

COMMUNITY ECONOMIES A PRACTICE EXCHANGE

7-8-9 June 2019
Vallagarina, Italy

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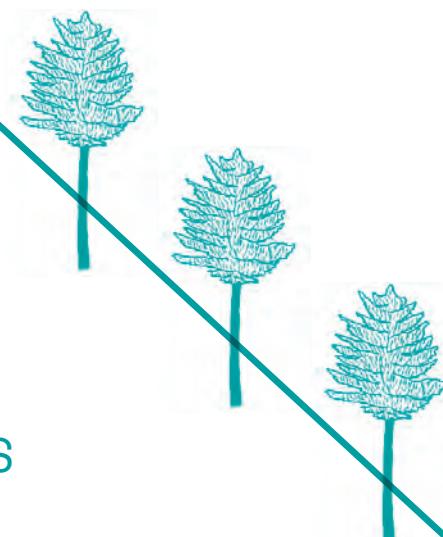
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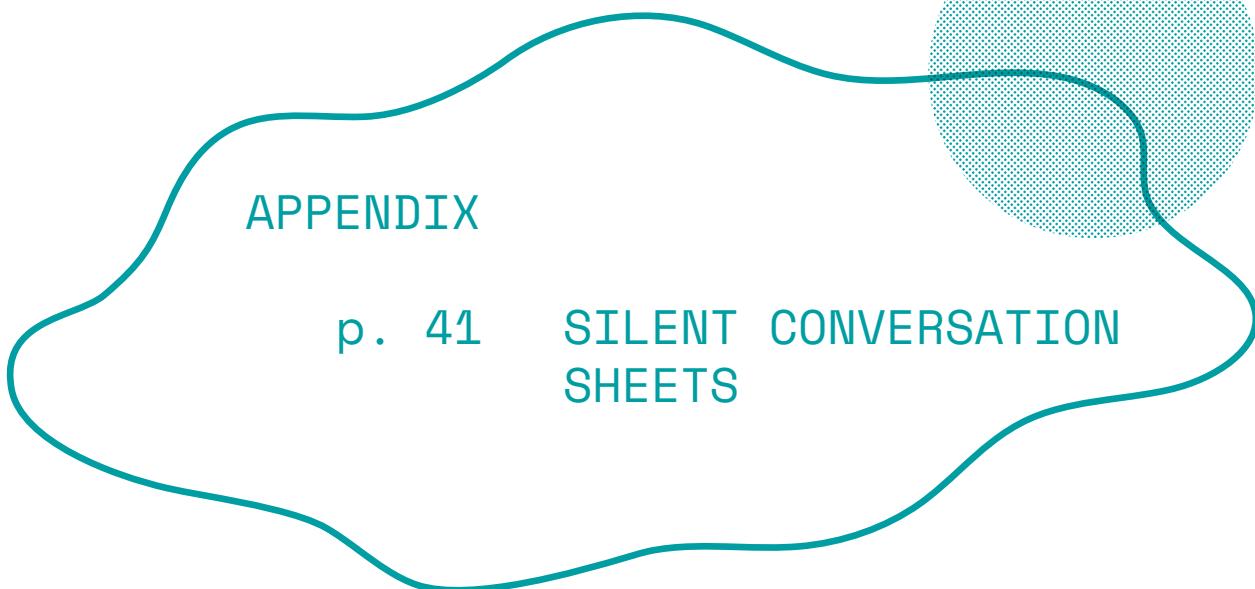
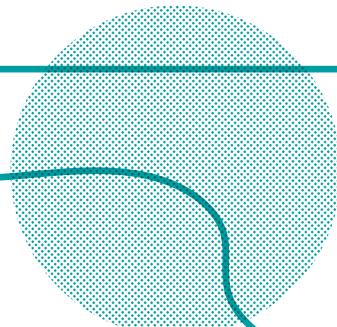
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Alpine Community Economies Laboratory
Snapshot Journal No. 1

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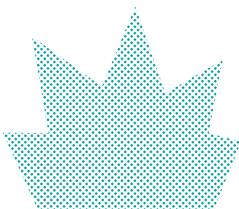
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INTRODUCTION

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

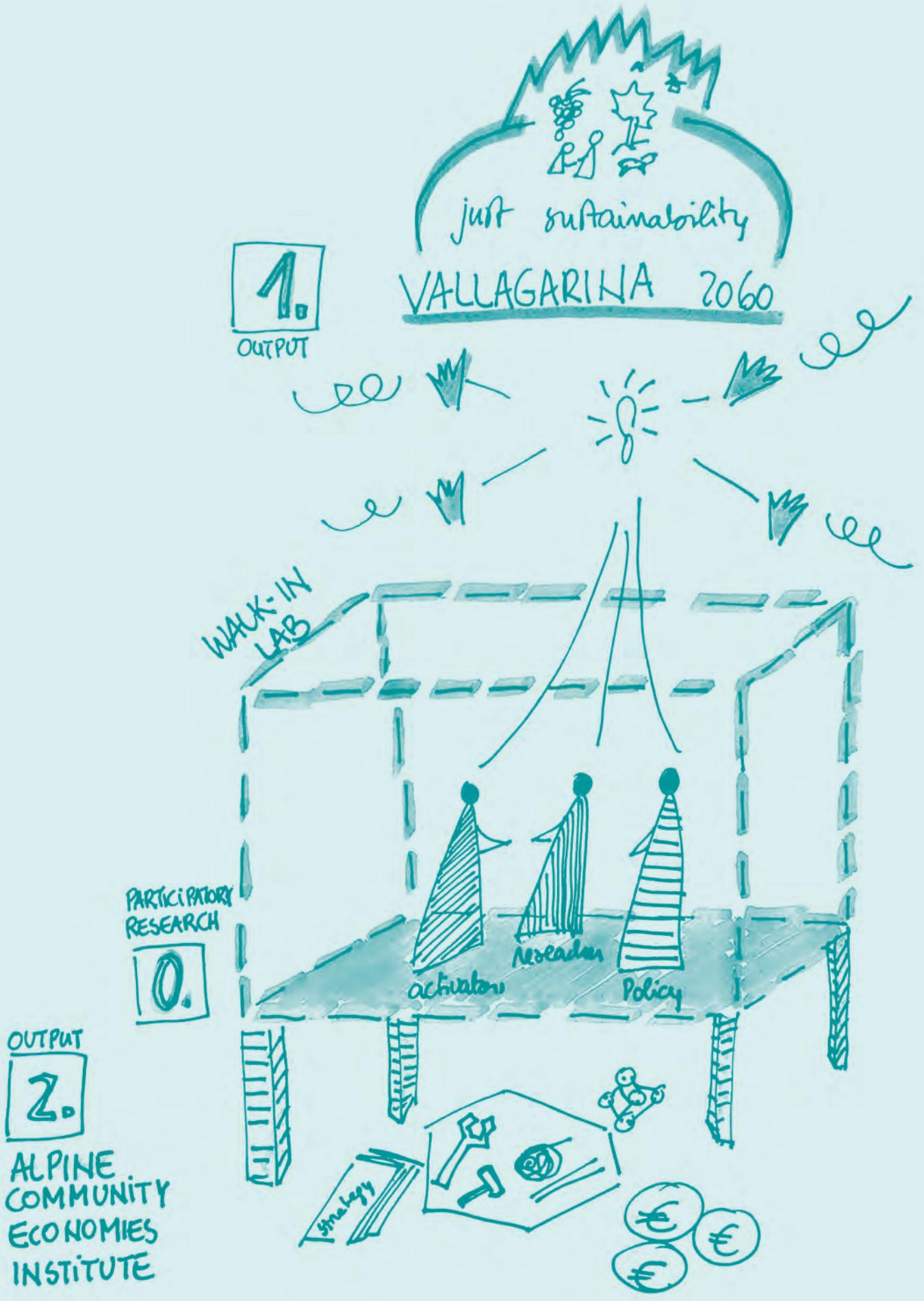
Working with a community economies approach is a political project aiming both at reclaiming and expanding the term community as well as the term economy.

1 J.K. Gibson-Graham, Jenny Cameron, and Stephen Healy, *Take Back the Economy: An Ethical Guide for Transforming Our Communities* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2013), 13.

2 Gibson-Graham, Cameron, and Healy, xix.

3 Ethan Miller, *Reimagining Livelihoods: Life Beyond Economy, Society, and Environment* (Minneapolis: University Of Minnesota Press, 2019), 139–40, <https://www.upress.umn.edu/book-division/books/reimagining-livelihoods>.





