third parties and freelancers participating in the cooperative or associated ecosystem.
- ▼ Establishment of distributed and resilient **hardware** infrastructure.
- ▼ Development and administration of open source **software** for specific Blockchain solutions.

Ecofintech Coop will offer non-profit services to alternative and humanitarian projects with funds designated for social development (work for the common good) and professional commercial services to individuals, companies and institutions that share these objectives, generating solvent economic activity (subsistence work). The synergy between these two parts – the services for the common good and the private initiative – will bring innovation, professional counselling and financial solutions to communitarian projects, as well as fidelisation, resilience and early amortisation to the ethical investors.



5. Tools for digital collaborative work.

E | cofintech Coop cooperative ecosystem uses various collaborative digital tools for coordination and communication among participants.

5.1 Multiplatform channels of communication within the community.

Chat rooms connected by bridges between different platforms (Telegram messaging client, Matrix / Riot collaborative platform with the possibility of including IRC and others) allow participation using different servers, decentralising dependency and vulnerability of only one server.

In the second phase, it will have its own Matrix protocol server, compatible with other federated servers, to deploy a completely independent infrastructure.

Telegram: https://t.me/joinchat/Iw2hJxEoq_-vM2gB6q7EAQ

Matrix: #ecofintech:matrix.org

5.2. Blogging and repositories.

Blog: <https://ecofintech.noblogs.org> (noblogs.org hacktivist server)

Github: <https://github.com/ecofintech>

Steemit: <https://steemit.com/@ecofintech> (experimental, due to a lot of administration requirements we are considering its closure)

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/EcofintechC> (experimental, we are also considering to close it due to its principles contradicting philosophy of decentralisation, even though we consider it necessary to reach a wider audience and maintain a public image).

5.3. Collaborative work managers.

Tasko. (<https://tasko.komun.org>)

Ecofintech Coop is a partner of the Komun project (<https://komun.org>), a platform formed by a community of libertarian and hacktivist developers participating in social and alternative economy projects.

Among the free tools, we chose Tasko ([Kanboard](#) software) to manage internal tasks using [Kanban](#) methodology of efficient teamwork organisation.

The marked tasks and their progress appear in the social channels through another bridge. This way the community can track the progress of the project, monitor activities and give feedback.



Paper. (<https://paper.komun.org>)

The pad is used for collective work on texts and concepts, and it enables direct feedback within the app.

Nubo. (<https://nubo.komun.org>) A cloud service developed on Nextcloud platform, combining functions like chat, deck, calendar, videoconferences, etc.

Ecofintech Coop will provide tools and digital resources suitable for coordinated cooperative work, paying special attention to the use of free software tools, decentralising the infrastructure of servers on which the ecosystem is based as much as possible and promoting spaces that will allow participatory management and use of collective intelligence.

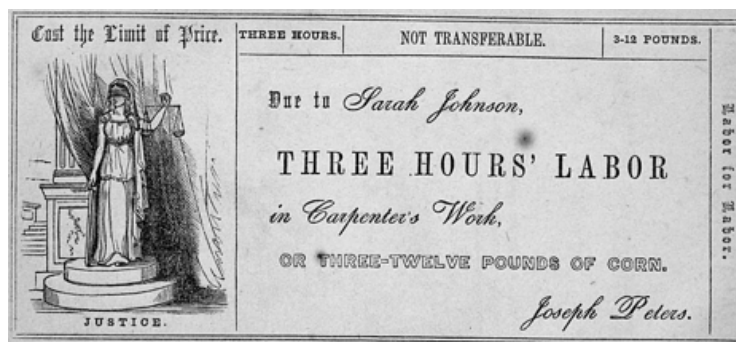


6. Smart contracts for compensation of internal tasks.

Ecofintech Coop pays for the tasks done using a model based on time invested in work on a task, using smart contracts within Blockchain network and following the Commons Oriented Open Collaborative Governance Model.

Labour-Value Token (LABOR)

Labour-Value token (LABOR) is a mutual debt and credit token through which we account for the loans given to support the project and use it as payment method for internal cooperative tasks. LABOR allows participation in the DACoop governance structure and decision making, which is reserved for stakeholders and workers of the cooperative. It is inspired by the classical theory of political economy and mutualist associations' practices (taken with a pinch of salt) and has a double purpose: it is used as a system of internal debt accounting and as a means to educate participants contributing work to use tokens and crypto-economic resources.



Labour voucher used in “Modern Times” mutualist commune for a period of time in 1851, inspired by cost the limit of price, one of the first experiences in social currencies.

Ecofintech Coop issues a virtualization of social capital equivalent to the work done or sponsorship loans received. Each Labour-Value Token (LABOR) is equivalent to three hours of work or “three-twelve pounds of corn”, which can be capitalised through an internal exchange using a common fund of the cooperative or cryptocurrency exchanges.

Labour within Ecofintech Coop is divided into three categories:

- ▼ Labour for the common good.
- ▼ Subsistence labour.
- ▼ Reproductive and care labour.

Participants in the ecosystem can self-initiate and carry out tasks that contribute to the common good on a voluntary basis and thus also enable the project to grow, for which they receive internal payments in LABOR.

The subsistence labour is crucial for the development of the economic activities of the cooperative, and is also remunerated using LABOR token.

