SESSION 2 - EASY, SHARED AND WIDESPREAD CYCLING

24.09 14h, Forum III

DIY bike workshops in France: sharing old bikes, tools and knowledge

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Forenote

L'Heureux Cyclage ? An untranslatable pun!

More than 60 Bike workshops are members.

Heureux = Happy                  Cycle = Cycle                  Recyclage = Recycling

…. Happy Cycling Age ? … CheeReCycling ? … L’Heureux Cyclage ?
The concept of bike workshops

Bike workshops are places of knowledge transfer
- Ignorance in mechanics affects the cycling practice
  → Learning to become “cyclonomous”

Bike workshops are places for reuse and upgrading
- Spare parts are a local richness
  → Implementing a circular bike economy

Bike workshops are places for promotion of cycling
- Street demonstrations and entertainments
  → Attracting people to bicycle
How it works?

Non-profit organizations

• Based on voluntary activities
• Many associations employ people to manage workshops

Membership needed

• You have to become a member to use the tools
• Open to all audiences: in average 15 hours a week
• Then, sometimes you pay for second-hand spare parts
• You can buy a second-hand bike

Various kind of Bike workshops

• Focusing on DIY activities or active in many others
• With or without subsidies
• ...

Bicycl'Aide @ Clichy
Average budget of associations

Association with employees
Budget = 65 000 € (in average)

Costs

- Wages: 85%
- Rent: 9.5%

Incomes

- Services: 12.9%
- Membership Fees: 15.2%
- Second-hand bike Sales: 16.5%
- Subsidies: 55.5%

Specificities in France

- Difficulties to find a place to implement Bike workshops in cities
- Subsidies available to support jobs in non profit organization
With a little help from my friends!

... It is possible to learn either or both:

- First things to know about your bikes
- Important reparation for long-distance journey
- How to weld, etc.
A dramatic growth in France!

More than 120 workshops in France

- Every cities with more than 200 000 inhabitants now have more than one Bike Workshop
- More and more Bike co-ops in small towns

More than 30 000 users!
More than 120 employees

More and more cities support development of Bike workshops

- Access to unused bikes
- Access to a place
- Financial supports
And where else?

A European dynamic!

- Atelier vélo en Belgique
- Ciclofficina Populare in Italy
- Bici Taller in Spain
- Bike Kitchen in Austria
- Bike co-ops in England
- …

And all over the world!

- Bike bike Network in USA
- Many examples in Latin America

Help us to Reference all European Bike workshops!
Who are the users?

30 years-old (average age)

58 %

42 %

Making daily cycling affordable and sustainable!

- Membership fees for one year: in average 10 € for students and unemployed persons and 25 € for all other audiences
Looking for new audiences!

An activity between neighbours
- Members live or work in the vicinity of the workshop

The possibility to go in other parts of the city
- Bringing tools on a trailer
- Many activities in poorest neighbourhoods

Supporting the implementation of new workshops
- Swarming in the city
- ... or anywhere else thanks to Wiklou.org
Too many scrap bikes!

26.7 Millions (adult) bikes in France

- Sales: about 2 Millions every year!
- 9.3 Millions unused during the last 12 months
- About 1.5 Million scrapped every year!

Need for circular economy of cycling!

- Reuse old bikes
- Sales: need for better quality bikes!
And so many people ready to learn!

Do it yourself! Enjoy it together...
Thank you!

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