

transformative
social innovation
theory

Social innovation networks & initiatives

Overview of all TRANSIT Cases under Study



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About TRANSIT:

TRANSIT is an international research project that develops a theory of Transformative Social Innovation that is useful to both research and practice. It is co-funded by the European Commission and runs for four years, from 2014 until 2017. The TRANSIT consortium consists of 12 partners across Europe and Latin America. For more information, please visit our website:

<http://www.transitsocialinnovation.eu/>.

About this TRANSIT document:

This document provides an overview of all networks and initiatives under study in the TRANSIT project, including links to where case-study reports and data-base information can be found, as well as links to the websites of the networks and initiatives themselves.

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Introduction

We are 12 interdisciplinary research institutes who collaborated on the EU-funded [TRANSIT](#) research project to develop a theory of transformative social innovation that is relevant for both academia and practice. Our vision is to understand and increase the transformative impact of social innovation towards a more just, resilient and sustainable society.

Social innovation is about changes in social relations involving new ways of doing, organising and framing. TRANSIT is particularly interested in *transformative* social innovation, which also challenges, alters and/ or replaces dominant institutions in the social context. We have studied these phenomena through theoretical and conceptual work, in interaction with extensive empirical research on networks and initiatives that work on social innovation and transformative change in practice. During the 4 years of the project, we have studied 20 translocal networks, including over 100 cases spread across 26 countries in Europe, Latin America and elsewhere.

We first conducted in-depth case-studies of the 20 translocal networks at the level of their international networking activities, as well as at the level of two local initiatives. For these case-studies, we used a combination of interview, participant observation and document reviews. The (summaries of) the individual case-study reports can be found on the TRANSIT website. More information on the underlying research methodology and comparative results of the in-depth case-studies can be found here: Jørgensen, M.S., Avelino, F., Dorland, J.; Rach, S.; Wittmayer, J.M. (2016) [Cross-comparative analysis of Batch 1 and Batch 2 cases. Part 1 of Synthesis across social innovation case studies](#). TRANSIT Deliverable D4.4, TRANSIT.

We then expanded the empirical analysis by studying how local initiatives within these networks developed over time, by interviewing people involved (at least three respondents for each initiative) about what they perceived to be the 'Critical Turning Points' in the development of their initiatives. We aimed to analyse 4 local initiatives for each of the 20 networks, and to analyse 6 Critical Turning Point for each local initiative, resulting in a [Critical Turning Point database](#) of 80 local initiatives and 480 critical turning points. More information on the critical turning points database can be found here: Pel, B., et al. (2017) [The Critical Turning Points database; concept, methodology and dataset of an international Transformative Social Innovation comparison](#), TRANSIT Working Paper # 10, TRANSIT: EU SSH.2013.3.3.2-1 Grant agreement no: 613169.

In this document we provide a succinct overview of networks and initiatives under study in the TRANSIT project, including links to where case-study reports and data-base information can be found, as well as links to the websites of the networks and initiatives themselves.

Overview Translocal Networks under study in TRANSIT

Name	Short Description
Ashoka	Network for financial support to social entrepreneurs
Basic Income (Earth Network)	Connects people committed to basic income & fosters discussion
Co-housing	Co-operative organizations for sustainable inclusive housing
Credit Unions	Different types of members-owned credit cooperatives
DESIS	Network for design for social innovation and sustainability
European Network of Living Labs	Human-centric, user-driven research, development & innovation
FABLABS	Digital fabrication workshops open to local communities
Global Ecovillage Network	Connects intentional communities and other eco-communities
Hackerspace	User driven digital fabrication workshops
Impact Hub	Global network of urban hubs for social entrepreneurs
INFORSE	International network of sustainable energy NGOs
Living Knowledge Network	Network of science shops & other community-based research entities
Participatory Budgeting	Communities & municipalities reinventing how public money is spent
RIPESSE	Network for the promotion of social solidarity economy
Seed Exchange Network	Defending seed freedom for integrity, self-organisation & biodiversity
Shareable	Connecting urban sharing initiatives
Slow Food	Linking food to a commitment to sustainable development
Time Banks	Networks of reciprocal service exchange using time as currency
Transition Towns	Grassroots communities working on local resilience
Via Campesina	Aiming for family farming to promote social justice and dignity

