

## LEARNING PATTERNS

### Cooperation Dynamics

Promoting cooperation instead of competition between individuals, groups and organisations, and across sectors.



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*"There is no better evidence of the progress of civilization than the progress of cooperation"*  
John Stuart Mill

#### Tag:

Social. Building Community & Embracing Diversity

Economy. Local Economies Shifting the Global Economy to Sustainability & Local Economies

#### Challenge

Our socio-economic system revels in a logic of competitiveness. It instills in us a deep seated belief of "win-lose" and the prevailing economic system leads us to think that we have to compete and be better than other people or companies. This idea that if other people "win" then I "lose" is a belief that is deeply entrenched in us. However, the idea of a Solidarity Economy and the cooperative movement generally challenges this logic and proposes an alternative. Instead, the idea and logic is that cooperation can help us to strengthen the organizations and projects although it is important and necessary to design appropriate structures and dynamics to help this unfold.

#### Solution

Design of structures for intercooperation at different levels:

- **Reproductive Cooperation:** are the dynamics of support that require us to share resources that have a finite form.
- **Productive cooperation:** such as promoting productive projects, developing new product lines or services that incorporate the knowledge and skills of different organisations.
- **Representative Cooperation:** this is the dynamics of participation that encourage organisations to support each other through representation in networks or platforms.
- **Cooperation in productive innovation:** development of networks of production, distribution and consumption of goods or services such as the social market
- **Financial cooperation:** structures that facilitate access to credit between neighboring entities within the same association or group.

#### References

<http://www.im-pactes.eu>

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