

Strengthening solidarity economy building

-> furthering our Commons & Commoning

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Solidarity Economy building

Economy

- rethinking economy starting from everybody's own daily life, from our needs.
- Economy's central question: How do we organise life together?

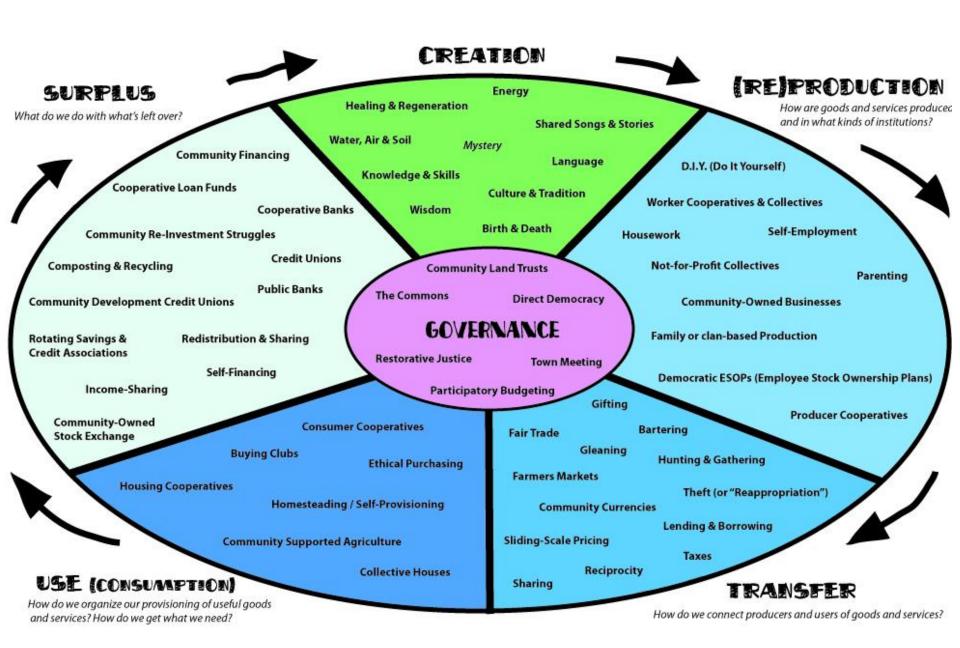
Contrary to mainstream economic thinking, all around us there a lot of vibrant cooperative practices ranging from timebanks and exchange rinks to eco villages and social entrepreneurs.

Solidarity

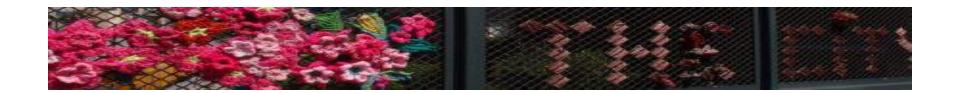
.... which are sharing a commitment to the fullfulling of certain values as diversity, autonomy, equality, radical democracy and ecology: Solidarity.

The main objective of a people's economy is not profit, but the reproduction of social life.



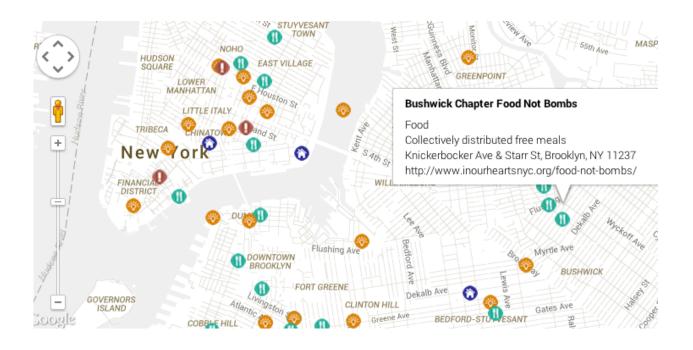


Picture: Ethan Miller 2011



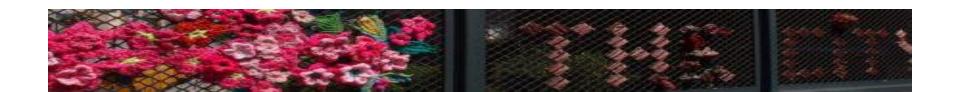
Solidarity economy building: the process of identifying already existing alternatives (mapping), of strengthening and connecting them, and in this way expanding the spaces of a solidarity economy

No blue print – but participatory discussion and mapping process, bringing economy back to being a discussion of people for people; starting point is daily life and needs.