Overview Translocal Networks & Cases under study in TRANSIT

Translocal Network	Case 1	Case 2	Case 3	Case 4	Case 5	Case 6	Case 7	Research Coordination
Ashoka	Ashoka Hungary - Hungary	Ashoka Germany - Germany	Ashoka France - France	Ashoka Poland - Poland				Réka Matolay (ESSRG)
Basic Income	Netzwerk Grundeinkommen - BIEN Germany	Vereniging Basisinkomen - BIEN Netherlands	BIEN Switzerland	Basic Income Canada Network - Canada	Netherlands other cases: - <i>MIES</i> - <i>Network of municipalities</i>	Germany other cases: - <i>Susanne Wiest</i> - <i>Freiheit statt Vollbeschäftigung</i> - <i>Mein Grundeinkommen</i>	Switzerland other cases: - <i>Initiative Grundeinkommen</i>	Julia Backhaus (ICIS), Bonno Pel (ULB)
Co-Housing	El Hogar Obrero - Argentina	Vauban and Genova - Germany	Co-Housing GENOVA - Germany	COVILPI - Argentina	MOI - Argentina	CCVQ - Argentina	Fucvam - Uruguay	Lucas Becerra (UNQ) & Iris Kunze (BOKU)
Credit Unions	FEBEA ORG	Fiare - Spain	Credal - Belgium	Banca Popolare Etica - Italy	Merkur Cooperative Bank - Denmark	Norwich Credit Union (NCU) & West Norwich Credit Union (WNCU) - UK	Wherry Dragon Credit Union (WDCU) - UK	Adina Dumitru (UDC)
DESIS	NAS DESIGN DESIS Lab Florianópolis - Brazil	POLIMI DESIS Lab Italy - Italy	ID+DESIS Lab - Portugal	DESIS Lab Belo Horizonte - Brazil				Carla Cipolla (UFRJ)
European Network of Living Labs	Manchester Living Lab - UK	Living Lab Eindhoven - Netherlands	Sfax Snart Living Lab - Tunisia	iMinds Living Labs - Belgium	Laurea - Finland			Saskia Ruijsink (IHS)

FABLABS	FabLab Amersfoort - Netherlands	FabLab Argentina - Argentina	FL1	FL2 - UK	FL3 - UK	FL4 - UK	Sabine Hielscher & Adrian Smith (SPRU)
Global Ecovillage Network	Ecovillage Tamera - Portugal	Ecovillage Schloss Tempelhof - Germany	Ecovillage Bergen - Netherlands	Ecovillage Sieben Linden - Germany	Ecovillage Findhorn - UK		Iris Kunze (BOKU) and Flor Avelino (DRIFT)
Hackerspace	Build Brighton - UK	HackLab Barracas - Argentina	Hackerspace 1 - UK	Hackerspace 2 - UK	Hackerspace 3 - UK	Hackerspace 4 - UK	Sabine Hielscher & Adrian Smith (SPRU)
Impact Hub	Impact Hub Amsterdam - Netherlands	Impact Hub São Paulo - Brazil	Impact Hub Rotterdam - Netherlands	Impact Hub Vienna - Austria	Impact Hub London King's Cross - UK	Impact Hub Belo Horizonte - Brazil	Flor Avelino (DRIFT)
INFORSE	APERe - Belgium	VE - Denmark	Samso Energy Academy - Denmark	Ecoserveis - Spain	CLER - France		Morten Elle & Michael Jørgensen (AAU)
Living Knowledge Network	InterMEDIU - Romania	Science Shop DTU - Denmark	Science Shop Ireland - UK	Science Shop Bonn - Germany	Environmental Social Science Research Group - Hungary		Jens Dorland & Michael Jørgensen (AAU)
Participatory Budgeting	Center for Budget Monitoring and Citizen Participation - Netherlands	Participatory Budgeting Porto Alegre - Brazil	Participatory Budgeting in Fortaleza - Brazil	Participatory Budgeting Belo Horizonte - Brazil			Carla Cipolla (UFRJ) & Julia Wittmayer (DRIFT)

RIPESS	VOSEC - <i>Belgium</i>	CRIES - <i>Romania</i>	APRES – GE - <i>Switzerland</i>	Group Terre - <i>Belgium</i>	Ecocitrus - <i>Brazil</i>			Bonno Pel (ULB)
Seed Exchange Network	Seed Savers Exchange – <i>United States of America</i>	Seed Saver Foundation - <i>Australia</i>	Let`s Liberate Diversity - <i>Europe</i>	Arche Noah - <i>Austria</i>	Pro Specie Rara - <i>Switzerland</i>	Magház – Seed House - <i>Hungary</i>	Red de Semillas - <i>Spain</i>	Bálint Balázs (ESSRG)
Shareable	Sharing City Gijón - <i>Spain</i>	Sharing Cities Nijmegen - <i>Netherlands</i>	Share Bloomington – <i>USA</i>	Shareable Athens - <i>Greece</i>	CO-city - <i>Italy</i>			Linda Zuidervijk (IHS)
Slow Food	Convivium Slow Food Freiburg - <i>Germany</i>	Convivium Slow Food Araba- Vitoria - <i>Spain</i>	Slow Food Mexico - <i>Mexico</i>	Slow Food USA – <i>United States of America</i>	Slow Food Italy - <i>Italy</i>			Adina Dumitru (UDC), Iris Kunze (BOKU)
Time Banks	Timebanking UK – <i>UK</i>	Health & Family – <i>Spain</i>	Ser-Hacer - <i>Spain</i>	Hour Exchange Portland – <i>USA</i>	Spice – <i>UK</i>	Fair Shares – <i>UK</i>	Volunteer Labour Bank - <i>Japan</i>	Paul Weaver (ICIS)
Transition Towns	Omstilling Ry - <i>Denmark</i>	Transition Norwich – <i>UK</i>	Transition Town Tooting – <i>UK</i>	Transition Bro Gwaun – <i>UK</i>				Noel Longhurst (UEA)
Via Campesina	Peasant Movement of Santiago de Estero – MOCASE - <i>Argentina</i>	MAGOSZ - <i>Hungary</i>	National indigenous Peasant Movement - MNCI - <i>Argentina</i>	Producers Association of the Northwest of Córdoba – APENOC - <i>Argentina</i>	ANAMURI - <i>Chile</i>	Network of Rural Woman Groups of Uruguay – RMRU - <i>Uruguay</i>		Lucas Becerra & Paula Juarez (UNQ)

