WP 2.4 Monitoring reports

Case

Briefly explain what is the Case about (max. 6 lines):

The Re-food Movement is a community-based initiative born in Lisbon in March of 2011 and incorporated in July of the same year as Re-food 4 Good, an independent non-profit organization. It strives to provide good rescued food to those in need and prevent food waste in local communities by inspiring and mobilizing the community itself.

Re-food empowers citizens to change their own local communities for the better.

It targets and accomplishes 4 essential actions: reducing unnecessary food waste, reducing food insufficiency, strengthening local community ties and promoting replication in other communities.

<u>Commitment to social innovation</u>

2nd monitoring period

(How) did the strategic commitment enhance since the first period? What happened in order to support the evolvement? Does the initiative have any involvement with local community?

Since the starting in 2011, the initiative gathered around 7000 volunteers in several communities around the country. It now aims to empower local communities to replicate the initiative by their own means, not only in Portugal, but across the world.

<u>Main impact</u>

2nd monitoring period

(How) did the impact of the initiative enhance? How does the initiative contribute to the society now? How do you measure the impact on society? Do you use any kind of Social Innovation indicators?

Social impact is measured by the benefits for all stakeholders involved and by the possibility to replicate the model. It now provides resources to volunteers from different locations to replicate the initiative in their communities. Impact measures are made through the numbers of rescued meals and of direct beneficiaries.

<u>Beneficiaries and needs covered</u>

2nd monitoring period

Are there new/other key beneficiaries or needs addressed?

No

Application of tools

2nd monitoring period

How did the initiative enhance the application of tools? On basis of which criteria are the tools chosen? To what extent is technology important for your initiative?

N/A
Implementation of the first initiative did not imply any technological tools, it was based on face-to-face contact. In recent years, a website was implemented as a landing page for all relevant information for all Re-food centers.

Financial plan

2nd monitoring period

What is the current funding situation of the initiative? Does the initiative generate income? Have you found new funding strategies? How did you get information about new strategies? Does the initiative rely mainly on Public or private funding?

The Re-food Movement is intended to be powered by the good will of the community, taking the form of shared practical action. It works with a low budget/high productive business-model with people at the heart of the process driven by goodwill. The meals rescued and delivered each month are produced for less than 10 cents each and delivered without charge. All the food is donated by the commercial partners (local companies and services) and then collected, packed and delivered to the families by volunteers. The Re-food centers are provided by local organizations (public and private) and the operational costs of collecting, packaging and delivering the food are very low - about €300 per month, easily financed by the community.

However, to promote better facilities for centers across the country, applications to national and international public funding are being made.

People involved

2nd monitoring period

How many people participate in the initiative? What is their position (Staff, HEIs (Students, Teachers, and Researcher), Community, and Government)? Which background, skills, and experiences do the participants have?

Up until recently, there are more than 7000 people involved, with various backgrounds, skills, and experiences.

Involvement in networks

2nd monitoring period

In which new networks/collaborations is the initiative involved? How did the initiative build new networks/collaborations? How does the initiative benefit from the networks?

There is the intention to seek partnerships with networks related to sustainability and circular economy, in order to associate Re-food with the concerns of this century regarding the environment.

Partnerships with HEIs

2nd monitoring period

How many HEIs are partners of the initiative? Which support does the initiative receive? How did you connect to new HEIs? What kind of support does it most benefit from?

Throughout its existence, Re-food has now established partnerships with HEIs, especially of economics and social sciences, around the country: the universities of Lisbon, Porto, Aveiro, Coimbra, Faro and Minho. The Re-food project benefits from a space for events (also for incubation if it needed) in the universities and in getting students involved in the movement as volunteers. On the other hand, the universities use Re-food as case-study in specific classes for Master Degrees and Doctorates. These partnerships are developed thought protocols after the foundation of new local Re-food centers.

Barriers faced

2nd monitoring period

What has changed in the meantime? How did the initiative overcome barriers? Are there new barriers?

After an exponential growth, Re-food now faces the expansion problem, and is gathering resources not only to guide those replicating the initiative, but also to promote elevated standards of quality and transparency in each new Re-food centre.