The cooperative's common funds are to be used for exchanges to the participants who receive labour-value token and require cash to cover subsistence and investment expenses:

- ▼ 75% intended for exchanges of Tokens earned for subsistence labour

- ▼ 25% intended for exchanges of Tokens earned for labour for common good

The exchanges are carried out on a first in, first out basis (the so-called FIFO principle).

The Labour-Value Tokens that remain unsettled are accounted as circular investment labour-value (labor-value that is invested in the cooperative itself), giving rise to a system of mutual credit and circular economy.

The ratio between value-labour that is invested and settled serves as a means to solve the issue of competence among the participants when an external job is offered to the cooperative. It also enables to distinguish participants who invest more work and have more confidence in the project from those who approach it in a more mercantilist way.

More information:

[https://token.noblogs.org/post/2019/01/21/labor-value-token-lvt/#\[cast\]](https://token.noblogs.org/post/2019/01/21/labor-value-token-lvt/#[cast])

Token LOVE (Reproductive and care labour)

Care work consists of tasks that are fundamental for the reproduction and good emotional health of the project, as Feminist Economy teaches us. Some of the example of such tasks are seeking clients and alliances, managing projects, controlling quality, establishing relationships, generating trust, resolving conflicts, accompanying new participants, that is, concrete organisational tasks involving communication and emotions that easily go unnoticed because they are difficult to measure and quantify using culturally masculine patterns such as accounting, analytical thinking and productivity.

Care work can be assigned to the participants of the core team on a rotating basis or as part of individual initiative for which love tokens (LOVE Token) equivalent to hours spent on these tasks are received. The tokens of love can be cashed out from surplus value created within the cooperative or for individual economic needs.



Historical Credit

The sum of all Labour-Value and Love tokens, liquidated or not, that have passed through an account will be accounted as Historical Credit and reflect the total investment of work and responsibilities and involvement in the cooperative of each participant.

Although decision-making is based on votes depending on the Value-Labor tokens in membership, historical credit is used for special structural decisions such as blocks, significant changes in the structure of the governance model, changes in the legal structure of the collective, as well as veto rights.



7. Main developing projects.

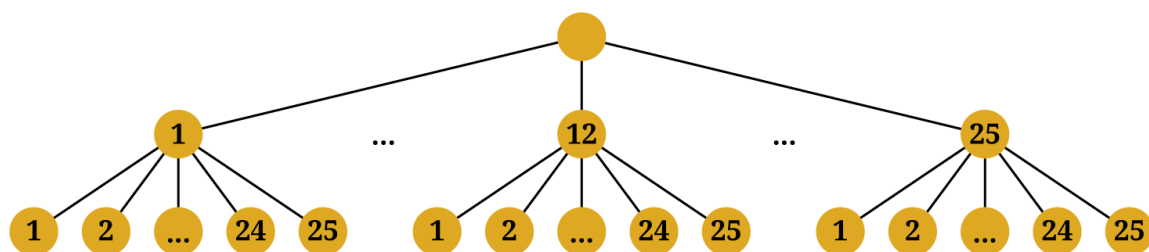
7.1 Confoederatio DTRADE.



(Brand guide by [Mariam de Lastres](#).)

Confoederatio DTRADE is a common blockchain infrastructure for federated trade relations of cooperatives, alternative projects and democratic autonomies, building its own economic space. It represents the first work in progress of Ecofintech Coop and is a basic pillar on which the network of nodes of the cooperative fintech ecosystem and independent associated actors will be built. Confoederatio DTRADE is a dapp for DAO (Decentralised Autonomous Organisation) governance with an integrated DEX (Decentralised Exchange) in it and other tools for issuing smart contracts and tokens. The platform will also promote the establishment of fair federated commercial relations by creating an alternative digital economic space based on common values of decentralisation, fair business, sustainable economy, transparency, liquid democratic autonomy and a liberated market. All operations taking place within the platform will leave commissions in order to create a common value reserve (called Ama-gi).

Confoederatio DTRADE will offer an organisational template based on democratic confederalist principles of organisation and participatory economy.



Nested council structure

Ecofintech Coop will offer services and education so that the participants will have at their disposal all the tools and knowledge, necessary for correct and independent use of the platform.

The federated entities using the platform Confoederatio DTRADE will have also have a legal structure in the form of an Association at their disposal for support, administration and certification: Democratic Confederation of Cooperatives Association – CDC.

More information:

[https://ecofintech.noblogs.org/post/2018/10/28/confoederatio-trade/#\[cast\]](https://ecofintech.noblogs.org/post/2018/10/28/confoederatio-trade/#[cast])

7.2. Ama-gi Token.

Ama-gi Token is a concept whose idea and name come from the first written word in history meaning "freedom" and refers to the first commercial contractual model and tokenised form of goods developed in Sumeria.



Graphic design by [Facundo Belgradi](#)

([Brand guide](#)).

The commissions for the use of Confoederatio DTRADE platform and voluntary tax commissions paid by cooperatives (including Ecofintech Coop) will form Ama-gi smart dividend contract. This contract will be distributed so that CDC Association will receive the initial 50% in order to cover maintenance tasks and financial infrastructure for the common good, whereas the other 50% will be offered in the free market.

Ama-gi is issued within RSK network, using Bitcoin as a value deposit and distribution of dividends.

