

INCOLLI [Integral System for Crowd-learning and Local Impact]

digital-social interaction and learning system



Idea Outline:

We want to create a simple and open on- and off-line system for people who engage in communities, networks and social enterprises to influence the projects, policies and higher level governance systems directly. Implementing an online collective learning system enabling experts to turn knowledge into know-how, and know-how into projects and tasks. We want to make it attractive and simple for people executing social and environmental innovation projects to feed back their expertise and learning into the databases of knowledge and good practices. The system we want to implement is a hybrid of technology and human know-how, a learning system for social entrepreneurs and the larger community of change agents and organisations.

Challenge Description:

Aid-agencies, NGOs and similar change organisations like Wiser.org, EuropeAid, cChange, Future Earth, GIZ etc. are often confronted with what can be called “the challenge of the last mile” and “the problem of the ‘isolated many’.” So far isolated knowledge, project and task management systems are used. These create knowledge and know-how silos. Furthermore, the many stakeholders and people intervening in local situations, trying to implement social innovation and change, hardly ever have a way in which their expertise informs and updates the system and process design applied to their situation. This knowledge goes lost or is sometimes found in conversations near the water coolers, coffee-machines, on the corridors of conferences and on the street. These exchanges are called “knowledge-accidents” because it only accidentally lands on the desk of the project makers.

Solution Description:

We want to create a resilient process and online system that allows the community of social entrepreneurs, change agents and volunteers to feed back their first hand understanding of how things can best be done into a larger knowledge database available for European and non-European groups and organisations. This digital-social interaction and learning system needs to collect vital and relevant information including learning experiences at each step and turn the feed back into viable knowledge that can be used for every next iteration of similar projects. With each step everybody and the entire system learns. We will invite a sufficient number of “on the ground experts” into co-designing this process and system, and create the specifications that an online system would need to support this ongoing, international, regional as well as local learning process. We envision a digital-social interaction system for crowd-learning and local impact.

This can be used:

- By start-up social entrepreneurs as an online real-time “learning system” that gives them access to a global knowledge and task management system.
- By change agents as a crowdsourcing system for volunteer tasks, and for understanding and tackling local

- challenges.
- By policy makers to gain insight into good practices that work well “on the ground” and to discuss their projections and plans with the larger community of change agents.

Funds of CHEST 1 will be used to write a viable plan, create the basic specifications for a social and technical design and a first business plan to implement this system with the goal to eventually have a self-funding organisation that continually evolves this service.

Target group and social impact:

INCOLLI is geared to social entrepreneurs, individual change agents in formal or informal worknets, and change organizations (for instance: EuropeAid, cChange, Future Earth, GIZ, 350.org, Earthwatch, Edgeryders) policy makers (for instance local, regional, national and EU, IPCC). We expect INCOLLI to impact the learning, design, communication and effectiveness of projects and activities of change organizations as well as to enhance the generativity, and cultural fit of their efforts.

Competences of the applicants:

We are a team of two, Mushin Schilling and Anne Caspari. Together we hold multiple perspectives and have been working in the areas of complex system analysis, diagnosis, design, implementation, and facilitation. We bring diverse expertise: Leadership development, integral theory & adult development, landscape architecture, university education and teaching, environmental planning, systemic constellation, personal development coaching and training, management training, business meshworking and organisational development, software architecture, leading multi-stakeholder projects, and languages & translation.