CROSS-Project
- creating other study spaces

2019-2022

CROSS
creating other study spaces

Tool-Box

CONTENT

PROJECT PARTNER

Creating other study spaces – Third Places

The "CROSS-project" is a strategic partnership for exchanging best practice with a total of 7 partners from various European countries: Hungary, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Romania, Slovenia, Spain and Germany and was co-founded by the ERASMUS+ Programme.
During the run time from 2019 to 2022, representatives from a variety of different libraries and adult education have been able to present their various ideas and concepts of Third Places (adapted from Ray Oldenburg) and become familiar with local activities.

The objective of the "CROSS-project" was to facilitate a professional exchange of know-how aimed to create concept-ideas for learning in Third Places.
At all conferences, the project partners had the opportunity to discuss numerous different concepts, approaches, ideas and local activities, and to exchange information on a professional level.

One of the aims of the project was to develop a toolbox with key results of the project and a list of best practice examples.

In this ToolBox one can see a selection of the best-practice examples all project-partner have come across.

In summary, the project found that Third Places are conceived and defined differently by each project partner.
The following characteristics of third-places across the board were identified:
  • Self-determined adult education learning places
  • Free space for curiosity
  • Third Place as enabling space
  • Opening of intergenerational learning spaces
  • Connection / expansion in existing adult education institutions

In the course of all local activities and best-practices that all project-partner got to know, one of the central elements of adult education or library-work is to create other learning or study -spaces for different target-groups.

We hope that having taken part in the "CROSS-project" will enable all partners to contribute towards reinforcing adult education in their communal structures and to promote the concept of Third -Places and life-long learning.

In conclusion, we would like to say a sincere thank you for the successful implementation of the project.

You can find more information on cross-project.eu.

LETTER TO EUROPE.
CROSS - Creating other study spaces

We believe that Europe needs low-threshold meeting and educational opportunities for people of all backgrounds, ages and cultures more than ever. We call these places – in the sense of Ray Oldenburg – Third Places.
We believe that it is a crucial task of public services to create such places. For this purpose, it is a good idea for a start to use well-known existing places such as libraries, adult education centres, but also private initiatives in cafés, parks and clubs.
With our project we have shown how this can work for people of different age groups, different origins and different levels of education.
We therefore call on all those responsible in Europe to do more in the future for the creation and establishing of such places and spaces, so that access to education is possible at a low-threshold level and our society enables lifelong learning for all.
With our toolbox we show many ways how such offers can be created analogue and digitally at different places in and outside buildings and how all people can be addressed.

1. Administrative management of the organisation

	3rd Place LOCATION	Adult Education CONCEPTS FOR CUSTOMERS & STAFF
DEVELOP	Identifying the need for the place (Best 3rd Place!): barrier-free, opening time in the evening / weekend, "feel-good atmosphere"	Learning/Education-concept (target group, learning-concept, enabling space etc.)
	Location-concept (room, outdoor, etc.)	"Come-to-us" or "Go-to-them"- strategy
	Network in the community (partners, institutions, volunteers, etc.)	Qualification/Training-concept for professionals and volunteers
	Starting a participation process (people in the quarter)	Program-concept (workshops, seminars, events, etc.)
	Collections in different languages spoken in the area of the 3rd Place (physical and digital documents)	Cooperation-concept (partners, stakeholders, etc.
	Prepare for adaptations to changing demands in the future	Marketing-concept (material, channels, etc.)
	Promoting materials and establishing marketing channels	
	Technic-concept (ICT, beamer, apps, systems, etc.)	
ESTABLISH	Fixed 3rd Place	Fixed staff
	Stable technical equipment	Clear structure (organisation)
		Try out and test the concept
	Self-determined adult education at the 3rd Place	Concept expansion with various focal points (staff, programme, network, media, marketing, technical equipment, etc.)
	Freedom for curiosity	Test and establish programme for events and workshops
	Continuation of promotion	Qualification/Training-concept for professionals and volunteers
		Work together with partners
RUN	Establish location-concept (room, outdoor, etc.)	Concept expansion with various focal points (staff, programme, network, media, marketing, technical equipment, etc.)
	Continues monitoring of local needs	Further development of concepts for local and online-learning
	Continuous adaptations to changing demands	Monitor and work on new goals
	Entering 3rd Place network	Qualification/Training-concept for professionals and volunteers
	Continue engagement in local and online-structures	Concept for integration into urban/village or regional development
	Integration into urban/village or regional development	Concept for sustainable responsibility structure
	Sustainable responsibility structure	

