The dual role of Community Networks

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GAIA meeting @ IETF-96

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Facebook helps you connect and share with the people in your life.

NetHood helps you connect and share with the people in physical proximity.

Apostol, Antoniadis, and Banerjee, “From Face-block to Facebook or the other way around?”, Sustainable City and Creativity, Naples, 2008
Keywords: locality, inter-/trans-disciplinarity, diversity, face-to-face communication
Community Networks and Do-It-Yourself Networking
“The aim of ninux.org is the creation of an urban intranet for experimental purposes only, so no Internet.”
Why local?

- Practical: inclusiveness, de facto proximity
- Social: contact, community, trust
- Political: participation, ownership
- Educational: social learning
- Scientific: open data

+ incentives for participation in Cns beyond “filling the gaps”
Plaza Díaz Vélez

www.facebook.com/plazadiazvelez

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CONSTRUCCIÓN CIUDADANA
POR EL BIEN DE TODOS

Buenos Aires Ciudad

Photo: Tridib Banerjee
How?

- Build specialized self-hosted FLOSS applications
- Engage experts and local actors in the design process
- Address social, economic, legal, and political issues
- Create links with other “commoning” projects
- Build toolkits and scale through replication
- Think outside the Internet

Local networks for local interactions is not how “things used to be in the past” but how they could be in the future ...
Two Horizon2020 projects

- CAPS: Collective awareness platforms for sustainability and social innovation
- MAZI, http://mazizone.eu
  - 9 partners, 4 pilot studies, 1.8M EUR for 3 years
- netCommons, http://netcommons.eu
  - 6 partners, 2.3M EUR for 3 years
NETWORK INFRASTRUCTURE AS COMMONS

ENGINEERING

COMPUTER SCIENCE

POLITICAL ECONOMY

URBAN, SOCIAL, AND MEDIA STUDIES

LAW AND POLICY

ECONOMICS

netCommons