

## Rheinau in Südkorea

Die Provinz Gyeonggi in Südkorea startete am 29./30. April 2019 ein Projekt zum bedingungslosen Grundeinkommen. 175'000 Personen im Alter von 24 Jahren erhalten während eines Jahres je den Betrag von umgerechnet ca. 250 Franken alle drei Monate, d.h. 1'000 Franken im Jahr. Die Gemeinde Rheinau war auf Einladung der Veranstalter mit zwei Personen offizieller Gast an den zweitägigen Eröffnungsfeierlichkeiten in Suwon-City.

### Was bisher geschah

Auf Initiative von Filmemacherin Rebecca Parnian lancierte der Gemeinderat Rheinau am 5. Juni 2018 das Projekt „bedingungsloses Grundeinkommen“.

Jede Einwohnerin und jeder Einwohner von Rheinau sollte, abgestuft nach Alter, einen monatlichen Betrag von 625.-- bis 2'500.-- Franken zur freien Verfügung erhalten. Damit wurde in der Schweiz, trotz gescheiterter Volksabstimmung, der erste konkrete Versuch in einem zeitlich und örtlich begrenzten Rahmen gestartet. Das Projekt konnte jedoch nicht wie geplant durchgeführt werden, weil das Geld mittels Crowd funding nicht zusammengekommen ist.

### Grossangelegtes Projekt in der Provinz Gyeonggi, Südkorea

Die Idee des bedingungslosen Grundeinkommens wird seit vielen Jahren in den verschiedensten Ländern heftig diskutiert. In einigen Regionen werden zeitlich begrenzte Versuche durchgeführt, so z.B. in Kanada, Finnland, Indien. Auch in Südkorea startete vor einem Jahr in Seongnam (ca. 1 Mio. Einwohner) ein Versuch. Dies hat unter anderem auch dazu beigetragen, dass das Interesse bei Jungen für sozialpolitische Themen, an Politik ganz allgemein, deutlich gestiegen ist.

Der damalige Stadtpräsident Jae-myung Lee ist mittlerweile zum Gouverneur der Provinz Gyeonggi (ca. 13 Mio. Einwohner) gewählt worden und dehnt nun sein Projekt auf die ganze Provinz aus. Alle Personen im Alter von 24 Jahren sollen während eines Jahres insgesamt rund 1'000 Franken zur freien Verfügung erhalten.





Die Kosten belaufen sich auf rund 175 Mio. Franken. Die Beträge werden jedoch nicht in der Landeswährung ausbezahlt, sondern in einer Lokalwährung. Das Geld kann deshalb nur in lokalen Klein- und Mittelbetrieben ausgegeben werden. Mit dem Projekt werden somit nicht nur die 24-jährigen jungen Leute gestärkt, sondern es ist gleichzeitig ein gewaltiger Impuls für die Klein- und Mittelbetriebe (KMU). Aus diesem Grund wird das Projekt denn auch massgeblich von der Wirtschaftsförderung der Provinz mitgetragen.

Südkorea hat eine Geburtenrate von 0,97. Umfragen haben gezeigt, dass Heirat und Familienplanung insbesondere in finanziell schlecht gestellten Schichten als Belastung angesehen wird. Das aktuelle Programm zur finanziellen Stärkung junger Leute soll dem zumindest ein klein wenig entgegenwirken.

Dies umso mehr, da geplant ist, die Bezugsberechtigung jährlich um ein Jahr zu erhöhen, so dass letztlich Personen im Alter von 19-24 Jahren vom Grundeinkommen profitieren werden.

Die Finanzierung erfolgt aktuell über Steuergelder. Künftig könnte die Finanzierung aber zumindest teilweise durch die Erhebung von Steuern auf sogenannte Allgemeingüter erfolgen. So jedenfalls wurde in einem Vortrag dargelegt. Wer solche Allgemeingüter wie z.B. Strassen, Plätze, öffentliche Transportmittel, Wälder, Seen, Berge, Wasser und auch den Luftraum über einer bestimmten Höhe benutzt (Hochhäuser, Antennen), der soll eine entsprechende Abgabe entrichten. Je mehr jemand diese Bereiche nutzt, desto höher ist die zu leistende Abgabe.

