

Deliverable: D3.4 Documenting emerging practices

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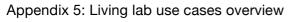






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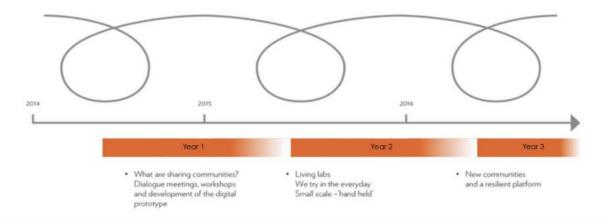
#### Background

In the Give&Take project, work package 3 has been the framework for collaborative explorations of sharing communities primarily among seniors through design laboratories and living labs. Senior communities, municipal institutions, NGO's and their employees in Vienna, Austria and in Frederiksberg, Denmark have been engaged in codesigning and cocreating digital sharing platforms and in exploring and evaluating these platforms and the associated everyday practices in close collaboration with project partners.

In this deliverable that consists of (1) a brief overview of emergent practices, (2) three printed magazines that document different aspects of these practices, (3) a workshop game that provides a structured approach for municipalities and others to evaluate the relevance of the Give&Take Platform, (4) an overview of living lab uses cases and (5) video documentation from the 11 living labs established through the project, the outcomes of work package 3 are presented and discussed with an emphasis on how to take the Give&Take platform further beyond the termination of the project.

#### Relations to work package(-s), tasks and other deliverables

The overall structure of the work package has closely followed the three 1-year cycles of the project depicted in the illustration below.



In year 1 design laboratories were established along the guidelines developed in deliverable D3.1: Design Lab Methodology Guidebook. Here senior communities in Vienna and Frederiksberg were engaged in dialogue meetings and workshops in identifying present and future sharing practices and how these may be enhanced through digital platforms. The work packages 2, 4, and 5 provided the conceptual and practical frames for these dialogues and processed the outcomes in an iterative process of prototyping workable concepts and technical solutions. The work in year 1 resulted in a first definition of a service exchange model labelled the 'onion model' tying together the involvement of seniors in sharing communities with the active participation of a host organization providing the communities with a 'helping hand'. A revised version the service exchange model is presented in deliverable D2.4 and the use cases shaping the subsequent living labs were documented in deliverable D3.2.

During the second year of the project, living labs were established in both Vienna and Frederiksberg with the Give&Take project staff intensively involved in providing the helping hand for both senior communities and host organizations. Trial versions of the digital platform developed in work packages 4 & 5 formed the practical backbone for these living labs and functionality and design of the platform were iteratively developed alongside with new practices of

sharing between seniors and between seniors and the host organizations. A key finding from year 2 was that the sharing platform provides attractive opportunities for establishing and maintaining communities among seniors both with a starting point in activities like physical rehabilitation and in local neighbourhoods challenged by a low degree of social cohesion, but also that these opportunities are only unleashed with a considerable effort from social workers and other community coordinators. These and other conclusions from the work package is documented in the deliverable D3.3, Specification of living lab environment, that emphasize the importance of prototyping what is termed a service package equipping the host organization to cater for these communities.

Accordingly, the last year of the Give&Take project has in work package 3 been focused on living lab activities where the role of community coordinators could be rehearsed with the Give&Take project team more in a facilitating role. The living labs have involved new communities of seniors and the platform and practices of establishing and maintaining sharing and caring relations have proven to be robust and adaptable also to the particular circumstances of the individual community. Over all the work has however also shown that the introduction of the platform is far from straight forward and consequently a five-step model for implementing the Give&Take platform within a host organization has been developed (see D2.4 and appendix 3 & 5). This has also led to considerations about how to promote the platform beyond the termination of the project. The form of this deliverable documenting emerging practices partly through broadly communicating magazines, videos and a workshop game reflects the project ambition of easing the dissemination and take up of project results.



#### Defining emerging practices

Through the close collaboration between the project partners and seniors in Vienna and Frederiksberg the project has revealed that enhancing sharing among seniors with an emphasis on promoting health and well-being, implicates a move from transactional models of sharing and caring to relational models. Where the project has met seniors at IT classes or physical rehabilitation classes the setup has been that seniors individually are offered the opportunity to acquire new skills or to strengthen their physical capabilities. These formats do address individual

needs but they do not cater for the building of supportive communities among the participants. The project has shown that such community building is possible if the organisations hosting such activities are promoting caring relations but this also means that the host organisation employees have to develop new professional practices. Thus, the emerging practices addressed in the project involves both evolving sharing practices among seniors as practices of support and interaction between seniors and social workers, coordinators and others within the host organizations. Particular emphasis is given to how both seniors and host organizations become capable of initiating and sustaining sharing platforms as new relations form.



#### Sharing and Caring - extending and enhancing community building

As developed more thoroughly in the magazine 'Sharing & Caring' (appendix 1) there is a strong potential in extending and enhancing community building in the networks where seniors already meat. Through workshops and dialogue meetings the project has rehearsed new relations among seniors and between seniors and municipal employees and the digital sharing platform has been prototyped to promote relational care. A methodology of codesign and cocreation has been employed and for the host organisations this has led to new insights into how to unleash the potential of community participation among seniors with implications also for the building of bridges between generations and for strengthening social cohesion in local neighbourhoods. Significant learnings from the emerging communities are here that sharing seems to already be latent within many senior networks, and that building infrastructures of sharing on top of these networks, present itself as an obvious opportunity. Reviewing the broader landscape of sharing initiatives and relating the findings to the patterns revealed through in depth engagement with a variety of senior networks through workshops and living labs, points to that sharing models that are informal, flexible and non-binding and do not depend on ratings and monetary exchange appear to be particularly productive for the seniors that are socially vulnerable.

#### Care is about relations – sharing communities with a helping hand

In the Give&Take projects 11 Living labs were established involving different groups of seniors in building sharing communities and making use of a digital platform for communication and sharing (for an overview of living lab use cases, see appendix 5). Some of the living labs were centred on local networks in neighbourhoods or particular housing estates, whereas other took a starting point in activities such as physical rehabilitation, craft workshop classes or joint cooking. Some living labs were initiated from an initial contact to the senior network and others were started in a more top-down fashion, building on an interest at management level in the host organisation. The

learnings from this varied set of living labs were that a service exchange model based on a strong involvement of a host organisation providing a helping hand for the senior communities most effectively targeted the groups of seniors that the partners found most in need of community building. The role of community coordinators whatever these were volunteers or employees of the host organisation was piloted by the project team and different ways of monitoring community activities on the digital platform was prototyped to promote coordination as primarily concerned with initiating and facilitating community activities. The practices emerging in the living labs also revealed that the time to introduce and become comfortable with the digital platform was considerable for the seniors but also that the rehearsing of new digital practices was a productive vehicle for building new relations both within the community and between communities and coordinators. More details about the emerging practices in relation to the service exchange model is provided in the magazine 'Care is a relational thing' (appendix 2).

#### Sharing more than a platform – providing novel infrastructures

At the heart of what the Give&Take project offers is not only a social media platform but also a new way for municipalities and other care giving organisations to establish constructive and sustainable relations with senior citizens and volunteers through their frontline employees. The digital platform provides a robust infrastructure for seniors to interact, share and take responsibility for the everyday communities they are part of, but what makes this platform

unique is that it comes with a helping hand from the host and the community coordinators. Through the eleven trial living labs that the Give&Take project organized we have seen that providing such a helping hand demands learning processes that takes commitment, resources and changes in attitude with the host organisation. Some host organisations may be able to go through this on their own, and some may need external support. In any case acquiring the platform is not enough. New collaborations and new attitudes have to be rehearsed and the different stakeholders need time to take on their role in the sharing communities. In the magazine 'Sharing more than a platform' (appendix 3) is outlined how novel infrastructures may be put in place in such a way that community building reflects that all communities are different and must be met with attention and respect towards what makes them particular.

#### Building on lessons learnt

A recurring issue throughout the Give&Take project has been how important it is to ensure commitments and alignment among the different stakeholders involved in establishing infrastructures for sharing communities among seniors. The willingness at a strategic level in the host organization to commit to the Give&Take platform must be matched with a concurrent enrolment of host organization staff that are prepared to meet senior citizens with a service exchange model based on relational care. Furthermore, the host organization must be attentive to what networks of seniors are already in place and how the introduction of a digital platform like the Give&Take platform can positively impact community building. To address these issues the Give&Take project has given particular attention to the networked learning processes necessary within the host organization and its larger network through suggesting relevant consultancy shaped as a so-called service package. To aid such consultancy the project has produced a game-like workshop kit (appendix 4) that facilitates an initial process of 'business process modelling' between key stakeholders. The workshop kit takes inspiration from the business model canvas proposed by Österwalder as it visually provides participants the opportunity to collaboratively map potential senior communities to support, to unfold purposes and exchanges in the network and to establish key impacts. The workshop kit game is addressing what is found to be critical first steps in promoting the Give&Take platform commercially after the termination of the project.



#### Concerns

While the Give&Take project is believed to have been successful in developing a digital platform and other supporting infrastructures for supporting sharing among seniors it has through the project and particularly through the living lab activities become increasingly clear that the Give&Take platform as an assistive technology cannot be promoted solely as a stand-alone product. For municipalities and other potential host organisations to adopt the platform, services must be offered that builds up the capacity within the host organization to initiate and facilitate community building based on relational care. The Give&Take project has sought to accommodate this insight through producing project documentation that is suitable for becoming part also of such consultancy.



#### Vision // Thomas Raben

#### The potentials of communities

Many seniors experience loneliness in their senior life, when they retire from having a job or when they loose their spouse. Loneliness has direct consequences for the individual senior. Long lasting involuntary loneliness has the same negative impact on health as smoking.

Participation in communities gives the individual senior the possibility of contact to others as well as to be part of meaningful and important relationships. Communities may also for many seniors provide a framework for contributing to others and for making use of resources and experiences gained through a lifetime.

In communities all seniors have the opportunity to experience that they are appreciated and needed. This is not only about relationships between seniors. Community participation may also build bridges between generations and strengthen cohesion in local neighbourhoods. In this perspective seniors are not a burden, but a huge and sparsely used resource in society. Communities are pivotal in unleashing these resources, and making them flourish in local networks.

#### Cocreation – making things together

In parallel with bringing forward a digital platform supporting and enhancing community communication, the Give&Take project has also shown the way for a practical and action-oriented method of cocreation.

In terms of method the Give&Take project has systematically and consequently involved seniors actively through out all stages of the project. In dialogue meetings, workshops and exploration of prototypes senior citizens at Frederiksberg and in Vienna have been deeply involved in developing the Give&Take platform. This involvement has meant that the seniors have made a strong imprint on the project, making the platform design and functionality reflect the seniors' experiences, needs and aspirations.

In a broader context the Give&Take project has proven that cocreation has the potential to free the many resources among senior citizens. This points towards what can be accomplished by offering yet more products and services to seniors in the years to come.

# **MEETING PEOPLE**

#### Reportage // Signe Yndigegn, Katharina Werner & Maria Foverskov

People meet in many places and to strengthen community building one has to meet people where they are. Both in Frederiksberg and in Vienna the Give&Take project surveyed different kinds of senior networks to learn about what can be shared when people come together. An entry point at Frederiksberg was the many different initiatives for seniors that get funding from the municipality. In Vienna contacts were established to neighbourhood centers in different parts of the city. Through dialogue meetings, workshops and neighborhood fairs the project initiated conversations about what brings people together and how communities may form as people gather around neighborhood issues, common interests, physical exercise or classes in computer literacy. Across the many conversations, we could see that well known formats such as classes, clubs and events do bring people together, but also that these formats do not necessarily build communities among participants. If ownership to the format is too strongly with one part it may be hard for others to create relationships. On the other hand, coming together may be the starting point for many different exchanges if responsibility is shared. In the following we bring short reports from some of the people we met.

#### (More than) walking every Tuesday

Hjertestien (in English: The Heart Path) is a loose group of senior citizens, who meet for a walk every Tuesday at the Health Center in Frederiksberg. The Hjertestien walks were initiated by the health centre at Frederiksberg by one of the health counsellors. She walked with the group every week for six months. After that the group continued on their own. They meet every

coffee in the Health Centre. They all walk together in a big group and when we met them they were around 45 walkers. "The walk is not to get your breath up" as the walkers told us "we always walk in a pace where everyone can follow". What is important for many of them is the social part including the coffee afterwards - "that's the icing on the cake". But the social aspect is also central for the walks: "You talk much better and more easily open up to each other when you walk". The coffee is served in the lunch room at the health centre.

