

THE NETCOMMONS PROJECT

1.5 YEARS AFTER THE BEGINNING OF
NETCOMMONS, WHAT WE DID AND WHAT WE
PLAN TO DO



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netCommons

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The netCommons Project



UNIVERSITY
OF TRENTO - Italy



NetHood



UNIVERSITY OF
WESTMINSTER

- H2020 Financed project (CAPS)
- 2016-2018
- 4 Universities
- 1 Research Center
- 1 not-for-profit association
- 6 countries

Goals of netCommons



1. Help CNs with their challenges:
 - Governance
 - Sustainable growth
 - Internal services
2. Contribute to the development of Internet Science by expanding/generalizing results from the work on the community networks
3. ... and, this way, strengthen the arguments in favor of community networks towards policymakers.





- 5 research Work Packages, each one devoted to a specific task.
- we have 12 Deliverables currently published.
- I will summarise the work we did and we plan to do.



Governing the CNs: Organizational Models for Sustainable Growth and Advocacy Capacity-Building

WP1 analyzes and clarifies the internal organizational model of different CNs. Organizational models influence both the socio-economic and management aspects of the network and the way relationships with external entities are implemented. The goal of this WP is to create a portfolio of organizational models that CNs can adopt to improve their internal governance, for a better and more democratic exploitation of their resources and to have a stronger impact on external society.





Sustainable Growth in CNs: Socially, Economically and Technically Sustainable CNs

WP2 investigates the sustainability of CNs, it will identify its political and ethical values, the incentives to make CNs grow and the tools that CNs can use to monitor that the ethical values are kept intact with the growth of the network. It will clarify the political values of CNs, and the related aspects of sustainability for CNs.





Enriching CNs: Applications, Technical Excellence, Local Fruition

WP3 is dedicated to open-source applications for CNs. This WP will build on existing open source projects for P2P cloud and streaming applications and use them as building blocks to develop applications that can exploit the potential of CNs for local communications in the fields of distributed cloud systems and P2P video streaming. We will also develop a participatory methodology to improve the self-production of applications by CN members, with special attention to CAPS, and applications for crowd* use of the technical and social resources of CNs.





CNs as Commons

WP4 analyses CNs in relation to their surrounding socio-legal environment and produce general policy guidelines for the internal management of the CNs and for policy makers to preserve CNs as a commons. It raise awareness of the CNs managers and users on the legal constraints of their activity and produce recommendations for the policy-makers based on the CNs needs.





Internet Science: Interdisciplinary Perspectives through the Lens of CNs

WP5 provides a strong interdisciplinary contribution to some key themes of Internet Science revolving around the topic of Alternative Internet/s. It discusses the premises on which we can build an alternative, more sustainable model for the Internet, starting from experiences of existing “Alternative Internets”, such as CNs.