### Big Data Commons & Dual ownership model of platform companies

- One of the most increasing shares in today's economy does not emanate from labour but from data extracted from human activities. The central question is how the future progressive governments will deal with Big Data.
- Barcelona Initiative for Technological Sovereignty (BITS): City Data Commons (Bria, 2018)
- Big Data and Value Creation: the value of data collected from individuals can be enormous but the value emanating from a single person is virtually zero. It is only on an aggregate level that the data become valuable
- Dual Ownership Model: Thomas Paine (1969[1796]), James E. Meade (1993[1964]), Yanis Varoufakis (2016).

Abgabepflichtig sind jedoch nicht nur die oben genannten räumlich abgrenzbaren Flächen und Räume, sondern z.B. auch das in den öffentlichen Universitäten geschaffene Wissen und letztlich auch „big data“.

Damit gemeint sind z.B. Daten der statistischen Ämter wie auch Daten, die Unternehmen sammeln, wenn sie in Kontakt mit ihren Kunden sind.

### 1-2. The Bright and Dark Side of the Korean economy

2) Low birth rate/ Aging society

- Total fertility rate: 0.97
- The lowest birth rate in the world and Korean history
- The elderly population: 14.4%
- The fastest aging rate in the world

# Was ist bedingungsloses Grundeinkommen und weshalb soll es künftig ausbezahlt werden?



Wer ständig um seine Existenz fürchtet, hat kaum die Möglichkeit, sich Gedanken zur Umwelt und zu politischen Vorgängen zu machen. Durch die Auszahlung eines Betrages sollen die Bedürfnisse so abgedeckt werden, dass ein menschenwürdiges Leben auch ohne permanenten Stress möglich wird. Dadurch wird den Menschen wertvoller

Freiraum zur persönlichen Entfaltung gegeben.

Was die Finanzierung anbelangt, so sind sich beide Gruppierungen im Grunde genommen einig: Durch die fortschreitende Technisierung (Informatikanwendungen etc.) dürfte es für breite Bevölkerungsschichten immer schwieriger werden, sich den Lebensunterhalt durch Arbeit zu verdienen.

An der Eröffnungskonferenz in Suwon (Südkorea) vom 29./30. April 2019 wurde von den Referentinnen und Referenten aus Südkorea und den eingeladenen Gastländern ausführlich diskutiert, weshalb es ein bedingungsloses Grundeinkommen überhaupt brauche (vgl. Folien).

Es sind vor allem zwei Strömungen auszumachen, die allenfalls in der Vorgehensweise unterschiedlich sind, letztlich jedoch auf denselben Überlegungen basieren. Die eine Gruppe fokussiert auf die Situation im eigenen Land. Je nach dem jeweiligen Land und der aktuellen Situation sollen Arbeitslose, Bauern, Frauen, junge Leute etc. finanziell gestützt werden, so dass sie vermehrt oder gar überhaupt am öffentlichen Leben teilnehmen können. Für diese Gruppe steht die Stärkung der sozialen Strukturen im Vordergrund. Die andere Gruppe stellt die Verantwortung gegenüber der Menschheit ganz allgemein ins Zentrum.

## Concept of Basic Income



### What is Basic Income?

"It is a periodic cash payment unconditionally delivered to all on an individual basis, without means-test or work requirement." (BIEN)

### Five Components of Basic Income

- ① Universality      ② Unconditionality      ③ Individuality
- ④ Periodicity      ⑤ Cash Payment

\* Sufficiency is under controversy.



