



 **CITIZENFUND**
COOPERATING FOR TRANSITION

THE ORIGIN OF THE PROJECT

- Through our activities, we meet many companies in the circular and collaborative economy
- Observation: the financing of these companies often remains complicated: type of shareholding, business model, investment horizon, governance, etc.
- Willingness to propose a solution that complements the existing financing formulas, to complete the system.
- A team project, driven by shared values and a committed vision.

THE FOUNDERS OF THE CITIZENFUND



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Axel Kuborn



Anthony Naralingom

THE FOUNDERS OF THE CITIZENFUND



- Private structure supporting SMEs in their search for public and private funding
- Advice in personnel management: packages, social and salary audits
- Commercial development of start-ups and SMEs



- Gather the actors of change around programmes of learning and experimentation on new technologies and new business models (circular, cooperative, collaborative)



- Pioneer of coworking in Belgium since 2008
- Open incubator
- The growing community workspace

OUR VISION

The aim of the Citizenfund is to enable every citizen and every company to become an actor of change.

We want to offer a different funding tool to support transition projects in a concrete way.

The Citizenfund differs from traditional investment funds by its cooperative governance, its long-term vision of investments and their impacts, and its transparency.

With the Citizenfund, cooperators invest first in a vision that will be translated into projects.

CONCRETELY

- A citizen investment cooperative in the form of a registered cooperative
- Ambitious transition projects in the circular economy and the real collaborative economy (replicable, deployable beyond the ultra-local dimension).
- A positive and unifying initiative, across the regions, to provide financial support for the societal changes underway.
- A complementary actor to other sources of financing (banks, public investment companies, subsidies, private investors, etc) to play the leverage effect
- A diversified risk for the cooperators

WHY ?

One day, says the legend, there was a huge forest fire.

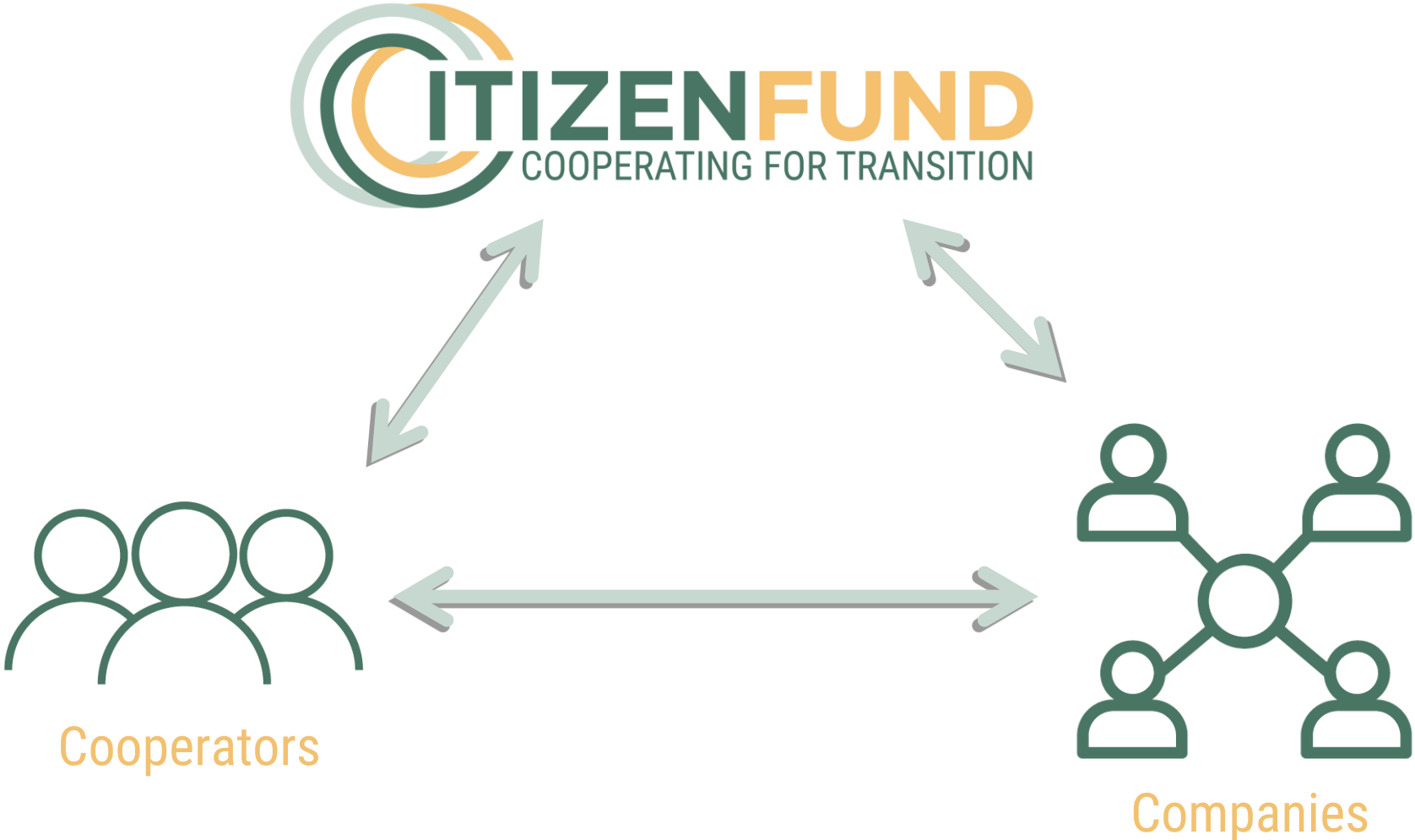
All the terrified animals, dismayed, watched helplessly the disaster. Only the little hummingbird was active, fetching a few drops with its beak and throwing them on the fire.