Tuesday and walk the tour. After the tour they drink

the walkers every Tuesday, when they are done with the tour. Here the group has a drawer, where they keep chocolate, cookies, coffee, tea and a contact list of all the walkers. The coffee is always ready on arrival because Bent has prepared it before they leave for the tour. He also has the key to the room where they meet and he is the one that makes sure to welcome newcomers. Some of the walkers have started to do other things together between the Tuesday walks. Besides the walks they also arrange an annual Christmas party and Easter lunch, but it has become difficult for them to find a place now, because they are so many. One of the walkers started an email-list, so it's easier to coordinate and organize these other events. She makes sure that every newcomer gets registered on the list. Still it is important for many of the walkers that to be part of the group is informal you don't have to be a member. You may come and go as you like. Some of the walkers tell that most people make an extra effort to come - and that they proudly walk in all kinds of weather. The health counsellor who initiated the walk sometimes meets with the group outside the health centre to check if everything is fine when they all are gathered before their walk. She may also be around during the coffee to tell about things happening at the health centre or other activities that

could be of interest for the group.

not accepted to talk about money. "We look each other into the eyes when we meet over the stamps" they say, "...and we all the time learn from each other". Every stamp has its story and at the club meetings they take turns in giving presentations to each other about the stamps they like the most. For them sharing is about caring for each other's interests: "You bring home stamps for fellow members if you note some that you know have their interest". But it is also about looking out for each other and to offer help with transport or other day-today things. When the final map is laid out it is obvious that they cherish the unwritten rules of their community that makes it a meeting place for people from very different walks of life. They would like to reach out to younger people and also to have female members, and they take pride in not being a place for 'man talk'. What we learn is that when men meet like here stories are important but so is the willingness to put aside status and hierarchy. Men care in their own way and perhaps they need a space of their own to take care of each other.

other. In the Give&Take team we brought with us

a game-like dialogue tool when we met the three

stamp collectors, Finn, Steinar and Viggo. The di-

alogue tool helps them to identify and map what brings them together, what they share and how

they relate to others. Much of what they tell us

is about being together without hierarchy across

social status, personal history and stamp

collector experience. Even if

rare stamps can be

expensive it

#### Making new friends

The Viennese Hilfswerk Nachbarschaftszentrum Rennbahnweg (NZ22) joined the project in July 2014. It's a place existing for 20 years where people living in the close and greater neighbour

hood come to meet, talk and seek help. Everyone, independent of generation, social status and nationality can make use of their offerings, advisory services and activities for free. These activities are organised and accompanied by a multiprofessional team. That team consists of a handful of social workers with different kinds of backgrounds and a large pool of volunteers that is needed to make this work happen.

From day 1 the manager and social workers of the centre could see a high potential in the Give&Take project to lessen the burden of themselves and their volunteers by helping with organizing the center's activities, strengthening social contacts and engaging people without many contacts by creating a network of people in this residential area.

"Even though so many people live in such a close vicinity, people hardly know their own neighbours and so loneliness becomes a big problem, especially among older people." (NZ22 affiliate)

We entered the community by taking part in one of their events at the center's so called "Day of Sustainability". Here we presented our project, and we started talking about sharing with people attending the event. This created some first interest in the project within the community. The community got bigger and grew together through the subsequent events organised by the Give&Take team and announced broadly in the area by the NZ22. These consisted of two design workshops and a tablet course that aimed at minimizing the technological barrier to join the online platform - a core part of the Give&Take service. The course also helped to establish some personal relationships between the former strangers and therefore marked the starting point for the core group of the NZ22 Give&Take community. Since then (Dec 2015) the group grew slowly, but steadily partly by people that have been invited by the core members and partly by events where either the project team or the people at NZ22 advertised the project. In that time the focus of the community drifted away from the concept of sharing to social gatherings and exchange, though mutual support between the group members is still always available, if needed.



In most of the communities we met, much fewer men than women took part. The Frederiksberg Stamp Collectors club was an interesting exception. They gather about 80 people every Monday to exchange stamps and tell each other stories about their collection. Almost all members are men and as we met with them to learn more about what brought them together, we were struck by how they cared for each





# WE LOVE TO SHARE...

Analysis // Lone Malmborg

The Give&Take project entered the era of sharing while this was still in its early days. Some of us had stayed in an Airbnb apartment and a few had ride sharing experience even before Uber existed. We believed in a potential for a more sustainable society, where excess resources could be shared or exchanged with friends and neighbours. We also believed in a potential for stronger communities of citizens building sustainable relations through sharing practical services and activities or just small actions of care.

During the three years of Give&Take we have gained both experience and knowledge with different cultures of sharing. We have witnessed two very different approaches to sharing. One being a social movement towards engagement of civic society and establishing a sustainable society with better quality of life. The other being sharing economy as a new business model based on what is characterized as 'subscriptionization' or 'everything as a service' where consumers go from a one-time purchase product to a subscription based service[1]. This trend has been denoted sharing economy or collaborative consumption. A recent study showed that the sharing economy has tripled in Denmark from 2014 to 2015. Nine percent of the Danish population has participated in the sharing economy in the six months prior to the release of the study. Only three percent participated the year before[2]. Along with this increase in sharing economy the dark sides of the sharing economy pop up around us[3]. Many cities and countries have introduced new regulations to avoid market and regulatory failures that allow

parts of the market to gain unfair advantage over others. Is the sharing economy actually breaking down qualities of the welfare society, which we and generations before us have spent years and struggles on carefully building up?

During the three years of the project we have gained a better understanding of the difference between the individualistic rhetoric of new sharing economy tools and platforms on one side and the more collectivist ambitions of community-based change-makers on the other side[4]. The Give&Take project aims at sustaining our welfare society through exploring the possibilities of citizens sharing activities, care, and joys in communities based on neighbourhood or shared interests. Our experience points to community-based sharing, where sharing primarily takes place in contexts where some kind of relation already exists and sharing activities can strengthen these relations and build sustainable and 'growable' communities of citizens with no economic or monetary mechanism to regulate the communities or the relationship between members.

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# ...BUT WE DON'T WANT Insights // Signe Yndigegn & Maria Foverskov TO GIVE STARS

Responsibility is shared and flexible

In the communities volunteers are coordinating and maintaining communication through the Give&Take platform. However it should be possible to have more volunteers, to share the responsibility - and to be able to take turns.

#### Communities change in size and shape

How many people you want to share with depends on what you are sharing. The platform should support communities that change in size and shape.

#### The informal and non-binding is important

For many communities, rules and regulations guiding community activites are not seen as necessary. There can be some unwritten rules but often it comes down to what members find to be common sense. Participating in a community many find should be non-binding and it must be possible to come and go as you like.

#### Supporting local institutions

Local coordinators (e.g. social workers) can use the Give&Take platform to engage and mobilize volunteers as support in their work. With this support, they can use more time to initiate new activities - and expand the activities more broadly.

#### A helping hand

The idea of the Give&Take platform is to support communities in being self-sustaining. For many seniors it is however valued that the platform is hosted by a well known organisation. This provides the community with the opportunity to get a helping hand from a coordinator (e.g. social worker or health counsellor) when problems arise.

#### It is not about money or ratings

Give&Take started out with the idea of a sharing economy without money being involved. Through the project we learned that it is more important for people to be able to say "thank you" and connect personally with one another when sharing. To give stars or ratings are seen by many as something that could ruin the relationships.

#### An extension to the existing communities

The Give&Take platform is not going to be a replacement of what already works. Rather it is thought of as an extension of what is already there, expanding the communities' possibilities for engagement and interaction.

#### Learning from each other

Both coordinators and citizens see the benefit of learning from others. The Give&Take platform should support the possibility to communicate across communities.







# PAPER, SCISSORS AND DOLLS - NEW FUTURES EMERGING game pieces that acted as placeholders for thi

Method // Eva Brandt

Why do we engage in communities of everyday practice? What do we share and what are our roles? How can new sharing-communities be initiated? These are some of the questions that guided our work when we entered into the world of sharing in the Give&Take project.

Before exploring new possibilities with senior citizens in a series of workshops the Give&Take team visited a number of existing senior communities at different locations in Vienna and Frederiksberg. The aim of these initial dialogue meetings was twofold. Firstly, we wanted to see, hear and learn from people already involved in various on-going communities. We brought physical dialogue tools that framed and guided our conversations. They also worked as containers that recorded realities about the specific community, issues and concerns. The dialogue tools resembled design games with game boards and various

game pieces that acted as placeholders for things that the players found important[1]. The empirical material that was generated as the conversations unfolded was later transformed into ethnographically informed workshop materials that could spark further exploration. Thus, the overall approach was co-designing based on design-anthropology[2]. Secondly, the aim of the dialogue meetings was to present the idea of the Give&Take project, and convey an open invitation to participate in future events.

What brings us together and what do we share? Already in the first workshop it became obvious that the answers vary a lot. For instance, Jytte, Lise, Sven and Viggo belonged to three very different communities. Jytte and Sven were part of 'Stjernen' (a club for residents in a specific building complex) and stressed that "here it is important that we have space for everyone ... being together is the main thing". This was considered different from the Stamp Club that Viggo was part of: "I'm a member because of my interest in stamps. What bring us together is our common interest in stamps. We are looking at collections and exchange stamps, and not at least share stories behind the stamps." As opposed to this, Lise was part of Røde Kors Vågetjenesten (Red Cross Watch Service) that focused on





helping and supporting people outside the community as their purpose is to watch over people dying: "We are there, if they do not have other people to be with them, and if they do not want to be on their own."

One can say that for Lise, Viggo, Jytte and Sven their engagement and roles in the communities differed. At Red Cross Watch Service, Lise considered herself as a coordinator as she had a leading role in the overall planning. She decides where and when the many volunteers were on duty. Viggo regarded himself as a 'helper' in the Stamp Club as he and some others usually helped with practical things during the meetings while Jytte and Sven talked about 'being together and sharing' as their main role in 'Stjernen'. When investigating the coordinator role in more detail it came forward that in e.g. 'Stjernen' the role is more fluent in the sense that someone takes an initiative, but everything is based on common decisions. However, no matter what was shared and the role various people had it was important for all that the communities were based on 'solidarity', that the participants 'look after each other', and that they 'care about each other'

All workshops included collaborative work in small mixed groups in what we have called the design:lab[3]. A typical setup included a game-like format exploring different what-if situations followed by more performative explorations creating future scenarios where sequences of actions took place involving several people. In the latter, the participants often acted as themselves but used small dolls in a miniature three-act stage that they had co-cre-

ated with images as back-drops. The enactments opened up for shared imagination through improvisation - rehearsing the future [4]. The activities gradually build upon each other. With our senior participants we wanted to create and explore a landscape, where one could share with each other within the municipality based on their own personal experiences. To use specific situations as a starting point and create future stories about with whom, what and how we want to share and exchange. To inquire how a digital platform could support sharing and exchange within existing communities. To explore the service worker's role in initiating and supporting future Give&Take communities. And to investigate how the potential Give&Take platform should be different from e.g. Facebook groups. Each activity was staged and supported by various co-design tools.

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# SHARING EVERYWHERE

#### Analysis // Özge Subasi & Lone Malmborg

Our attempt at understanding and categorizing sharing sites in the Give&Take project is like constructing a boat on open sea, because the components that constitute sharing sites have been changing constantly and rapidly during the Give&Take project. In 'What's mine is yours'[1] the authors suggest that sharing sites can be divided into three categories: 'product service systems' are systems that disrupt traditional industries either by sharing ownership or by extending the life of a product (e.g. repair services); 'redistribution markets' encourage reusing and reselling old items; lastly 'collaborative lifestyles' are banding together to share and exchange less tangible assets such as time, space, skills, and money.

This early attempt at categorizing sharing sites and our own evaluation of various sharing platforms suggested some important differences with respect to: purpose, local context, indiviual /collective, and business model. Mapping these differences points to specific categories of existing sharing platforms, that we have been aware of in our own design for sharing:

'Alternative services' are platforms aiming to disrupt existing businesses by replacing mainstream consumption practices; usually based on a service charge or yearly fee. Examples are rental platforms, tool sharing platforms and service sharing sites (e.g. Airbnb, Uber). These platforms are basically a kind of 'contractual lending' [2] rather than sharing, and have led to political controversies in many countries, e.g. with Uber and Airbnb being restricted or banned in certain cities and countries. However, these platforms have been an important playground for new designs as they construct sharing around the idea of pre-ownership [3].

Connection hubs are platforms acting as content aggregators (e.g. shareable.com or peers.org) for the alternative services; to communicate, organise events and for people to get together. Existing business platforms of sharing economy, local volunteers and in some instances public services support these hubs. Owners of such platforms are sometimes denoted 'evangelists'[3]. Alternative currency exchange services is a trend parallel to the sharing economy, where an alternative currency is used instead of money[4], and which appears to work outside of the existing

economy and creates a different way of valuing things or skills. 'Time' is one of the most widely used alternative currencies (e.g. timebanking.org, timerepublik.com, talentetauschkreis.at) leading to the concept of timebanking [5]. Alternative currencies is an important concept for the new understanding of sharing. However their impact is restricted to how the value is distributed among peers.

Lastly, as an alternative to the aspects above, 'local communities of sharing' are grass-roots initiatives owned by the community itself, often, without a consistent design or official administration, but with enthusiastic members. Even without a professional design or central administration, visitors of such sites - after just a few of clicks - get a sense of being welcomed to the community. Examples are 'community' platforms where members can communicate, coordinate and share interests or practice together (e.g. Ageforce.dk), local redistribution platforms allowing members to redistribute goods like food, furniture, and clothing.

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### A HELPING HAND

#### Vision // Thomas Raben

In the best of all worlds senior communities will exist independent of external involvement or assistance. And fortunately, many senior communities are running on an everyday basis with no or very little external support. However, most senior communities from time to time experience challenges or conflicts where it may be appropriate to engage a helping hand. This applies to independent communities and to communities established under the auspices of a structure such as the municipality, an organization, association or similar. The Give&Take platform

can act as a mediator of such a helping hand supporting communities when challenges are difficult. The helping hand is an employee who represents the structure, municipality, association or organization that has made the Give&Take platform available to the senior community. The senior communities may initiate a contact to the employee through the platform, as well as the employee may also contact the community, if he or she notices – through posts or dialogues among members on the platform – that the community experiences challenges that they find difficult to solve on their own. The possibility to ask for a helping hand is a way to support the senior's sense of security and a way to help the community's well-being and resilience. In the longer term, we believe that it will contribute to sustainable and long-lasting communities.