Ashoka



Ashoka is a global network for supporting social entrepreneurs (SE), incl. association of 3,000 SE 'fellows' in > 70 countries around the world. Ashoka invests in social entrepreneurs by providing personal financial support for 1 to 3 years to 'leading changemakers' across the world. Ashoka is thriving for maximum social impact, therefore group entrepreneurship is promoted and relevant infrastructure (access to financial resources, business and academic partnerships) is built. The initiative has several similarities with The Impact-Hub in their aim to empower social entrepreneurs, but a markedly different approach with their focus on Ashoka fellows.

Website Translocal Network: <https://www.ashoka.org/>

TRANSIT Resource Hub: <http://www.transitsocialinnovation.eu/resource-hub/ashoka>

Cases under study in TRANSIT project

1. Ashoka Germany: <http://germany.ashoka.org/>
2. Ashoka Hungary: <http://ashoka-cee.org/hungary/en/>
3. Ashoka France: <https://www.ashoka.org/en/node/2332>
4. Ashoka Poland: <http://ashoka-cee.org/poland/en/>

Research Coordination: ESSRG - Reka Matolay (reka.matolay@uni-corvinus.hu)

Basic Income



BIEN was founded as the Basic Income European Network at the first international conference on basic income in Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium, in 1986. It understands itself as a platform to facilitate informed discussion about Basic Income but also promotes the idea of a basic income, mainly through its website and its newsletter. At the BIEN congress in Barcelona in 2004, the network name was changed to Basic Income Earth Network to acknowledge the many non-European groups and individuals that had become engaged and affiliated. In each country, broader groups of actors (including academics, activists, policy-makers and journalists) are described that work on the topic and thereby co-produce its further development, including experimentation and discussion of potential implementation. The network has experienced continuous growth since it was founded 30 years ago. While BIEN itself does not actively seek to sign up members or form new initiatives, new groups that commit themselves independently to promoting the idea like to acquire the label “BIEN affiliate” and the (academic) authority it lends to their activities.

Next to BIEN, there are **many other individuals and initiatives** that seek to promote the Basic Income by other means. To deepen our insight into the spectrum of activities and connections between them, TRANSIT research also highlights the German initiatives Freiheit statt Vollbeschäftigung (Freedom, Not Full Employment), Mein Grundeinkommen (My Basic Income) and a 2009 online petition by Susanne Wiest; the Dutch MIES initiative Ons Basisinkomen (Our Basic Income) and a network of municipalities interested in experimenting with social benefits; as well as the Swiss Initiative Grundeinkommen.

Website Translocal Network: <http://basicincome.org/>

TRANSIT Resource Hub: <http://www.transitsocialinnovation.eu/resource-hub/basic-income>

Cases under study in TRANSIT project

1. Netzwerk Grundeinkommen (German BIEN): <https://www.grundeinkommen.de/>
2. Vereniging Basisinkomen (Dutch BIEN): <http://basisinkomen.nl/>
3. BIEN Switzerland (Swiss BIEN): <http://bien.ch/en>
4. Basic Income Canada Network (Canadian BIEN): <http://www.basicincomecanada.org/>
5. Freiheit statt Vollbeschäftigung (Germany):
<http://blog.freiheitstattvollbeschaeftigung.de/>
6. Mein Grundeinkommen (Germany): <https://www.mein-grundeinkommen.de/>
7. Susanne Wiest (Germany): <http://grundeinkommenimbundestag.blogspot.nl/>
8. MIES (Netherlands): <http://www.mieslab.nl/>
9. Initiative Grundeinkommen (Switzerland): <http://www.grundeinkommen.ch/>

Research Coordination: ICIS – Julia Backhaus (j.backhaus@maastrichtuniversity.nl); ULB – Bonno Pel (Bonno.Pel@ulb.ac.be)

Co-Housing



The main innovative aspect of the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) networks is its ability to articulate, coordinate, organize and promote the cooperative movement worldwide. With an international committee and four regional offices, the International Co-operative Alliance brings together the visions, interests and activities in over 100 countries and millions of cooperatives. ICA does not exercise the agency directly, but through the member countries of the organization. However, over the years (established in 1895), the different regional offices were evolved in creating mechanisms to influence public policy at the local level, with significant results. Currently, the incidence is a central axis of the cooperative movement. In the TRANSIT project, we focused on the co-operative housing international: the part of the network that focuses on co-housing issues.

Concerning the local cases there is a great variety. We have chosen first, ***El Hogar Obrero (Worker's Home)***, located in Buenos Aires City, **Argentina**. *El Hogar Obrero* (EHO) is a centenary consumption and housing cooperative founded in 1905. Second, **Vauban District** of the city of Freiburg in **Germany**, is not a single co-housing project, but a special model district of sustainable living and participatory planning in which several co-housing initiatives could be realized.

