

## LUXEMBURG

### Local development

#### Location

Atert-Wark

#### Programming period

2014 – 2020

#### Priority

P6 – Social inclusion & local development

#### Measure

M19 – LEADER/CLLD

#### Funding (EUR)

Total budget 17 993  
EAFRD 12 775  
National/Regional 5 218

#### Project duration

2017 – 2018

#### Project promoter

Vun der Atert sc

#### Contact

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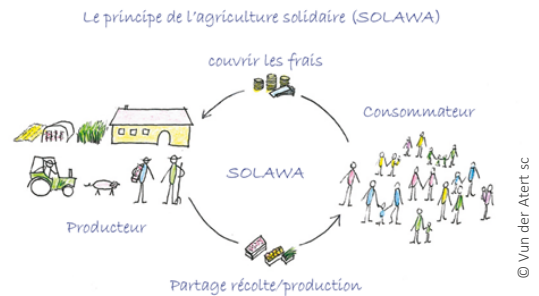
#### Website

[www.vunderatert.lu](http://www.vunderatert.lu)

An integrated, community focussed model for quality meat production based on short supply chains, working together, and exchanging experiences between consumers and producers.

## Summary

Using support from the LEADER measure, producers and consumers formed a partnership which developed a community-based meat production model. The concept was tested by five local breeders.



Consumers pre-pay the farmers for a period of six months or one year and, in return, they receive insights and influence the production process. For example, consumers can give the farmer a low-cost loan to enable the construction of a courtyard, or to convert to organic production. The cooperative is in charge of logistics and administration while a local butcher is commissioned with the preparation of the boxes and distribution.

## Results

The initiative helped producers and consumers to understand each other better. Farmers can now focus more on the needs of consumers and consumers learn about the work of food producers.

Within a couple of months, 85 participants ordered the 'meat aboboxes', which project promoters considered a very promising result.

## Lessons & Recommendations

- ❑ Local supply chains enable personal contacts between consumers and producers, promote exchange and a mutual understanding of daily challenges and needs.
- ❑ The meat box ordering system provides an opportunity to get a fair price for high quality food, produced locally.
- ❑ The initiative was based on a 'local exchange scheme' based on the Beki currency.

## Context

The cooperative 'From the Atert' was founded in Beckerich, in 2016. It brings together consumers and producers of the Redange county, with the support of the Local Action Group Atert-Wark. The cooperative sells local organic products in baskets to its subscribers, along with seasonal offers. The baskets are called 'Abobox'. The initiative was inspired by the 'Friends of the Earth' international network of environmental organisations which operates in 74 countries. It is also based on the French model of the Association for the Preservation of small-scale farming (Association pour le maintien d'une agriculture paysanne - AMAP). A vegetable grower, customers and refugees work together in this social inclusion scheme to ensure that customers receive a basket of vegetables every week, from April to November. The vegetables are collected every Friday and baskets that are not taken away - for example when a customer is on holiday - are given to the local refugee centre, or to the solidarity grocery in Redange.

A unique characteristic of the cooperative is that it allows customers to decide the price of the products. This enables low-income households to participate and buy fresh vegetables. According to Ingrid van der Kley, the cooperative's manager, *'high-quality vegetables should not be luxury products'*. If customers pay less than EUR 25, which is the normal subscription fee, accounts remain balanced because the production is then adapted to the budget. The 'Pay What You Want' concept is not yet widely known in Luxembourg. Yet 68 households had already subscribed in 2017.

## Objectives

The overall objective of this initiative was to create a short supply chain for local organic meat producers. This would allow the provision of quality food products and to promote fair, transparent, welfare-friendly and sustainable models of agriculture.

## Activities





The integrated, community-based model for meat producers was implemented for the first time in Luxembourg. It focusses on short supply chains, working together, and exchanging experiences between consumers and producers.

As part of the 'Solidarische Landwirtschaft in Luxemburg' platform, the concept was developed by a working group of producers and consumers supported by LEADER in the Atert-Wark region. In essence, producers and consumers

## Cooperative 'Vun der Atert' – A community based model for quality meat production

formed a partnership that comes together in regular meetings. They were accompanied by an external expert who facilitated and documented the process. The working group examined community-based initiatives in Germany and elsewhere to develop a strategy for the region. Awareness events were also organised (including tasting regional products, lectures, etc.) to enhance the number of participating consumers and producers. The concept was tested by five local breeders.