2. Tools by 4 main interaction modalities

Explanation 4Cs Modell Communication: The exchange of ideas and information. Cooperation: Independent goals with agreements not to interfere with each other Coordination: Actions of users directed by a coordinator to achieve a common goal. Collaboration: The process of shared creation; collectively creating something new that could not have been created by the individual users

ANALOGUE	DIGITAL
General (for all 4 Cs)	
Space: Office, Location, Meeting Room, 3rd. Place Forum	ICT-Tools: Notebooks, IT-Equipment, Camera, Apps, Software, etc.
Printed Material: Flyer, Poster, Books, Roll-up, Pictures,	Video-Meeting-Software: ZOOM, Teams, etc.
Seminars: Workshops, Seminars, Activities	Seminars: Online-Workshops via LMS-Systems, Video-Clips (TikTok, etc.)
Evaluation	Evaluation
Communication	
Marketing-Campaign in the Quarter / Neighbourhood	Communication-Tools: Homepage, e-Mail and Social Media (Instagram, TikTok, etc.), Newsletter (Promoting via different Channels)
Partner: Network-Data (Mail-List, etc.) and in the Quarter	Partner: Mailing-List, Social Network
Staff: Training	Staff: Online Training, Media Coach for digital Skills
Learning-Concept: Non-Formal and informal Learning (Different Target Groups)	
Cooperation	
Network: Support for the development of a visitor network (Different Target Groups)	Network: Support for the development of an online-visitor network (Different Target Groups)
Volunteers: Contact-Person for different Volunteer-Groups	Volunteers: Contact-Person for different Volunteer-Groups
Cooperation-Partner: Technical-, financial-, academic-, welfare-partners	Cooperation-Partner: Mailing-List, Social Network
Staff: Fixed Staff for building partnerships and networking	Staff: Online Cooperation-Staff, Media Coach for digital Skills
Coordination	
Seminars: Workshops with different Topics	Seminars: Workshops: Online-Workshops via LMS-Systems, Video-Clips (TikTok, etc.)
Learning-Concept: Non-Formal and informal Learning (Different Target Groups)	Support: Digital Support
Volunteers: Contact-Person for different Volunteer-Groups	Volunteers: Contact-Person for different Volunteer-Groups
Cooperation-Partner: involve different groups	Cooperation-Partner: involve different groups
Staff: Contact-Persons, Fixed Staff for Location, Project-Manager	Staff: Fixed Staff for Online-Support, Project-Manager, Admin
Collaboration	
Creating new projects together with different groups and filling third place with activities	Creating new projects together with different groups and filling the online platform with activities
Involve stakeholders	Involve stakeholders

SELECTED TOOLS

✂ Welcome library
+ Casa de cultura

Ayuntamiento de Caudete
Website:
www.biblioteca.caudete.org
E-mail:
biblioteca@caudete.org

✂ Tik Tok for
cultural agents

Ayuntamiento de Caudete
Website:
www.biblioteca.caudete.org
E-mail:
biblioteca@caudete.org

What are the aims of the tool:

Based in the IFLA publication, „Multicultural Communities: Guidelines for Library Services the Guidelines of the IFLA „Each individual in our global society has the right to a full range of library and information services. In addressing cultural and linguistic diversity, libraries should:

• Serve all members of the community without discrimination based on cultural and linguistic heritage.
• Provide information in appropriate languages and scripts.
• Give access to a broad range of materials and services reflecting all communities and needs."

With this project, in addition to these general objectives, we want:
• To be open spaces and democratic centers that can improve the well-being of all citizens.
• Offer to migrants books in their language and feel welcome.
• Offer a sort of home, along with experiences and a feeling of belonging for visitors.