Fresecurity, Innovation and Basic Income Experiment

## Dependent Variable

### Dependent Variable: Work (Better Job) & Life (Better Life)

<b>Work (Better Job)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jobseeking and Provision of Labor</li> <li>• Employment Relationship and Self-Development</li> <li>• Innovation and Entrepreneurship</li> </ul>
<b>Life (Freer Life)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Time Use and Consumption</li> <li>• Happiness</li> <li>• Family Formation</li> <li>• Residence</li> <li>• Healthy</li> <li>• Community Participation</li> </ul>



Aus Platzgründen kann hier nicht auf die diversen wissenschaftlichen Vorträge näher eingegangen werden. Sie können beim Gemeinderat Rheinau bezogen werden.

## Wie kommt die Gemeinde Rheinau zur Einladung nach Südkorea?

Die Einladung kam anfangs März mit folgendem Schreiben via Südkoreanische Botschaft nach Rheinau:

*„Warm greetings from the Gyeonggi Provincial Government in the Republic of Korea. To help your understanding, Gyeonggi Province is the largest local autonomy in Korea both population and economy wise. Since the inauguration of Governor Lee Jae-myung, Gyeonggi has been working very hard to implement Basic Income in the province. In this regard, Gyeonggi is preparing a global conference to share up-to-date information and have serious discussion with prominent experts across the world in this coming April 29-30.*

*The presence of Rheinau is all the more meaningful for us in that the city already took a bold and pioneering step in experimenting a basic income. We are very serious about learning from your case before we take the initiative in an earnest manner. It must be the best case if we could have an honor Mayor Jenni as an esteemed speaker, but other officials who could share the story of Rheinau will definitely be appreciated. We will offer two roundtrip air tickets, accommodation and other arrangements you may need for your stay in Korea.”*

Der Gemeinderat hat entschieden, dass der Gemeindepräsident Andreas Jenni und Rebecca Panian, die Initiatorin des Rheinauer Projekts, die Gemeinde Rheinau in Südkorea vertreten sollen.



## Ablauf der Konferenz

An der zweitägigen Konferenz waren über 20 Vorträge namhafter Wissenschaftler aus Südkorea zu hören. Zudem waren aus weiteren Ländern Gastredner eingeladen, welche aus den Erfahrungen in ihren Ländern berichteten. Vertreten waren China, England, Finnland, Indien, Japan, Schweiz, Spanien, USA.

Über Mittag und am Abend fanden zudem gemeinsame Essen mit allen Referentinnen und Referenten statt, an denen auch hohe Repräsentanten aus Politik und Wirtschaft vertreten waren. Damit ergaben sich weitere Gelegenheiten, sich zu diesem interessanten Thema auszutauschen.



Die zweitägige Veranstaltung wurde von mehreren tausend Personen besucht. Das Interesse in der südkoreanischen Presse war enorm.

Diese neun Personen (Schweiz vertreten mit zwei Personen) waren alle in demselben Hotel untergebracht und nutzten die Gelegenheit, das Kontaktnetz zu pflegen und Erfahrungen auszutauschen.

Alle offiziellen Rednerinnen und Redner konnten in einem Vortrag von 30-40 Minuten über die Ergebnisse berichten und die eigene Sicht der Dinge schildern und waren zudem noch in einer Panel-Diskussion vertreten.



## Bedeutung für Rheinau



Das Projekt in Südkorea hat für die Gemeinde Rheinau soweit ersichtlich keine direkten Auswirkungen. Der Gemeinderat nimmt aber mit grosser Genugtuung zur Kenntnis, dass das Rheinauer Projekt doch offensichtlich auch im fernen Asien wohlwollend zur Kenntnis genommen worden ist. Anders ist es nicht zu erklären, dass die Gemeinde mit Andreas Jenni und Rebecca Panian zwei Personen nach Suwon, der Hauptstadt der Provinz Gyeonggi schicken konnte und zwar vollständig auf Kosten des Gastgebers.