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.¹

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 right lands/usi civici

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

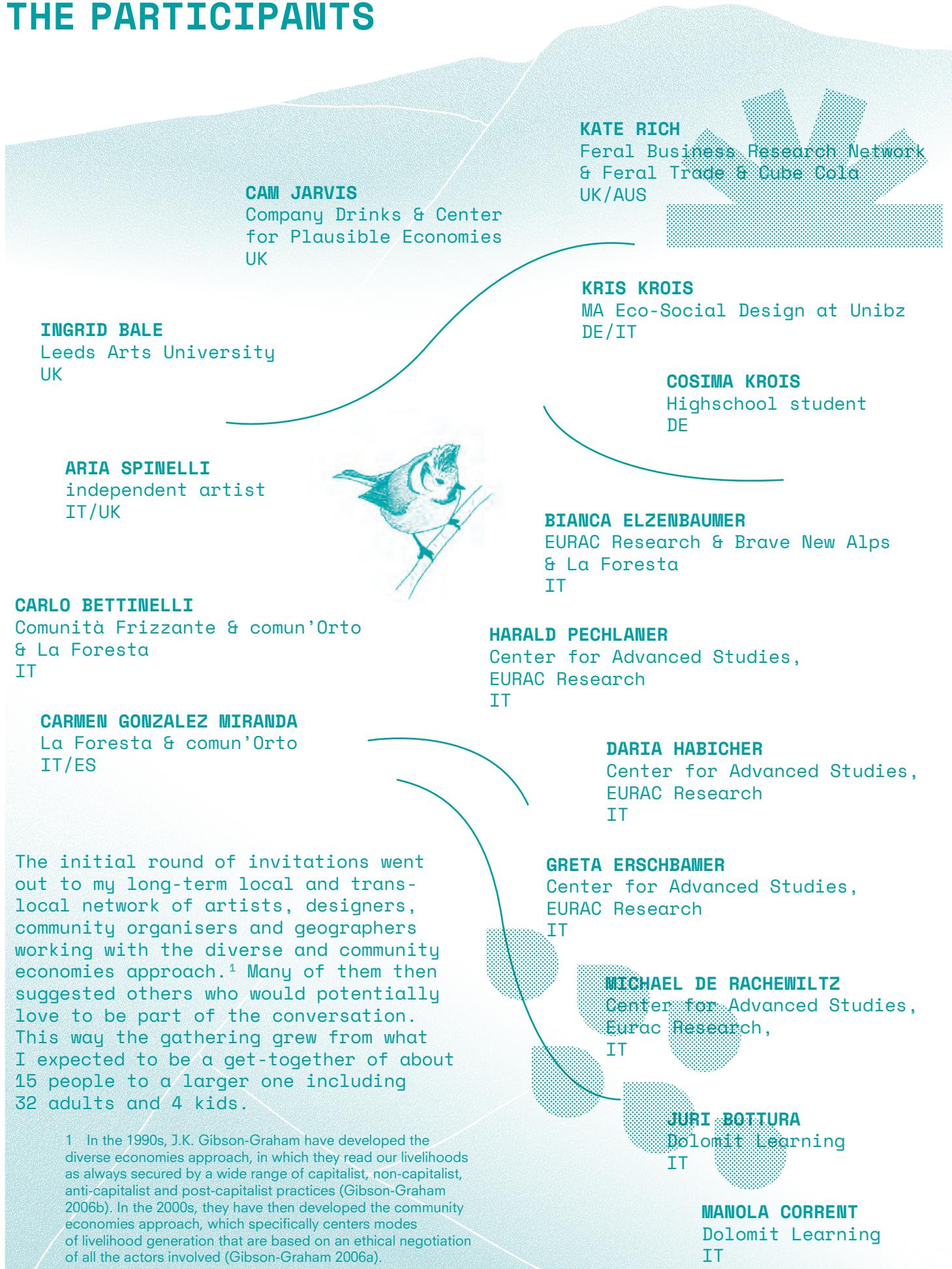
15:00
Visit to Mas del Gnac of the social cooperative Gruppo 78 collaborating on the project Comunità Frizzante

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

19:00
Dinner at Il Masetto - introductions with objects;
Kids play area



THE PARTICIPANTS



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AUS

ROMANA BENVENUTI

Brave New Alps
IT

NINO RIZZO

independent designer
IT

WOLFGANG FRANZ

Brave New Alps
IT/DE

Kids: PINO,
JOLE, WILLEM, BRUNO

THE LOCATION



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





CREATING A SPACE OF CARE



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

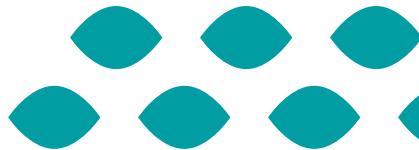
gathering at Il Masetto, a mountain refuge and cultural space located in Terragnolo, offering a very rich selection of cultural activities in touch with nature. The hosts Gianni

Mittemperger 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



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.

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/>

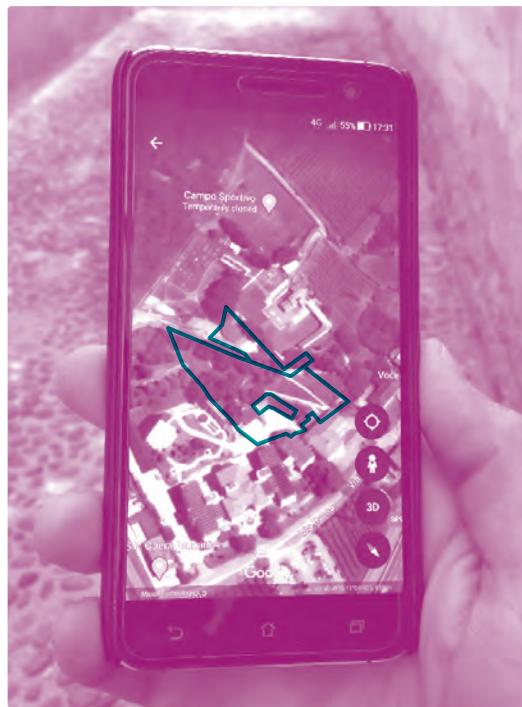
<https://laforestanet.it/>
<https://www.comunitafriz-zante.it/>
<https://companydrinks.info/>
<https://cube-cola.org/>

IMPRESSION

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.

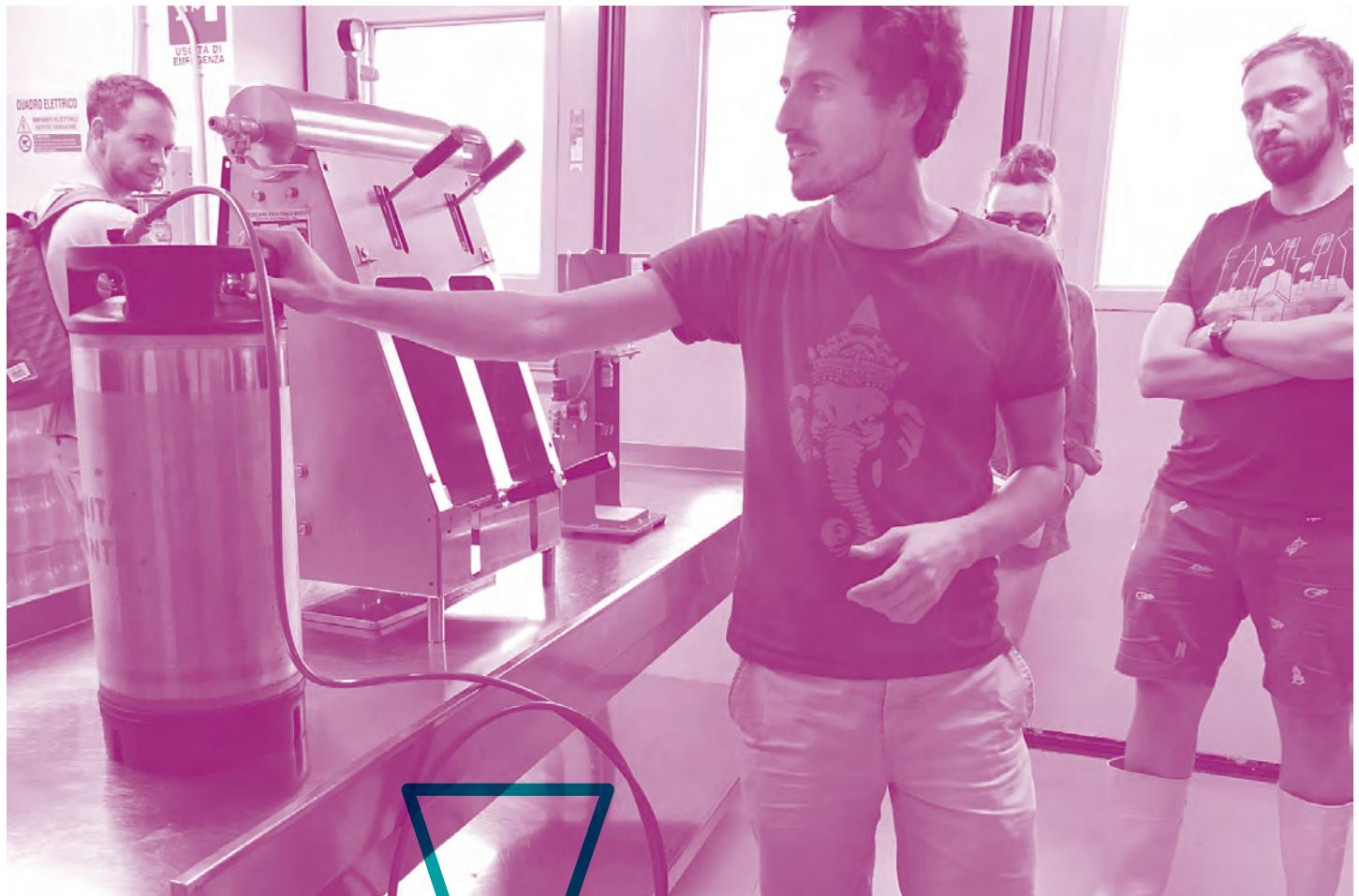
We then gather for lunch at the local train station, where the network La Foresta is in the process of creating a community academy. This process is sustained by over 15 local associations, informal groups and the Office for Social Politics