How does the tool work:

We want that the acquire materials, to reflect the multicultural composition of society and to foster an understanding of cultural diversity, racial harmony and equality.
To do this, taking advantage of the relationship between the partners of this European project, in a first phase, we asked for tittles of adult books from the partners.
In a second phase, we share the list of book included in this Welcome Library to the partners.
And finally each Partner Organisation try to get these books, so that they are available for consultation and loan in our public libraries, adult center, and other espaces for begin third places atractive for migrants.

What are the aims of the tool:

In the presentation of Tiktok, I want to:
• Show this social network based on the generation and sharing of content in videoformat that is having a great impact for cultural agents.
• Enjoy millions of audiovisual content related to your tastes and interests, such as cultural content.
• Learn to create and share your own video content so that, in a simple way, they have an attractive appearance and you can start to have your own followers.
• Learn how to create a Tik Tok channel to share your own cultural content and build community.

And as specific objectives:
• Spreading activities
• Know trends in our sector
• Interact with the public
• Make community
• Encourage reading
• Use training
• Digital literacy

How does the tool work:

Faced with the digital transformation in which the world finds itself, accelerated by the COVID-19 health crisis, libraries and other culture spaces are working to find a balance between presence and virtuality.
While there are cultural agents who have a presence in social networks, there are many workers that have a pending issue with the social network that has triumphed during this year and a half of pandemic, and it is none other than Tik Tok.
TikTok has 800 million monthly active users worldwide. It´s a free chinese APP, to create short videos up to 3 minutes and very popular, friendly, entertaining and promotes socialization.
Based on my experience in this network, where through my personal account (@bibliotecariaenredada) I have created a community of more than 23,000 followers talking about books and libraries and the account of the library where I work (@CaudeteBiblio with 600 followers), I present this tool to break down prejudices about this social network.
Thanks to it we can know trends in our sector, create content, disseminate it and make community helping to make libraries and other cultural spaces visible.
It is hoped that through proposals of good practices raised in this communication, it will help cultural agents to break down prejudices about Tik Tok and that they will be useful to begin to see this network as an interesting tool to spread cultural content.

Mini libraries in public places
- „Outside the box"
reading campaigns

What are the aims of the tool:

The main objective of these small libraries is to bring books closer to the public, in places they often go, like parks, gardens, medical offices, public clinics and other public places, so that we can encourage reading and share the love for books. Many times, books are the best companion and we try to provide comfort and a nice relaxing reading.

We also wanted to encourage book exchange and a responsible attitude towards shared goods.

Another important objective is to promote the public library and its services. Our partners are: "Dr. Iuliu Hațieganu" University Sports Park of the "Babeș-Bolyai" University in Cluj-Napoca, "Alexandru Borza" Botanical Garden of the "Babeș-Bolyai" University in Cluj-Napoca, other organisations and institutions (medical offices, public clinics, UNTOLD Festival, Cluj Business Women Association, other NGOs).

„Octavian Goga"
Cluj County Library
Website: www.bjc.ro
E-mail: bjc@bjc.ro

How does the tool work:

The initiative was first put into practice in 2014, when the first mini libraries for adults were inaugurated in social centers, medical offices, pensioners' clubs, day centers for seniors and public clinics.

The small libraries in public clinics were established in cooperation with Cluj Business Women Association.

On April 2019, as a celebration of the International Book Day (April 23rd), the library opened the first open-air mini libraries in "Dr. Iuliu Hațieganu" University Sports Park in Cluj-Napoca. In 2022, the library has also opened open-air mini libraries in the Botanical Garden.

The mini libraries in the open-air are built by the host institutions and the library offers support by supplying books when necessary. The first books from these mini libraries were donated to the library by different people who wanted us to make good use of them. The concept behind this initiative is that you can pick a book from these mini libraries, read it and then return it or bring another book instead. Anyone can bring books to these libraries as long as they are in good condition and do not have offensive content. This way people can share books and enjoy reading. A few rules for using these libraries are posted on each of them.