Ausserdem gab es wunderbare Rückmeldungen nach dem gemeinsamen Vortrag von Rebecca Panian und Andreas Jenni. Die Teilnehmerinnen und Teilnehmer der Konferenz waren begeistert zu hören, dass ein von Bürgerinnen und Bürgern initiiertes Projekt zustande gekommen ist.



***Der Gemeinderat wie auch Rebecca Panian danken an dieser Stelle nochmals allen Personen, die sich für das Rheinauer Projekt engagiert haben und sich auch künftig engagieren. Selbstverständlich wird das Projekt in Gyeonggi, Südkorea, weiterhin intensiv verfolgt. Gerne berichten wir, wenn sich Neuigkeiten ergeben.***

## Gemeinderat Rheinau

*Nachfolgend abgedruckt der Vortrag, den Andreas Jenni und Rebecca Panian gemeinsam gehalten haben (gekürzte Fassung).*

## Präsentation von Andreas Jenni und Rebecca Panian

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**VILLAGE TESTS FUTURE**

We want to test the unconditional basic income in a Swiss village.

**A TRIAL IN RHEINAU – SWITZERLAND**

GEMEINDE RHEINAU

**Governor Lee**  
**Ladies and Gentlemen**

It's a great honor for me as Mayor of Rheinau to participate in the 1<sup>st</sup> Gyeonggi Province Basic Income International Conference. I'm very happy to meet so many important people from all over the world here in Gyeonggi Province. Together we will discuss the Basic Income, perhaps the most important socio-political issue of the future.

Switzerland has a gross domestic product (GDP) of more than 80'000 US dollars per capita, making it one of the richest countries in the world in economic terms. Switzerland also has a very low unemployment rate of less than 3%. In addition, Switzerland has a very well-developed social system based on three pillars:

**Economic Situation**

- GDP: 80'000 US Dollar
- Unemployment rate: ~ 3 %
- Well developed social system

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1. Säule 2. Säule 3. Säule  
AHV ≈ IV BVG ≈ UVG 3a ≈ 3b  
Das Sozial-System der Schweiz

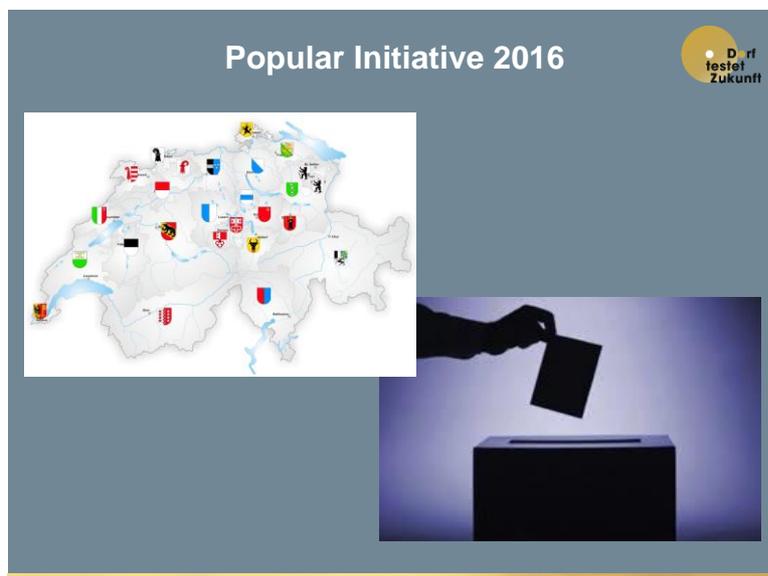
Drf  
festel  
Zukunft

The first pillar is old-age and survivors' insurance (AHV). This is Switzerland's mandatory state pension scheme. However, the AHV only guarantees basic needs. The second pillar is the occupational pension scheme. It's designed to ensure your current lifestyle after retirement. The third pillar, self-provision, is intended to fill gaps and finance other needs.