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.



SITUATING OURSELVES



MELTING ICEBERG
BY ETHAN MILLER



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.





LA FORESTA

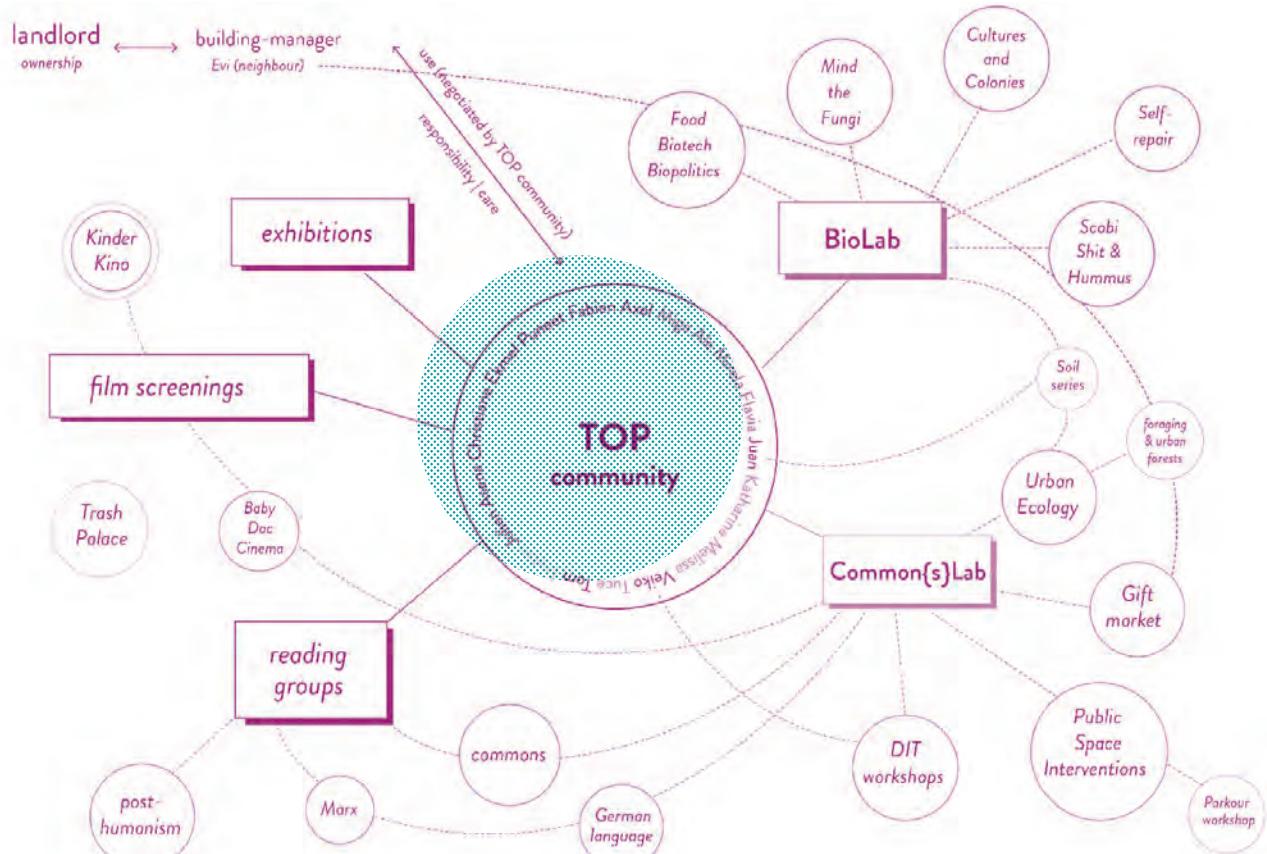


INGRID BALE ↗

COMUNITÀ
FRIZZANTE



← COMUN'ORTO

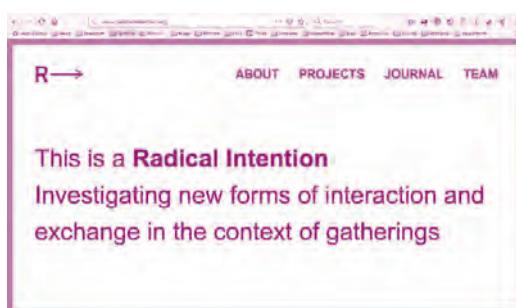


↑ COMMON(S) LAB

BY DESIGN OR
BY DISASTER
22-25 March



← MA ECO-SOCIAL
DESIGN





↳ NOMADIC SHTETL ARCHIVE



COMPANY
DRINKS →



FERAL BUSINESS CLINIC

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) 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.

working
"Strange, interesting" → trans-
methods disciplinary





at the moment
people need to
be rather
independent.

You move the aura of
something via an object.

an object of
da foresta
to travel to
the valleys.

HOW CAN THE COMMUNITY ECONOMIES INSTITUTE SUPPORT THE WORK (YOUR WORK) THAT IS HAPPENING + PRESENT HERE ?

- Training Consultancy - Coaching
 - Hack our Budgets:
 - ↳ Coaching / Professional Development
 - ↳ Training
 - ↳ Dissemination
 - ↳ Prospect / Development Consulting
 - Train the Trainers
- Participatory Budgeting
Planning Costs
for Small Costs

ORGANISE A SUMMER CAMP

HOW TO CONTRIBITION NO DIVISION OF LABOUR

VALUE OF NAME & TUTOR / ATTRACTOR

FRIENDS OF FRIENDS

Mobilising an already existing community

MONEY

You Pay
You Party
You Are Paid
You Join



LANGUAGE & VISUALS
IDENTITY

FUN & PRESS

MUSHROOM LABS

TEMPETT

GROWING FOOD CULTURES

OTHERS USING THE EQUIPMENT

PERMACULTURE COMMUNITY

HOW CAN SYMBIOCENE BECOME A SPACE OF DIVERSE ECONOMIES THAT CAN THRIVE IN A SUSTAINABLE WAY?

TRACING THE
INTERDEPENDENCIES

WHAT WE HAVE
THROUGH A DIVERSE
PERSP.

WHAT IS HERE WE
CAN INVEST TO KEEP IT GOING

PROGRAMMING THAT
INVITES OTHERS TO FEED THEIR
INTEREST

UNLOCKING SOMETHING THAT
OTHER PEOPLE WOULD NEED

TOOL
SOCIAL RETURN
WHAT TO MEASURE
VALUES that are being produced

VALUES TRANSLATE
INTO PRACTICES
How to measure

MAKE A
WORKSHOP
↓
SELF ASSESSMENT

OPENNESS OF RELATIONS
OF HUMAN & MORE THAN HUMAN



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.

MATERIALS

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

REFERENCES

Pro Action Café method
<http://aositoronto.weebly.com/proaction-cafe.html/>

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).

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- '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.



