Project SmartQuarterVision KA 2030+

First World Cafés with Participation of Pupils

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27.07.2015, Karlsruhe

The City of Karlsruhe participates in the contest "Zukunftsstadt" (City of the Future) of the German Federal Ministry of Research and Education. The targeted vision: Karlsruhe 2030+ - a city in which information and communication technologies and resource-saving technologies are systematically used in order to reduce the consumption of resources, to enhance the quality of life of citizens and the competitiveness of the local economy permanently.

Based on this goal, a "SmartQuarterVision KA 2030+" will be developed at district level, which is supported by a broad acceptance among the citizens and transferable to other city districts. On the basis of two reference districts of Karlsruhe, "Knielingen" and "Mühlburg", different approaches of citizen participation for the vision development are exemplarily carried out and evaluated under scientific supervision.

Suggestions, ideas and wishes of the citizens will be identified within the framework of two large World Cafés (one per district) and several complementary participation offers for different target groups within the district population (senior citizens, migrants, adolescents, etc.) and other relevant actors (e.g. local business in the districts). Based on this input, individual district-visions will be developed and visualized with a time horizon 2030+ by a consensus for each of the participating districts. These district-visions then serve as a basis for applying for funding in phase 2 of the contest. In phase 2, a feasibility study on the visions will be carried out, resulting in an implementation plan for the realization of the respective vision.

SmartQuarterVision KA 2030+ is a joint project of the City of Karlsruhe, CyberForum, the Institute for Technology Assessment and Systems Analysis (ITAS) at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) and the European Institute for Energy Research (EIFER). The project runs from July 2015 to March 2016.

In order to develop the district-visions under consideration of the perspectives of different population groups, two specific World Cafés targeted to pupils took place on July, 15th and 16th 2015. Pupils of the Drais Gesamtschule (Mühlburg) and the primary school of Knielingen participated in the events. The venue of these events was the "MS Wissenschaft", the exhibition ship of the German Federal Ministry of Research and Education, which lay at anchor in the Karlsruhe Rhine Harbor. Under scientific supervision and supported by professional moderators, the pupils were asked to deal with the current and possible future situation of their city districts, using different methods for visualization (drawings, handicrafts and text). The advantage of the integration of children and teenagers is, that they don´t consider the realizability when developing their ideas (in contrast to adults). It is one of the goals of the project to develop the district-visions without any borders of technology. The pupils produced interesting results: the future traffic happens in the air; more green areas are of high importance, vegetable patches in the industrial areas are desired, apps for ordering a flying toilet and for sending selfies from the inside of changing rooms in stores were also a topic, and, of course, Mc Donald's has to exist also in the future. The results of the World Cafés will be further used in order to develop common district-visions which are supported by a broad acceptance in the population of the two city districts.

Figure 1: Exhibition ship MS Wissenschaft

Figure 2: World Café with pupils on board

After the second World Café, a press conference about the project took place on board of the MS Wissenschaft. The Lord Mayor of Karlsruhe Dr. Frank Mentrup, Dr. Edith Wiegelman-Uhlig, director of the Office of Urban Development, David Hermanns, CEO of CyberForum and Prof. Dr. Nurten Avci, vice director of the European Institute for Energy Research (EIFER) participated in the press conference. They presented the recent results of the World Cafés and emphasized the importance of the project and the integration of the citizens for the City of Karlsruhe.

Figure 3: Exhibition "City of the future" on board

Figure 4: Press conference on board

About UPSIDE

The project UPSIDE – User-driven Participatory Solutions for Innovation in Digitally Centred Eco-Systems aims at delivering economic and societal benefits by fostering the emergence and development of User-driven Participatory Solutions for Innovation in Digitally-centred Ecosystems. The project aims at promoting the development of cooperation frameworks and synergy linkages between research, innovation activities within the companies, urban development policies and open user-driven innovation ecosystems "which are close to the interests and needs of cities and their stakeholders, including citizens and businesses, and which may bridge the gap between short-term city development priorities and longer term technological research and experimentation."[1]

Project Facts

Project Acronym: UPSIDE

Project Title: User-driven Participatory Solutions for Innovation in Digitally Centred Eco-Systems

Project Reference: FP7-REGIONS-2012-2013-1, Grant agreement no: 319962

Project Type: Coordination and supporting actions

Project Duration: 36 months from 01.07.2013 – 30.06.2016

Budget:€2,791,323 (total, EC Funding: €2,601,967)

Web: http://www.upside-project.eu/

Project Partners

- CyberForum e.V. (LEAD partner / coordinator)(Germany)
- Wirtschaftsförderung Karlsruhe - Economic Development Department Karlsruhe (Germany)
- inno AG (Germany)
- Stiftelsen Elektronikcentrum i Kista (Sweden)
- eGovlab ,Stockholm University (Sweden)
- Interactive Institute Swedish ICT (Sweden)
- Bevel (Sweden)
- Baltic Innovation Agency OÜ (Estonia)
- Tartu City (Estonia)
- E-Zavod (Slovenia)
- Mestna Obcina Maribor / City of Maribor (Slovenia)
- Samenwerkingsverband Regio Eindhoven (The Netherlands)
- Vereniging EIT ICT Labs Eindhoven (The Netherlands)
- Technische Universiteit Eindhoven (The Netherlands)
- Living Labs Global (Denmark)

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[1]   Hans Schaffers et al.: Smart Cities and the Future Internet: Towards Cooperation Frameworks for Open Innovation. SpringerLink.com