# **BECOMING AN INITIATOR**

#### Interview // Signe Yndigegn

For months we have collaborated with Tinna. She is a social worker at Stjernen - a social housing estate owned by KAB. She is employed by KAB and the Municipality of Frederiksberg. Tinna saw a potential in trying out the Give&Take platform in relation to a women's group that meets every Friday evening. The group needed inspiration for things to do together. Through the Give&Take platform, we in the project team created a communication channel between Tinna and the female members. We suggested to use the platform for asking Tinna questions or for help - and Tinna could provide the women with offers and announcements of different activities they could do in the group. However, the use of the platform has been challenged by the women already using the WhatsApp social media platform among them. It was difficult to get the Give&Take platform integrated into their practice and communication with Tinna. Thus in the end, the exploration was time consuming for Tinna. When she posted something on the Give&Take platform, she also texted one of the women, Amal, who in turn would check their Give&Take space, and communicate the message to the other women through WhatsApp.

By the end of the living lab Maria Foverskov and I met with Tinna in her office to make status and evaluate. Despite the challenges and frustration, it became a fruitful and very inspiring conversation around the work as a social worker, new plans and perspectives and how it related to the overall idea of the Give&Take platform.

#### Today the social worker is not in charge

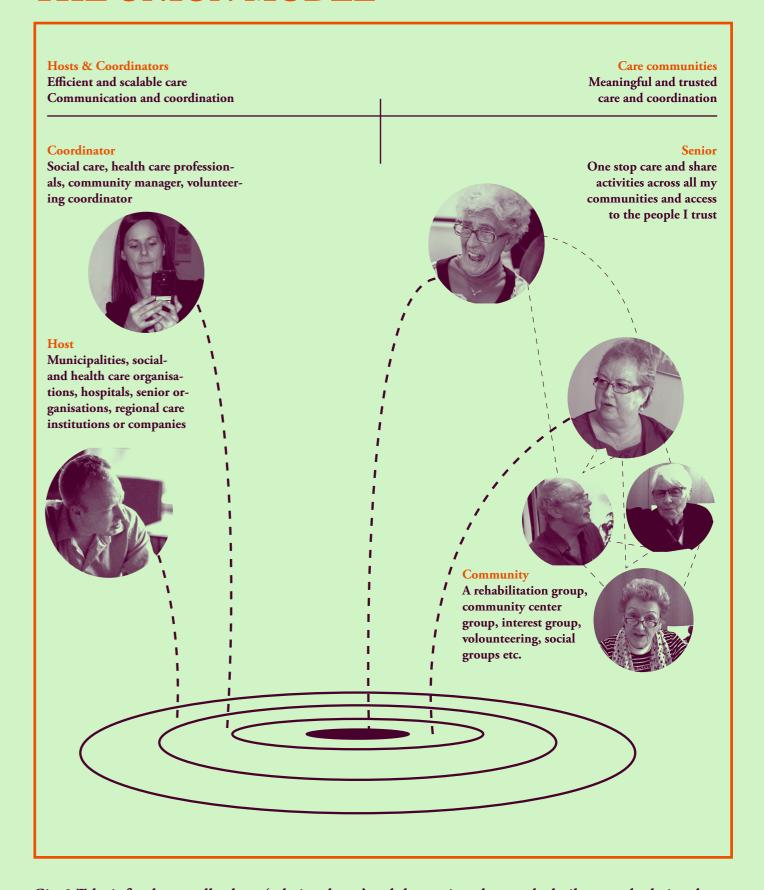
"The role of social workers has changed during the last 20 years." Earlier the social workers were arranging activities: "but it's not like that anymore. I can take the initiative - and I'm very glad to do so, but the residents or citizens have to take over and do the rest. Today, a social worker is the initiator and promoter, but not the one in charge." Tinna mentions a recent initiative that probably could have benefitted from using the platform: The soup kitchen at Stjernen. The platform could be used to organize each event, to ask volunteers to help or for a big soup pot but also to share experience between events among the participants. It would make it easier and less vulnerable if you shared 'how to do things and what to remember'. Then other volunteers could easily take over.

The social worker instead uses more time to intervene and support where it is urgently needed. Tinna explains how there is a lot of 'invisible' work, attempting to support the weakest residents. For example, to assist them in contacting the public administration, to get help or to make sure they receive the support they are entitled to. The more resourceful people are left to arrange initiatives on their own. We discuss with Tinna that this is well aligned with the idea of the Give&Take platform. It can help communities and citizens organizing initiatives on their own - but with the possibility of asking for advice etc. from the social worker.

#### **Connecting coordinators**

In collaboration with two other social housing estates: Solbjerghave and Flintholm/ Lindevangskvarteret Tinna has recently arranged a fishing trip for kids and their parents across these three areas: "We could have used the Give&Take platform for these kind of events across the different local areas." We discuss with Tinna how the Give&Take platform could support the internal collaboration between the coordinators, but also the external communication and organization of the residents signing up for events. Today, the social workers are needed as an intermediary between the 'invitation' and the signing up. The fishing trip is an example of a recent focus in Frederiksberg Municipality on collaboration between several social workers and across 'their' different areas, Tinna explains. It means that you can create situations and initiatives taking better advantage of the social workers' different skills and competences - and the social workers can use each other for sparring and to share experiences. Tinna has worked a lot with women issues and women groups, while one of her colleagues at another housing estate is really good at arranging initiatives for the youngsters - especially boys. By collaborating across their local areas, the residents can benefit from a broader variation in offers and competencies. Specifically, the last aspect evokes new potentials with the platform. What if the platform could be a useful tool to support this new organization of the social work? We bring up this idea for discussion among all the project partners at the next project meeting: What if the platform could be further developed to support the collaboration among several social workers and across different groups and communities. Our technology designers from Take The Wind in Portugal are now working on this idea to see whether and how this is possible.

## THE ONION MODEL



Give&Take is fundamentally about 'relational care' and the services that can be built around relational care that strengthen already existing local networks and relations, and allow new ones to emerge. This is about applying a non-monetised community-based digital service to establish a new organisation of care arrangements to empower senior citizens to be able to stay longer in their own homes and to reach out and interact with others as part of a caring community.

#### I CAN DRIP YOUR EYES!

#### Reportage // Signe Yndigegn

We're all out walking. It's the second time we meet with the walking group. The group consists of senior citizens from Frederiksberg who walk together every Monday. This time we brought tablets and computers, so we can try the Give&Take platform. But first the walking tour. It has been snowing and it's difficult to walk. The group needs to change plans: "maybe it's better to walk on the path along the graveyard?" one of the women suggests. The bike path has been cleared from snow. "We just have to look out for the bikes," another member responds. When we return to the 'Lotte' care home to drink coffee it's time to introduce the Give&Take platform.

#### Gathering at the coffee table

"I have never used one of these before." Jonna, who sits next to me, is referring to the tablet, I just handed her. After some attempts, she succeeded making a profile and become member of the walking group's community site on the Give&Take platform: "oh, so this is Else Marie." Jonna looks at the member page, where she sees other members of the walking group who have signed up. The page seems to help her relating names and faces. The group has walked together for three months, but Jonna's small outburst makes it clear that not all of them know each other well at this point. The group was initiated by the health counsellor, Karina and most people in the group have been recruited through preventive home visits.

The tablets, computers and Give&Take manuals are placed at the table between coffee cups, cookies and conversation about grandchildren, everyday things and life events. It's not easy for everyone in the group to onboard the Give&Take platform and the fuzziness of the coffee table doesn't make it easier. The first couple of weeks in this living lab with the walking group we therefore do home visits to introduce the platform and let members sign-up in a slower pace using a familiar computer.

#### Not everyone wants to join

Bent sits between me and Gurli. He doesn't want to try the platform. He is not the only one. He looks at the video camera we brought. "I like to take pictures," he tells me. "I have a new camera at home, but I can't transfer the pictures to the computer." I believe that we can help Bent, and we arrange that Bent will bring his camera next time. My colleague suggests that he can be responsible for taking some pictures for our workbook; a kind of diary shared on the platform with descriptions of our weekly meetings, and also printed on paper for all the walking group members. One of the Mondays we also brought a mobile printer to print Bent's pictures on the spot.

#### A place for sharing

During the following five months we meet the walking group almost every Monday, to walk with them and drink coffee. Some Mondays, working with the platform takes most of the time, but other Mondays we mostly drink coffee, eat cookies and follow up on each others lives. Slowly, through this period, more or less all members of the group become members of the Give&Take community on the digital platform - also Bent. It seems like the platform becomes less mysterious and more interesting for the whole group as they all get to know us from Give&Take better, and they hear how other members of the group are using it.

In between the Monday meetings, we interact with the walking group through the platform. Their use slowly turns the community on the platform into a place for sharing of small everyday stories about illnesses or other kinds of incidents as well as pleasant events like pictures of grandchildren, travels or anniversaries. The platform is also used to exchange advices. Finally, it's used to send invitations to events in the city (concerts, public walks, talks), to meet for a coffee or advice to birthdays or anniversaries.

In the middle of the living lab period we invited the walking group for a visit and tour at the School of Design together with members of the other living labs. One of the women - Bente - writes in their Give&Take community on the platform that she can't join the tour. She just got an eye operation and needs to stay home since she gets a visit from the nurse to drip her eye. This makes Jonna suggest that she could do it instead, to let Bente join the tour. "I used to work as a nurse - it's no problem for me," Jonna explains.

We notice another kind of sharing in the walking group, than the Give&Take project initially imagined. The original idea envisioned exchange of handiwork, grocery shopping or similar. Our experience in the second year of the living labs evoked new insights into what sharing is, which we brought up for discussions with the other project partners. The questions we raised based on our experience were whether and how the platform could support these other kinds of sharing - or we should try to redesign the platform to enhance the kind of sharing which the project initially envisioned. When I now recall this discussion, it seems like the question is more complex than that. It is not an either/or, but depends very much on the communities, who their members are, and how their interaction evolves.

#### The connection with the health counsellor

During the living lab period we also have a dialogue with Karina on how she can interact with the group on the platform. The question is how Karina can still follow and interact with the group - a facilitation on distance. What kind of interaction and

information is valuable for her in her work? On Karina's request it is arranged with the walking group that they share their weekly trip (screenshot from Endomondo, which some of them already use) along with short descriptions of their walks (how many showed up, the weather and special incidents). It means that Karina can remotely follow how things are going - and at the same time reach out if it seems like the group has troubles e.g. people stop coming. Karina also starts using the platform to provide the group with offers from the health center or other kind of local events that could be of interest for the group.

I visit the group a couple of months after the living lab ended. Gurli tells me that she stopped with making these posts of their

# UNDERSTANDING MOTIVATIONS

Reportage // Julia Rose Loup & Katharina Werner

We all know the saying "Love Thy neighbour", but what do we really know about that? What do we know about supporting, sharing with, giving to, or learning from Thy neighbour? What do we even know about being a neighbour ourselves? To understand how to support community building in neighbourhoods with Give&Take, researchers on the project first needed to understand the motivations of members already engaged in community centers.

Wiener Hilfswerk neighbourhood Centers (NZ) are a municipal staple in many districts around Vienna, Austria. Their weekly (and free) groups and events provide a common gathering place for individuals seeking increased social connections, mastery of a new hobby, or simply a place to learn and share within your community. When the Give&Take team entered into these communities, we met people with many different stories and many different backgrounds. However, each and every one had an interest in engaging with something bigger than themselves. Being a neighbour was more about being part of the neighbourhood, the whole, rather than the individualized need or want. Within both NZ Rennbahnweg (NZ22) and NZ Gumpendorf (NZ6), communities were formed with this premise, and Give&Take was presented as a way to extend a network or 'neighbourhood' that the local members could experience. Through this process the Give&Take team met individuals who became central to understanding how Give&Take can function in the local, municipal community center.

weekly trips. She didn't think it was important after we from the Give&Take project had withdrawn. "But then I got complaints from the others ... I didn't know they were looking at them". The other people in the group had told Gurli that they enjoy looking at the route - and especially those who had not taken part in the walk of the day. It has become a diary for the group. This small incident also made it explicit that most of the group 'participate' even though they are not always 'visibly active' on the platform. The distinction between active and passive here becomes blurred in the walking group's interaction with each other, where dialogues and exchange cross over between the physical and virtual space they share in their community.

Take Gerald for example, a man in his late 70's and avid member of the English walking group of NZ6. No matter the subject, Gerald speaks of his daily decisions with the saying: 'at this age.' Being part of the NZ is no different. "It's a different time being older... At this age, I want to make something, I want to spend and use my time wisely... with people that matter." When a NZ group or event focuses on relationship building, he dives in. With the Give&Take platform, organized english-speaking excursions outside of the center were more possible. In these groups Gerald could not only expand his english learning, but also talk about subjects outside the typical classroom group setting. If used broadly by the NZ, Gerald recognized that the platform could help organize events and present members like himself with more details about who will be coming, what will be talked about, and where local 'neighbours' will meet up.

Where relationship building is central for Gerald, learning with the neighbourhood centers was important for Maria. When the Give&Take team began a tablet-learning course for NZ22, members were able to engage with new technologies while also meeting new members of their residential community. The members of the tablet course were able to keep their tablet and continue messaging and meeting directly through Give&Take events. Motivation to use the platform became synonymous with motivation to keep learning with their new technology and the new community formed around the Give&Take platform.

By recognizing and prioritizing the motivations of the NZ members, the Give&Take team recognized that these centers were a hotbed for improved connection through technology. Using the already existing interests of the NZ communities, the platform became a possible way to enrich the needs and wants of 'neighbours' all across Vienna.

## LEARNING THROUGH LIVING LABS

#### Method // Signe Yndigegn

Living labs are defined in the Give&Take project as spaces of collaboration that involve citizens, employees from supporting organisations, researchers and technology (the Give&Take platform) in exploring how to interact in and support sharing communities. The living refers to things being alive and the dynamic that follows from that. The technology and service are brought into the everyday lives and practices of the people being involved. During the living lab the project stays in close connection with the communities, organisations, employees, etc. in the exploration. The technology is not left on its own but accompanied by the researchers' experiments and interventions. The focus of the explorations, interventions and activities is therefore also modified along the way depending on the evolvement of the collaboration between the different participants.