There are free online instructions on the Internet for everyone who wants to build an open-air mini library, for example: https://scoutlife.org/hobbies-projects/projects/146078/how-to-build-a-little-free-library/

Mini libraries were also organised by the Cluj County Library at different cultural events in the city, like music and family festivals.

Human library
- „Living in the same universe"

„Octavian Goga"
Cluj County Library
Website: www.bjc.ro
E-mail: bjc@bjc.ro

What are the aims of the tool:

The non-formal educational method of the human library has been implemented in our library since 2015, within the National Volunteer Week. Its purpose was to support „no hate" speach, being against discrimination, stereotypes, hoping to develope the colaboration between people, to help them understand each other, to meet people from unfamiliar, special or different areas. It is an opportunity for the participants to find how other people are thinking, living and especially surviving in difficult life contexts.

Human Library, 2019, Theme: „Jobs without gender" (ODD 5)

How does the tool work:

The Human Library uses the analogy of lending people rather than books. These people who "experienced prejudice, social exclusion or stigma" are considered human books and the participants, the readers, can ask them questions so as to "learn about the other person and also challenge their own prejudices".

Every edition has a theme, for example: Holocaust survivors, reporters with Down Syndrome, women who practice men-specific jobs, Ukrainian people far away from home, people who experienced life in prison. According to the chosen topic, the invited human books were named: the Jew, the Gypsy, the Businesswoman, the Survivor, the Refugee, the Arrested.

Readers can ask questions in groups or in private to every book they want, for a limited time. The dialogue encourages real meetings among people, getting them to make connections and to understand their situation better. Every reader receives a card for the library, every book has a loan form, the rules are presented at the beginning of the event. Readers are not allowed to ask very delicate questions, to use inappropriate language or any kind of violence. Books can refuse anytime this role if somebody creates discomfort or if they are offended in any way.

Human Library, 2015

Long night of learning

What are the aims of the tool:

In the first week of Easter holidays there is for the high school graduates of the respective year the possibility to use the library in the evenings outside the during regular opening hours – in groups or alone to work through the learning material again.

The library will therefore be open longer on two days.

The High school graduates experience the city library as an inviting third place where learning is fun; with media for exam preparation and campaigns, that support them, such as snacks, refreshments, and relaxation exercises.

In this way they get to know the space and the existing media of the library in a positive way and they use the media. So it is also a goal to advertise for the library and its range of media.

Iserlohn City Library
Website:
www.iserlohn.de/kultur/
stadtbuecherei
E-mail:
stadtbuecherei@iserlohn.de

How does the tool work:

The library stays open two days longer in the evening. They are teachers and students present who can answer questions. Abitur aids for exam preparation are available that can be used alone or in groups. In order to get through the last few days reasonably well, a gymnastics teacher show exercises to relax in neck area. To strengthen the stamina, snacks and non-alcoholic drinks are offered. The event is free of charge, registration is not required. The following advertising media are used: posters and bookmarks, as well as advertising in the press, on Facebook and Instagram.

VHS cloud

Volkshochschule Iserlohn (VHS)
Website:
www.vhs-iserlohn.de
E-mail:
vhs@iserlohn.de

What are the aims of the tool:

The vhs.cloud is a learning management system from the German Adult Education Association VHS.

On this learning platform, more than 800 institutions conduct digitally supported courses and learning opportunities. In addition, this medium is used to network many thousands of staff and lecturers throughout Germany.

At the VHS Iserlohn, this tool is used to provide accompanying materials (tests, PDF documents, planning, etc.) for courses and to network with each other. Video meetings are also held via the VHS cloud.

How does the tool work:

With the vhs.cloud, all learning processes, from planning to implementation, can be realized. Courses can be held completely online or pre-centre courses can be supplemented with online components. Various teaching formats such as web seminars, online group work and many more are available for this purpose.

Participants must register on the platform in the first step. They receive their own password and their own learning area. After logging in, they are taken directly to a course of their choice in which they can then work on various materials that have been entered into the system in advance by the instructor.

