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Community Economies: a practice exchange

Alpine Community Economies Laboratory
Snapshot Journal No. 1

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INTRODUCTION

During this three-day gathering in the Italian Alps, we wanted to explore how practices of community economies are being activated by people coming from an art and design background in a variety of local contexts. The theoretical framework for our gathering was constituted by the diverse and community economies theories developed by economic geographers J.K. Gibson-Graham and the Community Economies Institute.

This practice exchange was an occasion to bring together practitioners and theorists to work together on concrete case studies of artist and designers activating community economies in diverse places across Europe. Another objective was to support several local projects in developing or strengthening their community economies approach. A core question of the gathering was how community economies practitioners deal with issues of scale, as often these practitioners find their work’s validity challenged along lines of argumentation that claim that only what is scalable and effectively scales has potential for transformation.

Through this Snapshot Journal I want to give an insight into the topics we discussed, the methods we used to support our collective thinking and the thinking that has been produced.
KEY TERM

COMMUNITY ECONOMIES are “economies in which ethical negotiations around our interdependence with each other and the environment are put center stage.”¹

They denote “a space of decision making where we recognize and negotiate our interdependence with other humans, other species, and our environment. In the process of recognising and negotiating, we become a community.”²

The concept of community economies, however, also cuts across and through the conventional categories it invokes: each term composing the concept is “stretched as far as the term can go without breaking entirely. ‘Economy’ becomes little more than the site of struggle over the question of how collective and individual life is – and might be – sustained. ‘Community’ is nothing more or less than the exposure of beings to each other and to each other’s finitude, the inescapable sociality that precedes and renders possible all existence.”³

Working with a community economies approach is a political project aiming both at reclaiming and expanding the term community as well as the term economy.

² Gibson-Graham, Cameron, and Healy, xix.
Community Economies: a practice exchange
INTRODUCING THE ALPINE COMMUNITY ECONOMIES LAB

Alpine Community Economies Lab (ACElab) uses participatory design methods to support Alpine communities in addressing cross-cutting concerns of sustainable socio-economic development.

From our community-based research space in Rovereto (Vallagarina, Trentino, Italy), we are engaging a diversity of civic actors and policy makers in a collaborative investigation of the (trans)local economies (agriculture, self-provisioning, forestry, tourism, informal exchanges) that sustain life in our valley district. ACElab works to envision desirable kinds of development that have both people and the environment at their core. The lab is also prototyping and testing a multifaceted community economies toolkit, which will be released as an open-access resource for others who want to take economic matters into their own hands.

ACElab is a EU-funded research as part of a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowship hosted at EURAC Research (IT), a research organisation specialised on alpine issues and based in Bozen-Bolzano in Northern Italy.

1 As outlined in the EU Strategy for the Alpine Region and the Alpine Convention.
PROGRAMME OF THE GATHERING

**DAY 1**
**DAY OF ARRIVALS**

Thu 6 June 2019

Slow arrival of artists and designers from abroad.

12:30
Shared lunch at Il Masetto, Terragnolo

19:00
Welcome dinner at Brave New Alps

**DAY 2**
**MORE ARRIVALS & SITE VISITS TO GET TO KNOW THE LOCAL AREA**

Fri 7 June 2019

Slow arrival of geographers.

10:00
Walk in Nomi with local experts + custom-made GPS maps of common rights/usi civici

12:30
Lunch at the train station La Foresta - accademia di comunità

15:00
Visit to Mas del Gnoc of the social cooperative Gruppo 78 collaborating on the project Comunità Frizzante

17:00
Transfer by bus to Il Masetto, Val Terragnolo

19:00
Dinner at Il Masetto - introductions with objects; Kids play area
**DAY 3**
**PRO ACTION CAFÉ & MATTERS OF SCALE**

Sat 8 June 2019

9:00
Coffee

9:30
Introduction
Childcare arranged

9:45
Situating ourselves

11:00
Pro Action Café

13:00
Lunch at Il Masetto
Kids play area

15:00 - 18:00
Dealing with issues of scale in community economies practice
Childcare arranged

19:00 Dinner together
Kids play area
Bonfire

**DAY 4**
**LANGUAGE & LOOKING AHEAD**

Sun 9 June 2019

9:00
Coffee

9:30
Language & communication: from silent conversation to posters to #takebacktheeconomy
Childcare arranged

11:30
Brunch

12:30
First goodbyes & break

14:30 - 16:30
What have we learnt? What next?
Childcare arranged

19:00
Dinner together at Brave New Alps
The initial round of invitations went out to my long-term local and trans-local network of artists, designers, community organisers and geographers working with the diverse and community economies approach. Many of them then suggested others who would potentially love to be part of the conversation. This way the gathering grew from what I expected to be a get-together of about 15 people to a larger one including 32 adults and 4 kids.