The living labs have a defined start and ending, which are negotiated among the participants. In the start phase the circumstances and expectations for the collaboration and the living lab set-up are negotiated in initial meetings. It is important that the collaboration is an exchange, where both parties get something out of it. The completion of the living lab is marked with an event to reflect upon what has been done together and how it can continue when the researchers have withdrawn.

#### What sharing could be (like)

From the first to the second year the involvement of citizens changed from a series of dialogue meetings and workshops to a long term co-design exploration through living labs. In year two and three the project moved the work of trying out the platform, continue the exploration of what sharing is and rehearsing new practices into the everyday context of the senior citizens as well as the coordinators, e.g. health counsellors and social workers. In year two the Give&Take team took part in the activities of the senior communities as well as interacted with them through the platform during four to six months in five different living labs in Vienna and Frederiksberg. The focus was mainly to bring the digital platform into different communities. The aim was to start collaborating with

communities and to explore what sharing could be like with the platform. The project tried to position the Give&Take platform as an integral part of the local senior citizens' everyday social context, as well as a cornerstone to their activities and practices within the community. During the living lab development period, the Give&Take researchers stayed in close connection with the communities, taking part in or arranging the community activities themselves. This engagement included activities such as an introduction to the platform, home visits for further introduction, support with general IT problems, creating and generating content (i.e. interacting on the platform), initiating a community diary, arranging events and sending out weekly email notifications (before it became a permanent feature on the platform). Each event and activity was created to support the aim of trying out the platform and rehearse a digital practice of exchange and sharing in the communities.

Reflecting upon this engagement halfway through the living lab period, the Give&Take researchers realized that their participation in the living labs had become a rehearsing of the coordinator role. Managing all these activities created insights into how a coordinator can initiate, support, and interact with new Give&Take communities. Examples of such coordinators are social workers from the neighborhood center or health counsellors from the local health center. These coordinators often are the ones initiating the communities or organising events for the members, naturally staying connected with the communities while still allowing their independence to grow and develop. When rehearsing the role of the coordinator, the researchers gained experience with the different steps in establishing a Give&Take community. It resulted in knowledge of how to interact on the platform when trying to generate content, and the ability to evoke digitally a practice among people in a local community where it may have not existed previously.

#### **Guiding coordinators**

In year three, the gained experience and knowledge became the foundation for the establishment of new living labs. The researchers here rehearsed the practice of an imagined Give&Take service team. Our experience was used to collaborate with, support and guide 'coordinators' both in Vienna and Frederiksberg; e.g. social workers and health counsellors in their work with integrating the platform in relation to new or existing senior communities. At the same time the Give&Take team tried to move into the background to rehearse the practice of a potential Give&Take service team. This, to explore how much support is needed from a service team when you want to establish Give&Take communities. An insight that's important for the continuous work with and spreading of the Give&Take platform after the project ends. Over the two years the Give&Take project established ten living labs across Frederiksberg and Vienna.

## REHEARSING A DIGITAL PRACTICE

Insights // Signe Yndigegn & Katharina Werner

#### Rehearsing a digital practice

The living lab was imagined by the researchers as a space for continuous dialogue, design considerations, and adjustment of the platform for the specific community. In practice, however, it turned out to be more of a 'rehearsing' of a new community practice, simply supported by a digital platform.

#### Close connection is key to initiate use

Regular and personalized collaboration between the researchers and the communities was key to initiate use of the platform. Researchers found that continual content on the platform and support in regards to "how to use it" are both important factors when creating a space of engagement and interaction for the community.

#### Differences in IT skills challenge interaction

There is a difference in the skills and use of digital tools in the communities. It can turn into a risk of splitting the group when not everyone is on the Give&Take platform. The digital division is therefore a challenge to consider in new Give&Take communities.

#### Digital tools are profoundly non-trivial

Problems with interacting digitally should be taken seriously. It should never be assumed that people are familiar with or can easily learn new digital tools despite different levels, even high, of IT experiences.

#### Social relations are important

Exchange and sharing on the digital platform is closely tied with being social. Creating a relationship and trust both among the community and with the researchers was important for the sharing activities on the platform.

#### A different kind of sharing

In some of the communities sharing turned out to be different than what the project had envisioned from the beginning. Instead of help with handy work, sharing food, etc., it became an exchange of care and 'social help'. The communities modified sharing in their own way.

#### Little connection with coordinators

The main focus in the first round of living labs was simply the exchange between senior citizens on the platform. How to involve and connect with the owners and coordinators took shape later, throughout the living lab period. This coordinator connection evolved over time through small experiments. For example, researchers explored new ways of contact between the health counsellor from the Health Center and the Give&Take walking community.

#### It's more than a platform

Give&Take is more than a platform. It is designed as a service package, where a digital platform along paired with guides, support tips, and examples of digital use and practice throughout the process. The community members, as well as the coordinators, can thus benefit and learn from the overall platform package.





# PRODUCTIVE CO-EXISTENCE

Analysis // Geraldine Fitzpatrick

Our experiences of co-creating living labs and new forms of community participation show that it takes the experience, expertise and engagement of multiple different partners to make it work and that this effort requires a lot of integration.

Academic partners need to draw on a mix of research and design skills, as well as skills for engaging citizens and community organisations as co-design partners. To do this they need to be sensitive to the rhythms and constraints of the lives of their participants and of the working contexts of the organisations. They also need to play a bridging role to the industry partners, helping interpret the needs and possibilities identified with participants into supporting software applications, and iterating through various versions of the Give&Take platform.

Citizens are a key focal point as the whole point of any engagement is how to facilitate better quality of life and community engagement for them. As equal partners in the process, they are asked to contribute time and effort to engage in an open co-design space, to participate in diverse activities, and to be part of rehearsing new forms of civic and community engagement over some extended periods of time.

Civic and community organisations, such as Municipalities and Neighbourhood Centres, provide the community focus in which new forms of Give&Take communities can be embedded and supported. This requires considerable commitment, from 'owners' who sponsor the work to 'coordinators' who facilitate practical engagements. The provision of dedicated resources, especially at the coordinator level, significantly helps these engagements and increases the likelihood of success. It also takes significant time to negotiate access to relevant parts of the organisations in the first place.

**Industry partners** are critical to the practical development of the software platform through which the Give&Take service can be played out and also in the identification of the relevant market and business case. Tensions need to be negotiated between the need for the development work to be specified and proceed through iterative cycles versus the need for the new forms of community participation to be explored, co-designed, rehearsed and evolved through reflection on experience.

What we have learnt through the Give&Take project is that creating Give&Take communities involves so much more than just building a software platform. It is primarily about building new forms of community participation and civic engagement, and exploring how technology might play a part in facilitating this. Because of this it needs the integration of skills and expertise as well as the long-term commitment from all partners working together. What we also learnt was that this takes considerable effort and doesn't just happen by accident. Work needs to go into building these relationships, understanding what each partner contributes, what their constraints are, and negotiating sometimes competing priorities and timeframes. In co-design projects with high diversity among partners, like the Give&Take project, the driving force in design is rarely a pre-existing shared vision among partners and stakeholders of a future made possible through design activities. Rather, the driving force is a plurality of dynamic values, and a continuous negotiation of values; not to reconcile value differences, but to reshape and achieve a productive co-existence between them, allowing new practices among project participants to form.

GIVE & TAKE



#### Vision // Thomas Binder

At the heart of what the Give&Take project offers is not only a social media platform but also a new way for municipalities and other care giving organisations to establish constructive and sustainable relations with senior citizens and volunteers through their front line employees. The digital platform provides a robust infrastructure for seniors to interact, share and take responsibility for the everyday communities they are part of, but what makes this platform unique is that it comes with a helping hand from the host and the community coordinators. Through the ten trial living labs that the Give&Take project

organized we have seen that providing such a helping hand demands learning processes that takes commitment, resources and changes in attitude with the host organisation. Some host organisations may be able to go through this on their own, and some may need external support. In any case acquiring the platform is not enough. New collaborations and new attitudes have to be rehearsed and the different stakeholders need time to take on their role in the sharing communities. We have outlined five steps that we believe captures what it takes to make support for sharing more than a platform.

# NOT ONE SIZE FITS ALL

#### Analysis // Signe Yndigegn, Maria Foverskov, Katharina Werner, Julia Rose Loup & Thomas Binder

Through involvement with networks of hosts, coordinators, volunteers and senior citizens in ten living labs in the Give&Take project we have seen how motivations and commitments differ from network to network and how every sharing community has to be met with a willingness to address what is particular about the network behind it. We have also learned that it takes time and resources to transform an initial interest into sustainable communities. For others to pursue the ambition of providing infrastructures for sharing communities that includes an optional helping hand from host organisations and their employees we suggest a process in five steps.

#### **Step 1: Exploring interest and relevance**

In the networks we have been involved with we have seen the initial interest coming from a host organisation as in the health center of Frederiksberg Municipality wanting to support com munity building among single men (as in the Men's Cooking Class) or in a walking group among physically or socially challenged seniors. We have however also seen the initial interest coming from the seniors themselves as in the social club, Stjerneklubben, at a large housing estate or in the network of seniors in the small town of Schwechat that wanted to stay more closely connected. In other cases it has been the coordinators for example in the Vienna neighbourhood centers, who have seen possibilities in handing over responsibility and initiative to senior citizens through the Give&Take platform. Whatever the starting point is, existing or new communities, and whether the initiative comes from host organisation, coordinators, volunteers or the seniors wanting to connect, we have found in all cases that motivations and commitments across the network, as well as an alignment of stakeholders, are crucial to get a community building initiative like Give&Take off the ground.

An example of a network where this initial alignment was not successful was the IT-volunteers at DanAge Frederiksberg, a group of around 25 people, who help members of DanAge (an organisation for seniors) with IT problems. They run computer cafes, where the members can come by and get help. They also run a home service especially for people with stationary computers, limited mobility or problems with TV or printers. The Give&Take platform was introduced as a way for the IT-volunteers to exchange experience and ask the others for help. Since the group already had a well-established practice for this, Give&Take never succeeded in becoming a new platform for the IT-volunteers.

#### **Step 2: Introduction to the platform**

The Give&Take platform is the concrete and practical backbone for enabling sharing and communication within the network. This means that somebody has to take on the role of being gate-keeper and initiator for new communities and this also involves being able to get the seniors onto the platform. Most often in the living labs we have been involved with, it has been the coordinators, typically employed by the host organisation, that are the most obvious candidates for this role. For some like the social workers involved in neighbourhood centres or housing associations the platform comes as a direct extension of communication

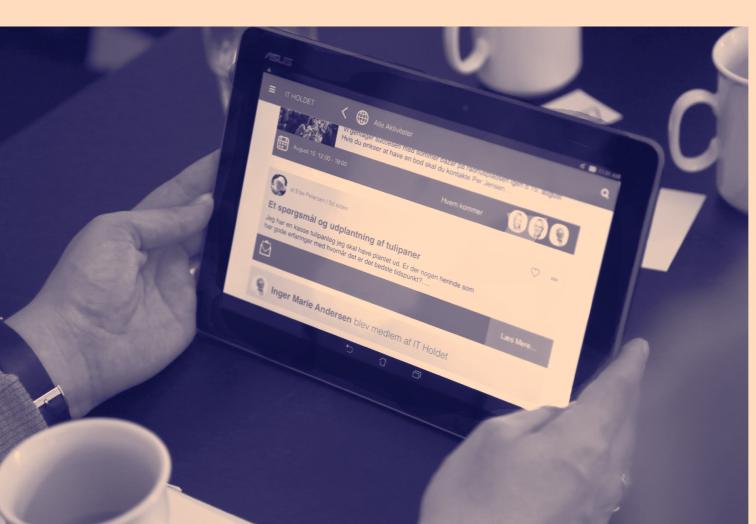
and networking that they are already involved in. For others like for example healthcare professionals working with rehabilitation or health promotion, digital platforms for networking may be seen as something besides the core activity of engaging people in health issues. In both cases the gatekeepers will have to find time to get themselves familiarized with the digital platform and be able to set aside resources for preparing for this role. For example the Neighbourhood centres in Vienna have established structures and work practices, organized by coordinators and volunteers in a mutually shared daily practice. This means that it takes time and work on the part of all participants to explore the potential of Give&Take and to work out how to best make use of it. This exploration is still ongoing for NZ22 and new practices around the platform have been slower to emerge. However the manager of the NBZ is very positive about the the platform and committed to its ongoing use after the project, supported by one of the members who volunteered to take on the coordinator role.

#### **Step 3: Introduction in the community**

Moving from having identified possibilities of supportive platforms in one or more networks to actually getting the communities activated will take new rounds of introductions and encouragements. At the residential area Stjernen the Give&Take

platform was introduced to establish a better communication channel between the social worker, Tinna and the women involved in 'Jasmin +40', a group of 10-12 ethnic women who meets every Friday evening. The women meet to chat, discuss women's matters without children or men involved. Tinna wants to provide suggestions or help them to get in touch with people to arrange talks or exercises. The women already use WhatsApp to get in touch, but the contact to Tinna takes place through one of the women, Amal, who communicate with Tinna during office hours or by SMS. The challenge with the Give&Take platform was to move some of the conversations with and in the community from SMS and WhatsApp to the Give&Take space.

For the Schwechat seniors, who had the mutual aim to help other people and stay in contact, the initial dialogue meetings and workshops had shown that the group seemed interested to become a part of the living lab activities. Although digital support was provided through tablet courses and routine meetings, the critical mass to make the platform work has never been reached within project time. Instead, the most active members on the platform started to create a smaller network of care by exchanging phone numbers and supporting each other on daily activities, but these activities were not exchanged through the platform.



