



Community characteristics & orientation

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Community & UN SDG(s): Content sharing Orientated community - Responsible Consumption and Production(12)

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Instructions

Research the community you are most interested in exploring using links from the UN Sustainable Goals website (<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/>) and others. In your exhaustive research, answer the following.

Community characteristics		
Community life-cycle (current state)		
Where is your community in its life-cycle?	What you need to focus on:	Special needs
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Just forming Need basic tools to connect, but not sure from there	Research and/or discuss the potential of some basic tools with members, explore what ideas it might give them, and see what they might bring in with them.	Need to have a platform to post and identify desired items. Then need may need another platform for communication/acceptance of a trade
<input type="checkbox"/> Self-designing Information stage, but with a strong sense of what it wants to accomplish	Contribute ideas to the design. Analyze systematically the implications of their community design for technology, infrastructure, and technology skills.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Growing & restless Ready to add new functionality to its tool configuration	Try to make this a community reflection and self-design event. Does their restlessness suggest a major change, such as a transition to a new platform?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Stable and adapting Just needing some new tools	How much disruption will the community tolerate? How will the new tools be integrated into or affect existing practices?	
Constitution		
Diversity: How diverse is the community?		
Topic	Your notes	



What are the different types of members and what are their levels of participation?	People who want to get rid of an item but wish to still retail some value from it. People can post these items and state what they wish to get from it, or maybe if an open trade, or giving away the item for free which means anyone can go on the app and look for free items.	
How spread apart is it in terms of location and time zones?	A filter can be applied to search only local regions	
What language(s) do members speak?	If there is a one on one communication channel then any language as long as the users can understand one another.	
What other cultural or other diversity aspects may affect your technology choices?	The value of some items may not be understood by someone of a different culture and may not be chosen. This may affect how I set up the selection of trades. whether I allow open trades or not.	
Openness: How connected to the outside world is your community?		
Topic		Your notes
How much do you want to control the boundaries of your community? Does your community need	<input type="checkbox"/> To be private/secure <input type="checkbox"/> Open boundaries <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both private & public spaces	The community would need both public and private spaces. Public to search through the different offers but also private to communicate and negotiate a trade.
How does your community need to interact with other communities? Do you need common tools for sharing and learning with them?	They will need access to the internet and a camera to take a picture of the item.	
Technology aspirations		
Technology savvy, tolerance, & constraints: What are your community's technology interests and skills and patience thereof? What are the constraints imposed by technology factors?		
Topic	Your notes	
How interested is your community in technology?	It would be less about the technology and more about the content from the tech. This means an increase in ease should be a focus.	
What is their capacity for learning new tools?	Should be pretty basic as only an account is needed to be made then posts with options on what is preferred to be returned.	
What is the range of skills? If their interests and/or skills are diverse, could it cause conflict or distraction?	No, as the intent is to only create and respond to posts, then there should be no skill conflicts. The content is intended to be diverse so this should not be a distraction.	
How tolerant are members of the adoption of a wide variety of tools?	Likely not very tolerant as they could use apps that they know how to use (Facebook) if they get frustrated with this app before identifying the benefits of this one	
How many technological boundaries are they willing to cross, e.g. sign in to more than one web-based tool, learn to	Would need to not use facebook marketplace and think about trades rather than monetary value. Sign in should only be once but may need to investigate a secondary tool for communication. likely not many boundaries.	



use new tools, or give up old favorites? This helps you understand what level of integration you need.	
What are your members' technology constraints (e.g., bandwidth, operating systems, etc.)?	As long as they have internet connection and a computer, there shouldn't be an issue.
How much time are members able to be online and from where (office, home, field)? Some people have limited online time, or are able to be online only in specific locations. Others are always on. Very diverse situations can affect participation	This app does not require the user to be online at all times so consistent participation is not an issue. However the communication might be if someone is awaiting a response.