The question therefore arises as to why an economically successful country with such a good social security system should be concerned with the question of a basic income. The answer is simple: *if we want to be successful in the future, we should ask the right questions now.*

Switzerland is a direct democracy. This means that the voters can not only elect parliamentarians every four years, but they can also regularly vote on proposals. Voters can also submit popular initiatives. In other words, they can put topics to the vote on their own initiative and don't have to wait until the politicians submit a proposal to the voters. In 2016, the popular initiative entitled "For an unconditional basic income" was put to the vote. The popular initiative wanted the state to pay out a certain amount of money to all people, regardless of how much money they earn and how much wealth they have.

The basic income is unconditional because you receive the money without having to do anything for it. With the unconditional basic income (UBI), every person should be able to live a humane life and participate in public life even without a gainful employment. The popular initiative, on the other hand, didn't mention how the basic income should be financed and how high the paid



amount should be. However, the initiators assumed that all adults would receive an amount of 2,500 CHF, which is equal 2,500 USD, and children and young people an amount of 625 CHF, equal 625 USD. An annual amount of about 210 billion USD would be necessary.

The financing was planned as follows: The UBI would replace part of the previous social security, which would then no longer be needed. That would be an amount of about 55 billion USD. In addition, it was planned to deduct 2,500 USD per

month from every adult's earned income. This would result in an amount of approximately 130 billion USD. This would leave a balance of about 25 billion USD. Where this amount would be coming from remained unclear. One possibility would be to increase the value added tax (VAT) by 8%. A micro-tax on financial transactions would also be conceivable. The popular initiative, as I mentioned, didn't lay on any rules. It would be up to the Parliament to create a bill to that effect. The people should only make the fundamental decision as to whether the UBI should be introduced at all.

The vote took place on 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2016, almost exactly three years ago. The topic was discussed in the newspapers and on the radio and television very controversial and engaged. One action received special attention: The supporters of the popular initiative poured 8 million 5-cent pieces onto the square in front of parliament. That is a 5-cent piece for every inhabitant of the country. The campaign was so effective in the media because 5-cent pieces in Switzerland are made of brass and therefore look like gold pieces.

In the end, however, only 23% of the people voted yes for the popular initiative.

Why didn't the popular initiative stand a chance? There are certainly various reasons why so few people voted yes at the time. One important reason is that Switzerland already has a very well-developed state social security system and private savings are also very important. Even if the concern for jobs is certainly widespread, there are relatively few unemployed, at least compared to other countries. Many people told themselves that while the topic might be interesting, they don't want to experiment because they already have very comfortable social conditions.

A popular initiative often serves to check out the mood for political change. If the initiative gets a certain quorum, the pressure increases for the government to take up the issue on its own. But if a popular initiative finds very few supporters, there is a great danger that the issue will no longer be on the political agenda for many years to come. Due to the bad result in the vote, this danger also existed for the idea of an UBI in Switzerland. Nevertheless, there were and are many people and groups from almost all political camps who find the idea of an unconditional basic income very interesting and important. There were many discussions, but what was missing was a concrete project. A project in which the idea of the UBI can be put into practice.

In January 2018, Filmmaker Rebecca Panian has gone public and said that she's looking for a village that is willing to test the UBI for one year. The aim of this attempt was not only to discuss the UBI theoretically, but also to carry it out in a concrete attempt.

**Rebecca Panian:** When we could vote for the unconditional basic income (UBI) in 2016, it was the first time I heard about this idea ever: "Every human being should receive enough money to live, without any conditions attached. A *basic-appreciation* for everyone".

I jumped for joy and instantly saw a world without existential fear, where people could take a break and breathe and ask themselves what they really want to do in life. Fewer people caught in traffic jams to get to a

job they don't like and only do for money. Fewer people who are usually so stressed and busy that they hardly have time to eat, let alone to pay attention how sustainable they live overall. All the energy and potential that could be set free!



