

PRESS RELEASE
Paris, 10 March 2017

THE ACTION TANK & SOCIAL BUSINESS, SUPPORTED BY THE REXEL FOUNDATION, HAS BEEN SELECTED BY THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMY AND FINANCE AS AN ELIGIBLE PROJECT FOR A SOCIAL IMPACT CONTRACT

The *Action Tank & Social Business*, co-chaired by Martin Hirsch (former French High Commissioner for Active Solidarity) and Emmanuel Faber (CEO of Danone), is in the final selection of projects eligible for social innovation contracts, as announced on 2 February by the Ministry of Economy and Finance and the Secretary of State in charge of Trade, Craft Industries, Consumption and the Social Economy. The Rexel Foundation assisted the Action Tank in compiling the dossier for the social impact contract on precarious jointly-owned properties, and thus contributed to the dossier's certification.

Social impact contracts are a government initiative supporting social prevention and innovation programmes designed to generate new solutions to issues such as social exclusion.

With this system, key social players, such as associations, can finance a prevention scheme through a private investor, who will be reimbursed by the French government if certain social impact targets are met.

In this context, the *Action Tank & Social Business* aims to oversee the renovation of 20 precarious, deteriorating co-owned properties, only charging the residents a moderate sum, and to encourage inhabitants' involvement in the governance of their property. The *Action Tank & Social Business* wishes to start large-scale energy retrofits (representing real energy savings of over 35%) in six out of a group of 20 precarious properties pinpointed for assistance in the Paris area, within a maximum timeframe of five years.

The Action Tank estimates the savings for the State via this scheme at €2.1 for every euro invested, as regards the objective of six renovated properties within the five-year contract for the 20 assisted properties.

An assessment will measure the benefits for the inhabitants of each co-owned property in terms of improving the management and conditions of apartments, the energy label, changes in residents' consumption habits, the end of fuel poverty, and the property's value. The scheme's success will be measured according to the number of properties actually renovated.

PRECARIOUS CO-OWNED PROPERTIES DIFFICULT TO RENOVATE

In France, energy retrofitting and rehabilitating precarious properties are a crucial issue for the Public authorities.

- 15% of co-owned properties are considered precarious, i.e. 100,000 properties and one million apartments (a 5.1% increase between 2011 and 2013).
- 5% to 15% of co-owned property apartments are on the verge of becoming dangerously precarious.

The Energy Transition Act and the PREH (housing energy renovation plan) aim to renovate 380,000 private apartments starting in 2017, with an obligation for completion by 2025 for apartments with an F or G energy label (30% of apartments in France). Co-owned private properties are the segment with the most difficulties: more than individual or social housing.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Social impact contracts : www.economie.gouv.fr/appele-a-projets-contrats-a-impact-social-reunion-des-acteurs-europeens-de-l-innovation-sociale (in French)

The Ministry of Economy and Finance's press release: <http://proxy-pubminefi.diffusion.finances.gouv.fr/pub/document/18/22076.pdf> (in French)

ABOUT THE ENTERPRISE AND POVERTY ACTION TANK

Co-chaired by Martin Hirsch (former High Commissioner for Active Solidarity) and Emmanuel Faber (CEO of Danone), the *Action Tank & Social Business* unites companies, organisations, and the academic world around a common purpose: helping to reduce poverty and exclusion in France by developing economically sustainable projects.

For more information: www.at-entreprise-pauvrete.org/en/

The association has been supported by the Rexel Foundation since 2014 as part of an action-based research project to finance the renovation of co-owned properties that have deteriorated through urban densification.

For more information: www.rexelfoundation.com/en/social-innovation-projects/energy-retrofit-of-precarious-jointly-owned-properties

ABOUT THE REXEL FOUNDATION

The Rexel Foundation for a better energy future was founded in May 2013 by the Rexel Group, a leader in the professional distribution of products and services for the energy world, under the aegis of the Fondation de France. The Rexel Foundation's mission is to promote access to energy efficiency for all based on three key pillars: community projects across the world in partnership with NGOs or other foundations, social innovation projects through its social entrepreneurship platform, and knowledge and academic research in the field of energy efficiency innovation. Over three years, the Rexel Foundation has launched more than 60 initiatives in 20 countries with over 50 partners. For more information, please visit: www.rexelfoundation.com/en

ABOUT REXEL GROUP

Rexel, a leader in the professional distribution of products and services for the energy world, addresses three main markets - residential, commercial and industrial. The Group supports its customers to be at their best in running their business, by providing a broad range of sustainable and innovative products, services and solutions in the field of technical supply, automation and energy management. Rexel operates through a network of some 2,000 branches in 32 countries, with more than 27,000 employees. The Group's sales were €13.2 billion in 2016. Rexel is listed on the Eurolist market of Euronext Paris (compartment A, ticker RXL, ISIN code FR0010451203). It is included in the following indices: SBF 120, CAC Mid 100, CAC AllTrade, CAC AllShares, FTSE EuroMid, STOXX600. Rexel is also part of the following SRI indices : FTSE4Good, STOXX® (STOXX® Global ESG Impact, STOXX® Low Carbon indices Global, Europe et EURO), Ethibel Sustainability Index Excellence Europe and Dow Jones Sustainability Index Europe, in recognition of its performance in corporate social responsibility (CSR). For more information, visit Rexel's web site at www.rexel.com

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