

Donation of 1,400 computers

BGL BNP Paribas supports social inclusion and the circular economy

With a view to promoting social inclusion and the circular economy, BGL BNP Paribas has donated 1,400 of its used desktop and laptop computers to two charities specialised in giving a new life to IT hardware and getting people in to work: Digital Inclusion and Ecodair.

After being cleaned and wiped of their data by BNP Paribas Group volunteers working on the *1MillionHours2Help* programme, these computers will be reconditioned by or for individuals who are struggling.

What next?

By recycling this computer equipment, the two recipient charities will enable vulnerable individuals to get back on their feet through work and access to computers - an essential part of economic and social reinsertion.

Patrick de la Hamette, chairman of Digital Inclusion, was delighted with *"this gift of computers - the biggest donation that Digital Inclusion has ever received. It's a great opportunity. Given the current events in Ukraine and large number of refugees arriving in Luxembourg, this computer equipment will be more useful than ever"*.

According to Isabelle Pélissié du Rausas, Head of Sales at Ecodair, *"this donation supports the creation of long-term jobs for the disabled people working for us and those looking to get back into work; it will also enable us to further our commitment to narrowing the digital divide. At Ecodair, we really believe in the establishment of meaningful partnerships like this one, based on the key issues of the circular economy and getting vulnerable or disabled individuals into the workplace"*.

As vital components of sustainable finance, social inclusion and the circular economy are an integral part of BGL BNP Paribas' strategy. Béatrice Belorgey, Chair of the BGL BNP Paribas Executive Committee, said: *"By giving a second life to our computers, we help make IT equipment accessible to those who need it in their daily life while limiting the environmental impact"*.

About Digital Inclusion

Digital Inclusion (www.digital-inclusion.lu) is a non-profit organisation created in 2016 with the aim of helping people in Luxembourg who are excluded from the digital world. In addition to digital inclusion, the project promotes the circular economy and use of digital resources to facilitate social inclusion in Luxembourg.

16 employees and numerous volunteers work at the Luxembourg City site and provide services and lessons in different languages, including those spoken by refugee communities in Luxembourg, such as Tigrinya, Arabic, Persian and more recently Ukrainian. Classes have been taken by more than 2,000 people and include digital literacy, digital citizenship in Luxembourg, and computer-assisted language learning.

Within the field of the circular economy, the interactive and educational computer re-use workshop has reconditioned more than 4,000 computers and hundreds of smartphones. Devices have been distributed to those in need (in Luxembourg), in conjunction with social partners.

Since 2022 the project has been financed by the Ministry of Family Affairs, Integration and the Greater Region.

About Ecodair

With 150 members of staff, Ecodair – a player in the social and solidarity economy – gives new life to IT equipment by reconditioning it. Founded in Paris in 2004, the charity follows a business plan spread across three areas:

- giving a second life to its partners' computer equipment by reconditioning it, thereby reducing the digital carbon footprint;
- providing long-term work for disabled individuals and those trying to get back into the workplace, through an ambitious social project aimed at increasing the employability of, and support for, vulnerable people, especially those who are suffering mentally;
- helping to narrow the digital divide by widening access to quality equipment.

About BGL BNP Paribas

BGL BNP Paribas (www.bgl.lu) is one of the largest banks in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and a member of the BNP Paribas Group. It offers its retail, professional, corporate and private banking clients a particularly wide range of financial products and bancassurance solutions. At 2020 year-end, BGL BNP Paribas employed 2,252 people in Luxembourg.

In 2021, BGL BNP Paribas was named Best Bank in Luxembourg for the sixth year in a row by the international magazine Euromoney.

About BNP Paribas

BNP Paribas is the number one bank in the European Union and a leading international player. It operates in 65 countries and has close to 190,000 employees, including over 145,000 in Europe. The Group holds leading positions in its three major operating divisions: Commercial, Personal Banking & Services for all of the Group's commercial banks and several specialist business lines including BNP Paribas Personal Finance and Arval; Investment & Protection Services for savings, investment and protection solutions; and Corporate & Institutional Banking, centred around Corporate and Institutional clients. With a solid model that is both diversified and integrated, the Group guides its clients (private individuals, non-profit organisations, entrepreneurs, SMEs, large companies and institutions) and helps them to achieve their goals by offering funding, investment, savings and protection services. In Europe, BNP Paribas has four domestic markets: Belgium, France, Italy and Luxembourg. The Group is also implementing its commercial banking model in the Mediterranean countries, Turkey, Eastern Europe, and US west coast. A top international bank, the Group has leading business lines and platforms in Europe, a strong presence in the Americas, and a solid and rapidly growing presence in the Asia-Pacific region.

BNP Paribas assumes its social and environmentally responsibility in everything it does, contributing towards the development of a sustainable future while ensuring the performance and stability of the Group's work.

Press contacts:

Eliane Thines	(+352) 42 42-62 64	eliane.thines@bgl.lu
Emmanuelle Humann	(+352) 42 42-26 41	emmanuelle.humann@bgl.lu



**The bank
for a changing
world**