

Initiative...

A European first: Lumo is launching the general public SolarCoin as a second income for its crowdfunders, in partnership with the SolarCoin Foundation.



Alex RAGUET – Co-founder of Lumo, the first participative funding or « crowdfunding » platform dedicated to the funding of renewable energy-linked projects, has also been convinced that energy transition and the fight against climate change must be grasped by everyone, and in particular the general public, in an educational, participative and above all positive way. It is this philosophy that has prompted him today to launch, on an a European exclusive basis, the very first SolarCoin certificates as a second income for

his crowdfunders committed to energy transition. Over and beyond the return on a cash investment – the entrepreneur sought a translation of his desire to raise the status of the investors engaged in positive and constructive ecology, in order to offset in particular the idea of an exclusively punitive ecology – based on penalising or sanctioning the polluters.

Created in 2012, Lumo is a French crowdfunding platform that enables private individuals and small and medium-sized investors to participate in the funding of projects linked to the renewable energies. Identified and selected by the Lumo teams on the basis of very strict criteria (local base, continuity, transparency and general interest), the green projects are proposed to the crowdfunders that invest and they receive interest remunerating the capital loaned to the project. The gross annual interest rate is approximately 3 to 5 %. Of the projects already funded by the platform, we find for example the installation of solar panels on the Farm of the GAEC de la Voie in Dienne (86), the renovation of the Courteron windmill (10) for the development of micro-electricity or again the creation of a new alternative energy supplier – ekWateur in Paris.

It was in 2014, with numerous projects already in the process of being funded on his platform that Alex Raguet – the founder of Lumo - heard for the first time of SolarCoin – a financial innovation launched in the USA designed to provide token remuneration for the environmental commitment of major companies. The entrepreneur kept a close watch on the matter and decided in 2016, just when NASA was beginning to take great interest in it, to get in touch with the SolarCoin Foundation in order to propose a rollout test of SolarCoin in France, via his Lumo platform. The idea of being able to broaden the *distribution range of SolarCoin to a wider and more numerous public with small sums*

invested prompted the SolarCoin Foundation to set up an exclusive partnership with Lumo until March 2017 to test it out as a 2nd income for crowdfunders.

Launched initially with Lumo 50 crowdfunders having taken part in the funding of the installation of 180 solar panels on the roof of [the primary school in Aytré](#) , near La Rochelle (17), SolarCoin is being tested at the same time in South Africa, in Cape Town, with a community de 60 crowdfunders of an equivalent platform – The Sun Exchange, Lumo and The Sun Exchange will therefore be the test lab of this new token ‘remuneration’ raising the status of the commitment made by the general public.

After having been informed they have earned « SolarCoin » certificates as a second income, the crowdfunders are invited to keep them and capitalize them in a SolarCoin Foundation e-certificates account. Although the SolarCoin only has a token value for the time being, Lumo hopes over the medium term to be able to set up bigger crowdfunding projects to then attract big international companies and set in place a SolarCoin value system that would enable the purchase of goods and services. Certificates to put therefore preciously to one side!

Go to the [Lumo](#) website or the [SolarCoin Foundation](#) website for more information.

[Back to the European Energy Transition Conference website](#)