

CO4CITIES

WELCOME

by the Open Budapest Team

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BUDAPEST



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Urban commons experiences in Budapest

A broader perspective: reclaiming city space



RUIN PUBS
since 2005



**INDEPENDENT ART
INCUBATOR**
since 2005



COMMUNITY GARDENS
since 2010



CRITICAL MASS
since 2005

Ruin pubs

Art and entertainment in vacant houses



Szimpla Garden: 3rd best bar of the world in 2011 according to Lonely Planet

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Szimpla_Kert#/media/File:Szimpla_Kert_Open-air_Theater.jpg
<https://unsplash.com/photos/8Q46XGCLVPA>

Bottom-up art incubation

Lessons learnt on cooperation, co-governance



https://hu.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corvin_%C3%81ruh%C3%A1z
Sain Mátyás



Community gardens

How to build community; also attractive for municipalities



Over 30 community gardens exist in Budapest

<http://kek.org.hu/projekt/kertek/>



Reclaiming the city

Car-free days, Danube-side



... and many existing practices to examine

We have made 10 interviews to learn NGOs' experiences



What's in it for municipalities?



General goals

- Less vacant property issues
- More active locals, NGOs (community, economy)
- May serve other municipal strategic goals (basis for street management, urban rehabilitation)

Concrete results

- Free or cheap cultural, social, community services
- Attraction for residents and visitors, increased livability
- Active young people, lots of arts
- Social innovation
- Active connection to people, communities



Roles and to dos



Municipality

- Taking active initiation for the use of vacant properties (top-down meets bottom-up)
- Creating a transparent mechanism for the use of commons
- Supporting NGOs with place (use of property)
- Providing pacts, financial alternatives
- Public service agreements with NGOs
- Involvement of NGOs & communities in decision making, co-governance models

Mediator organisations

- Professional expertise, creating concepts
- Capitalisation of experiences
- Conducting surveys, co-designing processes
- Networking



Budapest Pilot

Vacant shops in underpasses



Photo: SM



1978 Photo: Fortepan/ Uvaterv

Since 1963 (parallel with metro constructions)
Lots of issues: accessibility, cleaning, people, noise
Recently: restoration of surface pedestrian crossings,
decreasing traffic, empty stores



Budapest Pilot: the location



Photos: Jónás G.

Keleti Pályaudvar (Eastern Railway Station)
3 properties next to each other
newly built



Budapest Pilot: the concept



Our goals:

- To create a sort of urban living lab
- To provide something interesting and loveably for citizens
- To draw attantion to the use of underpass properties
- To pilot co-creation where the municipality acts as facilitator

The process

- Pilot use for 1 to 3 month
- Invite NGOs for the project (not for the property)
- Create a concept through co-design process



Thank you!