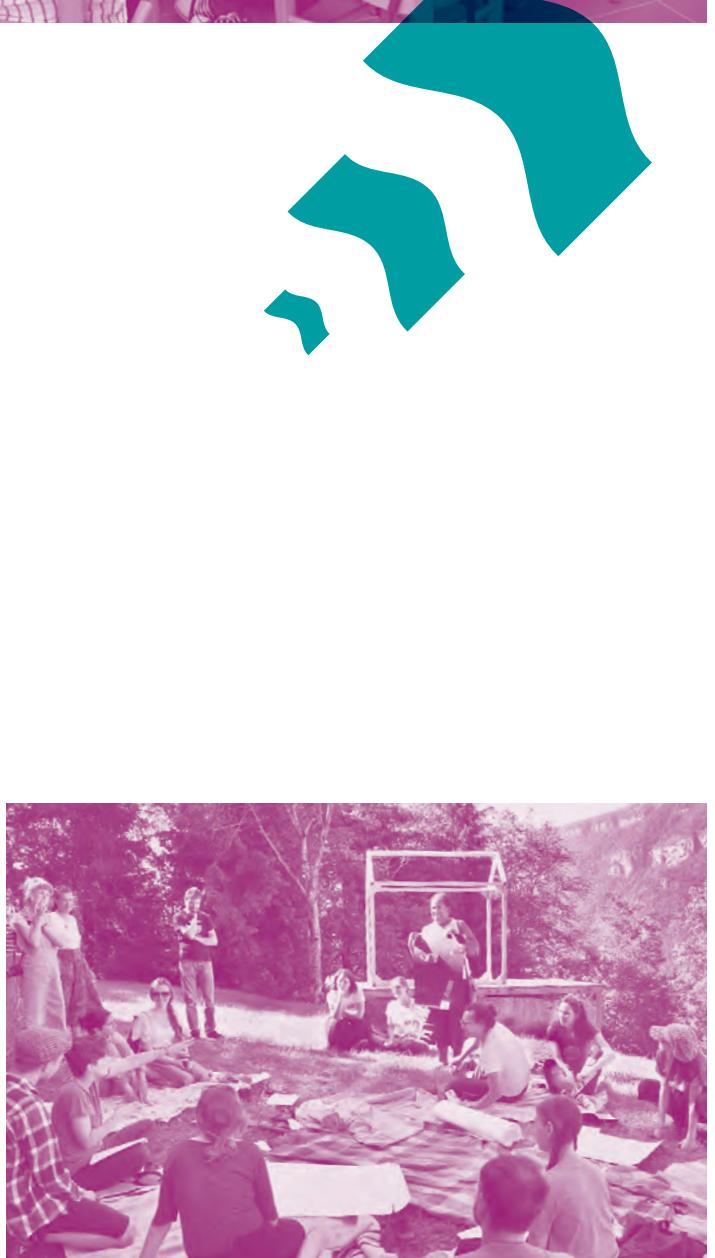
- Chestnut trees from around here need human care in order to make fruits. These human practices of care for chestnut trees create richer habitats for a lot of animals.
- Scale is always multiple. When, for instance, you look inside a body, there is so much complexity and relations in there as well.
- 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;





- 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?

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/>



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:

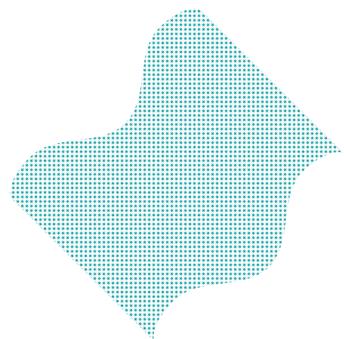
- Write a brief description of what this is about
- Make a logo of The Interdependence we all can use
- Register the url – ideally this would be an .idt domain
- Start to use idt. behind our projects and names to signal our interdependence
- Meet up in autumn 2019 to work on a short charter
- Meet up 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)



CHOICES - HOW MUCH DO WE CARE? AND HOW WILLING ARE WE TO PUT CARE FOR CERTAIN Care for /with INDIVIDUALS / SYSTEMS / COMMUNITIES

Caring for the common(s) / caring in common FIRST?? ie Before our own needs?

Everyday
Invisible
Each other

↓ realising what we have where we live, and taking care about it.

Social relationship
Meet new people

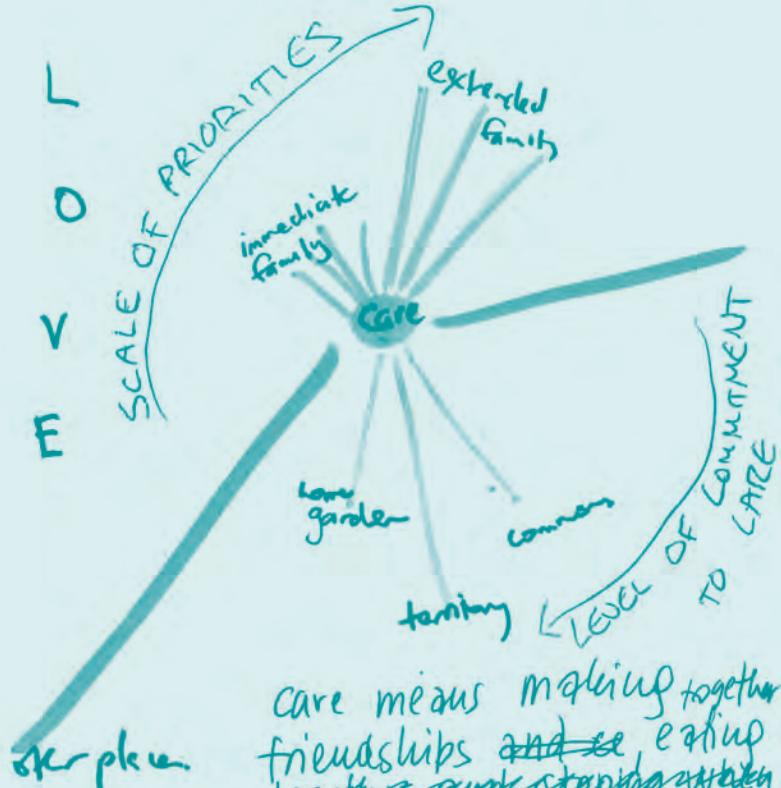
SHARED
RESOURCES

Care transactions condition

Care must come first
But it's not always nice
or easy
↳ relationships of care
make us think about
who for & how with?
Opens possibility for
love and recognition of
interdependence
ACTIVATING
PEOPLE TO HAVE
A MORE INTERACTIONS
AND A POSS
OF MAKING NEW
CONNECTIONS
(use mycelium)

there are roles
for every kind
of person / groups

↳ radical experimenters
↳ reformers ↳ analysts
↳ innovators ↳ etc.
↳ communicators etc.



Care means making together
friendships and eating
together and staying with
the work

↳ for
synergies
and allow
the positive

RURAL = *performed* *formats vs models* *methodologies* *practices*

Collectivity *MADE TOGETHER* *SOLD TOGETHER* *BROUGHT TOGETHER* *SHARED TOGETHER*

better by bike to the trees

Artistic vs Creative
Challenging
Provoking
Divisive
Controversial or Dissensus?

SHARES

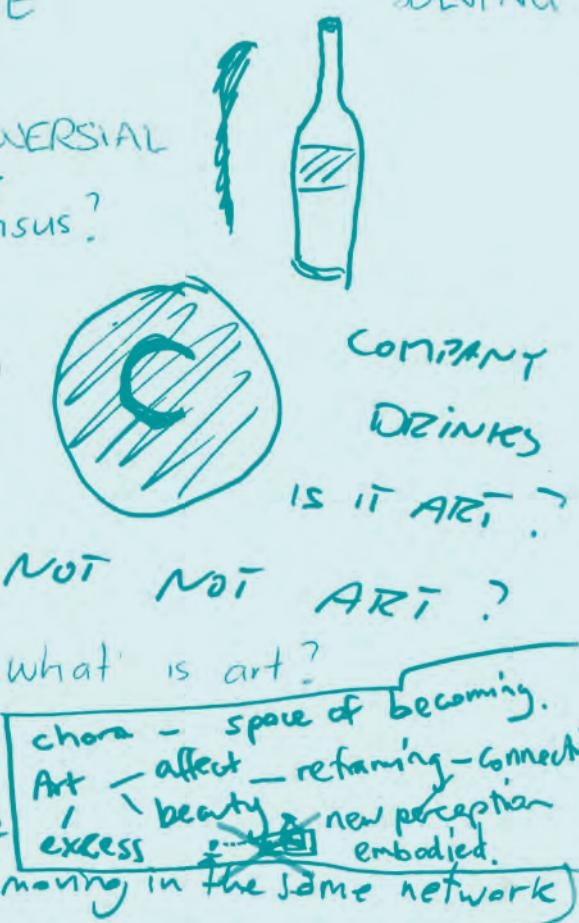
Lived together
who is together?
how do we be together?

