

MID-TERM PILOT STATUS REPORT

Building up pro-environmental communities based on a stewardship programme - Municipality of Hegyvidék

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1. Activities

Please

- 1. summarize the progress of your pilot implementation
- 2. add a list of activities you have already performed for the implementation of the pilot
 - describe each activity you performed with a few sentences (this can include how, what, when, with whom was done include references to the pilot activity concept especially chosen elements of the model, planned measures and individual steps)
 - please use the individual steps you provided for the pilot activity concept to structure your activities in this chapter
- 3. add a list of activities you have not performed yet, but should have: please give an explanation about the delay and how the catch-up will be done.

Total chapter [2-4 pages] if you have a large number of activities keep the description shorter, if you have a fewer number of activities go in greater detail in describing. The length of the text is quite depending on how far you already got in your implementation, thus the option of a large range of possible page numbers

1. Brief summary

Using urban green spaces as a tool to change residents' mind-sets and as an advocate to spread pro-environmental thinking is the main challenge for the Municipality of Hegyvidék within UGB. This calls much stronger community engagement within the management of the UGSs than the recent situation, thus the pilot action aims to create a community of volunteers joined to the newly installed Stewardship Programme, and in line with the above, to promote pro-environmental behaviour along this community programme, and in general, through the management of UGSs within the broader local community.

To understand the responsibility of municipalities regarding the above philosophy took time. Thus the preparation of the pilot concept with meaningful activities took more time than expected before, and also the preparation of the different activities needs serious effort.

The original time schedule of the AF regarding pilot activities does not fit very well to realities, as most activities behind the pilot action by nature can be organised from spring to autumn, but the pilot plan was ready in midautumn and pilot activities should have started in late autumn. In order to balance this contradiction at least a bit, we prepared the pilot plan according to the following schedule: the core activities (point 1: Programs dedicated for volunteers participating in the Stewardship Programme) tackle the stimulation of group dynamism and activities of stewards, and this can be elaborated during wintertime. Based on this core group and activities we will start other pilot activities tackling wider local communities in spring as soon as possible.

The majority of the pilot activities thus have not been fulfilled yet, however the elaboration of almost all activities has been already started. The pilot consists of five major steps:

- 1. Programs dedicated for volunteers participating in the Stewardship Programme
- 2. Programs dedicated for the residents
- 3. Green Club at the Green Office
- 4. Co-designing the concept of the Mobile Green Info Point within Green Club
- 5. Communication Activities

2. Activities performed

1. Programs dedicated for volunteers participating in the Stewardship Programme

1st joint meeting of stewards on 9 November 2017. Before the meeting the Green Office of Municipality Hegyvidék made a huge effort to define spots, advertise the opportunity locally by placing tables on the spots, and most importantly to find stewards and to create the appropriate communication channel with them. This process ended when the pilot plan was created, thus it is not mentioned under the actions. Nine volunteers took part in the first joint event, but they represented almost all spots (some volunteers/volunteer organisations - e.g schools - are responsible for more spots). The aim of the meeting was to getting to know each other, introducing the pilot programme and collecting inputs from volunteers regarding the pilot implementation, having a direct relationship with stewards, and sharing the philosophy behind the pilot. It was organised at the Green Office and combined with a pumpkin-carving session as team building (see the picture below).



- Community workshops for stewards (one per month, three in total): due to other duties it was not possible to organise the first workshop in January 2018. It will be organised on 22 February 2018: we invited a gardener to make a lecture and workshop in connection with how to cultivate the spots (preparation for spring). We also prepared a little package for each stewards (e.g. seeds) and stewards are well informed about that there will be further events later on in March and April 2018.
- Outdoor community workshops for stewards (3 events, one per each month in April, May, June 2018): stewards are also aware of these outdoor meetings, but the final content will be founded out together with them during the community workshops in February and March 2018.

