Brainstorming – What next ?

MAKING OPEN SOURCE A RESOURCE THAT IS PART OF DAILY LIFE

According to YouTube, searches for tutorials are 3 times more frequent than music videos and are often dedicated to various aspects of daily life. Open source offers a potentially ideal environment, enabling anyone to access resources without having to use the relevant tools available from a few large web companies. How can we encourage the spread of its practice?

A few objectives were then defined:
- Creating « open source employment» to make open source visible and appealing
- Sharing the notion of common ground, by highlighting natural goods
- Favouring civic engagement
- Committing where different dynamics and resources are already invested.

Before thinking about different actions, a few limitations and obstacles were identified.
Firstly, the difficulty in retaining the memory of the common ground that has been lost : the people born with Facebook and Twitter see it as a normal situation, whereas not that long ago, personal exchanges were not privatised on these forums. In addition, there is a real difficulty in sharing methods and experiences, and to avoid that everyone starts from scratch in their struggle to rescue common ground. Finally, there is no shared good practice in terms of European projects, even though it would be a particularly relevant framework.

It is important to act on two levels, simultaneously:

1- Making the presence of open-source visible in daily life: « the common ground, which is already there ». Everyone takes advantage of the common ground, without even realising: what is taught in schools is shared common ground.
2- Everybody can enjoy common ground, even without realising it. The idea would be to widen the understanding of the concept with easily accessible examples, like knowledge: what is taught in schools is shared common ground (mathematical theorems, etc.). Similarly, it is easy to understand the common ground through natural resources. On this topic, the example of the 2011 Italian referendum against water privatisation is worth highlighting: the creation by anti-privatisation activists of a company to publicly manage water is still a little known kind of action.
3- Making the presence and the limitations of enclosures visible. There again, practical and easy examples are multiple, in work (Uber and a collaborative economy), in life (Facebook, Twitter and the tracking devices which enable companies to manipulate their users through machine learning and big data), on food (the issue of seeding and absurd bans on the farmers).

Here are a few suggestions to move forward:

➔ **Encouraging individual awareness through tools**
- Imagining a tool that will enable to track daily usage of the resources and means used as part of the common ground, and those that originate from the private sector.
- Developing a measuring tool that enables to know to what point a material, a tool, a product is open/private.
- Conceiving a tool to index all the data that is tracked and accessed by commercial users when browsing the Internet.

➔ **Facilitating individual awareness through a narrative**
- Making an informative video, which follows a person throughout their day, in their everyday actions, in order to emphasise all that is made possible thanks to open source; all that stems from enclosure and finally, in what way this creates problems.
- Highlighting the historical dimension (« it wasn't always like that »). Supporting the increased awareness of everything that is being lost and which is common ground, as well as keeping track of that loss as it happens.
- Organising happenings in the public space, to point to what is open / authorised / common, and to what is closed / banned/ private.

➔ **Acting with the Law**
- Taking part in the work on anti-monopoly laws and the application of these laws
- Putting big companies which privatise common ground on trial
- Making case precedents accessible to all
- Creating a framework in which those who produce common ground are remunerated

➔ **Developing the fight for open source seeds**
- Taking part in the legal structure around the concept of open source seeds
- Turning it into a topic for research and development: choosing regions; establishing seed crafts specialists ; developing communication tools ; making the produce traceable ; and going to the areas that are suffering the most.
- Investing public space to encourage civic responsibility: the markets, the bottom of towers, etc.

Brainstorming – What next ?

ENRICHING AND DEVELOPING THE « MAKE IT TOGETHER » COLLECTION

CHIC has now come to life with the Pantolino and the two boxes which launched the
« Make It Together » collection, around the topics of health and identity.
How can the success of these initial prototypes be maximised?

First of all, the European dimension, particularly relevant, raises nonetheless the following
question : do we need to find common themes on a European scale, or do we start from a
national perspective, which can then be shared ?

Two approaches were then identified:

- Approaching the question through professional know-how, with an e-learning
support;
- An educational approach, with a target defined by age, which teachers could be
associated with.

It's that last approach which was particularly discussed, and which led to the following
proposals in terms of themes:
- Differences between European countries
- The democratic system
- The fight against racism; the integration of migrants
- Peace
- Gender
- Heritage /environment
- Technology: what to do when Internet stops working ?
- Public space and its uses

It was also suggested to think about the development of adapted boxes (particularly for
autistic people) as well as to develop the dimension of the parent-children game.

Finally, the Pantolino in itself could be improved, by making it completely mechanic (et
therefore not relying on electricity) and by improving the « printing » features.

Brainstorming – What next ?

MAINTAINING A EUROPEAN COLLABORATION

The project was created around a partnership between seven structures with diverse statuses and representative of five different countries. It was made possible thanks to the support of the programme Europe Créative. Why and how can we make this movement last ?

Firstly, it was reminded that the engineering of European projects is only taken into account partially, from a financial point of view: in fact, the work of international cooperation can be a burden when ahead of a project which remains the sole responsibility of its instigators, and which is necessary to better define the objectives of the project; understanding the interrogations and circumstances particular to each partner in terms of territory; and finally, to come out with a questioning line for common work , which refines the original proposal and encompasses the European dimension.

Three European programmes were identified, as possible medium for a new CHIC project:
- Erasmus+
- Horizon 2020
- And of course, Europe Créative.

The main aspects to work on for a future project:
- The spreading (partly through civic engagement) of both the CHIC prototypes (the Pantolino and the boxes) and of the process of collaborative design.
- Reflecting through action on the issue of common ground and the legal framework
- The creation of new economical models

It was also suggested, amongst other things, that the starting point should be the reinforcement of pre-existing collaborations, such as the communal reflection on free seeds, software and machinery-tools.