3D library walk

What are the aims of the tool:
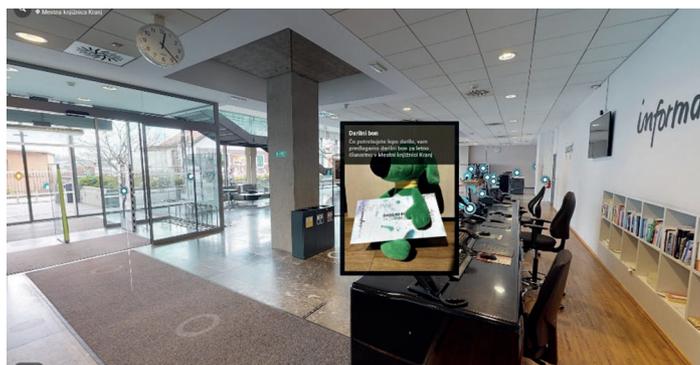
The goals of the 3d walk are:
- to bring the library closer to non-users, to present it through an attractive walk around our premises
- a virtual walk is also our online business card, providing opening hours, contact details, hall or room rental numbers . . .
- the visitors can remotely check the location of an individual book
- get acquainted with the services of the library
- direct visitors to the desired sections of our website
- highlight our program (maybe upgrade it with quizzes in virtual library)
- find out where important equipment is located: electronic magnifiers for the visually impaired, defibrillator, booksellers ...
- present recordings from lectures, exercises, workshops, seminars . . . or include a promo video
- promotion of the library outside the local environment: many services can also be used by remote registration e-books, e-films, audio books, e-newspapers ...)

In fact, 3D walk is where in the virtual world, people can use a classic library.

Kranj City Library
Website:
www.visitkranj.com/en/
kranj-city-library
E-mail:
mkk@mkk.si

How does the tool work:

The library stays open two days longer in the evening. They are teachers and students present who can answer questions. Abitur aids for exam preparation are available that can be used alone or in groups. In order to get through the last few days reasonably well, a gymnastics teacher show exercises to relax in neck area. To strengthen the stamina, snacks and non-alcoholic drinks are offered. The event is free of charge, registration is not required. The following advertising media are used: posters and bookmarks, as well as advertising in the press, on Facebook and Instagram.

Let's get to know the slovene language

What are the aims of the tool:

Let's get to know the Slovene language workshops are intended for everyone whose language is not Slovene. The purpose of the workshop is to facilitate integration into society and help prepare for the Slovenian language exam.

Kranj City Library
Website:
www.visitkranj.com/en/
kranj-city-library
E-mail:
mkk@mkk.si

How does the tool work:

People join workshops once a week, where they learn Slovene language in a playful and relaxed environment. Topics are related to everyday life – how to visit the doctor, go shopping, clothing, groceries, human body . . .
Once every two weeks we organize informal conversations about specific topic where Slovene language is mandatory.
This year we will upgrade workshops with customized book clubs lead by volunteers. Course participants will be invited to join book club, because that is the best way to consolidate your knowledge: with reading and talking about the topics that read. At first, we plan to have some preparatory group with short end easy readings and later one they should join the regular groups that suits them (we have 23 of them and they are very different). That way we facilitate social inclusion next to language skills.

What are the aims of the tool:

The Europe Challenge brings libraries and communities together to define their most pressing challenges. It supports them to find ways to tackle those challenges by recognising that our libraries have a unique role in helping communities meet the everyday challenges across our continent.

Among the seven libraries selected to be part of The Europe Challenge, each library identified seven challenges, with Kranj City Library focusing on equal opportunities for all with the inclusion of women in the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) field. With the general public being influenced by the prejudice that areas of STEM are not for women and women face prejudices concerning their technical abilities. They identified and supported their local and broader community's needs and focused on how the library can connect the community to encourage women to participate in science and technology environments by offering education, workshops, and other events.

How does the tool work:

As part of the European Challenge project, the Kranj City Library decided on the topic of women's participation in STEM environments. We prepared a workshop with a consultative group from the local and wider environment. At the workshop, we talked about personal experiences and identified ways in which we could approach the challenge with its activities.

The core value that we promoted was: equal opportunities for all.