Website Translocal Network: <https://ica.coop/>

TRANSIT Resource Hub: <http://www.transitsocialinnovation.eu/resource-hub/international-co-operative-association-ica>

Cases under study in TRANSIT project

1. El Hogar Obrero (Argentina): <http://www.eho.coop>
2. Vauban (Germany): <http://www.vauban.de/>
3. Co-housing GENOVA (Germany): <http://www.genova-freiburg.de/index.html>
4. COVILPI (Argentina): <http://centrocomunitariolospibes.blogspot.nl/>
5. MOI (Argentina): <http://moi.org.ar/>
6. CCVQ (Argentina): <http://www.transitsocialinnovation.eu/sii/ccvq>
7. Fucvam (Uruguay): <http://www.fucvam.org.uy/>

Research Coordination: UNQ – Lucas Becerra (lucasecon@yahoo.com.ar) and BOKU - Iris Kunze (info@iriskunze.com)

Credit Unions



Credit unions are financial organizations that aim to provide financial intermediation services to a range of stakeholders, guided by a set of ethical principles that place social and environmental goals at the centre of their activities. They have been defined as democratic financial institutions that have “ethical and sustainable development at the core of their mission, ambitions and practices” (De Clerk, 2009). The European Federation of Ethical and Alternative Banks (FEBEA) is a non-profit international association formed by 29 European partners based across 17 European States. FEBEA was born with the aim of defending the existence of credit unions, protecting ethical banking and becoming a platform of political action that aimed at introducing changes in European banking regulations.

Website Translocal Network: <http://www.febea.org/>

TRANSIT Resource Hub: <http://www.transitsocialinnovation.eu/resource-hub/credit-unions>

Cases under study in TRANSIT project

1. FEBEA: <http://www.febea.org/>
2. Fiare (Spain): <http://www.fiarebancaetica.coop/>
3. Credal (Belgium): <http://www.credal.be/>
4. Banca Popolare Etica (Italy): <http://www.bancaetica.it/idea-and-principles>
5. Merkur Cooperative Bank (Denmark): <https://www.merkur.dk/om-merkur/english/>
6. Norwich Credit Union (NCU) <http://www.norwichcreditunion.org.uk/newhomepage.php>
7. West Norwich Credit Union (WNCU) <http://www.wncu.net/>
8. Wherry Dragon Credit Union (WDCU) <http://www.wherrydragon.org.uk/>

Research Coordination: UDC – Adina Dumitru (adina.dumitru@udc.es)

DESIS



DESIS - Design for Social Innovation towards Sustainability – is a global network of design labs supporting 'social innovation towards sustainability', based in design schools and design-oriented universities, actively involved in promoting and supporting sustainable change. Now, it gathers more than 30 labs all over the world. (Manzini et al. 2010). The case on the DESIS network is also a university based network, with labs focusing on projects in sustainable design among others. It is in some ways similar to Living Knowledge, but is a much newer initiative with a very different development path that was very dependent on the founder.

Website Translocal Network: <http://www.desisnetwork.org/>

TRANSIT Resource Hub: <http://www.transitsocialinnovation.eu/resource-hub/desis-network-design-for-social-innovation-and-sustainability>

Cases under study in TRANSIT project

1. NAS DESIGN DESIS Lab Florianópolis (Brazil): <http://www.desisnetwork.org/courses/brasil-florianopolis-nas-design-desis-lab/>
2. POLIMI DESIS Lab Italy: <http://www.desis.polimi.it/>
3. ID+ DESIS Lab (Portugal): <http://www.idmais.org/desislab/>
4. DESIS Lab Belo Horizonte (Brazil): <http://www.desisnetwork.org/courses/cedtec-brazil/>

Research Coordination: UFRJ – Carla Cipolla (cipolla@pep.ufri.br)

European Network of Living Labs



The European Network of Living Labs (ENoLL) is a formalised network and international federation of benchmarked living labs in Europe and worldwide. ENoLL identifies 5 key elements that should be present in a living lab: 1) active user involvement; 2) real-life setting; 3) multi-stakeholder participation; 4) a multi-method approach and 5) co-creation. ENoLL aims to support co-creative, human-centric and user-driven research, development and innovation in order to better cater for people's needs. The core of ENoLL is formed by its members and partners which vary between a) effective members b) adherent members and c) innovation partners. Many living labs initiatives rely on (project based) subsidy and this can reduce their autonomy, until date it remains a challenge to make living lab initiatives more (financially) sustainable. The network ENoLL is professionally organized and staffed and in terms of funding it relies on membership fees and diverse project funding that is the result of the active acquisition of the ENoLL staff.