After a moment, the armadillo, annoyed by this derisory agitation, said to him : "Hummingbird ! Aren't you crazy? It is not with these drops of water that you are going to put out the fire ! «

And the hummingbird said, "I know that, but I'm doing my part."



A COOPERATIVE INITIATIVE



THE COOPERATOR

- Natural or legal person
- Subscription of units with a nominal value of 250 euros
- A one-off fixed fee of 10 euros per unit, on subscription.
- Long-term investment with the possibility of a maximum dividend of 6% (before withholding tax) on an annual basis.
 - Making your savings available, not a speculative investment
 - Remains a risky investment, which may result in partial or total loss.
- Participatory democracy: 1 co-operator = 1 vote, regardless of the amount invested

282 k€ - investment capacity

250 € per share

180 cooperators-investors

THE ROLE OF THE COOPERATOR

- Validates the selected projects
- Can be elected in the selection committee
- Can be elected as an observer in one of the participating companies
- May choose to invest time in the Citizenfund



CITIZENFUND

- Approved cooperative
- Legal constraint: maximum 5,000,000 euros collected over 12 rolling months
- Our target: 100,000 euros per year
- Architect of the citizens' initiative
- Board of Directors with independents
- No tax shelter

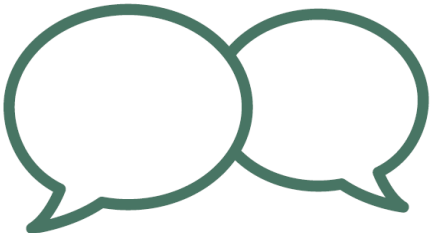


THE COMPANIES

- Active in the circular or collaborative economy
- Preferably in cooperative form but not exclusively
- Financial sustainability
- Capital investment or loan
- Investment at an early stage (startup) or later (scale-up)

The logo for urbi&e, featuring the word "urbi" in a bold, black, sans-serif font, followed by a square icon containing a stylized house or building, and the letter "e" in the same font.The logo for Incredible COMPANY, with "Incredible" in a red, cursive font and "COMPANY" in a black, sans-serif font below it. A green leafy vegetable and a red carrot are positioned below the text.The logo for WILFRIED, with "WILFRIED" in a large, black, serif font and "MAGAZINE. POLITIQUE. BELGE." in a smaller, black, sans-serif font below it.The logo for C|NÉC|TÉ, featuring the letters "C", "NÉC", and "TÉ" in a blue, sans-serif font, separated by vertical bars, all contained within a blue square border.The logo for Give a Day, consisting of a large, blue, stylized letter "G" with a circular arrow inside it, and the text "Give a Day" in a blue, sans-serif font below it.The logo for NEWB, featuring a blue circle with three horizontal white lines inside, and the letters "NEWB" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font below it.The logo for HAPPY HOURS market, with a yellow icon of a truck and a green leaf above the text "HAPPY HOURS" in a bold, black, sans-serif font, and "market" in a smaller, black, sans-serif font below it.The logo for WATO, with the letters "WATO" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.The logo for BC MATERIALS, featuring the letters "BC" in a black, sans-serif font inside a black circle, with the word "MATERIALS" in a black, sans-serif font below it.The logo for INCOFIN CVSO Micro-finance, with a green and blue circular icon above the text "INCOFIN CVSO" in a black, sans-serif font, and "Micro-finance" in a smaller, black, sans-serif font below it.The logo for LOCAL SONIAN WOOD COOP, with a circular icon containing the text "LOCAL SONIAN WOOD" and "COOP" in a black, sans-serif font.The logo for Entusia, with the word "Entusia" in a red, cursive font.

HOW IT WORKS



Selection



Validation



Follow up

HOW IT WORKS - SELECTION

- Identification of potential projects + unsolicited applications
- Joint Selection Committee (min 5 people): vote of 75% of the members
 - Experts in the fields of circular and shared economy (min 2 persons - positive decision required)
 - Founders of the Citizenfund (min 1 person)
 - Co-operators elected for a non-renewable one-year term (min 2 persons)
- Qualification of the project on the vision, team, commercial and economic side (scorecard)
- Co-funding approach possible with different types of actors, but without perverting the Citizenfund's DNA or creating an imbalance between funding sources.



HOW IT WORKS - VALIDATION

- Participatory democracy: if a project receives 50% + 1 vote from the cooperators: the Citizenfund invests in the project.
- Use of a secure platform



HOW IT WORKS - FOLLOW-UP

- Regular reporting to all cooperators on the project portfolio, with occasional focus on one or other project
- Regular monitoring of the companies involved, in collaboration with the elected observer
 - Maintaining the vision of the company, in line with the Citizenfund's DNA
 - Respect for commitments (e.g. wage tension)
 - Monitoring the figures versus the plan



AN ECOSYSTEM AT YOUR DISPOSAL

- Private and public actors at the disposal of the projects and companies involved
- In all fields useful for the development of these circular and/or collaborative projects
- The ecosystem is proposed, never imposed
- Some services are remunerated, others are not.
- But in complete transparency!



BECOME A COOPERATOR?

Visit www.citizenfund.coop and leave us your email address.

Send an email to info@citizenfund.coop

Fill out a subscription form today

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