



COMMONCOIN

A new alternative currency, conceived for financing cooperative production, anti-accumulation and anti-speculative use, developed with a media and digital technology, but politically controlled by the communities that use it.

The idea was born during the conference Alternative Currency and the Institution of the Commons², organized by Effimera¹ and Macao .

This laboratory merges together skills and thoughts from marxist and post-operaist theory, clearing house, bitcoin and crypto currency experts, and communities based on self-determination, self- organization and open source culture.

CLEARING HOUSE

We refer to a closed system in which the sum of credits and debts is always approaching zero. The value of this system is that the currency is conceived as ex-nihilo and always going back to nihilo.

BITCOIN

We recognize in bitcoin the first globalized alternative currency phenomenon ever been. Bitcoin signifies digital coin based on an anonymous peer to peer transaction. The amount of bitcoin in circulation is limited by a system called 'mining'.

We are skeptics how the bitcoin system is captured and functional to an high financial speculation, and we critic the part of the algorithm dedicated to the 'proof of work'.

PROOF OF WORK, MINING, SCARCITY AND FINANCIAL SPECULATION

In the bitcoin algorithm the way to put more money in circulation is the so called mining. Several computers spread in the world are working, processing the network of transactions. The existing quantity of bitcoins is rooted on a work proof. The more these machines are working, more bitcoin are generated. This system has two main effects: the system is based on scarcity of coin, that's way the value floats on the financial market. The second aspect is that the quantity of money needs a lot of energy. That's way the generation of bitcoin is far away from an ecological prospect.

AUTENTICATION

How to recognize that the payment is not fake.

CIRCULATION

How to follow every transacions in order to check how each wallet/user is operating.

POLICY

If we consider the architecture of a cryptocurrency divided in three main axes: work proof, circulation and authentication, we decided to keep for the design of commoncoin's algorithm only circulation and authentication. The attempt is to take out from the machine, from the automatization of the algorithm, the work proof issue.

The community of users could decide the policies inscripted in the use of the currency. We propose as policies of the commoncoin: minimal wage, negative interest, generative trascsations and basic income.

¹ Effimera: <http://quaderni.sanpre-cario.info/about-effimera/>

² Alternative Currency and the Institution of the Commons: <http://www.macaomilano.org/appuntamenti/convegno-moneta-del-comune> and <http://www.macao.mi.it/rivista/spip.php?rubrique8>

MINIMAL WAGE

If the currency is used to pay work we can fix a minimal wage that the transactions have to respect

NEGATIVE INTEREST

The more you don't spend your amount of money, the more your wallet misses value.

GENERATIVE TRANSACTIONS

we would like to stimulate every kind of transactions that generate others cooperative work on the same circulation system

BASIC INCOME

The way to introduce currency in circulation is a basic income. Everyone that is in the community of exchange, receives a constant and basic amount of money. Everyone has to be able to have a basic amount to produce.

ON LINE PLATFORM

The platform on which the community can manage the wallets: it contains the discussions and it determinates every possible change and adjustments of the policy, the map of the spaces that are producing by commoncoin, and the display of the request and offer.

MAP

Because commoncoin is community based, is important to show in one view in the on line platform in real time, which are the production spaces, providers of work or services that recognize commoncoin.

SELF-DETERMINATION

The community that is defining and using this alternative currency has to self-organize in order to be the institution of the common. the on line platform as to provide tools to organize the governance of this institution.

REQUEST AND OFFER

The on line platform has to be the main place in which the users can find the real time request and offer, for every possible transaction in commoncoin.