Website Translocal Network: <http://openlivinglabs.eu/>

TRANSIT Resource Hub: <http://www.transitsocialinnovation.eu/resource-hub/european-network-of-living-labs>

Cases under study in TRANSIT project

1. Manchester Living Lab (UK): <http://www.openlivinglabs.eu/node/137>
2. Living Lab Eindhoven (the Netherlands): <http://www.brainport.nl/>
3. Sfax Smart Living Lab (Tunisia): <http://smart-sfax.org/>
4. Imec living labs (former iMinds Living Labs) (Belgium): <https://www.imec-int.com/nl/livinglabs>
5. Laurea (Finland): <https://www.laurea.fi/en/research-development-and-innovations/laurea-living-labs>

Research Coordination: IHS – Saskia Ruijsink (s.ruijsink@ihs.nl)

FABLABS



There are 440 FabLabs globally networked: from Colombia to Canada, Namibia to the Netherlands. Deriving from a model pioneered by the Centre for Bits and Atoms at MIT, FabLabs are digital fabrication workshops open to local communities, and with access to open source design and manufacturing resources. They enable people to make whatever they want, turning consumers into producers, and advocates see them as democratizing production and consumption (Gershenfeld 2005, Troxler 2010).

Website Translocal Network: <https://www.fablabs.io/>

TRANSIT Resource Hub: <http://www.transitsocialinnovation.eu/resource-hub/fablabs>

Cases under study in TRANSIT project

1. FabLab Amersfoort (the Netherlands): <http://www.fablabamersfoort.nl/nl>
2. FabLab Argentina: <https://www.fablabs.io/labs/fablabargentina>
3. FL1: <http://www.transitsocialinnovation.eu/sii/fablabs-1>
4. FL2 (Southern England): <http://www.transitsocialinnovation.eu/sii/fablabs-2>
5. FL3 (North-East England): <http://www.transitsocialinnovation.eu/sii/fablabs-3>
6. FL4 (East England): TRANSIT <http://www.transitsocialinnovation.eu/sii/fablabs-4>

Research Coordination: SPRU – Sabine Hielscher and Adrian Smith (s.hielscher@sussex.ac.uk; a.g.smith@sussex.ac.uk)

Global Ecovillage Network



The Global Ecovillage Network (GEN) is a global grassroots network of > 500 and other intentional communities across the globe. It also has 5 regional network subdivisions for the continents, Europe, Africa, Oceania & Asia, North America, and Latin America. The case study on GEN is an example of a rather loose international network encompassing very different types of initiatives, from traditional villages to social experiments. It facilitates the exchange of experiences by running internal conferences as well as external courses learning from their sustainability experiences also for politicians. Ecovillages and the Global Ecovillage Network (GEN) are examples of social innovations because they experiment with resilient and regenerative structures and practices, because they empower individuals and residents through capacity building and community building processes while spreading their experiences in on-site education centers to often international visitors as well as to other sectors from eco-building technologies to consensus decision making methods.

Website Translocal Network: <http://gen.ecovillage.org/>

TRANSIT Resource Hub: <http://www.transitsocialinnovation.eu/resource-hub/global-ecovillage-network-gen>

Cases under study in TRANSIT project

1. Ecovillage Tamera (Portugal): <https://www.tamera.org/>
2. Ecovillage Schloss Tempelhof (Germany): <https://www.schloss-tempelhof.de/>
3. Ecovillage Bergen (the Netherlands): <http://www.ecodorpbergen.nl/>
4. Ecovillage Sieben Linden (Germany): <http://siebenlinden.org>
5. Ecovillage Findhorn (UK): <https://www.ecovillagefindhorn.com/>

Research Coordination: BOKU Iris Kunze (info@iriskunze.com) and Flor Avelino (avelino@drift.eur.nl).

Hackerspace



Hackerspaces are membership workshops typically equipped with both digital fabrication technologies - CAD, 3D printers, laser cutters, routers – as well as traditional machines and tools including lathes, drills, sewing machines, and welding equipment. Emerging from the free software and free culture movements, community workshops have moved into hardware hacking, using tools that allow their members to modify, personalize, and manufacture anything from toys and vehicles to wind turbines and home energy systems. They are similar to FabLabs, but are self-organised by users, and more strongly committed to principles of open source, commons-based, peer production. There are over 1330 Hackerspaces networked globally, and through events like Makers Faires. There are hundreds in Europe and dozens in Latin America. Hackerspaces are physical sites where experiments are made in the relocating, reconfiguring and recalibrating of innovative capabilities in society. (Stangler and Maxwell, 2012, Dougherty, 2012, Mota, 2011).

Website Translocal Network: <http://hackerspaces.org/>

TRANSIT Resource Hub: <http://www.transitsocialinnovation.eu/resource-hub/hackerspaces>

Cases under study in TRANSIT project

1. Build Brighton (UK): <http://buildbrighton.com/>
2. HackLab Barracas (Argentina): https://wiki.hackerspaces.org/HackLab_Barracas
3. Hackerspace 1 (North of England, UK):
<http://www.transitsocialinnovation.eu/sii/hackerspaces-1>
4. Hackerspace 2 (North-West of England, UK):
<http://www.transitsocialinnovation.eu/sii/hackerspaces-2>
5. Hackerspace 3 (Southern England, UK):
<http://www.transitsocialinnovation.eu/sii/hackerspaces-3>
6. Hackerspace 4 (South-Central England, UK):
<http://www.transitsocialinnovation.eu/sii/hackerspaces-4>