#### Step 4: Ongoing guidance and support

Through the longer lasting living labs the Give&Take team typically held bi-weekly meetings with the coordinators. These meetings are not only about IT support but also to inspire and exchange experience of how to interact with the community and be present on the platform. At the English Excursion Club associated also with a Neighbourhood centre in Vienna a group is made up of about 8-9 individuals interested in exploring Vienna, while practicing their conversational English. Although this group had difficulties in terms of access to technology and the email usage required to use the platform, the group illustrated to the team how helpful Give&Take would be - especially for coordinators - when planning, coordinating, and troubleshooting event based groups. The coordinator of the English Excursion Group will continue to use and introduce the platform in the group. During this process, the Give&Take team hopes to learn even more about how to market the platform, i.e. how it can help municipal organizations with their goal of connecting the community both in the centers and outside.

#### Step 5: Round off and hand over

The Give&Take platform is meant to continue to provide a helping hand and a reciprocal exchange between host, coordinators, volunteers and senior citizens, but at some point the outside support for the network comes to an end that it is relevant to mark and celebrate. At the Commonroom, a creative hub in Vienna with a primary interest into ceramics, the group includes people with diverse skills and a common interest in an open space for creation. The Give&Take Commonroom community is one of the latest living labs in the project. After a couple of meetings with the coordinators, a service and business plan was created together with them. The activities included creating timelines for how a Give&Take digital group can be created, how this can act together with other social networks of the group as well as how the volunteers can be motivated through the digital platform.

The volunteers of the community use the platform for exchanging organisational tasks, as well as for seeking help for the materials they need for the organisation of events. As one of the coordinators mentions: "One major thing that distinguishes this platform from our Facebook or Whatsapp groups is that, it is open and closed at the same time. This means we can share the effort to put things together, such as organising an event for next week, and we can celebrate the finalisation of our posters, all this you can find out, once you are a part of this [Give&Take] organisation group. It very much fits to our understanding of creating things together, just being able to show the openness of this process"

# WE HOPE THEY WILL USE EACH OTHER MORE

Reportage // Signe Yndigegn

#### A cooking class for men

In the third year we collaborated with the health counsellor Mette and Eva from Samvirkende Menighedsplejer (SMP) on The Men's Cooking Class. The collaboration was established through a series of meetings. With Irene, leader of the prevention team (Health center), we discussed relevant initiatives that could benefit from using the Give&Take platform. The Men's Cooking Class was chosen. Mette had with great success run the cooking class twice before, and she saw a potential with the platform making it possible for the men to continue on their own and extend what they established during the classes: "there is a need for activities for men over 65", Mette explains, "and the health center doesn't have resources to

"It's great to learn new things like how to fillet fish as we did". They like cooking together and they particularly stress the social aspect of it. However it was difficult for them to continue on their own afterwards: "I joined because I wanted to extend my network, but there was no initiative afterwards to see each other again. I think the motivation was there, but we maybe needed an occasion," one man tells me. This is also the reason why Mette wants to establish the community again with the Give&Take platform. This time she has a focus on sustainability and on how to make the group of men more 'self-facilitating'.

The men at my table took part in the former cooking class:

The calendar needs to be updated, so I ask Finn and Henning. They have been through the exercises and seem rather confident with the platform. They are happy to do it. After a while Finn has marked all the dates on his paper, and he has now finished updating the calendar. "Couldn't the calendar synchronise with my phone," Henning asks and show me his phone. "Then I can see it on my screen together with other activities". His question initiates new questions and suggestions from the men around us. At the next "Give&Take class" we discuss how the platform

can be integrated with the cooking classes and decides to make a small posting each time. Henning took some pictures at the last cooking class. They made meat balls. He uploads the pictures and write a short description. In the group we

agree that this can work as a diary.

I think it would be great to find the experienced IT users before we start. They can then work as assisting teachers and support me in helping the others."

#### Will it stay alive?

Mette's focus has been to support the network among the men. "I can already see that it has an effect in supporting the community. They can see each other, and who participate in the classes. It can motivate some to come, who may have stayed home on a rainy day. But we would still like more activity on the platform. It should be the men writing to each other and not us employees. They find IT difficult but they also find it

difficult to navigate the tabs on the



continue the classes." To continue the cooking class as a Give&Take community Mette contacted Eva from SMP, who support the weakest in society with initiatives like grief groups and home visits for people that are socially challenged. They had a kitchen and the possibility to make the initiative permanent.

#### Extending the network

"Do you want to try the Give&Take platform?" I asked the men the first time we met. It was December. They were invited for Christmas lunch and an introduction to the initiative. It turned into a longer conversation at my table about their life situation: "It's difficult to stop working. If it wasn't for activities like this, I could easily end up watching TV all day", one of the men tells me. My dinner partner continues: "It's difficult that no one needs you anymore - or that's how you feel. When you work, there is always something going on - or someone that wants to involve you in new projects."

#### Introduction, peer training and superusers

It is the second 'Give&Take, coffee and cake class'. The first time was really busy in terms of helping everyone to get a platform profile and sign up. This time, I brought guidelines and exercises to support the introduction. Many of the men already arrived. Henning and Finn, two of the men, are already busy. They are trying to help Mette figuring out how to upload all the recipes from the former cooking classes. She wants the men to have access to them, since they found them easy to follow. The room is buzzing with the enthusiastic discussion about the platform, the recipes and cooking. Thomas has brought cake and there is coffee in the pots.

The dates for the cooking classes have changed, so I suggest to Mette to update the calendar on the platform. We propose the men to sign up, so everyone can see who is going to join the classes. Mette is busy helping Bent, who needs a profile and finds it difficult. He keeps her occupied for the rest of the class.

#### Appointing helpers

I ask Mette to reflect upon the work with the platform. As we saw during the class, Mette was often occupied with helping one or two of the men. This made her question how she could do this on her own. There is, though, a lot of interest and IT expertise among the men: "The men like to use the platform and are curious about it, but when you come home, it's a little harder to get started" Mette explains. "However, some of the men are really cool at using IT and they think it's great fun. They've obviously found it easier to use the platform. They've also been really good helpers to assist the others in how to use the platform." Mette continues on the last part: "Looking back

don't always know where to place and find things. My impression is that there is a desire to use it - that is what they express."

The question is how the community will continue when the Give&Take team and Mette very soon will withdraw: "I see some great benefits with the platform when you don't meet so often. Some of the men only meet once a month when they cook together. It's not enough when you want to establish a network. The platform can support them having conversations across the community. They can use each other to something else - more often. Perhaps they can help and inspire each other - and arrange to join other activities together. That's the beautiful purpose of this initiative." [...] "They become wiser on how they want to use it, when we sit here. I can hear they come up with ideas together. That's good! It means that there might be a chance that it will stay alive when we withdraw ... and I think it will."

# GROWING COMMONROOM IN VIENNA ON THE GIVE&TAKE PLATFORM

Reportage // Özge Subasi & Julia Rose Loup

#### Volunteer based 'common' maker-space

During the last year of the project, a living lab was established with Commonroom. It is a creative hub in Vienna with a primary interest into ceramics. The group includes people from across generational and cultural backgrounds, with diverse skills and a common interest in an open space for creation. This primarily English-speaking community has a motivation to be more active in the Austrian creative scene.

As the name implies, Commonroom aims to provide a common space to create, share, and learn alongside friends, neighbours and family. Two coordinators and a group of enthusiasts are acting as volunteers, all unpaid with other day jobs. They organise a variety of creative workshops (ceramic, sewing, paper making or art & mind courses). These courses are shaped around the skills of the members and volunteers and they change over time. With the common space and volunteer-initiated activities it differs from other communities that the Give&Take team has collaborated with.

#### Visibility of voluntary work

Through a couple of initial meetings with the coordinators the collaboration was arranged. The coordinators were motivated from the first introduction to the platform, specifically expressing excitement for an ability to show the community and newcomers the hard work required to make Commonroom as successful as it is. In other words, the coordinators wanted a platform to represent their current business and marketing model of the 'visibility of voluntary work' within the Commonroom community. Commonroom is an interesting community with an emphasis on shared experiences, and also on the growth this business and creative space could achieve through the Give&Take platform.

At the initial meetings, a service and business plan was created together with the coordinators. The activities included creating timelines for how a Give&Take platform community can be created; how this can act together with other social networks of the group as well as how the volunteers can be motivated through the digital platform. After the introduction from the Give&Take team, coordinators and volunteers from Commonroom felt comfortable using the platform. They went on without further guidance to engage their current members in the ideas of

sharing on the platform; successfully publishing and promoting future events on the platform; as well as utilising the Give&Take platform to include new members as the Commonroom grows in popularity.

#### Support for organising a new course

In Commonroom, once an interesting idea is launched as a new course, it is a lot of work for the coordinators to figure out how to realize it. The group does not own all the materials and tools that would be needed to run the course. The question was whether the Give&Take platform could support this. For example, a coordinator wanted to organise a new sewing course. However, there was a limited supply of sewing machines available. A post on the platform immediately prompted offers from people willing to lend their sewing machines or give away spare parts to help get this course off the ground. This initial success allowed the coordinators to play around with further possibilities provided by the Give&Take platform.

A few weeks after the sewing machine success, a coordinator asked for somebody to edit an event flyer, written in English. She posted the draft of the flyer, and immediately native English speakers offered to assist and get involved in the event planning process. The editing work became accessible to the entire community and coordinators. This process not only helped the coordinators with their work, but beautifully represented Commonroom's goal of making visible the hard work and effort made by the Commonroom community.

#### Integrating the platform more broadly

With these initial successes, the Give&Take team soon recognised that the coordinators did not need further support for business development through the platform, but rather a way to integrate Give&Take into everyday social networking within the community. The Give&Take team therefore organised a special workshop with Commonroom members and coordinators to introduce the platform more broadly. By assisting with the workshop costs, the researchers provided the resources for the organisers to better develop the future of Give&Take in this context.

For the Give&Take team, this community is not only exciting to work with but interesting in terms of where it will go next.



# IT TAKES TIME TO GROW A SUSTAINABLE COMMITMENT

Reportage // Julia Rose Loup, Katharina Werner, Geraldine Fitzpatrick & Lone Malmborg

An important observation from several living labs during the last period of Give&Take is that coordinators as well as members need a 'long inlet' to get going with the platform. We have met many explanations for this: difficulties with new technology, new roles or practices in old communities, little desire to build new relations or just being satisfied with things as they are.

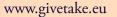
The Vienna IT School for Senior Citizens (Seniorenkolleg) had expressed an interest in the Give&Take platform. The Give&Take team therefore invited the Seniorenkolleg to explore the interest and relevance of the platform by becoming a community for developing a Give&Take living lab for rehearsing the coordinator role. Seniorenkolleg is an example of how it takes time to grow a commitment towards a new way of communicating and sharing activities. The owner and main teacher of the school had expressed interest in exploring the platform at her i-Colleg. Based on this interest we introduced the platform to the owner and coordinator, who immediately pointed to advantages for the communities of i-Colleg students: "I-Colleg courses only run once a month, and I imagine that the platform can sustain contact and continuous learning among me and students, and also allow the students to communicate in between courses." In addition the owner and coordinator also believed the Give&Take platform could help her spend her time and resources more efficiently: "I can save time by not having to reply individually to students' questions the after courses."

The Give&Take team was invited to introduce the platform for the i-Colleg community through a tablet-course held for the specific class. Except for a few students, everybody was positive and eager to learn about the platform, and the introduction went smooth and without major problems during the introduction by the Give&Take team. However, this first and short introduction was not sufficient for creating commitment to using the platform among the students of the i-Colleg class. After we left the class the general atmosphere towards the platform was quite sceptical. Despite the owner and coordinator's enthusiasm and the good IT skills of her i-Colleg students, the first attempt getting them to use

the Give&Take platform did not succeed. In this case explanations for not wanting to use the platform were: "we have no need for increased social contact", "we don't want to post events on the platform", and "we don't need to meet new people as we already see enough people during the week". One reflection seen through the experience of our 10 living labs is that we maybe pulled out too fast. In other communities we stayed longer - sometimes due to a need for technical support - which allowed more time for ongoing guidance and support of building up new community practices of sharing around the platform.

Not long after the i-Colleg students' rejection of the platform, the Give&Take team was contacted by the coordinator asking for permission to share and promote the Give&Take platform with colleagues and other IT schools in Vienna. Even if the coordinator did not get the platform going during the first attempt with one of her i-Colleg classes, she appreciates the qualities of the platform, and has learnt from the first experience how to introduce these gradually and in different modes depending on the specific context and members of the community.





