

# Edem09 Workshop: Social Networking Tools and eParticipation

## Key discussion points: HUWY

- Short overview of HUWY:
- ⇒ central feature: discussions on own online spaces, including SNS

### Questions:

- Tracking discussions on sites such as Twitter? // participants are free to chose tools...
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## Key discussion points: Breda-morgen (Egita / Dijksman)

Overview of breda-morgen :

- ... a platform to make dreams come true...
- the platform intends to facilitate realisation of citizens' dreams (from complaints to dreams)
- How? “dreams” are posted, then voted on. Popular dreams are turned to initiatives

Aspects:

- the initial “dreamer” remains the owner of the dream
- strict discussion rules – constructive results
- municipality seems to be content with project
- Media-mix / cross media communication
- municipality shows strong commitment
- issues/policies are local

## Key discussion points: Shepherding Change

Starting point: SNS as a way to engage young people, as this age group uses these platforms on a day-to-day basis

How?

- digital pet application – user needs to keep sheep happy by participating / providing input and feedback
- pet can be tied into existing SNS, cross-platform widget (opedID/social)

Lessons

- SNS should be fun and entertaining
- easy to use
- ...

Discussion

- What happens with the results on the government side?
- What is the actual aim? Participation or input for decision-making?
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## Key discussion points: [citizenscape.org](http://citizenscape.org)

Overview of [citizenscape.org](http://citizenscape.org):

- Looking at nexus of informal and formal political participation – what are the connections between the two?
- starting point: people are already participating, but not where we want
- problem: public authorities not really open to co-creation
- process of social engineering

How?

- building a container: Web 2.0 architecture
- 3 types of widgets...
- 12 different widgets in total (such as: easy-to-use adding system, RSS, webcasts, blogs, viewfinder/multi-media discussion board, e-petitions, events calendar, maps, multilingual...)

Questions:

- Petition system open source? Yes
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## Key discussion points: [comuno.org](http://comuno.org)

### Overview

- Platform

### Structure of the platform/features

- using established terms and taxonomies
- also regional taxonomies
- bilingual: important to have multi-lingual support of the site
- Tools and widgets: RSS, enables content sharing across different SNS profiles /accumulate information from a variety of sites

### Discussion/Questions

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## Workshop summary and conclusions

### Lessons

- easy-to-use technology
- content sharing across different SNS profiles
- entertaining
- use broad range of widgets (blogs, RSS, content adding...)
- use broad media-mix/cross-media approach
- address individual/personal relevance

### Challenges

- linking informal and formal participation (e-petitions)
- building tools that fit the intended outcome
- choice of tools should be sensitive of the tools' different characteristics

### Risks

- relying on commercial SNS such as facebook (commercial interests, risk of user fees, issues of data ownership...)

## Workshop summary and conclusions (2)

- Identity management issues: different concepts/expectations and practices re identity/anonymity between users and officials