The idea probably sounded so logical and comforting to me because over the last ten years I gradually took myself *out of the system*. It all began with some sort of a *Matrix-Moment*: when I discovered my passion in life – film – it started to collide with the familiar image of a good life: working full time, earning as much money as possible and saving for the old age. So, I reduced my costs of living and my working-time for money to a minimum, to have as much time as possible for people and projects I deeply care about. Since then I'm

healthier, less stressed, more conscious and happier. But with the vote on the UBI I realized something else: that it has only been possible thanks to our direct democracy. For me it's an important sign of respect and I hope for a future where this will be normal for everybody.

Now, the idea of the UBI was in my head and I wanted to know more. It didn't need much to discover powerful voices from economy, art and politics, which basically all said, that some sort of basic income is inevitable in the future. And believe me: When I heard, a Swiss banker saying that – I listened.

The more I researched, the more I painfully realized that we should change our current system anyway and as fast as possible out of ecological, economic and social reasons:

The way we live, act and consume today is poisoning us and destroys our basis of life, our home. It's like we are on a very bad drug. And our social system is in danger to collapse due to automation.

Whether we like it or not: our system is *out of date*. Aside from that we should really ask ourselves: *Do we want to keep saying: you have to work for money so you can live.*

*Or do we want to live in a world where we can say: You get money to live, to be able to work.* It was Götz Werner, founder of DM, a successful drugstore chain in Germany who said that.



To learn more why 77 % of the Swiss population said no, I travelled to villages and interviewed their inhabitants. It became obvious quite quickly that most of them put the idea aside as nonsense without thinking about it or they provided easy counter-arguments such as:

- You can't finance that anyway.
- Everybody gets lazy.
- Why should we change anything? We're doing fine, aren't we?

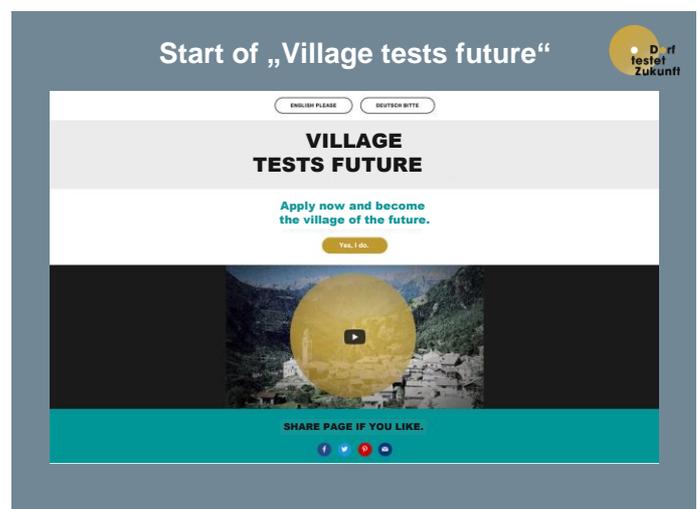
I wondered: Did they all forget that not too long ago people had to fight hard for the social system we have now? There were actually three votes necessary to make our pension system happening in 1947.

Could a UBI be a base for a new, sustainable and fair system? I don't know. But we better study and test it as well as we can before we throw it in the bin and do nothing, since we really have to change our system. So, how was it possible to get more people interested in the idea and its possibilities? I am a craftswoman and I truly believe in the power of doing. So, a test was the logical next step. Why in a village is simple to answer: It was important to me to test it in an existing community, since the idea should be a basis for a new system and therefore for everybody. With all its rules and laws a village is like a mini-country and if it's working there, why not in the whole country?

Aside from that – a test in Switzerland could be valuable to the worldwide discourse because if it gets tested in a rich country, it's not primarily to fight unemployment or poverty but to find a new possible system. The idea of the trial was born. I tried to get Swiss UBI-organizations on board but they all had other projects going on. So, either I would start alone or the idea was dead.

