Barcelona Visit for Making sense - 5th/6th of July 2016 - Emma Pareschi

During my stay in Barcelona I had the chance to meet Mara Balestrini, Gui Seiz and Guillem Camprodon.

On Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday , 5th/6th of July 2016, we met to discuss about:

1) the air quality pilot study we are running in Amsterdam.

Mara asked many questions regarding communities and technology:

* how we managed the communities from the beginning till the end of the project

answer: through meetsup and direct contact with the citizen

* how we implemented the request of the citizen in our pilot

answer: of course we asked to the citizens their interests and we explained our possibilities in term of hardware, time and feasibility. For example we couldn’t satisfy their request regarding the noise pollution.

* how we choose the technology

answer: about the sensors, we wanted to measure the air quality so based on the last year experience I opted for the same NO2 sensor and I added the dust sensor based on the public lab dustduino project.

* calibration

answer: the calibration happens over night and it’s not managed by us.

* how we employed the sensor kits

answer: we went house by house and we configured the sensor for the citizens.

* how we are giving support now, while the pilot is running

answer: when a kit doesn’t work we personally

* how we chose the number of kits

answer: based on the budget and number of citizen

* what we will do with the kit after the pilot

answer: I couldn’t really answer to this question, I could say that I would like to keep a kit at the Waag. The kit adopts a modular assembly solution. It means we can easyly disassembly and re-use the single boards.

2) the workshop we will give during Fab12.

Mara, Gui and I will be at Fab12 (international conference of fablabs) and we will hold a workshop for making sense. We aim to work with the participants on the digital and physical visualization of the data that we get from the SCK. We discussed about the material and the contents we will face with the participants

3) future implementation of our technology and data in their digital platform.

Guillem spent some hours going through the hardware they are developing for the SCK. Finally I could see on real the boards, the differences between the different versions and the setup they are using to test the boards and sensors. We also discussed about the possibility to upload on the their digital platform (https://smartcitizen.me/kits/) the data that we will collect with our sensors, starting from October 2016. Guillem went in details about the API smart citizen and he also prepared the blueprints for our devices!