1 In the 1990s, J.K. Gibson-Graham have developed the diverse economies approach, in which they read our livelihoods as always secured by a wide range of capitalist, non-capitalist, anti-capitalist and post-capitalist practices (Gibson-Graham 2006b). In the 2000s, they have then developed the community economies approach, which specifically centers modes of livelihood generation that are based on an ethical negotiation of all the actors involved (Gibson-Graham 2006a).
The workshop was held in the Alps in Northern Italy, in the autonomous region Trentino-Alto Adige. It took place in a side valley of the Vallagarina – in Val di Terragnolo – which can be reached with a 20-minutes drive from Rovereto – the valley districts central town, where the Alpine Community Economies Lab is based. It was hosted at Il Masetto, a mountain refuge with a remarkable cultural program, especially for kids. www.ilmasetto.com
Gathering set-up
PURPOSE
A community economies approach is about exploring in practice how to live well together. Thus, also a gathering to explore how art and design practitioners activate community economies needs to be structured in ways that enhance and foster care.

KEYWORDS
Care, gender-sensitive, slowing down, accessibility

DESCRIPTION
Choosing the location
I decided to host the gathering at Il Masetto, a mountain refuge and cultural space located in Terragnolo, offering a very rich selection of cultural activities in touch with nature. The hosts Gianni Mitternperger and Giulia Mirandola offer fantastic local food and have created at Il Masetto a space offerings a good mix of indoor and outdoor spaces. Il Masetto is in the middle of the woods and it is possible to stay overnight in basic shared rooms. The combination of these factors allow the setting of a gathering that invites to slow down and connect to the mountains and the surrounding nature.

Providing childcare
Several of the people invited, myself included, have children. By providing childcare, it was possible for a wider range of people to participate in the lively exchanges. Moreover, Il Masetto is specialised in organizing activities for kids and therefore it was a supportive factor as they already had an amazing range of books, games, kids-friendly furniture and animals (a kind dog and goats)\(^1\). Three people affiliated to Brave New Alps took over childcare and went with the kids for walks in the forest during the morning and afternoon sessions.

Vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free food
I made sure there was a good option of vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free food by liaising with our hosts.
If you are interested in finding emancipatory children books, here you can find a very good selection (in German): https://situationsansatz.de/vorurteilsbewusste-kinder-buecher.html/

Thanks to Katharina Moebus for this link.

on possible meals to cook, and I made sure there were non-dairy and gluten-free breakfast options. I also let all participants know that they would be staying far from supermarkets for a few days, and that they should bring special food if they wanted to.

**Programming**

Creative thinking needs space, so I tried to give ample time for activities in order not to rush through discussions. Also, the ample space for breaks was important for people to take a rest, go for a walk or have a sub-meeting to discuss in person with people they might not often meet one to one. Besides spaciousness in time, also starting activities on time was helpful so people didn’t feel hanging around for nothing.

**MATERIALS**

Vegan and gluten-free food, toys, buggies, nappy changing facilities… add to this list whatever your specific situation requires.

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1. If you are interested in finding emancipatory children books, here you can find a very good selection (in German): https://situationsansatz.de/vorurteilsbewusste-kinder-buecher.html/

Thanks to Katharina Moebus for this link.
SITE VISITS TO GET TO KNOW THE LOCAL AREA

PURPOSE
To connect our time together to the local context, we spent a day for site visits. Each of the places visited introduced aspects that are important for the local community economies practices.

