



## tgi EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



tgi stands for teaching, giving, learning and is a software platform in which skills exchange and volunteering generate a new local currency. This currency is called 'L', for local, loyalty, life-long learning, leisure, liquidity...and having an L of a time! Its value is secured on local creative and collaborative activity; while its purchasing power is linked to the national currency, so L1=£1, \$1, Euro1 and so on.

Local traders use the tgi e-commerce systems to attract customers by accepting L in lieu of discounts. In effect, they can 'discount for value' as opposed to making standard price reductions. L is recycled through the L Bank, which provides standard on-line banking facilities to all members, including payments via SMS. The software presents a 'virtual village', with multimedia systems to display products, services, swaps, courses, projects and volunteering opportunities. A principal aim is for social networks to mature as 'social, **cultural and economic** networks'.

Each member has their own Home Page to build their personal and business profiles using simple 'tools'. A barter sign can be added to offers to extend options and encourage participation; for example, seeing the barter sign in a bike 'shop', you search the owner's MYtgi profile and find that they're seeking violin lessons. As a violin tutor, you offer to give them lessons instead of money; or, you agree combinations of L currency, goods and services.

In effect, tgi members can exchange and barter goods, services, skills, talents and knowledge while generating local debt-free, spending power. They can bond within their own communities by choosing inclusion and collaboration. Local 'cottage industries' can find fertile ground to grow while local media productions can produce a 'living library' of innovative and inspirational community activities.

The tgi 'Alt-Pay' system can widen the payment and barter options to any other alternative currency systems that wish to collaborate. Thus, the L Bank provides an equivalent to PayPal for alternative currencies, with mobile phones used as electronic wallets for payment. This facility can be extended to include transfers of traditional money and to link to EPOS systems.

tgiHUB licenses provide a new business model and market presence to members able to build a critical mass of like-minded members within a specific arena, such as education, health, entertainment, leisure, family, food or sport. Hubs are focal points for exchange, barter and aggregation of knowledge, ideas, projects, interests and purchasing power. They can cover a geographical area or a particular interest group, or both. Offers are displayed on tgiTOWN maps, with pop-up adverts linked to member Home Pages.

After the initial local pilots, income will come from small fees, charged to members only when they use tgi e-commerce systems to promote and exchange their goods and services. tgiHUB licensees will share the fee income to enable them to develop and manage services to their members.

Ongoing, the objective is for the licensee networks to collaborate; while the 'Co-Lab' brand and model evolves to represent best practice and innovation in each category. No doubt, there is untold potential for diverse, inter-related networks and markets to grow and cross-fertilise for common good.

### Further Reading

[Pilots Outline](#)

[Developing HUB Co-ops](#)

[All Activities Generate L](#)

[Current Pilots](#)

[Sample impact studies](#)

[BACK to videos](#)