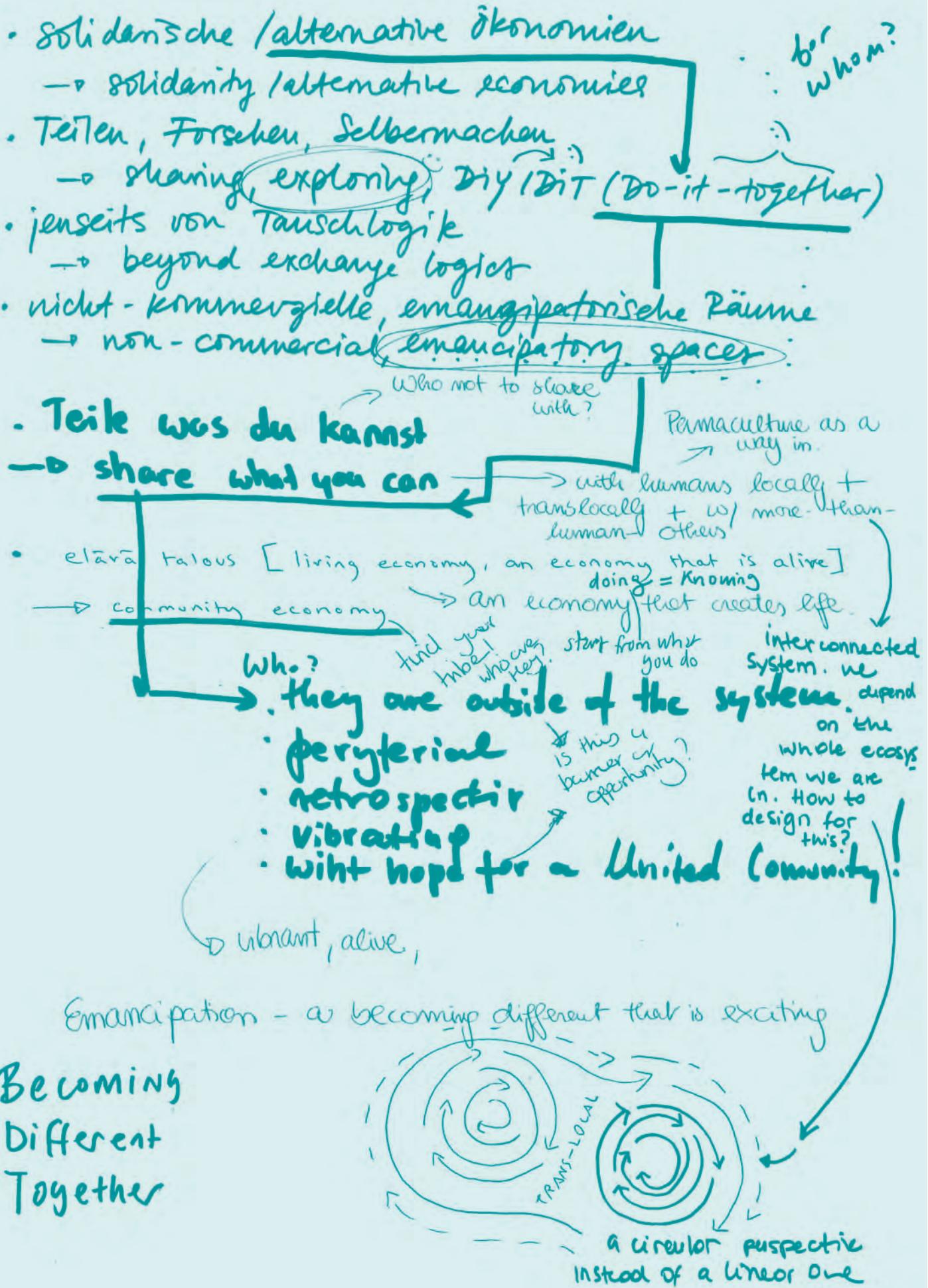
Sometimes we think to do stuff together (with the collectivity) but it's just a SMALL SMALL group of people (sometimes always the same group moving in the same network)

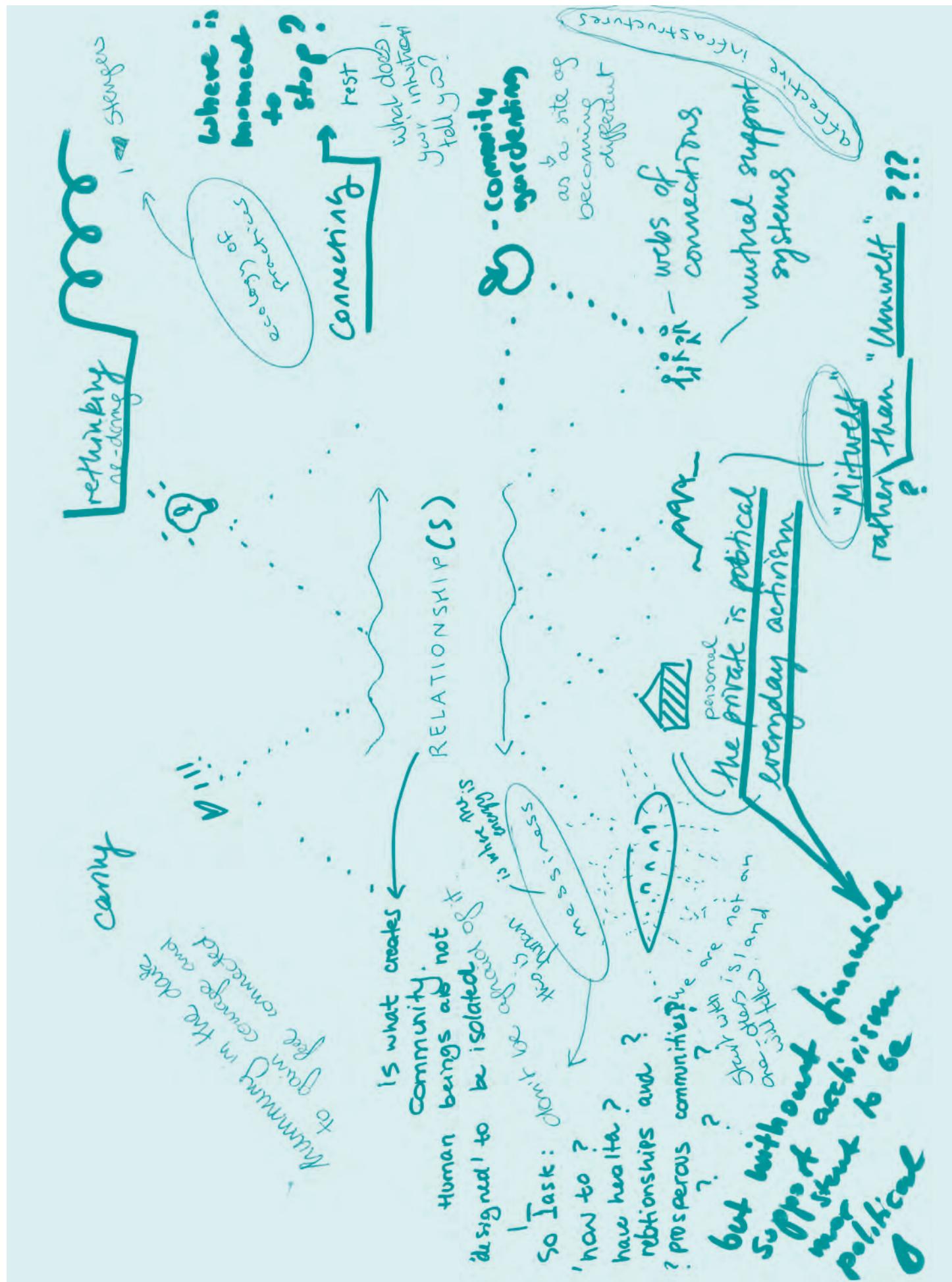
Is there surplus to the relationships? who enables without intention? who is involved without commitment? who benefits, even if they don't know that they benefit?