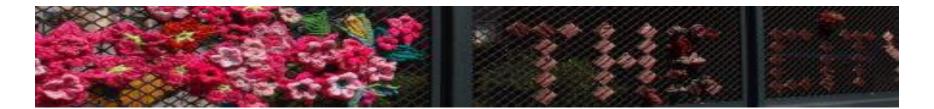
SolidarityNYC, an activist group in New York city that makes visible actors of the solidarity economy. A part of this work is an online map picturing a city full of alternative economic actors.





Solidarity economy (network) building

- -Solidarity economy actors (self)- identification
- -Mapping
- -Interviewing



Commons refer to things held in common, and to different forms of co-producing Commons to function as lenses for approaching economy (Silke Helfrich) Ecological Commons, Social Commons, Network Commons

Peter Linebaugh : No commons without social practice of commoning — co-producing, co-governing, co managing by a community or network of commoners of a commons, whilst including the principles of sustainability, fairness, social control land responsibility of the users.

Commons is also about use value being created without the interference of state or market, need not mean without state or market (Silke Helfrich)

Antithesis of commodity (extractivism)

Commons distinguish themselves both from private as well as public goods.

Political struggle against capitalist enclosures. North, South -> daily struggles

Silke Helfrich (2013): the social process of commons with the following points

- Every commons has a material base
- Every commons is a social commons
- Every commons is a knowledge process
- Every commons also needs protection,
- Commons do not scale up
- Every economy is commons-based.



The development of solidarity economy – the increased cooperation between actors and through this the development of new practices – can be seen as a furthering of commons and the commoning around them.

The upholding and futhering of commons by the actors and producers of solidarity economy gives commons their solidarity values.



Food becoming increasingly a Commons
In that picture, Currency designed and used as a Commons

Commons.fi

Solidarity economy network building

- -mapping
- -interviews

-> Assembly of the Commons.fi
European Commons Assembly process

Helsinki Timebank
www.stadinaikapankki.wordpress.com
www.ces.org.za

Helsinki Timebank's ABC: working principles and Tovi-etiquette ->
Helsinki Timebank's objective is to support
Mutual assistance between people, and through this strengthen communal culture. Helsinki Timebank strengthens a social and ecological just local economy, in which everyone is of equal value and has equal

in which everyone is of equal value and has equal participation possibilities.

"The time currency in itself, the Tovi, is not a commodity, but a token in a "credit commons" that allows people to exchange services earning and spending credits (David Bollier).

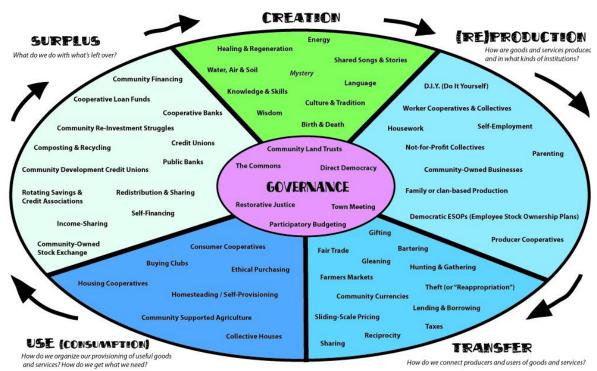
The process of defining the principles and rules of the credit currency is itself a process of commoning

Pedagogical tool teaching us about commoning

Helsinki Timebank – Complementary community currency

Another economy needs Another financial system&money

- A. Redesigning role of money Different alternatives around institutional money
- B. Currency as a commons Proposals of alternative complementary currencies taking back economy
- C. Demonetization



Helsinki Timebank & Taxation

- Beyond state & market, not without state & market
- Partner State

Timetax

