For an ecological transition income

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Tools of the communication

• Explain the theoretical context: build a link between social and environmental goals

• Define the proposition: what is an ecological transition income?

• Explore some concrete experimentation
Plan of the communication

1. Reminder of key arguments for an unconditional basic income (and its critics)

2. Proposal for an ecological transition income

3. Experimental tracks
1. Reminder of key arguments for an unconditional basic income

- In the 1990s:
  - Fight against the different aspects of the unemployment trap and poverty
  - Dealing with the lack of jobs and the end of the wage society
  - For a society of full activity
  - The question of financing (taxes, job rent, monetary creation and bank credit ...)

- Controversies:
  - Unconditionality? What level of allowance?
  - Risk of interventionism ? Risk on the labour market?
  - End of work? Risk of dualisation?

- Accommodations proposed:
  - flat tax, income participation (Atkinson 1993), partial allocation, tax reform and optimal taxation ...
  - Belorgey report in France (2000) and introduction of the RSA (2008) instead of the RMI.
1. Reminder of key arguments for an unconditional basic income

• In 2017:
  – Same arguments such as in the 1990s
  – Creation in France of the MFRB (2003) to promote a basic income
  – Loss and quality of work
  – Ecological argument...
  – Or economical?

• Controversies:
  – RBI versus guaranteed income
  – The question of financing (tax reform or adaptation?)
  – From the requirement of a right to moral justification (Van Parijs, 1995)
  – Equality of what? How to appreciate the real freedom?
  – Cold solidarity / only monetary income
2. Proposal for an ecological transition income

- Theoretical hypothesis: work still exist and need to be defended! But we have to take together social ans ecological goals.

- **Natural resources are limited**: the problem is not only about the climate change but on the 9 planet boundaries (Steffen et al, 2015).

- **How to help people and workers to fill with news jobs taking into account the planet boundaries?**

- Refusal of the ‘useless man’ (Giraud 2016).
2. Proposal for an ecological transition income

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2. Proposal for an ecological transition

income

• **Three main limits identified** for green job creation or transition (Swaton 2018):

1. Income limit *to start* a project (for instance, in agriculture, need for income security)

2. Limit of *coaching* or accompanying (not knowing how to start)

3. Limit of *reinforcing the community* (feeling of being isolated): need to share good practices, to be membership of a structure, a network.
2. Proposal for an ecological transition income

- **Three operating principles** for an ecological transition income (Swaton, 2018):

1. Income is *conditionned* to an ecological or social activity: job creation or to be created without changing the actual social protection.


3. Mutual resources: *adhésion* to a ‘democratic’ structure (cooperative, association, SSE, economic cooperation) including several shareholders.
2. Proposal for an ecological transition income

• **What kind of fundings?**
  • Classical ones:
    - taxes for negative externalities
    - extension of the social protection for ecological and social projects
  • More innovant:
    - fiscal stimulus and support for green industries
    - local currencies
    - experimentations

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3. Experimental tracks

- Possible link in France with the ecological transition contracts (Canfin and al., 2016)

- And with the experimentation l’initiative « Long-term unemployed zero territory » (TZCLD)

- Experimentation to come, for instance: Cœur de Savoie

- Linked to the philosophy and the mechanism of ETI:
  - A territory and an approach by the commons
  - Existing associations
  - Support in the continuance of the law
  - An action research
3. Experimental tracks

- Jobs to create in different areas:
- Energy, building (renovation of buildings, insulation, renewable energy ...)
- Waste, recycling (roadside collection, collective composters ...)
- Transport (bike paths, repair workshop, car-sharing ...)
- Agriculture (creation and maintenance of collective gardens, participation with farmers to improve natural ecosystems, composting, short circuits, permaculture ...)

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3. Experimental tracks

- Job creation in connection with ILO prognostic for 2050
- Activities also to be created in the field of support for people
- Social assistance and new social professions including the aspect of fuel poverty that affects more than 10% of people in Europe
- Services to communities, businesses, associations (e.g., supervision in canteens, education / awareness of children and older, intergenerational optics, sharing meals etc.)
Conclusion

- Ecological transition income *beyond* Basic Income

- Combine social and ecological aims

- Job creation / generate new services from needs identified locally thanks to the huge associative work

- Aiming to extend our social protection to ecological purposes not only as workers but as human being

- Experimentations are to be led / lobbying...?
Sources

- https://www.linfodurable.fr/educationcitoyennete/un-revenu-de-transition-ecologique-pour-changer-la-societe-2053
- https://lapenseeecologique.com/author/sophie-swaton/
Thank you for your attention!

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