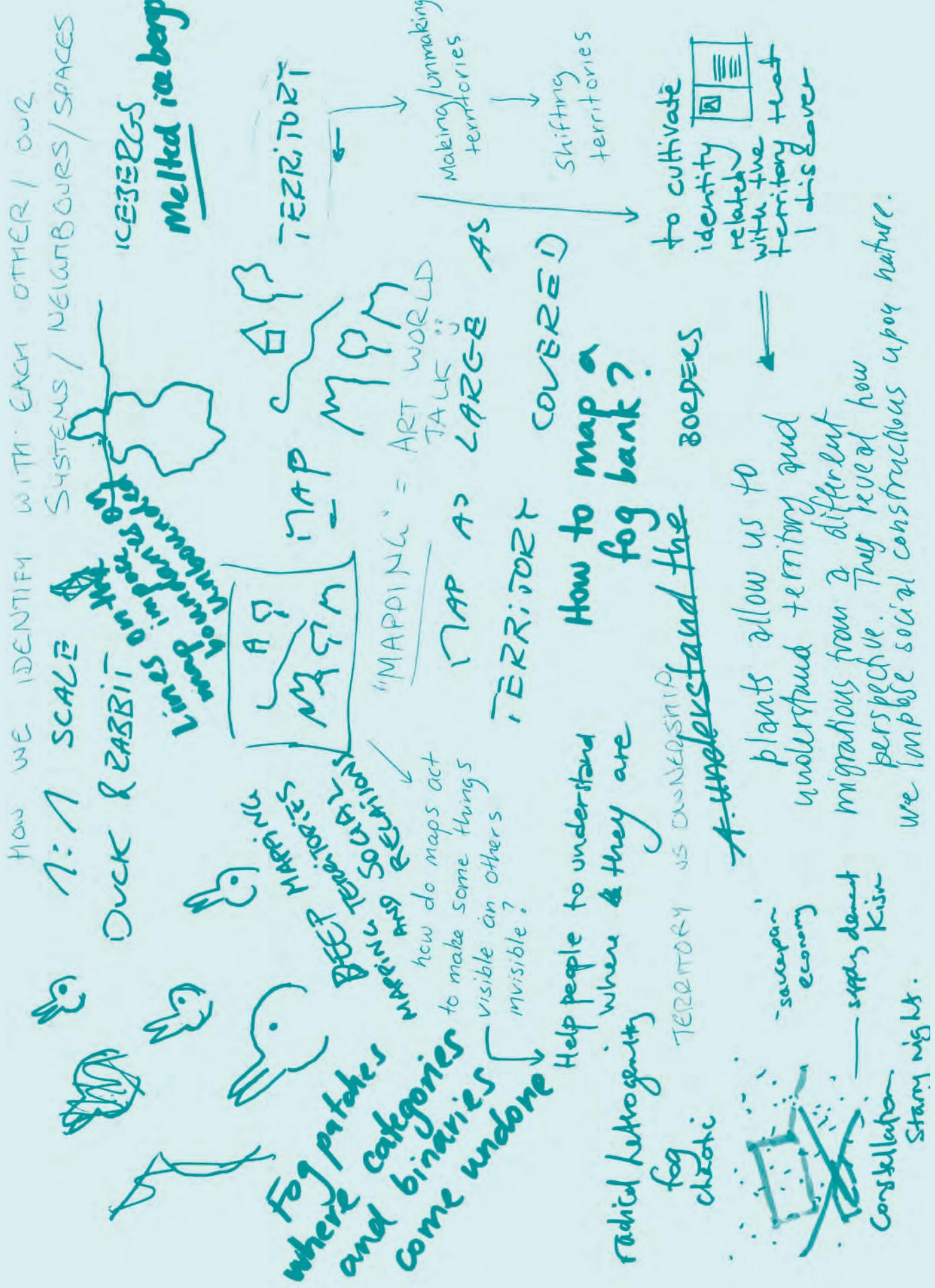
Togetherness is a negotiation
Who is a designer?
TAKING DESIGN OUT OF DESIGN AND EXPANDING THE FIELD OF CREATIVITY

FIELDS AND TOPICS, AND DESIGN
COMBINING DIFFERENT AREAS









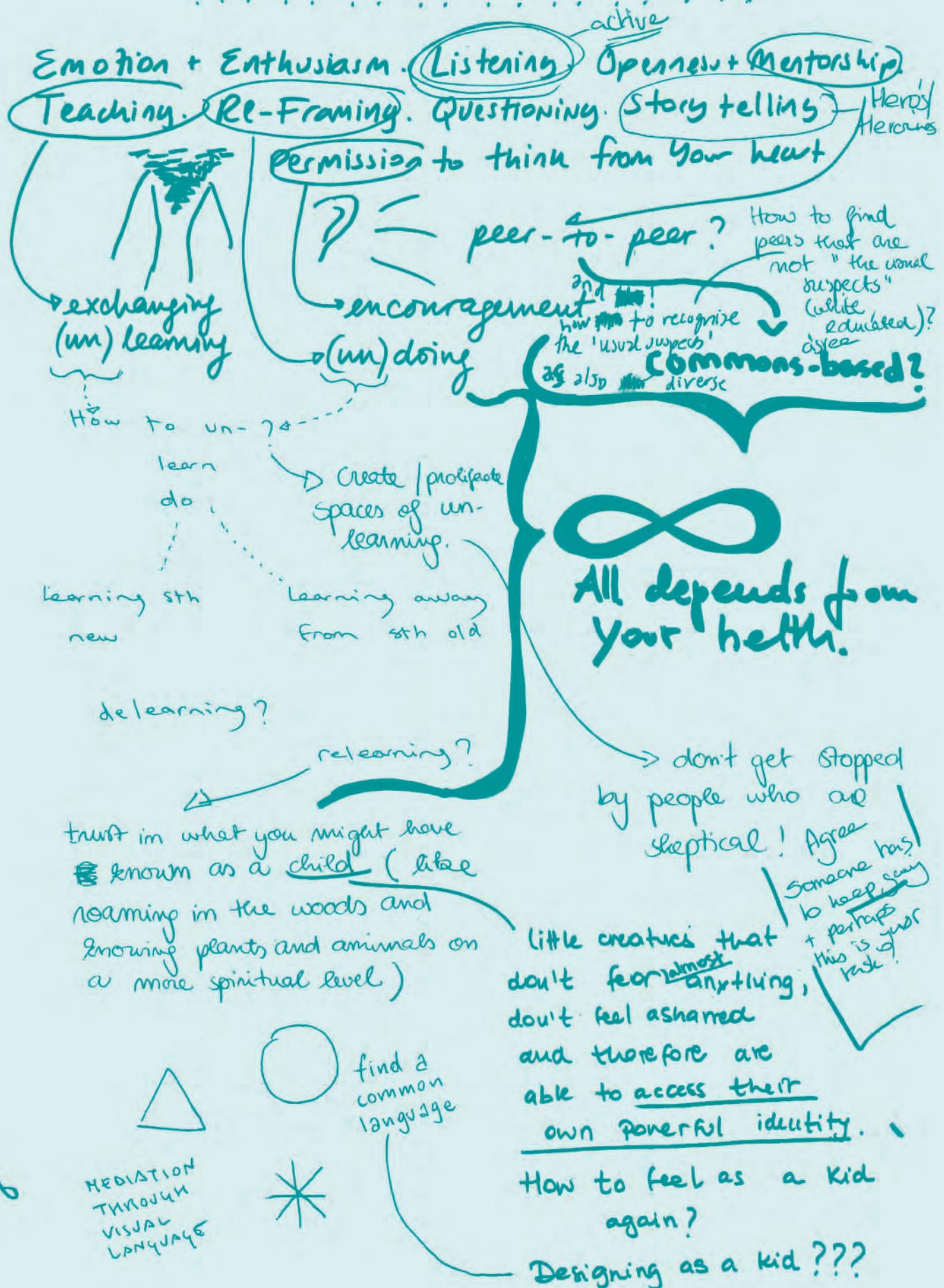
change in 3 steps:
① understand the existing as
constructed

- ② allow the positive
- ③ start

Friederike Habermann

Thinking symbiotic / symbolic
relations

How to engage ppl. in your work?



- Finding, constructing the current economic system
Alternatives to ~~capitalism~~ ➡ Yes, we like to take
on what is difficult: If not now, when then?
 - Never say the word **CAPITALISM**. Always find ways
to describe and circumnavigate the term.
or, alternatively
(everyone is an economist)
we all do economics
everyday. So we are already
the experts
- Then now use
that expertise
in small way / local
across → become large
across → become trees
- Spreading "growing"
grafting as social practice
- PRESENT COMMUNITY ECONOMIES
BUT A "NATURAL" WAY...
- I'd say capitalism is...
a one-way ~~spend~~ money
Spent...
as alternatives
- But we don't have
to admit that it's difficult**
- Focus on Livelihoods
+ Making a Living
- NOT AS AN "ALTERNATIVE"

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

There is no alternative
without external support:
INTERNATIONALE!

mutual relationships
gifting

→ commons international

(community without ownership / proprietorship) → delicate differences in of definitions of property

Gemeinschaft ohne Eigentum:

• Teile was du kannst

(Share what you can.)

