

The New Bank of (Sense of) Community Ideas and Solutions

Bill Berkowitz, Brad Olson, Wolfgang Stark, Tom Wolff

Idea and Concept

Reflections and ideas on Societal Transformation have started already before the pandemics. Now, during a global crisis we never experienced before, many of us start wondering on 'What is waiting to be changed once we go back from a feeling of emergency towards a 'new normality'? What kind of life could we imagine after the pandemics, based on co-creation, values and the common good?'

During the crisis, many individuals and communities have been resonating to new forms of a sense for community, mutual support and neighborhood, but also in surprisingly creative ideas how to collaborate and how to invent individual and community life in a new way.

Beyond anxiety, economic and social stress people value experiences (a new sense of family, surprising calmness in urban spaces, the value of nature and social belonging, slowing down one's own life) they did not have for a long time or never had before. Even more people tell stories about surprising experiences and creative solutions for local and regional challenges. Young and old people, business and civil society, urban and rural settings are cooperating in a new and often surprising way we should not forget.

We are concerned about what we should remember and keep as community treasures for our society and our 'brave new world' – once we survived the global crisis as a global society. We believe that remembering our new sense of community – be it surprising little moments of awareness, creative ideas or surprising solutions) and collecting what we have valued as common treasures can help not only to recover from a global crisis as a society, but also to re-design and co-create our new post-pandemic world.

Just like little jigsaw-pieces, our valued experiences, community ideas and solutions may help to paint a picture and create an imagination of a 'brave new post-pandemic world' we would rather shape and live in in our common future.

Matching Common Wisdom, Ideas and Solutions

People of all kind will be asked to collect and donate their valued memories and stories to the New Bank of Community Ideas... (please see template below).

- Doing this they will – as members of the New Bank of Community Ideas and Solutions – contribute to a common account to which they will have access 24/7.
- Members will be able to open individual and collective accounts by drawing experiences, ideas and solutions they value most and use these as patterns and tools to model and design their individual and collective future.
- An algorithm based on keywords can – if wanted – open ‘windows of opportunities’ matching your choices with relevant others.
- An option to invest with money or other resources in selected solutions and ideas will open up opportunities for social business and start-ups
- Local or regional matching also will allow to opt for and initiate face-to-face meetings which will support to bring together a community of people, ideas and solutions
- Each country or region will develop their own New Banks of Community Ideas and Solutions in order to value cultural diversity and to share efforts and human and technical resources.

Resources Needed

Although contributing to the Bank of Community Ideas and Solutions and collecting stories, experiences, ideas and solutions will be on a voluntary basis, some minor resources will be needed to

- *Develop and maintain* a common account of ideas and solutions and make it available for members and public
- *Curate* moments, stories, ideas and solutions contributed to the bank (check similar formats, add key words, create templates, curate categories etc)
- *Accelerate and support* further development of ideas and solutions to prepare for start-up processing or public/social investments
- *Decelerate* to create moments of pause, stillness and reflection on fundamental and overarching issues of community and society beyond creative ideas and solutions
- *Evaluate* individual and collective outcomes and investments in community ideas and projects emerging from using the treasure of experiential knowing from the Bank

Supporters: Bill, Brad, Tom, Wolfgang, colleagues from Europe...

Supporting Institutions: CTB, SCRA, ECPA, ...

Funding: ???Foundations, Public Bodies, EU,...??