Research Coordination: SPRU – Sabine Hielscher and Adrian Smith (s.hielscher@sussex.ac.uk; a.g.smith@sussex.ac.uk)

Impact Hub



The Impact Hub (IH) is a 'locally active and globally connected' network of social entrepreneurs, combining elements from co-working spaces, innovation labs and business incubators. Impact Hubs across the world aim to create 'inspiring spaces', 'vibrant communities' and 'meaningful content', inspired by the shared values of 'trust', 'courage' and 'collaboration'. In 2005, the first 'Hub' was opened in London, followed by our local case-studies: Hubs in São Paulo, Rotterdam and Amsterdam. From 2010 onwards, the network and the amount of local hubs has 'grown like wildfire'. Today, there are a total of 63 local Impact Hubs across 5 continents and 20 Impact Hubs 'in the making'. Combined, the Impact Hubs have over 11.000 members, mostly social entrepreneurs 'working on ideas for a radically better world'.

Website Translocal Network: <http://www.impacthub.net/>

TRANSIT Resource Hub: <http://www.transitsocialinnovation.eu/resource-hub/impact-hub>

Cases under study in TRANSIT project

1. Impact Hub Amsterdam (the Netherlands): <http://amsterdam.impacthub.net/>
2. Impact Hub Rotterdam (the Netherlands): <http://impacthub010.nl/>
3. Impact Hub São Paulo (Brazil): <http://saopaulo.impacthub.com.br/>
4. Impact Hub Vienna (Austria): <https://vienna.impacthub.net/>
5. Impact Hub London King's Cross (UK): <http://kingscross.impacthub.net/>
6. Impact Hub Belo Horizonte (Brazil): <http://belohorizonte.impacthub.net/>

Research Coordination: DRIFT – Flor Avelino (avelino@drift.eur.nl)

INFORSE



International Network for Sustainable Energy

INFORSE – International Network for Sustainable Energy – is a worldwide network consisting of 140 independent NGOs working in about 60 countries to promote sustainable energy and social development. The international network was established in 1992 to secure follow-up to the decisions at the Rio summit in 1992. The INFORSE network revolves around the members supported by National Focal Points in some countries and Regional Coordinators working in their respective regions. Renewable energy and increased energy efficiency are focus in all countries. In developing and in newly industrialised countries and in poorer communities, access to affordable energy is also in focus. The INFORSE case shows a loose network with few activities where the common denominator is the interest in renewable energy. This leaves the definition quite open, and the members' organisations are very different.

Website Translocal Network: <http://www.inforse.org/>

TRANSIT Resource Hub: <http://www.transitsocialinnovation.eu/resource-hub/inforse>

Cases under study in TRANSIT project

1. APERe (Belgium): <http://www.apere.org/>
2. VE (Denmark): <https://www.ve.dk/>
3. Samsø Energy Academy (Denmark): <https://energiakademiet.dk/>
4. Ecoserveis (Spain): <http://www.ecoserveis.eu/>
5. CLER (France): <https://cler.org/>

Research Coordination: AAU – Morten Elle and Michael Jørgensen (elle@plan.aau.dk; msjo@plan.aau.dk)

Living Knowledge Network



The Living Knowledge Network is the formal international network of 'Science Shops' - small entities that carry out scientific research on behalf of citizens and local civil society. It is highly informal and on an international level, project based, relying on cooperation. The concept of Science Shops was developed in the 1970s to strengthen the influence of civil society organisations on societal issues through access to scientific knowledge. Since then Science Shops have been developed in several European and non-European countries, mostly as university-based Science Shops, but also some as community-based Science Shops. The international network, Living Knowledge, was launched in 2001. EU financed projects about impact of Science Shops have been conducted the recent 10 years (Mulder et al, 2006; Brodersen, 2010).

Website Translocal Network: <http://www.livingknowledge.org/>

TRANSIT Resource Hub: <http://www.transitsocialinnovation.eu/resource-hub/the-living-knowledge-network>

Cases under study in TRANSIT project

1. InterMEDIU Romania: <http://intermediu.eu/>
2. Science Shop DTU (Denmark):
http://www.man.dtu.dk/english/Nyheder/2007/11/Scienceshop_2007
3. Science Shop Ireland (UK): <http://www.scienceshop.org/>
4. Science Shop Bonn (Germany): <http://www.wilabonn.de/>
5. Living Knowledge – The Environmental Social Science Research Group (Hungary):
<https://www.essrg.hu/en/about-us>

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Participatory Budgeting



The International Observatory of Participatory Democracy – IOPD, a global network of cities, supported by associations, organizations and research centres focusing on participatory democracy, and configured as a decentralized cooperation effort to foster a production of knowledge and exchange of best practices able to improve representative democracy as practised in municipalities. The network, founded on 2001, includes 341 local governments and 274 universities, research centers and associations in 71 countries (in 2015).