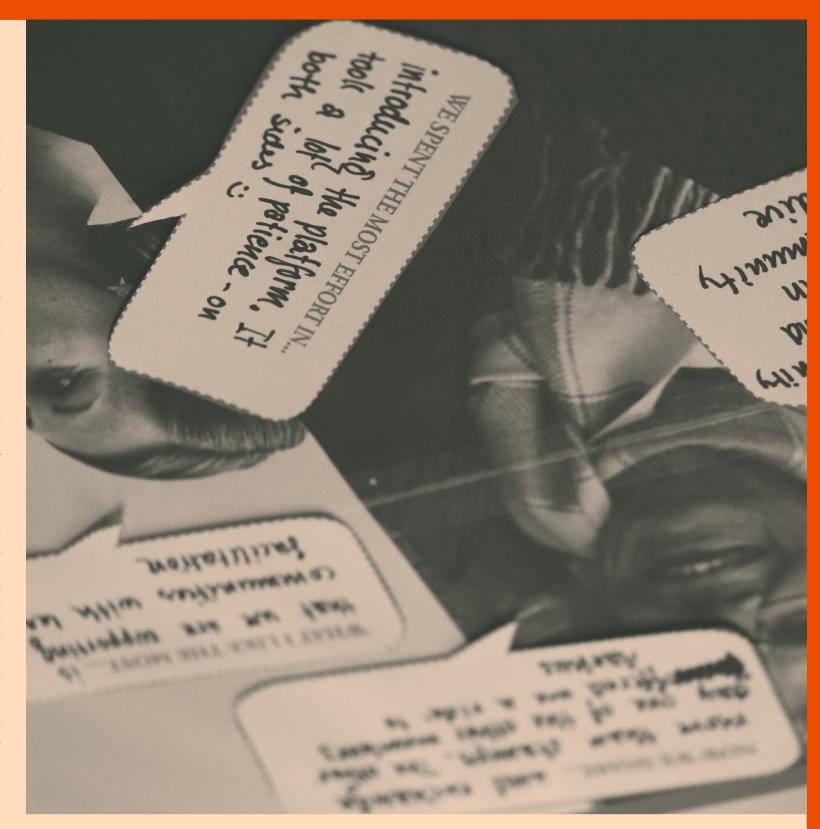


communities supported by the platform. to noise and base to munder and duration of ating such efforts could here be member's presence on and loneliness. The measures that are relevant for evalumonitored walking groups may directly impact on health social cohesion. Similarly, an expansion of only slightly neighbourhood may have direct effects on well-being and impact. A close dialogue with local clubs in a challenged qualitatively different from before may have a strong making seniors more self-going. Outcomes that are but does not map on well to preventive efforts aimed at events. This may work well for tightly scheduled offerings, bennelq-erying well defined services or attending pre-planned organizations measure success by the number of people is not easily captured with established metrics. Many host partnership between the seniors and the host organization bringing people together in new ways, and re-defining the that will show if the platform is a success. However expectations to the outcomes and to establish measures Give&Take can accomplish it is important to set clear Already when looking into what a platform like Power in the numbers

From servicing to co-creation and of the challenges for a host organization in supporting sharing communities with a helping hand is that not one size fits all. All communities are different and the initiative and activities in each community is co-created in the network in ways that does not give the host the same kind of control as they may have experienced when providing more classical services. Acknowledging the shared ownership to what is accomplished and finding ways to support and enhance reciprocal exchange not only among the seniors but also between seniors and host is typically calling for new kinds of partnership. This also involves thinking through what will be the routines, practices, thinking thools of the senior communities and how they are complemented by efforts of mentoring and support by the host organization.

What is the added value of having a Give&Take platform for the community as well as for the host organization?

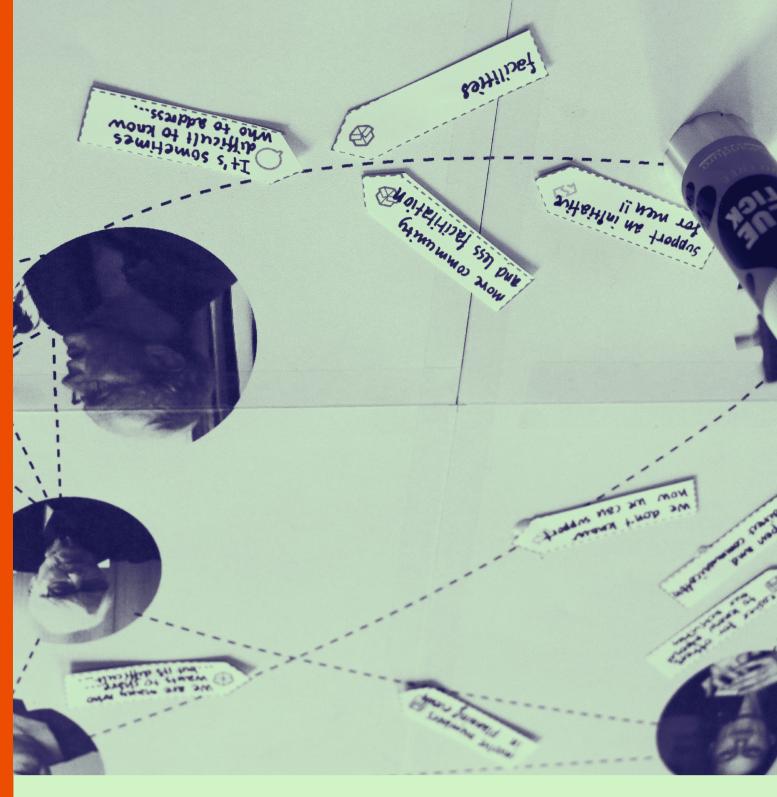
The answer to this is very likely to be different as are the efforts that must be expected from the different stakeholders. To be clear and specific about what is expected in terms of added value is an important part of evaluating the platform's potential. In a planning phase some host organization may tend to set very general and abstract expectations to what will be the added value. If this is the case the is a considerable risk that the expected outcomes remain so vague that they become hard to commit to for those who are to promote them. Being concrete in imagining where the network can be in terms of impact when it has come off the ground is a strong motivation also in the initial work.



Some of the speech bubbles are already partly filled out. Use them and finish the sentence - and make new ones.

SCORE; One year later with Give&Take: Turn taking around the table. Fill out the speech bubbles for each "role" based on the questions:

**KEX IMBVCL** 



[Have in mind whether the issues and purposes addressed are relevant and of motivation for the specific community and the "whole onion"]

SCORE:

Turn taking around the table: Define the exchanges for the different relations using the arrows indicating the categories: chat, event, resource or marketplace

ability to form their own sharing communities. with a helping hand have gained the confidence and regular users of community offerings through a platform seniors who have little experience with IT and who are not become a success. On the other hand, we have seen that the gain marginal, it is not likely that the platform will enough to make this happen. If the effort is small and and resources, and motivations and needs must be strong networks are weak. Community building always take time tation or IT classes) or local neighbourhoods where to offer is typically towards ad hoc networks (like rehabili platforms. Where the Give&Take platform has something organize themselves through broadly available social media there are today many examples of communities that Not all sharing communities need a helping hand, and Success does not come with a minimal effort

It is about relations (not transactions)
One of the things we have learned through the Give&Take project is that sharing communities are driven by caring relations much more than by ambitions to trade on skills and resources. The digital platform provides opportunities to offer resources and to open a 'marketplace', but from what we have seen in the Give&Take living labs, resources are most often cooking recipes and market place offers an opportunity to join a cinema trip. Sharing is also supported on the platform through the announcement of chats and events, and when new sharing communities are envisioned such exchanges are as important as the exchange of commodities.

Where are the needs and where are the resources?

Conventionally what for example is offered to seniors by a municipality is typically morivated as a way to remedy a loss of capacity. Even if this may make sense from a municipal perspective, supporting community building with a helping hand is as much about sporting and unleashing resources. When a club of stamp collectors gather 80 men every Monday for listing to a speech on foreign stamps and to exchange stamps we already have a strong sharing community. Providing the club with a digital platform for sharing will not make more people digital platform for sharing will not make more people tives and it can create a stronger channel of communicatives and it can create a stronger channel of communicatives and it can create a stronger channel of communication between the club and the municipality.

Expand purposes and exchanges
Looking closer at a network that may be the base for
sharing communities, it is critical to consider what keeps
the network together. What makes it worthwhile to invest
time and effort in community building and how will all
stakeholders gain from the collaboration. Often goals and
needs differ, but the glue that keeps the network together
is the reciprocity in what is exchanged. To spread good
examples across communities may be the interest of the host
organization, but for the individual community this must be
organization, but for the individual community this must be

# THE NEXT STEPS

Through the Give&Take project we have set up ten living labs where sharing communities have been supported through the digital platform. Across all living labs we have seen that introducing the platform is much more than acquiring a technical infrastructure. Growing communities take time and getting a supportive network in place requires discussions and negotiations all the way from the management of the host organization to the future members of the sharing community. Thinking of this as a learning process where not only seniors but also social workers and municipal officers have to be motivated and learn new roles is central for a successful introduction.

Ensure that the network is aligned

Even if a platform like Give&Take is well in line with the policies and strategies of the host organization it still has to make sense for the frontline workers and the networks of seniors for whom it is going to be part of everyday routines. Identifying key stakeholders and getting them on board demands dialogue and allocation of resources. To bring in the platform as an extension of existing offerings is not necessarily as straight forward as it seems. To promote community building with an emphasis on sharing and caring will often call for new formats of exchange between the hos organization and the seniors.

Give time to rehearse new roles

Being and experienced physiotherapist that can see the relevance in supporting community building among the seniors they serve, does not automatically makes you comfortable in introducing a digital platform that shifts ownership from the instructor to the attending senior. It takes time to take on a different professional role, and closer collaboration and exchange among the seniors also means rehearsing new practices in the health center. This is more than what can be done 'on the side'. The host organization must set aside time and resources to get the 'helping hand' in place.

Work up the helping hand with a soft start
The Give&Take platform is developed for sharing communities in need of a helping hand. This means that the platform is not only to be introduced but also to be maintained and continuously supported in use. The mentoring and monitoring of evolving communities cannot be done away with and even to take a helping hand the communities need a soft start.

SCORE:
How do we get the Give&Take
platform successfully rolled out?
Discuss and complete the five steps.



# MAPPING COMMUNITIES

EXCHVICES

**NAKOLDING** 

**BORES AND** 

SCORE:

Pair up and fill out one of the 'onion cards' by naming and characterizing a community that can benefit from the platform and present the card to the others.

Use the star cards to rate the communities to select which one to "play with in the rest of the game".



#### Mapping communitie

There may be many different motivations for reaching out to groups of seniors to promote sharing communities. In health care it is well known that a large proportion of people attending rehabilitation programs (after hip surgery, stroke or similar) have difficulties in maintaining good habits of physical exercise after the program ends. Here a platform for community building may be a good answer. In community centers many people extend their social network through attending classes or open cafes, but the initiative is often solely held by local coordinators. A sharing platform may promote more direct involvement and participation by the network itself. In large housing estates or wider neighbourhoods network building may not be straightforward, but often social clubs or activity centers have the potential to reach out more broadly if they get the opportunity. Social platforms may be the kind of infrastructure that such neighbourhoods need. In considering what seniors to address, it is important both to take the perspectives of the community and the host organization. What are the issues and needs that the seniors experience and what are the interest and concerns of the host organization and its frontline employees?

#### Communities are not just there.

People who get together for example for an IT class at a neighbourhood center does not necessarily form a community. Very often the way activities are organized shape what people expect and what they are willing to take responsibility for. If the class is organized in a format of traditional one-way teaching, participants do not get to interact with one another, and very seldom will they take over the initiative to build a self-going community. In other contexts like for example an open invitation for a health center walk on a fixed weekday, very little is structured by the host and participants are free to expand what they do together as they walk. When mapping potential sharing communities, it is critical to consider what brings people together and how ownership may be shared.

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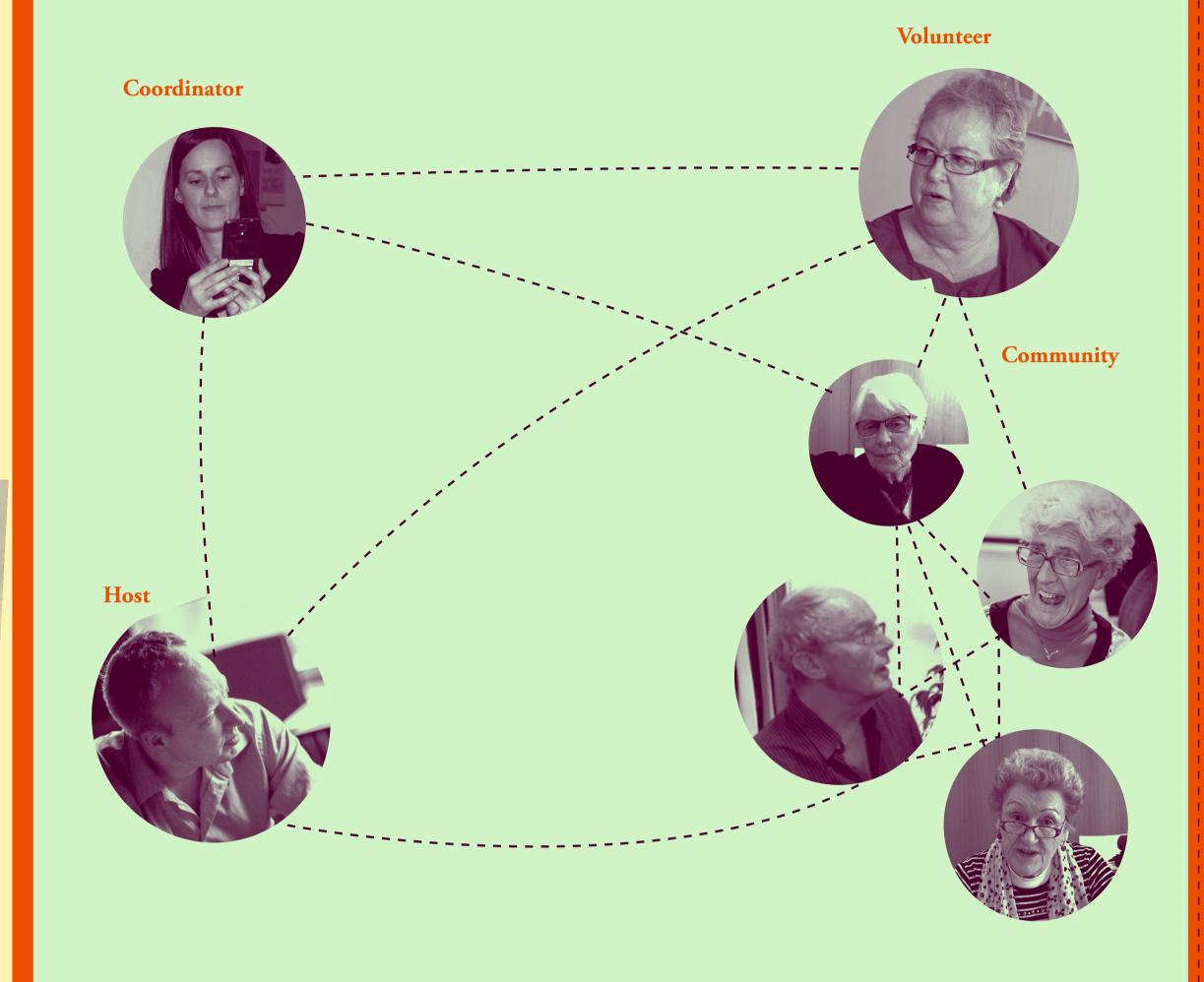
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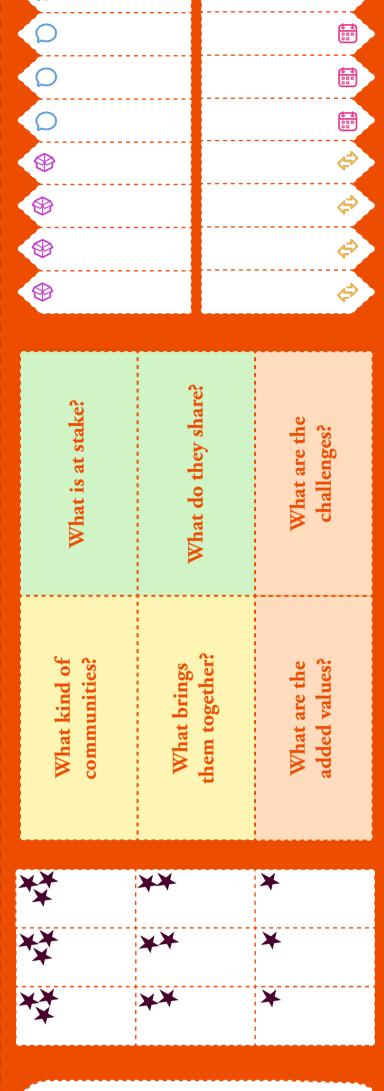
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Concept & layout by Gudrun Risak









