

## OBJECTIF PLEIN EMPLOI A COMMUNITY PROJECT

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## Innovation and Employment Boost

For 10 years the OPE network has been committed to a solidarity-based economic system in Luxembourg. The goal of OPE is to promote social cohesion and to implement sustainable local development while creating employment. Therefore, new fields of activity are exploited and welfare projects are carried through.

Today, OPE is represented nationwide by its 30 CIG (initiative and management centers). With an average annual budget of € 28 million, 850 employees and 400 volunteers, OPE is the Grand Duchy's leading organization for solidarity-based economy and co-responsible for establishing a third economic space.

## ECOSOL according to OPE: True-life Solidarity

OPE has established a more humane economic system which focuses on the satisfaction of the people's needs. This solidarity-based model pleads for justice, tolerance, respect, democracy and mutual support.

For this, the economy needs to adapt to man, people must not be drawn into serving a system that demands development and prosperity at any price. This claim becomes the benchmark for the whole value chain and use of profit. The point is not the drive for profit, but the question of how profits are earned and spent.

## OPE Network

September 2009

850 employees  
400 volunteers  
54 municipalities  
30 associations



### Luxembourg

Area: 2 586 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 494 000  
of which foreigners: 43.7 %  
Employment: 336 315  
of which cross-border workers: 146 032  
Unemployment rate: 5.5 %

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**The 4 Pillars  
 of our Community Model**

The OPE activity circles around 4 poles:

1. Sustainable Local Development
2. Knowledge Sharing
3. Mixed Financing
4. Volunteering and Partnership

1

**Sustainable Local Development**

Realizing local community projects guarantees that the population draws an immediate benefit out of our work. For this reason, sustainable projects are being favoured and conducted by taking into account the quality of life of present and future generations.

**Fields of activity:**

- Promotion of social ties
- Reduction of the digital gap
- Artistic and cultural creativity
- Sustainable development
- Promoting tourist heritage
- Research & Development

2

**Knowledge Sharing**

**Community Education**

The purpose of community education is to promote “living together with mutual respect”. Everyone has knowledge, and everyone can learn from everybody else. Community education is not part of a vertical transmission of knowledge but of a mutual construction.

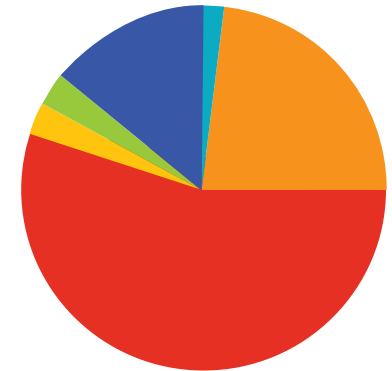
**Lifelong Learning**

OPE is a socially responsible employer. As such, it relies on the on-going contribution of its staff towards promoting and carrying out training. This in turn benefits each employee by furthering both professional and personal independence and the ability to take responsibility.

3

**Mixed Financing**

Nearly 80% of the overall budget of the last 10 years has been used for personnel expenditures; in that period of time, 5 000 people were hired by the network and 850 permanent jobs have been created. OPE pulls its resources of a mixed financing of private and public sources. Much of OPE’s work relies on the dedication of over 400 volunteers who are active in its network.



- 1% European projects
- 4% Volunteers
- 5% Income
- 13% Public procurements
- 22% Local authorities
- 55% Ministries

4

**Volunteering and Partnership**

The network is characterized by the commitment to volunteering of the population and an informal and formal partnership with representatives of politics and ministries, civil society, trade unions, the private sector, as well as of national and international institutions.