Website Translocal Network: <https://www.oidp.net/en/index.php>

TRANSIT Resource Hub: <http://www.transitsocialinnovation.eu/resource-hub/oidp-network-international-observatory-of-participatory-democracy>

Cases under study in TRANSIT project

1. Center for Budget Monitoring and Citizen Participation Participatory Budgeting Amsterdam (the Netherlands): <http://budgetmonitoring.nl/en/nieuwe-site/>
2. Participatory Budgeting Porto Alegre (Brazil): <http://www2.portoalegre.rs.gov.br/op/>
3. Participatory Budgeting in Fortaleza (Brazil):
<http://wp.cmfor.ce.gov.br/cmfor/tag/orcamento-participativo/>
4. Participatory Budgeting Belo Horizonte (Brazil):
<http://gestaocompartilhada.pbh.gov.br/orcamento-participativo/apresentacao>

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RIPESS



RIPESS is the Intercontinental Network for the Promotion of the Social Solidarity Economy, which connects social and solidarity economy networks throughout the world. As a network of networks, it brings together continental networks, that in turn bring together national and sector networks, serving as a communication and tool platform for the Solidarity Economy. RIPESS organizes global forums every four years.

Website Translocal Network: <http://www.ripess.org/?lang=en>

TRANSIT Resource Hub: <http://www.transitsocialinnovation.eu/resource-hub/ripess-rseau-intercontinental-de-promotion-de-lconomie-sociale-solidaire-belgium>

Cases under study in TRANSIT project

1. VOSEC (Belgium): <http://www.vosec.be/>
2. CRIES (Romania): <http://www.cries.ro/>
3. APRES – GE (Switzerland): <http://apres-ge.ch/>
4. Groupe Terre (Belgium): <http://www.terre.be/page.php?pagID=1&lang=fr>
5. Ecocitrus (Brazil): <http://www.ecocitrus.com.br/>

Research Coordination: ULB – Bonno Pel and Adina Dumitru (Bonno.Pel@ulb.ac.be; adina.dumitru@udc.es)

Seed Exchange Network



The seed exchange network study case looks into commonly oriented regional based organisations. These new networks are consciously aimed at changing social relations surrounding agriculture by preserving, recreating, and relearning knowledge about seeds and diversity, creating new practices and ways of organizing social networks surrounding seed exchange, and framing them as a different way of thinking about agricultural systems. We looked at a few intersecting regional hubs of activity: the Seed Savers Exchange (SSE) in North America; the Seed Saver Foundation (SSF) established in Australia; the Let's Liberate Diversity (LLD) network (and a related but separate international networking effort coordinated by Arche Noah of Austria) within Europe; and Navdanya, led by the prominent Dr. Vandana Shiva, in India; as well as a few examples from Latin America and Africa, where seed-saving and exchange is a key part of work done by agroecology and organic movements.

Website Translocal Network: <https://liberatediversity.org/>
TRANSIT Resource Hub: <http://www.transitsocialinnovation.eu/resource-hub/seedexchangenetwork>

Cases under study in TRANSIT project

1. Seed Savers Exchange (United States of America): <http://www.seedsavers.org/>
2. Seed Saver Foundation (Australia): <http://seedsavers.net/>
3. Let`s Liberate Diversity (European): <http://liberatediversity.org/>
4. Arche Noah (Austria): <https://www.arche-noah.at/>
5. Pro Specie Rara (Switzerland): <https://www.prospecierara.ch/de/home>
6. Magház – Seed House (Hungary): <http://www.maghaz.hu/>
7. Red de Semillas (Spain): <http://www.redsemillas.info/>

Research Coordination: ESSRG – Bálint Balázs (balazs.balint@essrg.hu)

Shareable



Shareable is a non-profit media platform used for news, action and a connection hub for the sharing transformation. Shareable was co-founded by former corporate strategist Neal Gorenflo in 2009 in San Francisco, California. From there, Shareable created the Sharing Cities Network in the attempt to connect all sharing initiatives on an urban level (Marsh, 2013). Shareable works both as an online magazine, promoting sharing practices among local communities through the means of storytelling, and as an action and connection hub organizing and coordinating the Sharing Cities international network.

Website Translocal Network: <http://www.shareable.net/>

TRANSIT Resource Hub: <http://www.transitsocialinnovation.eu/resource-hub/shareable-net-sharing-cities>

Cases under study in TRANSIT project

1. Sharing City Gijón (Spain): <https://goo.gl/i8Xju9>
2. Sharing City Nijmegen (Netherlands): <http://www.shareable.net/cities/nijmegen-netherlands>
3. Share Melbourne (Australia): <http://www.shareable.net/cities/melbourne-australia>
4. Share Bloomington (USA): <http://www.shareable.net/cities/bloomington-in-usa>
5. Shareable Athens (Greece): <http://www.shareable.net/cities/athens-greece>
6. LabGov and CO-city (Italy): <http://www.labgov.it/> and <http://www.collaborative.city/>

Research Coordination: IHS – Linda Zijderwijk (Zijderwijk@ihs.nl)

Slow Food



The Slow Food movement is based on the intrinsic cultural value of local production. Founded in Bra (Italy) in 1986, is coordinated by the Slow Food International Association. The transnational network is present in 160 countries throughout the world with 1.500 convivia (local manifestations) formed by 100.000 affiliates and 1.000.000 of supporters. It has been involved on a number of different projects and has created educational institutions in order to foster the growth of the movement.