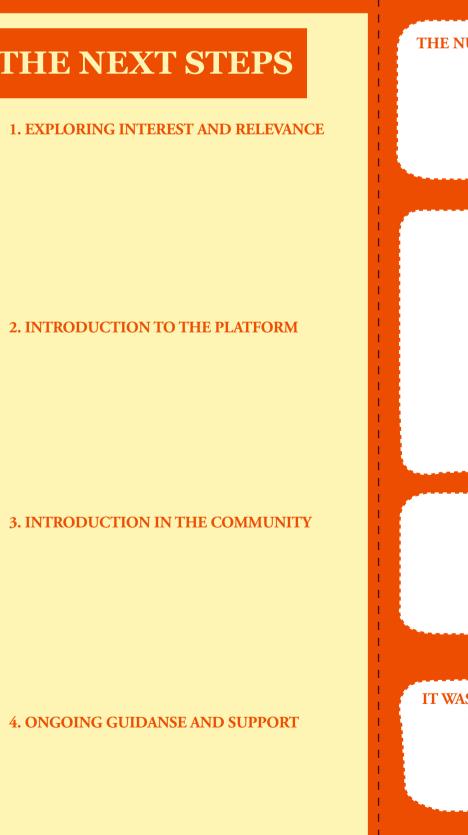


WE SPENT THE MOST EFFORT IN...









GIVE & TAKE

5. ROUND OFF AND HAND OVER





Deliverable: D.3.4 Documenting emerging practices

# Living lab use cases overview appendix 5

# Jasmin: ethnic women's club (40+) at Stjernen



Jasmin +40 is a group of 10-12 ethnic women who meets every Friday evening at the residential area Stjernen, at Frederiksberg. The women are all at least 40 years old. They meet to chat, discuss women's matters without children or men involved, drink tea and share cake and fruit. The women have mixed backgrounds and the main part of them has lived in Denmark for several years.

The women want to get inspiration about possible activities to have something to do together - and to get a better communication channel to Tinna.

Today, the contact to Tinna is through the "manager" Amal visiting Tinna during office hours or through SMS.

#### Tinna a social worker

The owner of the community could be a joint venture between the municipality and KAB (social housing estate). The coordinator Tinna is employed by the municipality of Frederiksberg and KAB. Her role is mainly to support the women in sustaining their own community but sometimes she needs to intervene in conflicts by mediating between conflicting partners.

#### Challenges and possibilities

The Give&Take platform was introduced to establish a better communication channel between Tinna and the women. The platform allows Tinna to provide suggestions or help them to get in touch with people to arrange talks or exercises. The challenge with the Give&Take platform was to move some of the conversations with and in the community from SMS and WhatsApp to their Give&Take space.

# JASMIN: WOMENS CLUB

1a Meeting w. Tinna social worker at stjernen to discuss possible collaboration 2a Meeting w. Tinna - social worker at stjernen. Possible communities

2b Meeting w. Tinna, Sara and Mahdis - use cases and concrete possibilities are discussed

2c Meeting w. Tinna, Sara - Onboard the platform, create profiles and introduce how to use the platform

3a Meeting the communities introducing the idea with G&T introduction to the platform and profile

3b Meeting the communities: Second introduction to the platform and profile

4a phone meeting w Tinna

4b Meeting w. Tinna continue to discuss possibilities and how to keep the women engaged

4c phone meeting w Tinna

4d Meeting w. Tinna. A follow up and evaluation



2A 2B 2C

3A 3B



5A 5B

# MEN'S FOOD CLUB



The men's food club counts about 20 men from Frederiksberg who meet and cook together. The men are retired and many are living by themselves. Some of them have taken part in earlier 'men's food' courses initiated by the health center. This time the men's food club is arranged in collaboration between the Give&Take team, the counsellor from the health center, Mette - and Eva and Helle from the NGO Samvirkende menighedspleje, which is an organisations who helps and supports the weakest in the society. The idea is to make it a sustainable community for the men.

In addition, the men want to extend their network and find a way to organise meetings. The Give&Take platform can become a 'place' to continue on their own and organise other events or ways to meet. The food course takes place 1-2 Thursdays per month. The men cook together, and Kurt (a chef and volunteer) manages the cooking. At the Thursdays in between cooking, the men meet with Mette and the Give&Take team for coffee, cake and introduction to the Give&Take platform.

#### Owners & Coordinator relations

The ownership is shared: "Samvirkende Menighedsplejer" (SMP) an NGO organisation host the meetings. Frederiksberg Health Center (FHC) recruit the men and provides resources (economical) and an health counsellor, Mette. They collaborate with SMP to be able to provide this 'preventive' offer.

Coordinators are Mette (FHC) that provide G&T support and Eva and Helle (SMP) that support and organise the practical and logistics with cooking and volunteers.

#### Challenges and possibilities

FHC and SMP: to support this initiative to become sustainable and make the men be able to continue on their own - or to extend the community to other things than cooking.

The men: They want a network and a way to organise to meet with the others about other things. But also to share recipes, good advices, etc..

There could be possibilities to start up sub groups for special interests as some are joining "mænds mødesteder", walking groups etc.

# THE MEN'S FOOD CLUB

1a Meeting w. Irene team leader of the prevention team at Frederiksberg Health Center: Possible coordinators and communities (initiatives).

1b Meeting w. Irene - use cases and concrete possibilities.

1c Presentation for the prevention team:
- possibilities with G&T and use case: the walking group.

2a Meeting w. Mette - health counselor for 'men's food clubs''. A possibility to run a new men's food club with old and new members and connect it with G&T.

2b Meeting w. Mette -

2c Meeting w. Mette, Helle and Eva - E+H are from Samvirkende Menighedspleje

2d Meeting w. Mette, Helle, Eva and Bent (volunteer)

3a Meeting the communities introducing the idea with G&T

3b MtC: Introduction to the platform, profile, guidelines

3c MtC: Introduction to the platform, profile, exercises

3d MtC: Introduction to the platform, profile, exercises

3e MtC: Introduction to the platform, profile, exercises

4. Providing guiding and support for coordinators.

Ongoing discussion with Mette on how to get all men on board (that wants to). Exercises and to educate superusers are very effectful

5. Handing over full responsibility to communities and owner (evaluating with the community, MSP and Mette)



# **STJERNEKLUBBEN**



Stjerneklubben is a senior club in a the residential area Stjernen. They are about 15 people who meet every Thursday afternoon either for Bingo, a tour somewhere or a chat, coffee and cake.

The club has two key persons, Sven and Anette, who are the main responsibles for arranging activities and tours. The group helps each other with practical or handiwork, look after each other if some of them are sick, as well as help with IT especially for those without a computer at home

The Give&Take platform was tried out in this group to see if the responsibility for organising trips or the other activities could be shared among more members. But also to make it more flexible to organise, change and cancel the different activities. Finally, it was introduced to see if the platform could support their sharing and helping each other in the group.

#### Owners & Coordinator relations

The owner of the community could be a joint venture between the municipality and KAB (social housing estate). The coordinator could be the social worker at Stjernen that could support the group in using the platform and if they were in need of help somehow.

#### Challenges and possibilities

The Give&Take platform could make it possible to share the planning and negotiation of their Thursday activities. It was also introduced to support the exchange among the members of things and different kinds of help. It turned out to be difficult to introduce the Give&Take platform especially due to the level of IT skills as well as an already very robust practice in the community of 'how we do things'.

# **ACTIVITIES WITH STJERNEKLUBBEN**





# THE WALKING GROUP (DOMUS VISTA)



A new community. This group meets once a week, walks together and drinks coffee. They are either "assigned" by a health supervisor or have read about it in the newspaper. The "walkers" come from all over Frederiksberg and did not know each other beforehand. The Give&Take platform was introduced to the group at the point when Karina (health counsellor) )withdraw from the group and they were supposed to continue on their own

The platform is used in the group to share everyday incidents, to care for each other in relation to illness or the like, and to invite each other for public and private events. Besides exploring what sharing through the Give&Take platform could be like for this community, we also explored the relationship between the health center and the community - and how the platform could work along with the coordinator's work

#### Owners & Coordinator relations

The ownership is the Health Center, Frederiksberg. They want to be able to extend their initiative beyond the 'course period' and make them sustainable - to make it possible for the groups to continue on their own. Coordinator: Karina (health counsellor) - the platform could make it possible for her to follow the group on distance and give a helping hand if needed.

#### Challenges and possibilities

When the platform was introduced, only about half of the group wanted to join. This evoked a risk of splitting the group. However, this changed slowly during the months the Give&Take team was present. Some became interested when they heard how the other were using it. Through the platform the group also has a channel to Karina from the health center. She inspires the group by posting offers or other activities from the health center - and she reaches out if the group needs help.

# ACTIVITIES WITH THE WALKING GROUP





# **DANAGE**



IT-volunteers at Danage Frederiksberg is a group of around 25 people, who help members of DanAge (an organisation for seniors) with IT problems. They run computer cafes, where the members can come by and get help. They also run a homeservice especially for people with stationary computers, limited mobility or problems with TV or printers. Finally, many of the IT-volunteers are also teachers or assistants at the different IT courses for the members

The Give&Take platform was introduced as a way for the IT-volunteers to exchange experience and ask the others for help. We wanted to together with the group explore the possibility for exchange among IT volunteers. Later on this could be extended to the teaching groups in DA. Could the platform be a way for them to stay in contact and meet on their own after the courses?

#### Owners & Coordinator relations

The owner is DanAge.

The coordinators are here Finn (vice chairman) as well as Peter and Ole, who are the managers for the IT volunteers.

We mainly collaborated with the vice chairman and the two coordinators for these volunteers.

#### Challenges and possibilities

Here we wanted to explore the possibility for exchange among IT volunteers. Later on this could be extended to the teaching groups in DA. Could the platform be a way for them to stay in contact and meet on their own after the courses?

Since the group already had a well-established practice for this, Give&Take never succeeded becoming a new platform for the IT-volunteers.

# **ACTIVITIES WITH DANAGE**





# USE OF THE GIVE&TAKE PLATFORM (FRB)

#### Danage

The IT-volunteers had a very established and robust practices.

The Give&Take platform was introduced as a way for the IT-volunteers to exchange experience and ask the others for help.

Since the group already had a well-established practice for this, Give&Take never succeeded becoming a new platform for the IT-volunteers.

#### The walking club

The platform is used in the group to share everyday incidents, to care for each other in relation to illness or the like, and to invite each other for public and private events.

Through the platform the group also has a channel to Karina from the health center. She inspires the group by posting offers or other activities from the health center - and she reaches out if the group needs help.

#### Stjerneklubben

An existing group. The Give&Take platform was tried out in this group to see if the responsibility for organising trips or the other activities could be shared among more members. But also to make it more flexible to organise, change and cancel the different activities. It turned out to be difficult especially due to the level of IT skills as well as an already very robust practice in the community of 'how we do things'. It was mainly used in G&T meetings - or by the coordinators.

#### Jasmin +40

An existing group The Give&Take platform was therefore introduced to establish a better communication channel between Tinna (social worker)) and the women.

Tinna uses the platform but there is very little activity among the community. The challenge with the Give&Take platform was to move some of the conversations with and in the community from SMS and WhatsApp to their Give&Take space. It didn't really happen.

#### Men's food club

This G&T community was initiated as part of initiating a new cooking course for men.