Based on the fact that there is a lack of female role models in STEM area, they found that a Living Library would be an effective way of presenting women role models from different STEM fields. The next group of people addressed the challenge of a general stereotype that the field STEM is not for women. At LEGO robotics workshops that were usually held in our library, we noticed that mostly boys attended them. This was also highlighted in the discussion group. During summer local workshop provider Institute 4.0. organized LEGO workshops for girls. We wanted to address the parents who did not even think about such workshops for their daughters. There are usually one or two girls in the workshop. We, on the other hand, with the tactic of positive discrimination filled all 17 vacancies. The reactions of the girls were very positive.

With Technophobia is not for women, we also launched a short stories contest inviting individuals to write a short story about their experience or encounter with prejudices concerning women and their technical abilities. The competition raises awareness among the public about the inequalities in society.

Although the EU Challenge took place during the covid pandemic, the response was very high, and the project was successfully implemented. Much of the credit for this went to the active involvement of the local community in the planning and implementation of activities. In this way, we upgraded the third space with important content that raises the quality of life in the local community. More about the Challenge: EU Challenge (link?)

Kranj City Library
Website:
www.visitkranj.com/en/kranj-city-library
E-mail:
mkk@mkk.si

GERO
– Competence Center for Ageing, Luxembourg
Website:
www.gero.lu
E-mail:
info@gero.lu

What are the aims of the tool:

Kultura is an intercultural interactive game based on the idea of bringing people of different origins together in an informal and sociable setting and promoting exchange between cultures through play. In an uncomplicated way, the participants are supposed to get closer to each other by talking about habits and traditions in their countries.

It is not a game in the traditional sense, where there is one winner and many losers. On the contrary, everyone who participates and has fun wins at Kultura!

How does the tool work:

The game contains cards that can be characterized as follows:

On the front of the cards, the questions and answers are listed in the three languages typical of the country (Luxembourgish, French, German). There are in total 88 questions forming 7 categories: 1. Festivals and traditions, 2. Language and literature, 3. Food and drink, 4. Geography, 5. Personalities, 6. Games and entertainment, 7. Buildings and monuments.

The back side of the cards display the respective answers for six nationalities (Luxembourg, Germany, Italy, France, Belgium and Portugal). Moreover there is a "free response slot" to include, if applicable, players with a different cultural background, which is not (yet) integrated in the game. Answers are given in the respective languages.

Instructions
• The players decide together who will start and then play clockwise.
• The cards are shuffled and the deck is placed in the middle of the table.
• The first player in the round takes the top card, reads the question aloud and answers it according to his/her country of origin. He/she also explains his/her answers.
• Then it is the turn of the other players, with the player who took the card being the game leader.
• The game leader can use the answers on the card as a stimulus to liven up the conversation. Conversations are encouraged in the round! The point is to encourage a lively exchange. When everyone has talked about the topic of the first card, it is the turn of the next player in the round to pick up a card and become the game leader. The game ends at the earliest when everyone has drawn a card, but several rounds can also be played. Of course, the game can also be played in other ways

Video of the game at our website: https://www.gero.lu/de/infos/kultura

Digibus

What are the aims of the tool:

- Motivating and encouraging less tech savvy senior citizens to try to acquire basic digital competencies, thereby overcoming the fear of the "unknown";

- Promoting the advantages, opportunities, and benefits of communication technologies, such as tablets, in daily life among senior citizens, thereby contributing to the prevention of social isolation;

- Providing an accessible, local, tailored, and fun opportunity for seniors to acquire basic digital skills as well as providing them with information on where to further strengthen or improve those skills;

- Promoting local actors by referring people to various local offers (such as communes, clubs seniors etc.).

How does the tool work:

This project specifically endeavours to provide free, local, one-to-one, and tailored support, targeting senior citizens who are little to not at all comfortable using communication technologies — in this instance specifically tablets (both Android and Apple). Based on an outreach approach (e.g. a disabled-friendly minibus), a team of tech-savvy people (consisting of GERO staff, senior tech-savvy volunteers and IT specialists) will travel around the country and work with various local partners to provide a (timely) locally accessible service that addresses the needs and questions of individual seniors regarding the use of a / their tablet. Overall, the aim here is to motivate, encourage and support people across the country to use communication technologies to increase their dependency and help prevent social isolation in the long term. The advantage of this approach is obvious: the support and counselling can be provided locally and is fully tailored to individual needs in an interactive way.