2. Programs dedicated for residents

- Thematic Walks linked to green spaces (5 in total): Green Office made an assignment with budastep.hu, a local company dedicated to organising thematic walks especially in Buda side of the capital. We agreed on the area and the thematic focus: using green spaces of Hegyvidék in the history to create communities. The company is working on the content at the moment, the first walk will be organised on 22 March 2018 and there will be 5 walks organised especially, but not exclusively for local inhabitants.
- Hegyvidék Games (2 in total): urban games along the urban green spaces. Based on a desk research we contacted an association organising "tale-paths". They are professional storytellers (Bailavidrum, available only on FB), and they regularly organise bigger outdoor events for some hundreds of people: first they tell the folk tale in a traditional way, and then in smaller groups families can walk through the tale-path and along the several stops children can re-construct the tale with volunteers (using dance, songs, puppets, etc.). It is planned that there will be a tale-path on 22 April 2018 at Normafa, the most important urban green space at Hegyvidék. The tale will be dedicated to trees, but along with the tale-path, for parents there will be a quiz on ecological aspects of trees and UGSs. Organisation is in progress. Target group: local families. The other event will be organised later on in June and details will be found out later.
- Green Fest: after a long discussion with various colleagues at the municipality we have decided not to include the Green Fest to the biggest local festival (Hegyvidék Days in June), because traditionally it has a strong cultural focus. Instead we need a new, great event, well-known in the district, dedicated to the 'green is good' concept, including a Steward Festival. At the moment we are searching options for the date and the method how to promote such an event (through an NGO for example).
- Thematic Installations linked to green spaces. We planted hundreds of tulip onions in 17 more frequented green spaces across the district with the following message: "Surprise: something will be grown out here" (see the picture). This is the first step of an awareness raising installation series, to be followed by new awareness-raising messages on the small boards (texts to be found out later). Other elements of these activities have to be thought over, we will also contact the knowledge provider within the UGB project in order to get further inspiration.
- 100 Picnic Blankets Closing Community Picnic. It is decided that this will be co-organised with the Green Fest. After several internal discussions we have also decided to assign an NGO dealing with ecological issues in Budapest (e.g. http://valyo.hu/). It is important as in this way we can indeed reach local people having a pro-environmental attitude (usually the official invitation from the municipality is not so efficient).



3. Green Club at the Green Office

Regular thematic sessions as an open university to build pro-environmental capacity locally. 1. On 25-26 October 2017 we hold a training about composting for local residents at Green Office (see pictures below). 2. We are going to organise four thematic sessions dedicated to climate change until the end of May, in partnership with the Association of Climate-friendly Cities. The first session will be on 13 February 2018 on 'The impact of climate change on human health'. 3. We also contacted the Hungarian Transition Group to take a part in the distribution of the film 'Tomorrow' https://www.tomorrow-documentary.com/ - we intend to organise a film-club to disseminate this essential film which is officially not available in cinemas unfortunately, and the Transition Group organises screenings around Hungary by crowdfunding.







5. Communication activities

- Unique communication campaign with brochures, posters, info boards. We have decided not to assign a communication company to create a separate campaign along the pilot activities, but we carefully planned the communication activities of the different above programs. So there is an internal communication campaign supporting all pilot activities. The first output is a leaflet (see its picture above and below) to be spread along the different local events linked to environment protection in general.
- Hegyvidék official FB page: we contacted the editors and now we regularly inform local residents about the UGB activities through this essential channel.
- Closed FB page for stewards: during the next meeting in February (see above) the topic will be discussed with stewards. One of them can initiate such a platform.



3. Activities not started

4. Co-designing the concept of the Mobile Green Info Point within Green Club

Joint workshop with relevant stakeholders and students from the Design University to create a concept for the mobile green info point. Although during the stakeholder meeting in September 2017 we collected some potential options regarding a massive construction to be placed on public spaces on a constant (e.g. from spring to autumn) basis with staff, as the result of further internal analysis (Green Office staff and the vice-mayor responsible for this field) we can state that Green Office does not need such a construction and staff is neither available for that purpose. But as the Green Office regularly has to participate in fairs and outdoor events (only one day participation), there is a strong need to an attractive, light structure (to be set up in few minutes), either from wood or recycled material as pallet to have a positive message. It can be combined with an outdoor board game related to the project theme and perhaps with unique uniform. All of this is important to raise awareness during the events towards the Green Office and the project theme. We have contacted the Design University to have a design contest with graphic designers regarding this issue, details will be elaborated later on. NB: the Green Office at Municipality of Hegyvidék operates

the Green Info Point within its office, which is easily available from a central street (so not located in the municipality' major building).