Eis Aboboxen „Vun der Atert“

1	2	3	4
			
<b>Beisecht „Vun der Atert“</b>	<b>Guss „Vun der Atert“</b>	<b>Poulet „Vun der Atert“</b>	<b>Trio „Vun der Atert“</b>
Abobox +/- 6 kg <b>20,60 €/kg</b>	Abobox +/- 5 kg <b>13,20 €/kg</b> (from Brebauer) <b>10,70 €/kg</b> (Marque Nationale)	<b>10 €/kg</b>	Abobox +/- 11 kg <b>15,65 €/kg</b> (Bauer 5 kg vom Brebauer / Schwinn 5 kg vom Brebauer) <b>16,90 €/kg</b> (Bauer 5 kg vom Brebauer / Schwinn 5 kg vom Brebauer) <b>10 €/kg</b> (Poulet vom Brebauer)
Mix vu Steak, Filet, Entrecôte, Faar Filet, Rumsteak, Burger, Ragout, Geschneizelles, Kachflossch mat anere Schenk, Brot, Rouladen, Wänsossiss, Gefacktes, Mettwurst, ...	Mix vu Kotlatten, Schnitzel, Brot, Ragout, Rippcher, Geschneizelles, Bretwurst, Mettwurst, gepreste Cordou Bleu, Wuppen, Gefacktes, ...	De Poulet ka bei all Abobox separat derbill bestallt ginn. <b>Georges Weis</b> Poulet vom Brebauer	<b>Georges Weis</b> Bio / Schwinn / Poulet <b>Famill Goedert-Diaviceur</b> Bio / Anquet / Flackeli / Schwinn <b>Claude Loutsch</b> Marque Nationale / Schwinn <b>Patrick François</b> Bio / Limousin <b>Famill Linden-Wirih</b> Bio / Jongrand / Blonde d'Aquitaine
<b>Patrick François</b> Bio / Limousin <b>Famill Linden-Wirih</b> Bio / Jongrand / Blonde d'Aquitaine <b>Famill Goedert-Diaviceur</b> Bio / Anquet / Flackeli	<b>Georges Weis</b> Bio / Schwinn <b>Famill Goedert-Diaviceur</b> Bio / Schwinn <b>Claude Loutsch</b> Marque Nationale / Schwinn		

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Consumers pre-pay the farmers for six months or one year and, in return, receive insights and influence production. In many cases they steer farms towards biodynamic, or organic production. In some cases, consumers give the farmer a low-cost loan to enable the construction of a courtyard, or to convert to organic production. The cooperative is in charge of logistics and administration. A local butcher in Redange is commissioned with the preparation of the boxes and acts as a distributor. The distribution is monitored throughout every step of the process. During the first steps of the initiative almost 60 subscribed – which was a very promising start.

This initiative is part of a wider action placed under the umbrella of 'Beki', which was launched in 2012. It is a local currency used by more than a hundred shops and service providers from the Redange area. One share in the cooperative equals to 150 Beki or euros.

The cooperative engages in other activities to support community-based agriculture. It finances projects and as soon as they became self-sufficient, the money goes back to the fund. The cooperative runs a local volunteering scheme where help is needed such as in vegetable gardening (cultivating varieties, seed breeding); bread baking; contributing to administrative tasks and running the cooperative store.

## Cooperative 'Vun der Atert' – A community based model for quality meat production

### Main Results

Both producers and consumers get to understand each other better. Farmers focus on the needs of consumers and consumers learn about the work of food producers.

In just a couple of months, 85 participants ordered the 'meat abo-boxes', which was considered by the project promoters as a very promising result.

### Key lessons

Local supply chains enable personal contacts between

consumers and producers, promote exchange and mutual understanding of daily challenges and needs. From this personal contact, a culture of mutual respect grows.

This initiative follows local food supply chain models. The meat box ordering system provides an opportunity to get a fair price for high quality food, bred locally.

The concept was co-designed and belongs to the wider 'local exchange scheme' based on the Beki currency.



Basket with fresh vegetables from the cooperative



Peasants at the turn of the 19th

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### Additional sources of information

[www.aw.leader.lu/fr/projets/solawa-solidaresch-landwirtschaft-ater-t-wark-commune-de-beckerich](http://www.aw.leader.lu/fr/projets/solawa-solidaresch-landwirtschaft-ater-t-wark-commune-de-beckerich)