Website Translocal Network: <http://www.slowfood.com/>

TRANSIT Resource Hub: <http://www.transitsocialinnovation.eu/resource-hub/slowfood>

Cases under study in TRANSIT project

1. Convivium Slow Food Araba-Vitoria (Basque Country, Spain): <http://slowfoodaraba.es/>
2. Convivium Slow Food Freiburg (Germany):
https://www.slowfood.de/slow_food_vor_ort/freiburg/alle_termine/
3. Slow Food Mexico: <http://www.slowfood.mx/>
4. Slow Food USA: <https://www.slowfoodusa.org/>
5. Slow Food Italy: <http://www.slowfood.it/>

Research Coordination: UDC – Adina Dumitru (adina.dumitru@udc.es) and BOKU - Iris Kunze (info@iriskunze.com)

Time Banks



Timebanking is a values-based mechanism for reciprocal service exchange within a local community. All services in timebanking, however simple or sophisticated, are valued equally: the unit of exchange is the hours spent giving or receiving services. From roots in post-war Japan and later the US, timebanking has spread to all continents. Within countries, individual time banks are often organized into local, regional or national networks, sometimes under the umbrella of membership organisations. There are also transnational networking organisations and cooperative companies, which offer software platforms to organise and record service exchanges. The hOurworld software, Time and Talents (TnT) is distributed on a free-to-use basis and is the software of choice for many time banks, especially in the US and the UK. The timebanking case study looks also at adapted forms of time exchange, such as incentivised volunteering using time credits (e.g. Spice).

Website Translocal Network: <https://hourworld.org/>

TRANSIT Resource Hub: <http://www.transitsocialinnovation.eu/resource-hub/time-banks>

Cases under study in TRANSIT project

1. Timebanking UK: <http://www.timebanking.org/>
2. Volunteer Labour Bank (Japan): <http://v-rounet.sakura.ne.jp/index.html>
3. Fair Shares (UK): <http://www.fairshares.org.uk/>
4. Health & Family (Spain): <http://www.saludyfamilia.es/en/time-banks-social-cohesion/time-banks>
5. Hour Exchange Portland (USA): <http://www.hourexchangeportland.org/>
6. Spice (UK): <http://www.justaddspice.org/>
7. Ser-Hacer Timebank (Spain): <http://www.serhacer.org/>

Research Coordination: ICIS – Paul Weaver (pweaver.groundswell@gmail.com)

Transition Towns



Network of more than 1,100 grassroots communities working on 'local resilience' in response to peak oil, climate change and financial crisis. The concept of the Transition Network originates in the UK – where it is also still most strongly represented, but in the past years has spread to many other countries. Empirical studies about the Transition Network initiatives have been mostly conducted in the context of urban studies and the 'relocalisation' movement (e.g. Mason, K. and Whitehead, M. 2012, Bailey et al. 2010, Hopkins 2012). The case study on the Transition Network may resemble GEN a little, with some overlap in interests and activities. However, Transition Towns involves the transformation of existing settlements, rather than the creation of new ones.

Website Translocal Network: <http://transitionnetwork.org/>

TRANSIT Resource Hub: <http://www.transitsocialinnovation.eu/resource-hub/transition-towns>

Cases under study in TRANSIT project

1. Omstilling Ry (Denmark): <https://transitionnetwork.org/transition-near-me/initiatives/omstilling-ry/>
2. Transition Norwich (UK): <http://transitionnorwichnews.blogspot.nl/>
3. Transition Town Tooting (UK): <http://transitiontowntooting.blogspot.nl/>
4. Transition Bro Gwaun (UK): <http://transitionbrogwaun.org.uk/>

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Via Campesina



A group of farmers' representatives – women and men- from the four continents founded La Via Campesina in 1993 in Mons, Belgium. At that time, agricultural policies and the agribusiness were becoming globalized and small farmers needed to develop and struggle for a common vision, fomenting the network of grassroots activism. The movement is based on the decentralization of power between 9 regions. The coordination among the regions is taken up by the International Coordinating Committee which is composed of one woman and one man for every region, elected by the member organizations in the respective regions. The international secretariat rotates according to the collective decision made every four years by the International Conference. The movement is funded by the contributions of its members, by private donations and by the financial support of some NGOs, foundations and local and national authorities.

Website Translocal Network: <https://www.viacampesina.org/en/>

TRANSIT Resource Hub: <http://www.transitsocialinnovation.eu/resource-hub/la-via-campesina>

Cases under study in TRANSIT project

1. Peasant Movement of Santiago del Estero – MOCASE (Argentina): <http://www.mocase.org.ar/>
2. MAGOSZ (Hungary): <http://gazdakorok.hu/>
3. National Indigenous Peasant Movement – MNCI (Argentina): <http://mnci.org.ar/>
4. Producers Association of the Northwest of Córdoba – APENOC (Argentina): -
5. ANAMURI (Chile): <http://www.anamuri.cl/>
6. Network of Rural Woman Groups of Uruguay - RMRU (Argentina): <https://www.facebook.com/alicia.elida.gonzalez/>

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