I've never been an activist before and not at all politically active. And – who was I to publicly search for a village? Aside from that, many people told me: *Sweet idea but you will never find a village.* But when the US presidential election happened the same year, the result made me incredibly angry and sad at the same time and suddenly I was confronted with the question: Do I really want to live in a world where people with values and mindsets like that lead countries? No. I don't. I could no longer hide behind the phrase: I can't do anything anyway.

On the 10<sup>th</sup> of January 2018, I went public with the project "Village tests future". I created a simple homepage and asked Swiss citizens to propose villages, where it would be possible to test the UBI.



The conditions for the trial were simple: The trial should last for one year. Of course, that's a short time but it's a start and who says it couldn't go on after year 1? Furthermore, I didn't want to scare people away by saying: let's test it for 10 years.

There should be a close cooperation between the local council, the participants and the project team to figure out the details of the trial. Every adult should get 2500 dollars. Every child gets 625 dollars. A crowd funding will finance the trial, not only because I couldn't access tax money with a civil society project, but also because the focus of the project was the community. Therefore, the idea was that one community tries out the basic income (the village) and another one finances it (the crowd). In the end, everyone would profit from the generated insights and results through experiences and scientific observation with which we could also contribute to the worldwide discourse.

„Rules“ of the project

- Cooperation between village and project team.
- Duration: 1 year – as a start!
- Adults get 2500 dollar. Children get 625 dollar.
- Trial will be financed by a crowd funding.
- Contribute insights to the worldwide discourse.

Thanks to the press I got more than 100 applications. Rheinau was one of them. Two villages invited me and my small team for a meeting but only the local council of Rheinau said yes and dared to present the project to its inhabitants. It was a small sensation. Rheinau was also an enormous stroke of luck, because statistically the village is a mini-Switzerland and it's simply beautiful.

Why did Rheinau say yes?



**Andreas Jenni:** Rheinau is a small municipality with 1,300 inhabitants, so the project is manageable. Rheinau has a very broad political spectrum, it means that all major political parties are represented. The inhabitants of Rheinau are regarded as very open to new ideas.

How was the project launched? The local council didn't have the opportunity to decide on its own participation, as it cannot change the applicable laws itself. Therefore, only a voluntary project was possible, that means every inhabitant of

Rheinau had to decide for themselves whether he wanted to participate or not. The municipal council presented the idea of participating in the project to the residents of the municipality for the first time on 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2018.

**Rebecca Panian:** On the 31<sup>th</sup> of August 2018 a big information event took place in Rheinau. Over 350 people came, which was amazing. Fortunately, I could attach more people to the project team who also worked for free, including four scientists: a psychologist, specialized in labor, a sociologist, an economist and a linguist. They also wanted to focus on, whether the inhabitants would change in any way and how: Would they give up jobs? Would they engage more with the community?



It's important to me to emphasize that we never wanted to test a possible financial model. Our model simply served the goal to test the UBI as real as possible:

- it gets paid individually regardless of the marital status;
- it is high enough to live a modest life and participate in social activities;
- it is unconditional;
- It is not just additional money;
- it is a safety cushion and has to be financed by redistribution of money and taxes.

### UBI Rheinau

Paid individually regardless of marital status. ●

High enough to live a modest life. ●

No conditions. ●

Not additional money. A safety cushion. ●

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● Age 0-18	625 Dollar
● Age 18-22	1'250 Dollar
● Age 22-25	1'875 Dollar
● Age 25 +	2'500 Dollar

We wanted to get the participants into a *UBI-feeling* as best as we could. Therefore, we chose to pay the UBI at the beginning of each month: Adults would get 2500 dollars, young adults a little less and children 625 dollars. If a person has a job and therefore an income at the end of the month, and if this income would be as high as the UBI they received or higher, he or she would pay back the UBI into the UBI-village-pot. This was important to show that the money should circulate and that it's not just more money on top. If someone earned less – let's say 1500 dollars – this person would pay back that amount into the pot so in the end this person would have 1000 dollars more at each month. If a person had no income, let's say a housewife or husband – she or he could keep the UBI. If a person had a job but wanted to quit and just live from the UBI for a year that would have been possible as well.