Community orientation

Relevance to community: Use the range from 0 (no relevance) to 5 (high relevance) to determine what matters most to the community. Look at these from the perspectives of the different types of members (under "constitution"). Also discuss the "value-added" to each member group

0	1	2	3	4	5	Orientations	Variants	Key activities/your notes
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Meetings Many communities place a great emphasis on regular meetings where members engage in shared activities for a specific time. Meetings, and the visible participation of members, assert the community's existence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Face-to-face/blended <input type="checkbox"/> Online synchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Online asynchronous	Meet on communication channel to discuss trade and in person to perform trade
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Open-ended conversation Some communities maintain ongoing conversations as their primary vehicles for learning. Open-ended conversations are common when a community is co-located and people keep the conversation going as they "bump" into each other.	<input type="checkbox"/> Single-stream discussions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Multi-topic conversations <input type="checkbox"/> Distributed conversations	There may be more than one trade offer at a time. Or if same people want to make a trade at a later time you can do that.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Projects In some communities' members want to focus on particular topics, go deep, and collaborate on projects to solve problems or produce useful artifacts. Learning is not just a matter of sharing	<input type="checkbox"/> Practice groups <input type="checkbox"/> Project teams <input type="checkbox"/> Instruction	An item could potentially be a service or a project.



						knowledge or discussing issues. Members need to do things together in order to develop their practice. Projects usually involve a subgroup within the community		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Content Some communities are primarily interested in creating, sharing, and providing access to documents, tools, and other content. Valuable and well-organized content is a useful resource for members	<input type="checkbox"/> Library <input type="checkbox"/> Structured self-publish <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open self-publish <input type="checkbox"/> Content integration	The main goal is to share content (items) for others to see and compare with their content.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Access to expertise Some communities create value by providing focused and timely access to expertise in the community's domain, whether internally or externally. Communities with this orientation focus on answering questions, fulfilling requests for advice, or engaging in collaborative, just-in-time problem solving	<input type="checkbox"/> Questions & requests <input type="checkbox"/> Access to experts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shared problem solving <input type="checkbox"/> Knowledge validation <input type="checkbox"/> Apprenticeship & mentoring	This may include shared problems of services but that is not the main goal
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Relationships Some communities focus on relationship building among members as the basis for both ongoing learning and being available to each other. This orientation emphasizes the interpersonal aspect of learning together. Communities with this orientation place a high value on knowing each other personally, emphasizing networking, trust building, and mutual discovery	<input type="checkbox"/> Connecting <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Knowing about people <input type="checkbox"/> Interacting informally	This app isn't as much about the interactions as it is about responsible consumption
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Individual participation Learning together happens in the context of a group, but it is realized in the experience of individuals. People bring different backgrounds, communication styles, and aspirations to their participation in a community. People have different levels of commitment, they take on different roles, and they use tools differently	<input type="checkbox"/> Levels of participation <input type="checkbox"/> Personalization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individual development <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-membership	The app will rely on members to create posts individually.



<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Community cultivation Some communities are happy with loose self-organization and unplanned evolution, while others thrive on attention to community cultivation. They have a need to reflect on the effectiveness and health of the community to make things better, joined with a willingness to work on it	<input type="checkbox"/> Democratic governance <input type="checkbox"/> Strong core group <input type="checkbox"/> Internal coordination <input type="checkbox"/> External facilitation	The community would be a loose organization, health of the community would rely on the participation of members.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Service context In some cases, serving a specific context becomes central to the community's identity and the ways it operates. They may live inside an organization, whose charter their practice needs to serve. They may have a mission to provide learning resources to the world or to recruit members widely. Or they may seek interactions with other communities whose domain complements their own	<input type="checkbox"/> Organization as context <input type="checkbox"/> Cross-organizational <input type="checkbox"/> Other related communities <input type="checkbox"/> Public mission	There could be an option to offer services.

Scratchpad (other interesting insights, questions/answers, etc.)

- Not sure if allowing services as an option to trade for is valid.
- How to ensure people are creating enough offers or responses. Should I set up suggestions?
- Value of items, allow people to ask for more than one item if values don't match.
- How open should the offers be? If you allow money then it's not any different from marketplace.
 - The difference would be when you make a post, it asks for the thing you wish to get in return, then creates a list of users that are giving away that item.