5. Communication activities

Create an FB page for the Green Office (to constantly inform local residents with high interests). We have
discussed the pros and cons regarding this issue, but we prefer to spread knowledge through the official
Hegyvidék FB page. This activity thus will be not elaborated.

2. Status and Prospect

Total chapter [approx.2 pages] depending on how many difficulties you face

Evaluation indicators

Please add here those indicators defined in your pilot concept (Chapter 2), which you could fully/partly fulfill so far, such as: 'Number of events organized: 2' and describe the fulfillment of the indicator shortly!

- number of green plots co-managed: 17
- number of stewards involved (so far): 120
- number of people participating in the Green Club activities (regarding the climate-friendly evenings only at the moment): cc. 50 people/event
- number of events organised (all type) so far: 1 meeting for stewards, 1 green club (composting)

Budget

Please summarize the external, equipment and infrastructure costs occurred so far, please add extra lines, if needed!

Costs description	Budget line	Status	Amount of the costs
	(external/equipment/infra-	(procurement in pro-	
	structure)	gress/contracted/paid)	
Catering and equipment for the first	external	paid	€153,96 (48 020 HUF)
steward meeting			
A Steward Kit for all volunteers	external	payment in progress	€1136,65 (354 520 HUF)
thematic installation	external	paid	€1030,98 (321.564 HUF)

Assessment

Give a short assessment on the implementation, whether it goes as planned or if you have to amend planned activities, whether you are on schedule or in a delay. Please describe what method/instrument has worked, what has not.

As described in the progress report too, the whole pilot implementation is in slight delay mainly due to two reasons. First, in general, the planned pilot activities by nature can be elaborated much easier in spring and early summer, not to mention that in this way pilot activities definitely can attract more people. Secondly the methods of the Models were being evolved in parallel the development of the pilot concepts, which test some elements of these tools. Consequently, it was an interdependent process, which slowed down each other a bit. This caused a minor delay in the finalisation of the pilot concepts, hence in the start of the pilot actions. It was not logic to start pilot actions in mid-autumn.

Municipality of Hegyvidék did it best to properly plan all the activities in winter, including preparatory actions and actions that might be organised in winter. It means that all other activities can start early spring and elaborated until end of summer.

Challenges and amendments

State challenges, deviations and potential amendments to the original plan stated in the pilot activity concept that have already risen

The pilot activities are on the right track, the biggest challenge (and risk) is to lose the 'green message' while implementing the different activities (i.e. green spaces are not only interesting for themselves, but because they can advocate a pro-environmental behaviour and municipalities as the most local forms of government have clear role in this process). It was really a great job to have a focus on this issue within the pilot plan and it is also in line with the recommendations of the EU's major programme on sustainable urban development. It is already a major success to have enthusiastic stewards on board as community engagement, which is the alpha and omega of the pilot, takes serious time.

It would not be nice to lose the main focus while implementing the activities. For example: thematic walks are great as sensitisation tool and very popular at the moment in Budapest in general, what's more Buda just became in the spotlight in 2017 during these walks, so the pilot activities indeed fit very well both to the trends and the UGB project, but they must clearly spread the main message to the participants (and not only introducing green spaces for visitors). It is the same with thematic installations: it is a nice awareness-raising action to place sign-boards across the district saying that something will be grown there, but it is simply not enough. What and where is the key message? How can it be communicated through these sign-boards?

Being advocates of mind-set change is not an optional or a 'nice to have' policy, it is fundamental to a city's success while combating climate change.

Potential future risks

State any risk for the implementation of future activities within the pilot implementation See above under challenges. There is a need for constant monitoring whether all activities indeed consist of the key message.