Type of support provided:

- Familiarity with the haptic elements of a tablet and smartphone.

- Explanation of the advantages and possibilities of using such a device (with a focus on 1. information, 2. communication and 3. services)

- Basic safety concepts (awareness of risks and dangers)

- Handing out information about (local) courses that encourage them to further their IT skills beyond this introduction!

Video at our website: https://www.gero.lu/de/infos/digibus

GERO
– Competence Center for Ageing, Luxembourg
Website:
www.gero.lu
E-mail:
info@gero.lu

Labor café

Nyíregyháza,
Tabula Pláza Foundation.
A community funded open space.
'Volunteers and mugs for the community.'
Website:
https://tabulaplaza.hu/ labor-cafe/
E-mail:
tabulaplaza@gmail.com

What are the aims of the tool:

The Labor Café is a community place "disguised" as a café. It has been established by the Tabula Pláza Alapítvány ('Tabula Pláza Foundation') in Nyíregyháza, Hungary and run by community contributions and volunteers since 2015. The aim is to promote volunteering, contribution and cooperation within a community. Another point is to provide everyone and every community - regardless of their financial background - with a place where they can relax and get involved.

The main aim of the project is to integrate contribution and volunteering into our everyday culture as well as stimulate the activity of local communities by establishing a community place open for anyone and any local initiatives. The "Labor Café" project is also an experiment studying the community as a network, and individuals as part thereof. The café is a hub of community empowerment, promotes active citizenship, civil cooperation and solidarity with marginalised groups and. The place already provides proofs that a given community is capable of cooperation to achieve a concrete goal, and able to understand the significance of being active.

The café's slogan is: Give-and-take!

How does the tool work:

The café as an open community place has become a role model and also a chance for those who want to step out of loneliness and become an active and valuable member of a community. The daily operation is ensured by a volunteer team (6) coordinating young volunteers (high-school students in Hungary have a 50-hour community service obligation by law), cleaning the place, organising programmes and assisting with online marketing. The regular programmes at the community place are not only organised by volunteers and staff members of the foundation, but also the community itself. Sign language course, English club and film club are on the agenda week by week. For active and regular "customers" it is self-evident to support the operation of the place by contributions, in fact, there are many who feel very much at home to serve themselves or clean their dishes after using them. The place constantly organises charity events and supports disadvantaged groups. Thae management of Labor Café cooperates with numerous local organisations, such as those helping visually impaired or homeless people as well as child welfare institutions.

Greenbox studio

What are the aims of the tool:

Education for media literacy, support creativity, free digital services, digitisation of local history documents, good opportunity to run clubs, support library marketing

Greenbox studio's recording in the summer-camp of the Local studies for children (2021)

How does the tool work:

The Greenbox Studio in the public library was created with the help of a grant. With two members of staff, it provides an excellent opportunity for anyone interested to develop their media literacy and learn about the tools of image manipulation on social media. It makes it easy and free for individuals and small communities to try out digital applications. It supports the realisation of individual creative ideas (e.g. "Take a selfie in the library" service). It enables the recording of lectures, educational films and the digitisation of local history material, making it accessible online to those who are physically challenged. It effectively supports the online marketing of the library's services. The Greenbox Studio provides the technical support to run filmmaking clubs and photography clubs, thus supporting the development of communities.