KEYWORDS
Arriving, connecting, learning

TIME
8 hours

MATERIALS
Local food and drinks, vehicles

REFERENCES
https://comunfare.wordpress.com/
https://laforesta.net/
https://www.comunitafrizzante.it/
https://companydrinks.info/
https://cube-cola.org/

IMPRESSSION
In the morning we go on a walk in Nomi, the village where I live and where my cultural organisation Brave New Alps is based. During this walk members of Brave New Alps shared their knowledge about historically grown commons in the area – the “usi civici” (i.e. lands with common rights inscribed to them). Members of Brave New Alps have created a digital map that shows the areas where those common rights apply and that can be loaded onto Google Earth. With this map it becomes possible to walk around a village and to identify which parts of land one potentially has access to as a commoner. These maps are work in progress, but hold an enormous potential as they give visibility to knowledge otherwise (literally) locked away in the offices of public administrators.

We then gather for lunch at the local train station, where the network La Fores-ta is in the process of creating a community academy. This process is sustained by over 15 local associations, informal groups and the Office for Social Politics
of the Municipality of Rovereto (40,000 inhabitants) and is developed in collaboration with the Italian Observatory for Social Unease and Solidarity in Train Stations and the Italian Railways.

After lunch, we drive to the food transformation lab of the social cooperative Gruppo 78. Here the community drinks project Comunità Frizzante is producing fizzy drinks with local flavours, while opening up all production and circulation processes to participation with local groups and inhabitants. The project itself is sustained by more than 15 local partners – ranging from the local science museum to activist farmers – and is supported by a foundation of the regional bank Caritro. Translocally, the project is connected with Company Drinks and Cube Cola, both located in the UK.
Site visits to get to know the local area
Community Economies: a practice exchange

SITUATING OURSELVES

PURPOSE
This session is about helping us to create a space of curiosity, trust and openness. It is about getting to know each other, finding out what each of us is working on and what are the key desires that drive us.

KEYWORDS
Curiosity, desires, openness, connection

TIME
1 hour

DESCRIPTION
Each practice taking part in the gathering has 3 minutes to present itself. Maximum three slides are allowed. Everyone is also invited to include a hashtag that stands for their practice and an image or slogan that guides their work. The presentations are loaded onto a computer and put in a random order, so no one knows when it is their turn. This makes for a more improvised situation, which generally leads to laughter and a relaxed atmosphere early on.

MATERIALS
A big screen (so you don’t sit in the dark with a projector), a computer, extension cables, memory stick

REFERENCES
Messy introduction method developed by Bianca Elzenbaumer, Alison Thomson and Maria Portugal for the PhD by Design conferences: you get one image and 90 seconds to introduce yourself to the other conference participants; the images are coming up in random order and the next person’s image appears after 90 seconds.
Methods and documentation
**Purpose**
This session aims to concretely work on issues and concerns people in the gathering right now have to deal with in their own practice. The aim of the Feral Business Clinic is to support individuals and/or project groups to come up with concrete and empowering actions that are helpful in dealing with their current concerns.

**Keywords**
collaborative thinking, concrete concerns, multi-perspective problem analysis, action-oriented, elegant steps

**Time**
3 hours

**Description**
We divide the people present in groups of five and according to the resulting number of groups, we ask a corresponding number of practices (in our case these were six) to share a concrete concern they have to deal with in their project at the moment and that they would like to work on during the Feral Business Clinic. Each practitioner then hosts one table with his/her concern, where in three rounds of 25 minutes each he/she explores the concern with a different set of people in each round. At each table sits a “host” (either an individual or a representative of the chosen concern), the other people present are “travelers” and will each pick a different table at which to think and contribute with their expertise during each round. Between each round there will be a short break before the travellers move on to a different table. The person hosting the table stays and makes notes on a big sheet of paper harvesting thoughts and insights.

**Call for help in the plenary**
Each table’s host shortly presents his/her concrete concern to the group and indicates at what table they will be sitting (3 minutes each – strict timing).

**Round 1: What is the question behind your concern?**
*Question the question for 25 minutes*
Often the first version of what we formulate as our concern is not the problem that really needs to be solved. Here we assume that only by questioning the concern, by uncovering assumptions and by taking on new perspectives we can come a step closer to solving an issue. If your concern is very abstract, the people at the table can attempt to make it more concrete and tangible by inquiring how that concern relates in practice to the project in question. If the question is already focusing on a specific practical concern, you can begin to uncover assumptions and thus start...
COMMON(4)LAB, Berlin

How can we create a diverse economy within our project to sustain livelihoods, foster solidarity whilst maintaining autonomy from dominant structures?