Since the community was the driving topic in the whole project we said that we needed at least half of the population – 651 people – otherwise the trial would not make sense.

The inhabitants could register from the 31<sup>th</sup> of August till the end of September, either online or on paper. That month was nerve wrecking! For days, I kept pressing the refresh button on our homepage to see how many had registered already until we had 770 participants in the end, which was simply unbelievable. Another obstacle was out of the way.



**Andreas Jenni:** Once it was clear how many people wanted to participate in the trial, the project team could calculate how much money was needed.

For the project to last one year, and to be able to pay the UBI for 770 people at the beginning of each month, an amount of 6 million dollars was required to secure the cash flow.

With the crowd funding, we wanted to enable as many people as possible to participate in the project with a larger or smaller amount. We also didn't want the money from only a single foundation or a single

big sponsor. The idea to bring the money together through crowd funding was very daring, because there has never been a crowd funding in Switzerland where the amount of 6 million dollars should have been raised.

Although the team tried their best, it wasn't possible to raise that amount in the end. This stopped the project, which was very unfortunate. This also meant that the planned scientific evaluation wasn't possible either. So, we cannot give an answer to the following questions:

- What would happen in the community?
- How people would change their lives when they suddenly receive money without any condition attached?
- Would they quit their jobs or would they start to work part time?
- Would they go on holiday for a year or would they start to work voluntarily for the community?

**Rebecca Panian:** Although the trial didn't happen the project was a success in my eyes because in only three months great things had happened:

- In contrast to the popular initiative, where the UBI was sort of far away and abstract, it got personal with the project *village tests future*. People really started to think about what a UBI could mean for their lives and with that they asked important and clever questions and delivered valid input.
- Some inhabitants – mainly women – did change their lives only because of the discussion going on in the village: a mother of three set up her own business even though there was no money in sight. Another mother of two children quit her job because she only did it for the money and had no purpose.
- People told me they had started to talk to neighbors and other people in the village with whom they've never talked more than *hi* and *bye* up until then. It brought them closer together and because of the discussions they discovered talents on each other they didn't know were there before.
- And finally: in January, a couple of inhabitants started to meet and founded a group called Rheinau 2.0. They want to continue talking and thinking about the basic income in the village, which I think is wonderful. I'm part of the group as a consultant and for whatever they need.

It was an emotional and wonderful ride with Rheinau and it's not over yet. I filmed the whole journey and I will continue working on the documentary that explores the basic income, questions our existing system and above all asks: *What future do we want?*



Thank you!



**Andreas Jenni:** When I am asked whether the project in Rheinau was a success or a failure, I always say: Even if the project cannot be carried out as planned, it was still a success for the following reasons:

We have succeeded in getting many people from the community of Rheinau to deal with an important socio-political issue over a period of several months. They began to think about the sense of gainful employment and expressed their views publicly. Moreover, about two years after

the popular initiative, we succeeded in bringing the topic back into all the newspapers and on television. We have thus succeeded in ensuring that this important issue isn't forgotten.

The most beautiful thing, of course, and I say this out of the deepest conviction, would be if the trial could start after all. Perhaps this conference here in Gyeonggi Province will help the Rheinau project to pick up speed again. We only need 6 Million dollars...

If the project cannot continue, we can still look back on a very interesting year. This commitment and enthusiasm of the inhabitants of my community Rheinau makes me proud.

Rebecca and me want to say thank you to all our colleagues in Rheinau and the project-team and the scientists who worked so hard for the trial and made sure that the idea of the unconditional basic income is very much alive and gets stronger every day.

***Thank you! Gamsa hamnida!***