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## D7.3.1 Report on Building Support for BuB4Europe - a

**Revision:** v1.0

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## Revision History

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**Statement of originality:**

This deliverable contains original unpublished work except where clearly indicated otherwise. Acknowledgement of previously published material and of the work of others has been made through appropriate citation, quotation or both.

### Abstract

Community networking, together with the Bottom-up-Broadband initiative, is an emerging model for the Future Internet across Europe and beyond where communities of citizens build, operate and own open IP-based networks, a key infrastructure for individual and collective digital participation. Although community based networks often extend or complement the coverage of networks of commercial ISPs, they differ in several key aspects: There is usually no central authority that is responsible for a precise network planning. Support is decentralized and open, provided by the community. The network nodes are often inexpensive off the shelf equipment and the network elements exhibit a high degree of heterogeneity in the hardware, software, and capacity. The network infrastructure belongs to the user and is shared to build the network. The network is very dynamic: the number of nodes may rapidly grow and change as new members join the network, or when nodes overload or fail. These community networks are usually built with low cost point-to-point wireless links, MANET networks, and an increasing presence of optical fibre links.

Work Package 7, *Bottom-up-Broadband for Europe*, of Commons4Europe project aims to support the creation of a pan European organization that could provide structure and support to the existing Bottom-up-Broadband initiatives in Europe from either public organizations or emergent from citizen activism. The present document is the first report on the achievements of task T7.3, *Building Support for BuB4Europe*, task aimed at enlisting support for the nascent organization of T7.2 and creating a favorable opinion towards it among policymakers that could facilitate its integration in the existing forums.

### Relationship with D7.3.1

In some situations the strong relationship between T7.2, *Enlisting BuB organizations*, and T7.3, *Building Support for BuB4Europe*, makes difficult to clearly assign an action to one task or to the other. The same happens with their deliverables, D7.2.1, *Report on activities to enlist BuB organizations - a* and D7.3.1, *Report on Building Support for BuB4Europe - b*. As a consequence, it is recommended to read both deliverables to have a complete view of the job done.

### Index Terms

Bottom-up-Broadband (BuB), Community Networks (CNs), International organisation, Organisation of organisations

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## I. INTRODUCTION

Although there are community networks (CNs) and Bottom-up Broadband (BuB) initiatives all around the world -some of them pretty active and successful- the fact is that the movement remains largely unknown to the general public and to the public administrations and the policy makers in particular. Moreover, although they have many aspects in common such as targets, principals, background, etc., the degree of interaction and collaboration among them is negligible in general. As a result, each of them must cope with the obstacles -most of which are common to the other initiatives- alone and only with its own resources.

Work Package 7 (WP7), planned for the second (the current reporting period) and the third year of the Commons for Europe project, is aimed at supporting the creation of a pan European organization that could provide structure and support to the existing BuB initiatives in Europe from either public organizations or emergent from citizen activism. Such organisation must help make the organisations work more efficiently (e.i. each of the three biggest CNs has develop its own software tools to manage the network) as well as more effective in terms of dissemination, lobbying and influencing the policy makers.

## II. ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

This report has been produced using open source tools such as  $\LaTeX$  [?] and *git* [?].  $\LaTeX$  is widely used in academia to prepare print-class documents. It automatically takes care of numbering, cross-referencing, tables of contents, bibliography, etc. *Git* is a high performance distributed revision control which is used in many open source projects, such as the linux kernel. Git makes it easy and safe to collaborate as each contributor works on his or her own personal copy. Good contributions can be easily shared with others, and it is always possible to revert to a previous version.

Our git repository is publicly available in *github*:

<https://github.com/jbarcelo/C4EU-deliverables>

Anyone who is familiar with  $\LaTeX$  and *github* can contribute to this document. The first step is to make a copy (a *fork* in *github* jargon). The contributor can work on this copy and make changes to improve the document. After that, it is necessary to request

that these changes are merged into the original copy of the document (a *pull request* in github jargon).

If you see anything that can be improved, feel free to contribute. This document is alive in the sense that it will keep evolving as long as contributors make changes and improve it.

The system automatically keeps track of all the contributors and their contributions. It is possible to see who is contributing more actively and which are the exact changes made by each contributor. And everything is public on the web.

### III. DISSEMINATION

The dissemination efforts have been focused on the one hand on creating a website aimed at gathering all information of the BuB part of the Commons for Europe project and a mailing list to coordinate the discussions and on the other hand in finding and attending the most important BuB related meetings. It is expected to keep the same strategy for the next year.

#### A. *bubforeurope website and bub mailing list*

<http://bubforeurope.net/>

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*B. Events*

Part of the research done has been on identifying the most important events related to BuB and attending them to learn from the others and to create awareness of our activity.

The most relevant events attended since the beginning of the Common for Europe project are the following:

**FTTH Conference 2013**

Organiser FTTH Council Europe (<http://www.ftthcouncil.eu/>)

Description

**FTTH Conference 2013 Organiser** FTTH Council Europe (<http://www.ftthcouncil.eu/>)

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FTTH council

## IV. INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION

## V. CONCLUSION

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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