Identity of social relations

Creating a brand — who can take part, who can’t?

Mutual benefit

Using "strange, interesting" transdisciplinary methods
HOW TO INVOLVE NEW PEOPLE?

Who

What

When

IF/WHEN?

Always more people

BUT not more

LIFE

Humans

UNDER THE IMPACT OF TOO BUSY TO THINK

SOME OTHER WAY THAN THE ASSEMBLY.

BLANDING THEIR LACK OF TIME WITH THE OPPORTUNITY OF KEYS TO THE SPACE

You move the area of something via an object.

an object of da foresta to travel to the valleys.

At the moment to be rather independent.
How can the Community Economies Institute support the work (your work) that is happening and present here?

- Training, Consulting, Coaching
- Hack Our Budget:
  - Coaching/Professional Development
  - Training
  - Dissemination
  - Prospect/Development Consulting
- Train the Trainers
- Participation: Budget
  - for Seed Capital

How to organise a Summer Camp?

- Money
- Contribution
- No division of labour

- Value of NAME / STAND / ATTRACTION
- Friends of friends
- You pay, you party, you are paid
- You join, you pay, you party

Mobilising an already existing community
How can symbiocene become a space of diverse economies that can thrive in a sustainable way?

Density of relations of human & more than human

Methods and documentation

Mushroom Labs
Temporary Growing & Food

Language & visuals

Identity

Fungus Press

Permaculture community

Others using the equipment

Programming that invites others to feed them

Uncovering something that other people would need

Too cool social return

Values, tools, etc.

What we have

What is here

If we invest in keeping going

Please

Tracing the interdependencies

What we have to throw away

More day

More day

More day

More day

More day

More day

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More day
to make space for different ways forward.

**Round 2: What is still missing here? What else is needed? Explore this for 25 minutes**

We are starting a new round and everyone, except one person hosting the table, will travel to a different table. The host briefly introduces the results of round one to the travellers. What is still missing? Are there perspectives and opinions that have not been honoured yet? What actors are still missing from the picture?

**Round 3: What are the elegant next steps?** The host explores this individually for 10 minutes and then for 15 minutes together with a new group of travellers.

For about 10 minutes, the hosts – on their own – survey what has been said so far and devise a plan of “elegant actions” to take. Elegant means that it is not the host that needs to be bearing all the work, that the steps should feel possible and empowering. How can the planned activities develop their own force? What coalitions and alliances give us most strength? What timing might be the best? The travellers will join the tables once the hosts have prepared a plan for elegant action and they question the hosts about the elegance of their plans: what steps might be most successful? Who could help?

**Convergence and check out in a plenum**

We all meet again and the hosts briefly present their results (3 minutes each). We all briefly reflect on the experience of the Feral Business Clinic.

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**MATERIALS**

Big sheets of paper (A0 size), pens, sound object, coffee, snacks

**REFERENCES**

Pro Action Café method

DEALING WITH ISSUES OF SCALE IN COMMUNITY ECONOMIES PRACTICE

PURPOSE
This session is dedicated to explore notions of scale. Scale is always a question we get in relation to the art, design and community projects gathered here today: “This is great. Can it scale up?” Here we want to inquire how to reply to such questions around scale in ways that feel empowering.

KEYWORDS
Scale, mapping, experience sharing, practice-theory relays

TIME
3 hours

DESCRIPTION
We start out with a discussion in a plenary circle, where we explore the problem questions of scale pose to each of us for about 45 minutes.

We then divide into four groups – according to people’s preferences – around practices that have come forward as wanting to discuss questions of scale in relation to four topics: time (Brave New Alps), human and more-than-human dimensions (Trajna), relationality (La Foresta & Commonslab), interdependent drinks production (Company Drinks, Cube Cola, Comunità Frizzante).

Each group starts out to discuss scale by drawing on a story of scale each of these four practices shares. While we discuss, everyone writes and draws on a big sheet of paper (45 minutes). We meet again in a circle to share what we explored in each group (45 minutes).