~~but first~~

than you need me :-)

relationships
interdependency

possibilities
voluntary

language gets interesting when you / I don't understand a word — How to translate from X to it?

Community as ethical Doing

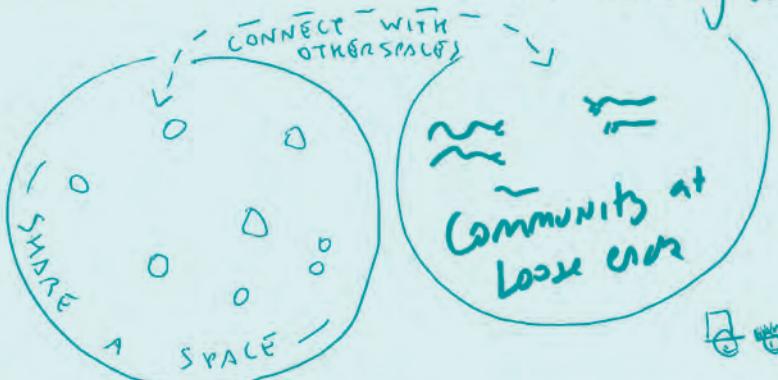
→ consider that you can always share more than what you think at the first instance.

I believe everyone has a talent to do something. vvvv ::

Community → open, solidary, resilient. Let's experiment with how to create this! This is the exciting stuff of life.

Thinking of us all as a whole community.

How to share when we are all different? — finding the commonalities + accepting the differences. We are human first!



~~emul/sificism~~

unpack your thoughts

Clarity Focus what's in your mind?

What? Who? Why? Will this interest me? What do you want to say? Do you know?

How to create this?
Practices of mindfulness

↓
to slow down
& access yourself!

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO
How to critically question what you want to achieve?

WHAT DO YOU NEED?

WHO ARE YOU GONNA INVOLVING?

ACHIEVE

DESIRER

- Food
- Love
- Peace
- Music

for everyone

CAN WE SHARE?
FOOD CLOTHES IDEAS
SPACE DRINKS knowledge

Do I need to answer ALL these Questions!?

I need an invitation. → addressing people,
how do you identify with an invitation?

What (signal)language? Can you answer these

questions? How to live & practice as a question?

(It's a quest, after all, not engineering.)

Let's achieve distribution of achieving:
multiplication of commons!

distributed achievements!
Shared achievements!
Engage each other!

!

To communicate with diverse manufacturers in Australia (MNCs, family business producer coops + social enterprises) - our community economy concerns - we used this term:

JUST SUSTAINABILITY

: (APPROACHABLE)

{ economic justice
democracy
living well
ethical encounters
surplus distribution }

individual responsibilization
or shared responsibility
what about response-ability
being able to respond
to be responsible

{ ecological care
responsibility
responsible consumption }

- building on Julian Aggleman's term ... OR ACCUSATIONS
CONTEXT
HOW IT IS OF "JUST" FRAMING
RESPONDED TO

Using creative
forms of accounting
to render ideas
legible to the
bureaucrats &
policy makers.

DIMENSIONS of JS ENABLERS of JS

< +1,5°C & SOLIDARITY

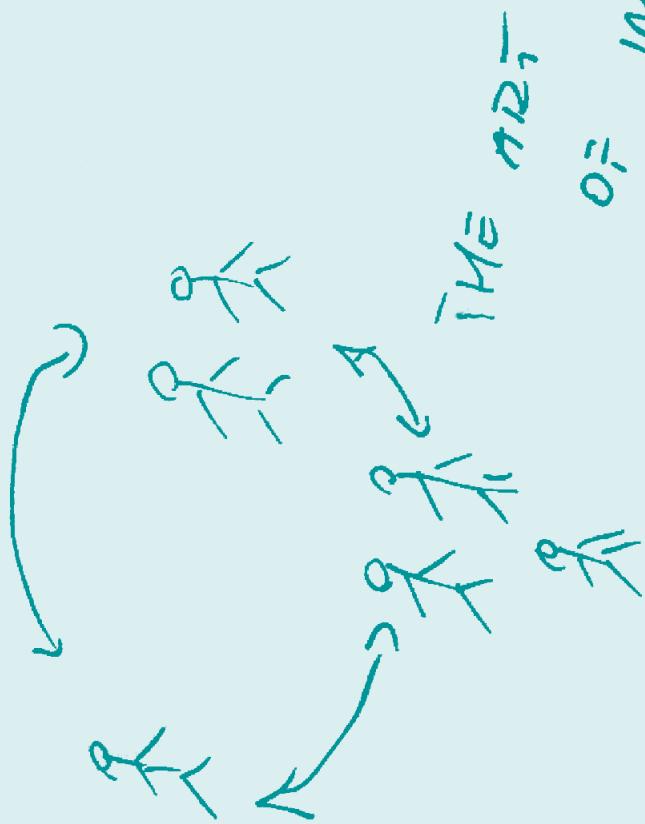
because it's "hard science"
so they have to believe!

CLIMATE JUSTICE

Just
Love ↗
matter
of
taste

When we speak to municipalities we use the term
CIRCULAR ECONOMIES

TAKING CARE OF THE SOIL AND ECO SYSTEMS
AND CREATING A NEW ONES
WITHIN THE ECOSYSTEMS
AND BEING GOOD FOR PEOPLE



is there a
different terminology
that could convey
invasive plants beyond
a negative connotation?



WORKING BETWEEN THE CROCKS

- INVASIVE PLANTS *

AS PART OF MORE

HUMAN COMMUNITY

- ## CHANGING THE PERCEPTION

How to reform
-invasion-? 10 WORK WITH NON-HUMAN
PLATE TECTONICS COATING A COMMUNITY
MADE NOT AGAINST IT



FORMING A COMMUNITY OF
DIFFERENT ORGANISMS
WITH DIFFERENT
NICHES

* Invasive plant because they come from other parts of the world and they have no natural predators.

The SPONTANEITY OF PLANT OFTEN TAKE OVER ABANDONED SPACES IS IT INVASION OR REUSE?

HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE EARTH

↳ RE-THINKING OUR PLACE IN THE ECOLOGICAL



NATURAL SYSTEM

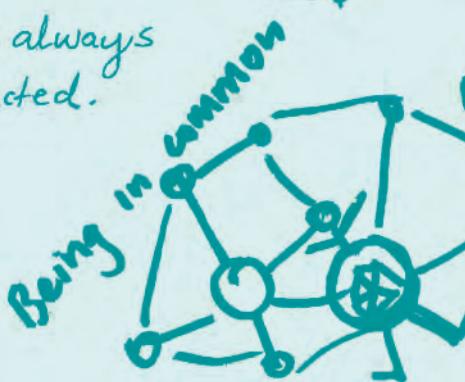
↳ RE ~~THINKING~~ THINKING OUR IMPORTANCE !

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



TRUST INSTEAD OF
INT INC
INTERCORPORATED

Already & always interconnected.