The idea is to make it a sustainable community for the men. In addition, the men want to extend their network and find a way to organise meetings for the food club members

The men use the platform for signing up to events, share ideas, recipes and shopping tips. The also use it as diary for their cooking events and to share pictures..

## NBZ Rennbahnweg: the social space



The Neighbourhood Centre Rennbahnweg (NBZ 1220), runs a number of activities for people living in the closer local environment. It is an established place in the middle of a social housing with 10,000 inhabitants, a place to meet, talk and to seek help. The participants in the Give&Take community did not know each other beforehand, but most had already attended events at the NBZ or simply knew about it.

Social Workers from the NBZ wanted a platform to create a network of people in this residential area. "Even though so many people live in such a close vicinity, people hardly know their own neighbours and so

area. "Even though so many people live in such a close vicinity, people hardly know their own neighbours and so loneliness becomes a big problem, especially among older people." - NBZ affiliate

This NBZ wanted to use G&T to strengthen social contacts and engage people without many social contacts. The platform could also help with organizing the center's activities, and lessen the burden of the social workers

### Sandra, the coordinator

The manager of the community center could be a joint venture between the municipality and the housing community. She is employed by the "Hilfswerk" of Vienna. Her role is having the overview of all activities in the NBZ and also communicating with the umbrella organisation, other NBZs and the large group of volunteers supporting the NBZ.

### Challenges and possibilities

The manager of the space, as well as other social workers are very busy and, at the same time, they want to have an eye on everything to be sure that everything runs smoothly.

G&T can help delegating tasks to volunteers. There are many NBZs in Vienna and having a success story in this NBZ can help G&T to have sustainable connections to Hilfswerk.

## NBZ RENNBAHNWEG

2. --

1a Creating interest with 'owners' and 'coordinators'

1b Creating interest in the people in the neighbourhood by promoting the project

1c-d Workshops with people living in the area, strengthening interest

1E tablet course

3a Meeting the communities introducing the platform

3b...n Regularly meeting the communities on- and offline

4a, b Providing guiding and support for community members (sometimes overlapping with meetings in step 3)

5a Final Event - Handing over full responsibility to community and manager of NBZ

1 1B 1 1 1 E

3A 3B 3... 3... 3N 4A 4B

5A

## NBZ Gumpendorf: English Excursion Group



The NBZ Gumpendorf's English speaking excursion community meets on Thursdays to practice their English. The group converses about culture, education, and politics, while exploring the city. Recent meetings have included a picnic and walk through the city.

Ages range from late 30's to early 70's, with most members being over 50 years.

The group is organized by Wiener Hilfswerk (NBZ 1060).



Meetings are released as a monthly plan and participants (should) sign up by calling the NBZ. The group naturally works together to improve their English. Everyone is excited to meet people with similar interests regarding language learning.

This is different than other NBZ groups - it is event based and people get to know each other more. Relationship building/strengthening social contacts is a key focus.

### Sandra, the coordinator

Tinna wants her groups to be able to communicate better about events. The NBZ lacks space for events and new groups. More communication (online) between leaders and group members could help with meetings/events outside of the NBZ. There is no current way to such groups, only course/weekly/class type groups.

"...people come and they meet and that is expected... less effort"

Desire has been shown for events.

### Challenges and possibilities

This type of group is new to NBZ, so it struggles with some issues:

- Attendance is spotty, people don't sign-up/sign-up in time
- Difficult to plan with no incentive to show up or not

#### **Platform could help with:**

- 1. Sign ups online for all to see help leaders make plans
- 2. Information collection about event/group:
  - "...To find other useful information, funny stories etc."
- "...To have a quick overview about the upcoming events and to read comments written others."
- 3. Connect leaders/events across NBZ
- 4. Create events where people actually build relationships

# NBZ: ENGLISH EXCURSION GROUP

1a. Meeting with NBZ supervisor, organize the group, see what is possible

1b. Explore other excursion groups and english speaking groups offered in Vienna - see demand

1c. Converse with other NBZs to see their currently offered language groups

2a. Meeting with supervisor and research team - present G&T and show possibilities with the platform

3a. Begin meeting with the group - Presenting G&T while also forming group

3b. Continued presence of G&T in conversation - interest building, problem discovery, barrier identification

4a. Understand desirability of G&T, get feedback about pros and cons

4b. Discuss NBZ supervisor and other leaders of groups at NBZ about group/event organization

4c. Collect information - get G&T to be event organizer

5a. (possible) Handing over full responsibility to NBZ community\*

5b. (possible) Provide information to expand on their own to other NBZs\*

\*planned for June 2017

1 1B 2A 3A 3B 4C 5A 5B

### Seniorencolleg: computer classes for older adults



Seniorencolleg exits for more than 10 years. Mrs. Schubert is the owner, teacher and the driving force behind this. Participants meet at the Seniorencolleg premises and the members are people with an interest to learn about computers, tablets and smart phones; they are between 60-90 years old. The minimum is the courses for once in a month. The owner further organises courses upon request. She usually stays in contact with former students.

The owner envisioned that the platform could sustain contact and continuous learning among her and her students and also allow students to communicate in between courses.

In addition she was hoping that the platform could help her spend her time and resources more efficiently: "I can save time by not having to reply individually to students' questions the after courses."

#### Mrs. Schubert: the owner

The owner of the college thinks G&T could be a "good case" as she offers her course in multiple spaces. Once she is finished with the course, the course members could sustain a community.

She is self-employed and active in many online and inperson channels. Her role is mainly sustaining the community and starting new courses in different locations.

### Challenges and possibilities

The owner is very much aware of how hard it is to motivate people to get engaged in new tools. One of her ideas is to put some kind of quizzes or tasks on the platform where members can also win prizes like a tablet or some free tickets for one of her courses, etc. Still she is hoping that both she and her customers can benefit from G&T by strengthening the relationships between her students and saving her some time by giving them an opportunity to help each other reciprocally.

## **SENIORENCOLLEG**

1a Meeting w. owner (prior connection though previous collaboration) 2a Meeting w. owner - G&T Platform introduction

2b Meeting w. Owner-Owner's plan and clarification of possible challenges

2c Meeting w. owner Checking initial entries, troubleshooting 3a Meeting the community introducing the idea of G&T, how it can be beneficial to them and introduction to the platform and profile

4a Phone meeting with owner where she explained that the group does not want to continue with using G&T 5. --



2A 2B 2C

3A

4A

### Computerclub Margareten





The Computerclub Margareten was founded 30 years ago and is a club that offers help and knowledge about computers and IT to everyone interested for free. It currently has around 70 members, most of them older adults. The group meets about once a month around a certain topic. There is no contact between the group's members in between.

G&T was presented to a group of people from the club - most who came to the presentation mentioned they were interested in 'new technologies'.

The group's coordinators saw a possible chance to strengthen relationships outside of their meetings.

### Matt and Edgar, Coordinators

The two main coordinators were open to the platform, but saw more use in it for the community than for themselves as coordinators as they were satisfied with their current communication practices. However they felt that if the group wanted it, they would go with it. (It is always about group/group's interests)

They were happy to show their club new technologies and opportunities - continuing the theme of the club.

### Challenges and possibilities

Since the community did not have much contact/relations outside of the meetings, there was a possibility for G&T to help increase contact of members...

However, due to limited interest into adding 'more technology' into their lives, many did not sign up.

The group enjoys the in-person, tri-weekly meetings, they learn a lot during the meetings and did not want more outside of that

## **COMPUTERCLUB MARGARETEN**

1a. Creating interest with 'owners' and 'coordinators' - email/phone contact

2a. Introducing the platform to the coordinators.

3a. . Introduction to the group (larger presentation)

4.. --

5. --

3b. Longer, smaller group presentation - open to anyone interested in the platform

3c. In-person feedback during and after meeting - with members and coordinators

### Schwechat seniors





Schwechat seniors is a loosely coupled group of senior citizens living in a small city (Schwechat). There is no central organisation around these people or no interest they currently meet about regularly. These adults just want to share, engage, and help other people engage and starting a more active and social life.

Although digital support was provided through tablet courses and routine meetings with the research team, the critical mass to make the platform work has never been reached within project time. Instead, the most active members on the platform started to create a smaller network of care by exchanging phone numbers and supporting each other on daily activities, but these activities were not exchanged through the platform.

#### Owners & Coordinators role

In this group we tried starting and sustaining a community without an owner, coordinator, or a place where the members meet regularly.

### Challenges and possibilities

The group was very motivated to join the platform seeing the initial idea of sharing and neighbourly help and socialising with lonely people. But the actual members were the active ones waiting for help requests - those who would need help or company never made it onto the platform within project time.

# **SCHWECHAT**

2. --

1A Creating interest within people living in Schwechat

1B-C Workshops with seniors living in Schwechat 3. Meeting the community introducing the platform

4. Providing guiding and support for group members

5. Final event, which also marked the closing of the group

1 1B 1 4A 4B 4C 4D 5A

### Common room: ceramics and handicrafts atelier







#### Mrs. Konnoner: the owner

The owners of the atelier are looking for a space to grow knowledge around making and community. They are concerned that all the social spaces (facebook, whatsapp, ..) are not capturing enough knowledge accumulation from managers that is reachable after they leave.

Commonroom is a space to create and exhibit things, where people meet and learn from each other and share their passion for ceramics, arts and design.

Two owners and multiple coordinators organise the activities and courses in the center. The group has an atelier exhibition space in a very central location in Vienna. The group grows a community via usage of social channels and they use whatsapp for the communication among the managers.

The group has a mixed background, majorly english speaking, quite some experts.

TU Wien and Commonroom will try out Give&Take complimentary to their existing platforms in order to figure out how and what can be benefited from this platform.

### Challenges and possibilities

The main possibilities the volunteers of this group see in using the platform are exchanging organisational tasks, as well as seeking help for the materials they need for the organisation of events.

Though as in most existing communities G&T is an additional tool that might either replace a current practice, work in parallel to this practice or will be discarded after a while.

# **COMMONROOM**

1A. Attending to get togethers

1B. Creating interest with 'owners' and 'coordinators' to build a community

1C. Creating interest to have digital platform

3A. Meeting the owners and attending open days introducing the platform

3B. Meeting the managers

4. Providing guiding and support for coordinators and managers

5. Handing over full responsibility to communities and owner

1 1B 1 4A 5B

# USE OF THE GIVE&TAKE PLATFORM (VIE)

#### Nachbarschaftszentrum

The NBZ group is the most active community, mostly driven by some community members.

The community uses the platform to stay in contact and exchange information, such as daily happenings or interesting events.

Only once did a successful exchange happen, however, this functionality is not the main driver for the group and hence not that relevant for the ongoing activity on G&T.

#### Seniorencolleg

This G&T community was initiated as part of senior computer courses. As such, the platform is mostly used in test cases, showing how older adults approach and interact with new technology.

Some comments also document their difficulties in using the platform along with some unwanted behaviour.

#### Computerclub Margareten

While members of the G&T team worked hard to fill the platform with information relevant to members of the Computerclub Margareten, there was little to no activity on the platform.

As is, the postings include Computerclub meetings, relevant events in the vicinity and interesting information to Viennese citizens.

#### Schwechat

The platform was mainly used in connection to G&T meetings or related activities, such as the tablet course.

Users seemed to have problems with the interface, as they would repeatedly start threads instead of answering to existing ones.

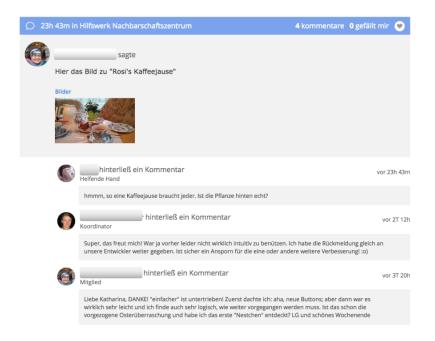
There was one successful transaction and two relevant events, however, entries lack detail that might make others interested in participating.

#### Commonroom

The commonroom group is the reflection of an already established local community.

The volunteers of the community use the platform for exchanging organisational tasks, as well as for seeking help for the materials they need for the organisation of the events.

## Screenshots of a G&T conversation

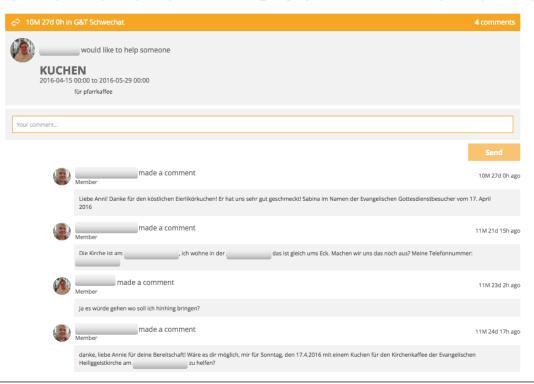


#### **Conversations**

The Conversations Section is by far the most used functionality of the platform in all groups.

The screenshot to the left shows an example of a conversation in the Nachbarschaftszentrum community. The picture shows tea time with another NBZ community member, in the appended text, the member also discusses newly noticed functionality of the website.

## Screenshots of a G&T transaction



#### **Requests & Offers**

There are only few successful transactions on the platform, however, that is not for lack of interest from other community members but for a lack of requests. Only one serious request was not answered to, either because of no available tools or because of the inexpressive description of the request.

The screenshot shows a successful transaction. A member provided a cake for a church meeting. In the interaction the members exchange more information about time, place and contact data for the exchange

## Screenshots of a G&T event



#### **Event**

Events in the system mostly relate to happenings in and around the community centers where the G&T groups originated from.

The screenshot shows a Christmas crafting event organised by one of the community members. Another member offers to bring materials to the meeting, a third member asks for another crafting meeting for Easter.