REFERENCES
– J.K. Gibson-Graham (1996): ‘The end of capitalism (as we know it)’
– Lauren Berlant (2016): ‘The commons: Infrastructures for troubling times’
– Anna Tsing (2015): ‘The mushroom at the end of the world’
– Harald Welzer (2019): ‘Alles könnte anders sein’
– ‘Symbiotic Earth: How Lynn Margulis rocked the boat and started a scientific revolution’ a film by John Feldman
IMPRESSIONS

Notes from the initial conversation
– Is the question about scale really a question about how what you do can change the world? Or is it rather a question about what is our theory of change?
– Geographers underline the importance of reading scale as relational rather than as a Russian doll, using the flat ontology approach proposed by Sallie Marston, Keith Woodward and John Paul Jones III. Approaching scale this way means that situated practices have the power to upset the power of scale conceived in hierarchical order with local being of the weakest and the global of the strongest influence. This approach assumes that all lives are “linked through the unfolding of intermeshed sites” (Marston, Jones III, and Woodward 2005, 426). Every practice is intertwined with other practices that are themselves connected to other practices, sites and orders.
– The need emerged for tools that allow us to change the conversation, taking it into a direction where action and transformation is at the hands of everyday life.
– In how far is the question about scale a question about applicability: what works well where?

Notes from the discussion groups
Time:
– What is left from our actions?
– What do we pass on?
– How do we weave our way through time to give continuity?

More-than-human:
- Being alive means we are always in relation with more-than-human others – whether we are aware of it or not.
- Chestnut trees from around here need human care in order to make fruits. These human practices of care for chestnut trees create richer habitats for a lot of animals.
- Scale is always multiple. When, for instance, you look inside a body, there is so much complexity and relations in there as well.
- There is lots of helpful metaphors we can glean from the more-than-human world: rhizomes, mushrooms, mycelium.
- Humans are always located in one place.

Relationality:
- How does change happen? What makes relations durable is time and repetition.
- When we understand place as relationality, time becomes a very important factor as it makes things durable.
- A need to make it visible that we are always in relation.
- It is not about constantly constructing new relations but about making visible what is already there.
- Everyday as site of resistance and creation.
- When and where is change happening?
- What motivates people to participate in a movement over time?
- There is need to make visible that we are always in relationship. We are inherently relational and space is inherently relational.
- Care makes the commons. Which relationalities do we want to care for?

Interdependent drinks production:
- We are all making drinks, but what is scaled in each place is different: local ecological state of things (Comunità Frizzante), de-industrialising a process and revaluing DIY production of a global commodity (Cube Cola), celebrating a local history (Company Drinks).
- We tried to come up with a name for what we could call our group: Multilocal Liquidity Inc.; Bubbling Up; The Sparking Group; Liquid Mates; but then we tried to get at something that could be used also by, for example, bread makers: Local Production Line;
Dealing with issues of scale in community economies practice

Do we want to create a shared Wiki for DIT drinks productions?
The art project as a refusal to do things in a certain way.
Every bottle is a documentation of the collective performance of fruit gathering. You don’t produce many drinks, but each has a particular value.

Drawing conclusions together
One answer to the question “can this scale” could be to say that this initiative is already scaled. It is part of this multiplicity that spreads out to different locations. Can you go out always armed with a map of this complex enmeshing – with your project at the center of it, just as a representation.
There is always so much pressure to frame your work as innovative and unique. It would be more powerful to say this exists everywhere. This is profoundly unoriginal. That would be a powerful answer.
It already happens everywhere. Challenge the economy of uniqueness.
We will never be able to compete at the level of amount of production, but on the level of uniqueness we can. In the art world this story of uniqueness has been perfected.
Drawing on the work of Lynn Margulis – a biologist who developed the theory of evolution through symbiosis, can we imagine an economy based not on competitiveness but on the necessity of interdependence as its foundation? It’s not unique, it’s interdependent.
What patterns are success factors for interconnection? Such as excitement, addressing local tastes and habits. Instead of scaling factors, working on connection factors. Friendships, the physical coming together, building trust, sharing experiences are important factors. How do we bring things together in empowering ways before the friendships exist? How do we live and act in communities beyond the question of friendship?
The importance of being strategic so that whatever we do also contributes to other people’s cause.
In the world of free software, there is a lot of short cuts through codes and protocols. There it is not about originality, but about sharing. It’s innovation without individualism. You need to work together. If you innovate on your own, you will stay alone.
Open software has very powerful infrastructures and everything is well documented in the code. Obviously, you need to have competences and skills, but if you have them it is relatively easy to pick something up and add back to it. What would be the appropriate tools for an interdependent drinks network? Would it be a shared wiki?
What other infrastructuring can be done for connecting up community economies, i.e. what human and non-human actors can continuously be aligned and re-aligned to allow community economies to connect across time and space? Which connections are attractive enough to be maintained over a long time?
Community Economies: a practice exchange