Poster made for one of the services of library (2022):
Take a selfie in the greenbox studio!
(@Melinda Szabó)

The bookbike

What are the aims of the tool:

We aim to reach parents and children in there own environment, to bring across knowledge about language development and fun in reading!
We think every child has the right to discover how much fun it is to read and enter the magical world of stories, books and fairytales. Not only do we encourage and inspire parents and children to read, sing, and have fun with words and stories, the Bookbike also works as prevention in illiteracy.
The Bookbike contributes to a surrounding area filled with language for all children.
Because the Bookbike comes to the families in their own surrounding, we provide for a very low threshold activity and reach not only families who also are likely to visit the library and are uses to reading aloud to their children, but also those people we would't see at activities or in the libraries. While engaging in the Bookbike stories, you discover that reading aloud is something you can do anywhere, outside or inside.
When children engage in fun reading activities and have positive experiences, it enhances their chance of love for reading and becoming a better reader themselves.

How does the tool work:

The Bookbike is an electrical cargo bike filled with everything you need to create an interactive reading activity. When we arrive with the Bookbike, the kids hear the intro tune playing.
Once the Bookbike has arrived on the scene, everything that is needed for the storytime is being pulled out of the cargo bike. A little table, a beach umbrella, cushions for the kids and parents to sit on. With ervery one of the 25 different stories there is a lessonplan. So there is an introduction, a rhyme or song, and a short but fun activity after the story has been told.
Together with schools, institutions for childcare and municipalities the library arranges visits with the Bookbike and create a reading festivity on location. The Bookbike can come to a school, a park, a festival or playground, anywhere really!
We sing, dance, practice easy songs and rhymes with the audience and read a book in an interactive manner. We use a 'Kamishibai' – a small Japanese storytheater- to tell the story. The Bookbike is very recognisable, with the green outfits and the intro music we play as we arrive on the scene!
The Bookbike is a great way to promote the library services and draw attention to the fun and importance of reading and having fun together.
Having the Bookbike in our library is an enrichment to our programs and activities and a wonderful way to have fun with books and stories!
Bookbike clip on YouTube: https://youtu.be/fUZrk1tuUuo   Bookbike on the web: http://www.Boekfiets.nl

Language café

What are the aims of the tool:

Our aim is to offer Dutch language courses to immigrants in a very accessible way. We want to teach them quickly increase their fluency.

How does the tool work:

Our language cafés are a method for learning to speak Dutch for migrants. In a very informal setting meet people each other. The social cohesive is very important. At first you create a community, a group. Then you learn Dutch by talking about all kind of subjects. We are trying to bring this activity close to the people and organise them at different places. The activity is led by volunteers. The volunteers are trained by professionals and supported by the professional. This method works. We see this in results and monitoring. We also try to work together with a lot of extern partners. For example, at the moment our municipality is training our migrants how to ride a bike. After these courses they are going to join the language café's and talk further about the subject traffic. Whe try to make a link with relevant themes and subjects. At the moment our language cafés are in seven different municipalities. It is a product of the Library but we the Library isn't always the place where the meeting takes place! For example: we work together with a community centre and that is where our language café's take place. The results are very good for informal education. In the link below, you can read the report about the impact of Language cafes. (The report is in Dutch.)

Language café on YouTube: https://youtu.be/A67cJekZYZ8

Media coaching

What are the aims of the tool:

Our aim is to make our employees ready for the future. Our library is changing. The whole world is becoming more digitalised and services of the government are only digital. The library wants to help customers with their digital skills. This means that our organisation and our employees have to be prepared for this job.

How does the tool work:

We have create a new function in our organisation. This is our media coach. It is someone with a lot of knowledge of new digital products but also someone who has educational skills. This media coach is responsible for training of our employees in our new digital products. For example, he/she has trained our employees in giving workshops for working with the computer. Now we have in all headquarters in het different municipalities a digital employee who works alone but is supported by our media coach. The media coach for itself is also giving training to our employees to do their jobs successfully but is also giving more in-depth training for customers. This is a very important part of the changing library in taking our part in the digital citizenship. So, he is giving trainings for working with the green screen for youth, but he also gives training to customers to learn how they can use Digi D (This is the digital code you need for all our government websites). When you want to develop your organisation, you must be aware of the capacity and supported them to do their jobs properly.

For now, this function is fitting in a project. We hope that this project continues in the next years. For now, one the sign is good. Our government is aware of the role of libraries in digitalisation so continuing of this project in 2023 is guaranteed.