S.E.VET Success Stories from Luxembourg

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Founded in **2022** by environmental educator Julia Gregor, **on.perfekt** is a cooperative based in Marnach focused on reducing food waste. It rescues aesthetically "imperfect" but perfectly edible fruits and vegetables—items typically rejected due to cosmetic standards—and redistributes them via a weekly subscription box, on-site shop, and B2B partnerships. Every Friday, the cooperative packages and distributes rescued produce via subscription boxes, retail sales, and wholesale partnerships.

In December 2024, on.perfekt, was honoured as Luxembourg's first **Social Entrepreneur of the Year**, a milestone spotlighting its mission to rescue "imperfect" produce otherwise left to waste.

What sets on perfekt apart is its holistic, community-rooted approach:

- Sustainable supply chain: Collaborating with farmers to prevent food from being discarded in fields.
- **Diverse channels**: Offering farm-direct subscription boxes, on-site shopping in Marnach, and wholesale distribution.
- Social recognition: Lauded not only at national ceremonies but also by government agencies; Minister Georges Mischo heralded the event as boosting the visibility of social entrepreneurship
- Wider ecosystem: Celebrated alongside other green initiatives like Foodsharing Luxembourg and Kass-Haff, particularly through events such as the ING Solidarity Awards.

By giving "a 2nd chance" to perfectly edible produce, on perfekt addresses food waste and fosters a circular economy. Becoming a flagship venture for Luxembourg's social impact movement, on perfekt illustrates how grassroots collaboration and symbolic recognition can drive real change—from farm to fork.

Relevant sources:

On.perfekt

Fight against food waste wins first social enterprise award

on.perfekt, Canpoi Social Entrepreneur Winners

In October 2022, the Luxembourg government launched the Impact Luxembourg label, a dedicated certification to amplify the visibility and credibility of Societal Impact Companies (SIS)—enterprises built around social and solidarity-based principles. Embedded within the national Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) framework, the label supports companies that adopt transparent governance, reinvest profits into societal missions, and limit dividend distribution, thereby blending sustainable business with social responsibility.

The combination of legal clarity, visibility, and structured support has established Impact Luxembourg as a transformative force in the social enterprise ecosystem. With each new label awarded, this initiative signals both trust to stakeholders and traction in the public consciousness.

Why the Impact Label matters:

- It signifies credibility, with a stringent vetting process overseen by Luxembourg Union for the Social and Solidarity economy (ULESS) and the Ministry of Labour.
- It elevates visibility, empowering consumers, partners, and investors to identify mission-driven businesses.
- It unlocks support, offering tax exemptions, public grants, access to tenders, and incubation through the Social Business Incubator (SBI), launched in September 2022

Real-world impact:

- At the inaugural Luxembourg Impact Days (July 2023), five out of eight winning projects came from SIS-labelled companies, affirming their role as creative, societycentred innovators.
- Notable certified ventures include <u>Krautgaart</u> (a solidarity farming co-op), <u>Yolande</u>
 <u>Coop</u> (employment opportunities for people with disabilities) and <u>Nouma</u>
 (participatory housing).

Resources:

Impact Luxembourg

Impact Luxembourg: Boosting the visibility of social impact companies



Impact Luxembourg | Société d'Impact Sociétal