LANGUAGE & COMMUNICATION: FROM SILENT CONVERSATION TO POSTERS TO #TAKEBACKTHEECONOMY

PURPOSE
Get a quick-paced and creative conversation going on about multiple topics within a short amount of time. Activate energies for lateral and intuitive thinking in the group.

KEYWORDS
Multiple topics, multiple viewpoints, quick, messy, inspiring

TIME
2.5 hours

DESCRIPTION
Silent conversation
We divide into groups with an equal number of people, keeping in mind that the ideal group size is 10. The groups sit in a circle, around a table or on the ground. Each person receives one A4 sheet and a pen. To start with, every person writes a sentence, slogan, hashtag or drawing on their sheet, which they use in their own context when talking about creating a different way of doing economy or a different way of operating in their context. After 90 seconds, each person passes their sheet on to the person sitting next to them in clock-wise order.

We then continue with 90 seconds time slots to respond to what we find on the sheet that has been handed to us. We continue this way until everyone has their original sheet back. The facilitator times the rounds – 90 seconds each (see appendix for the content of the sheets).

Making posters
Once everyone has their sheet back, we take 5 minutes to look through the notes on our own sheet. Take this time to circle and underline what seems most relevant for you. After 5 minutes of individual reflection, we team up with one person we don’t generally work with but would like to know better. Together we review our two sheets and make one A3 poster that brings across the main message of our two sheets. After 20 minutes of collaborative work, we hang the posters on the wall.
(or lay them on the ground in a circle) and everyone shortly presents their poster (60 seconds maximum).

Plenary discussion and making
We discuss the issues that emerged in a circle and sum things up with a giant collaborative poster (or whatever the group is up for making together).

MATERIALS
A4 sheets, A3 sheets, large sheets A0 or similar, pens, markers, brushes, acrylic paint, empty jars, sound object, stop watch, tape

REFERENCES
The method of the silent conversation was used by artist and researcher Gilly Karjevsky when she curated the creation of the Floating University Lexicon in Berlin in 2018.
https://www.floatinguniversity.org/en/lexikon/
Language & communication: from silent conversation to posters to #takebacktheeconomy
THE NEXT ELEGANT STEPS

PURPOSE
At the end of the gathering, we discuss what we take away from our time together and elaborate elegant steps we want to take together.

KEYWORDS
Reflection, sharing the learnings, focus on future

TIME
90 minutes

DESCRIPTION
We sit in a circle and each speaks briefly about what they were most touched and energised by during the last days. We then focus on three elegant, i.e. easy and empowering, steps we can take together in order to further work on the ideas and connections that have emerged from the gathering.

IMPRESSIONS
There is a lot of energy in the room around the idea of creating a narrative around “The Interdependence”, aka around the vast amount of people who are acting with a post-humanist and feminist idea of interdependence, and for creating an abbreviation (idt.) that everyone can use to signal that they are actively perceive themselves as interdependent and are working on what it means to be an interdependent being or organisation. So we could sign ourselves for example like this:
- Brave New Alps, idt. – signaling an interdependent organisation
- Dr Bianca Elzenbaumer, idt. – signaling an interdependent researcher
- Il Masetto.idt - signalling an interdependent business

The following points emerge as elegant steps to work with these ideas:
- Write a brief description of what this is about
- Make a logo of The Interdependence we all can use
- Register the url – ideally this would be an .idt domain
- Start to use idt. behind our projects and names to signal our interdependence
- Meet up in autumn 2019 to work on a short charter
- Meet up again in autumn 2020 in Greece at the Community Economies Conference

MATERIALS
A big sheet of paper, pen
APPENDIX: SILENT CONVERSATION SHEETS

(method described on page 36)
Appendix

Choices - How much do we care? And how willing are we to put care for certain care for/with individuals/systems/communities first?

