

# Giacomo Bazzani

## **PhD Thesis**

Trust, cooperation, and solidarity: a sociological explanation of money effects.

## **Abstract:**

Complementary currencies are often a laboratory for new forms, uses, aims, and effects of money. Sardex complementary currency was born in Sardinia in 2010 and within a few years reached 4,000 members among Sardinian companies. Interest-free credit is given to companies to buy products from other companies in the network. Neither credit nor debt produces interest in Sardex. The research aims to understand the economic and social effects of Sardex. Initial findings suggest that a complementary currency may support: i) demand for goods, a competitive market, and local development; ii) trust in economic and social relations; iii) an ethic of economic behaviors and the emergence of a collective political interest in economic actors.