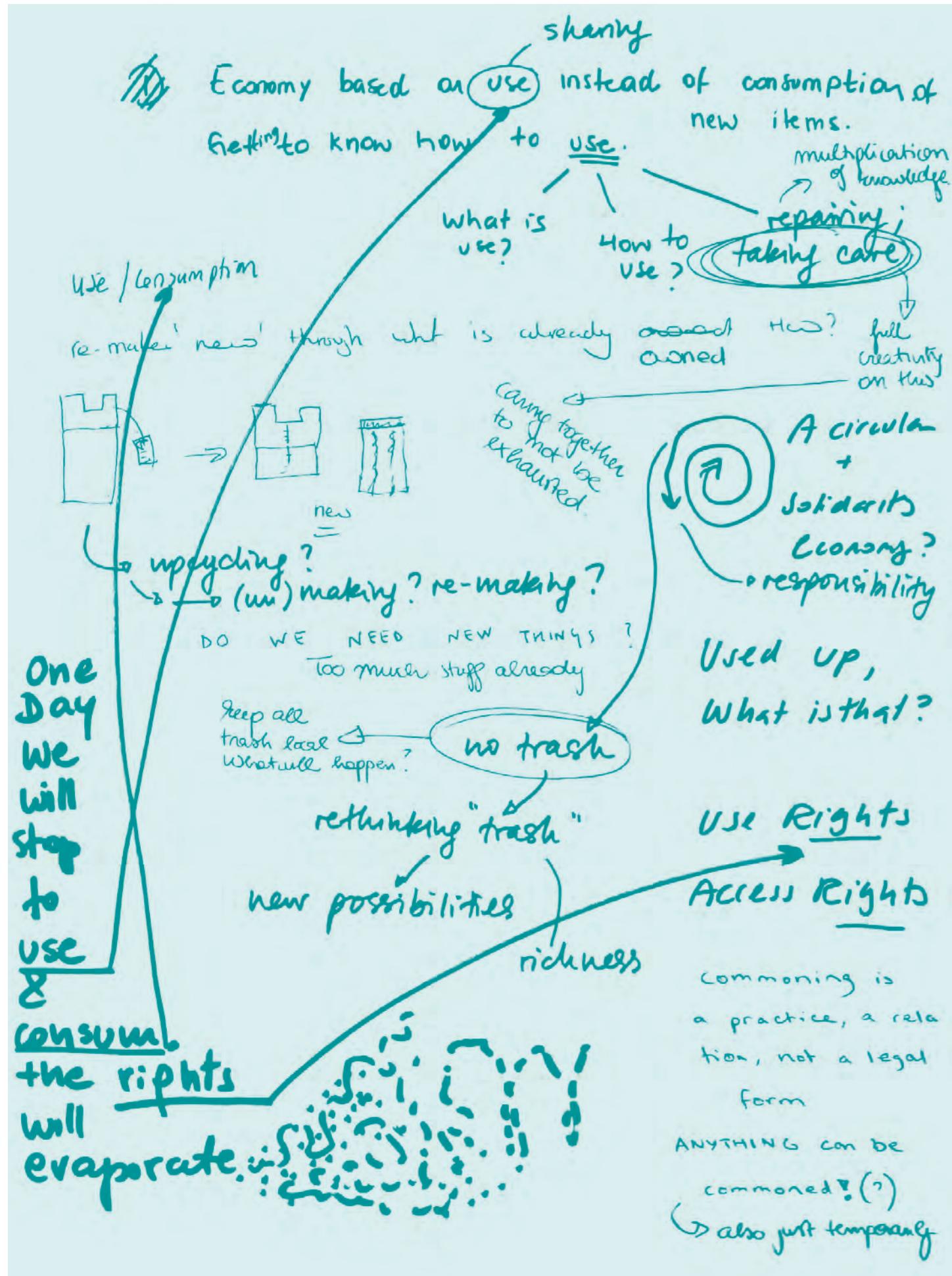
INTERDEPENDENCE
Networks of interdependence, a
inside, outside,
through and all
around our multiple
embodied urban/rural
ecologies

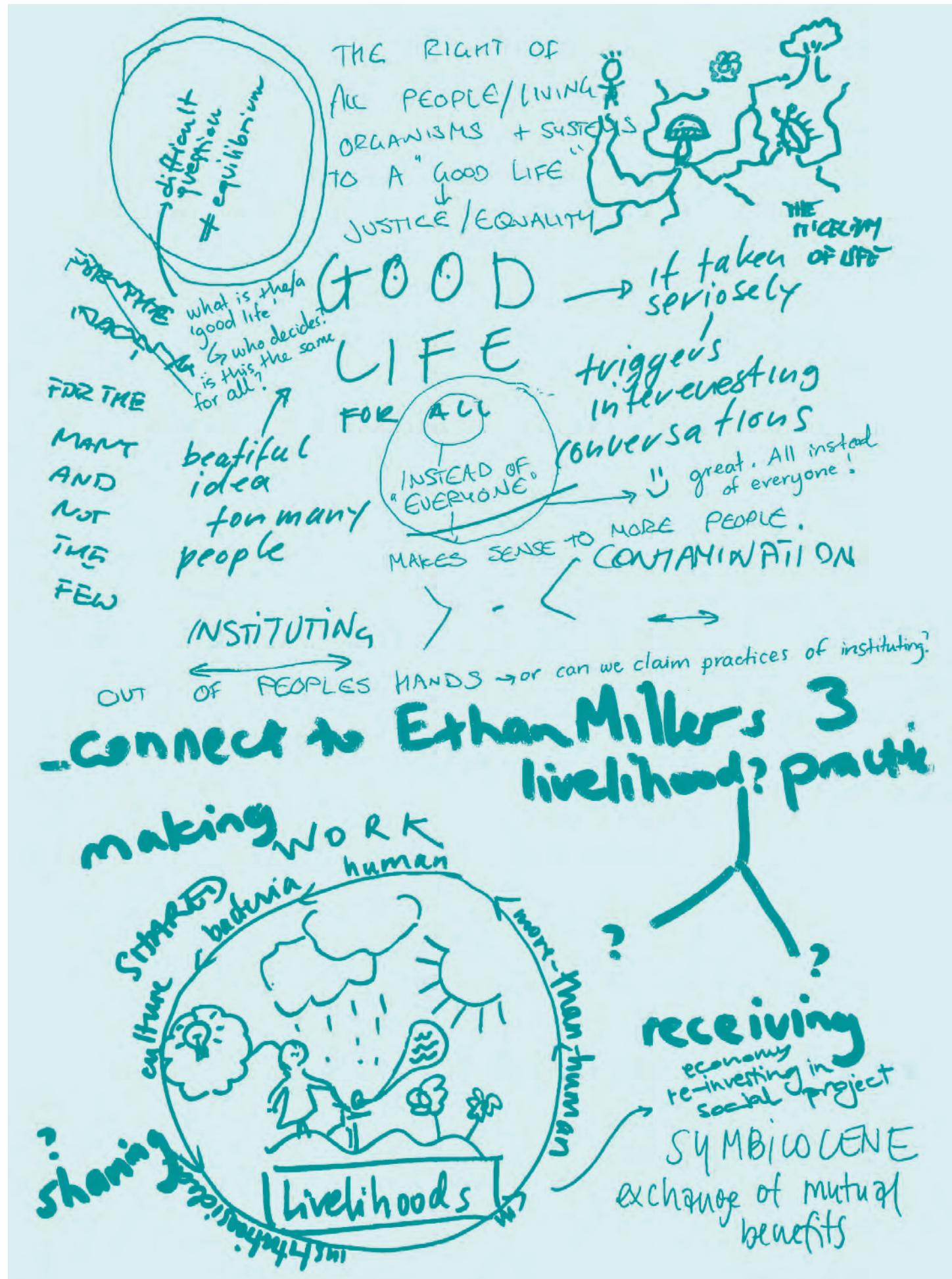
fulfilling needs
→ doing together
in a self-organized way
^{inspired by Silke Helfrich}
+ enjoying it
inspired by Emma Goldman

```

graph TD
    A[damaged] --> B[pioneers<br/>- preparing the ground for<br/>the forest / new cycle of<br/>succession]
    B --> C[Succession -]
    C --> D[pioneer/young community]
    D --> E[it is supposed to be messy]
    style E fill:none,stroke:none
    D --- F[it is supposed to be messy]
  
```







It depends to/with who I speak

- peers

- my mother

- my father

- my daughter

- all the other relatives

↳ ... Duchamp made others

↳ ... speak for ethical reasons

↳ ... with language filter

- friends from former times, who
are now into something quite
different than me. IOT

- students of Eco-Social Design

- "traditional school" Designers

- children

↳ using two different sets of language =
... double the time + effort to engage people

... communication always excludes something - it's necessary

When we speak with children we sometimes use simple
stamps and ask them to create stamp illustrations. Then
we ~~speak~~ will ask them to tell us the ~~stories~~ story around
the illustration and discuss about the topic through that.

speaking
across
values

SPENDING
WITH DIFFERENT
GENDERS THAT DON'T
THE SAME → NO TRY TO REINVENT THINGS

 ART WORLD is
AN SOUND SYSTEM

DO YOU NEED TO CONCEAL ANY INFORMATION TO PROTECT THEM?

whatever we say, always creates the unsaid too

↳ what do we choose to communicate

and what do we choose not to

FILTER

Exclusive
Inclusive
Exclusion
Inclusion
Exclusive
Inclusive
Exclusion
Inclusion

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

SETS OF LANGUAGE =

EFFORT TO ENGAGE PEOPLE

different words

SINGING? Shared time

HOSING AS GIVING

different words

and not offering AN

O P P O R T U N I T Y + IF YOU

GIVE DO YOU EXPECT SOMETHING

IN RETURN?

to everybody
has something
to shave

. idt

the interdependence

- planetary
- intergalactic



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