Caring for the Common(s) / Caring in common i.e. before our own needs?

Everyday Invisible Each other

But it’s not always easy to make us think about who for & how with?

激活

relationships of care

opens possibility for love and recognition of interdependence

there are roles for every kind of person/group:

- radical experimenters
- reformers
- analysts
- innovators
- communicators

Look for synergies, and allow the positive.
Rural Perform
Collectivity made together... then by car to work

Artistic vs Creative
Forum as Models

Challenging

Problem Solving
Craft

Silent Conversation sheets
Appendix

- Solidarity / alternative economies
  - Sharing, exploring, DIY/DIt (Do-it-together)
  - Beyond exchange logics
  - Non-commercial, emancipatory spaces

- Teile was du kannst
  - Share what you can

- Elävä talous [living economy, an economy that is alive]
  - Community economy

Who?
- They are outside of the system
-Peripheral
- Retro-spectiv
- Vibrant
- With hope for a United Community!

Emancipation - a becoming different that is exciting

Becoming Different Together

Who not to share with?
- Permaculture as a way in
- with humans locally + trans locally + us more-than-human others

Interconnected System. We depend on the whole ecosystem. How can we act on it. How to design for this?

Vibrant, alive,
Appendix

**How We Identify with Each Other / Our Systems / Neighbours / Spaces**

1. A Scale

Duck & Rabbit

Lines on the map indicate bounded / unbounded

Icebergs

Melted iceberg

**Fog patches**

Where categories and binaries come undone

**BEET Mapping Territories and Social Relations**

How do maps act to make some things visible on others invisible?

Help people to understand when & they are

Radical heterogeneity

Fog chaotic

**TERRITORY**

**MAP**

**MOM**

**MAP AS**

LARGE AS

**TERRITORY**

Covered

How to map a fog bank?

**Understand the borders**

Plants allow us to understand territory and migrations from a different perspective. They reveal how we impose social constructions upon nature.
change in 3 steps:
1. understand the existing as constructed
2. allow the positive
3. start

Friedrich Wilhelm Habermas

Making symbiotic relations / symbolic
How to engage ppl. in Your Work?

- Emotion + Enthusiasm
- Listening
- Openness + Mentorship
- Teaching
- Re-Framing
- Questioning
- Story telling
- Permission to think from Your heart

peer-to-peer?

- How to find peers that are not "the usual suspects" (white, educated)?
- Difference?

- Commons-based?

All depends from Your health.

- don’t get stopped by people who are skeptical!
- Agree
- Someone has to keep going

Little creatures that don’t fear anything, don’t feel ashamed and therefore are able to access their own powerful identity

How to feel as a kid again?

Designing as a kid???
- Finding, constructing the current economic system, alternatives to capitalism: yes, we like to talk on what is difficult.

- Never say the world is capitalist. Always find ways to describe and communicate the term.

- Or, alternatively, everyone is an economist, we all do economics everyday, so we are already the experts.

- Then new use that expertise in small city local cases, large cases, spread slowly, grow from a social practice.

- Present community economies, but a "natural" way...

- Words don't seem adequate, yet we give them so much power. Focus on equitable exchange, distribution - by any means.

- Focus on livelihoods, making a living.

- No alternative, without external support: INTERNATIONALE!
Appendix

Gemeinschaft ohne Eigentum:

"Teile was du kannst"

(Share what you can)

"Teile was du kannst"

(Share what you can)

Community as Ethical Doing

Consider that you can always share more than what you think at the first instance. I believe everyone has a talent to do something. 

Community = open, solitary, resilient. Let's experiment with how to create this! This is the exact stuff of life.

Thinking of us all as a whole community. How to share when we are all different? Finding the commonalities and accepting the differences. We are human first.
Silent Conversation sheets

- Clarify Focus: What's on your mind?
  - What? Who? Why? Will this interest me? What do you want to say? Do you know?

- What do you want to achieve?
  - How to cultivate question: what you want to achieve?
  - What do you need?
  - Who are you going to involve?

- What can we share?
  - Food
  - Clothing
  - Space
  - Ideas
  - Drinks
  - Knowledge

- Desires: - Food
  - Love
  - Peace
  - Music
  - For everyone

Do I need to answer all these questions?

I need an invitation → addressing people,
  - How do you identify with an invitation?
  - What (visual) language? Can you answer these questions? How to live a practice as a question?

Let's achieve distribution of achieving multiplication of commons.
To communicate with diverse manufacturers in Australia (MNCs, family business, producer cooperatives and social enterprises) — our community economy concerns — we used the term:

**JUST SUSTAINABILITY**

(Approachable)

- Economic justice
- Democracy
- Sharing wealth
- Ethical encounters
- Surplus distribution

**Dimensions of JS**

- Ecological care
- Responsibility
- Responsible consumption

**Enablers of JS**

- Responsibilty vs blame
- Context of “just” (framing)
- How it is responded to

**< +1.5°C & Solidarity**

- Just love
- Matter of taste

Because it’s “hard science” so they have to believe it.

CLIMATE JUSTICE
When we speak to municipalities we use the term **CIRCULAR ECONOMIES**

Taking care of the broken ecosystems and creating a new ones

The art of interdependence
is there a different terminology that could convey invasive plants beyond a negative connotation? W

- INVASIVE PLANTS

AS PART OF MORE THAN HUMAN COMMUNITY

- CHANGING THE PERCEPTION

To work with non-human nature not against it

plant technology creating a community of different organisms with different niches

*Invasive because they colonize freely, they invade local ecology & are of worried but in the same way...

working between the cracks

The spontaneity of plants often take over abandoned spaces is it invasion or reuse?

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HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE EARTH

RE-THINKING OUR PLACE IN THE ECOLOGICAL SYSTEM

RE-THINKING OUR IMPORTANCE

Rethinking the distinction between human and non-human....

Already & always interconnected.

Being in common

Interdependence of interdependence inside, outside, through and all around our multiple embodied urban/rural ecologies
Silent Conversation sheets

Fullfilling needs
by doing organizing way
in a self-organized way
inspired by Emma Goldman

Pioneers - preparing the ground for
Succession - promoting communities
it is supposed to be messy

also with people
Economy based on *use* instead of consumption of new items.

- To know how to *use*.
- What is *use*?
- How to *use*?
- *Repairing*? *Taking care*?

*Use* / *Consumption* → *Redesign* → *New* through what is already owned

- Newness
- Upcycling?
- *Making*? *Remaking*?
- Do we need new things? Too much stuff already?

- No *trash*
- Rethinking “trash”
- New possibilities
- *Richness*

- One day we will stop to use & consume. The rights will evaporate.

**Used up, What is that?**

**Use Rights**

- Access Rights

Commoning is a practice, a relation, not a legal form.

Anything can be commoned? (?)

Also just temporary.
Silent Conversation sheets

THE RIGHT OF ALL PEOPLE/LIVING ORGANISMS + SYSTEMS TO A "GOOD LIFE" 

JUSTICE/EQUALITY

GOOD LIFE

→ If taken seriously

triggers interesting conversations

"Great! All instead of everyone!"

makes sense to more people

Instituting

out of peoples hands or can we claim practices of instituting?

connect to Ethan Miller's 3 livelihoods? practice

making work human

receiving economy re-investing in social project symbiocolene exchange of mutual benefits

? ?

why? humans

environment life's human

human nature

sharing livelihoods

human
It depends on with whom I speak:
- peers
- my mother
- my father
- my daughter
- all the other relatives
- Duchamp made others speak for
- speak for
- speak for
- speak for
- friends from former times, who are now into something quite different than me.
- students of Eco-Social Design
- "trad+ old school " Designers
- children

what about those who are deaf?
do we have space?

when we speak with children we sometimes use simple stamps and ask them to create stamp illustrations. Then we speak with them to tell us the story of the illustration and discuss about the topic through that.

SINGING?

HOSTING AS GIVING
AND NOT OFFERING AN OPPORTUNITY + IF YOU GIVE DO YOU EXPECT SOMETHING IN RETURN?
ol everybody has something to share

-idt

the interdependence

- planetary
- intergalactic