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16.09.2021

Building Bridges and Stimulating Social Innovation





Gdansk social development challenges.

- attracting new inhabitants,
- stopping external migration from the city,
- improving the level of education, creating an innovative education system and adjusting the school system, especially vocational schools, to the labour market's needs, strengthening of civic attitudes and improving the level of involvement and responsibility for the common good, increase people's readiness to create local cooperation networks,
- strengthening local integration basing on the cultural heritage and identity and the use of new tools to activate residents and create high quality public services,
- creating friendly living environment combined with good quality child care services for young people settling in Gdansk,





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GDAŃSK 2030 PLUS DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY



cultural innovative
vocational networking
behaviours attitudes skills
lifelong **LEARNING** ethics
competencies entrepreneurship
heritage features integration
civic virtue



intergenerational
metropolitan community
inclusion **COOPERATION** district
solidarity responsibility
identity co-decision-making
self-organisation



safety values
trust quality of life
INHABITANTS
equal opportunities work
public space



professional active
social innovations port
roads **MOBILITY** of ideas
immigration internet infrastructure
public transport



initiatives publicity directness
entrepreneurship investments
dialogue **OPENNESS** sea
integration creativity flexibility
diversity innovativeness





THE VISION OF GDAŃSK

IS A CITY GATHERING AND ATTRACTING
WHAT IS MOST VALUABLE – PEOPLE
WHO ARE PROUD OF THEIR HERITAGE,
COMMUNITY SPIRITED, OPEN-MINDED,
CREATIVE, DEVELOPING AND JOINTLY
SHAPING THEIR FUTURE.

GDAŃSK 2030 PLUS



Primary goals for support of local communities development in Gdansk.

Empowerment of local identity;

Access to information and gaining new skills;

Support for informal groups and citizens' initiatives;

Citizens' participation in decision making processes;

**Improvement of existing and building new resources within
local communities;**





Steps to change governance culture

- Mayor's vision
- New strategy and planning
- New profile of civil servants
- Gdansk Club – think tank for social change and innovation
- Cross sectorial, integrated approach, both horizontally and vertically within city administration and outside



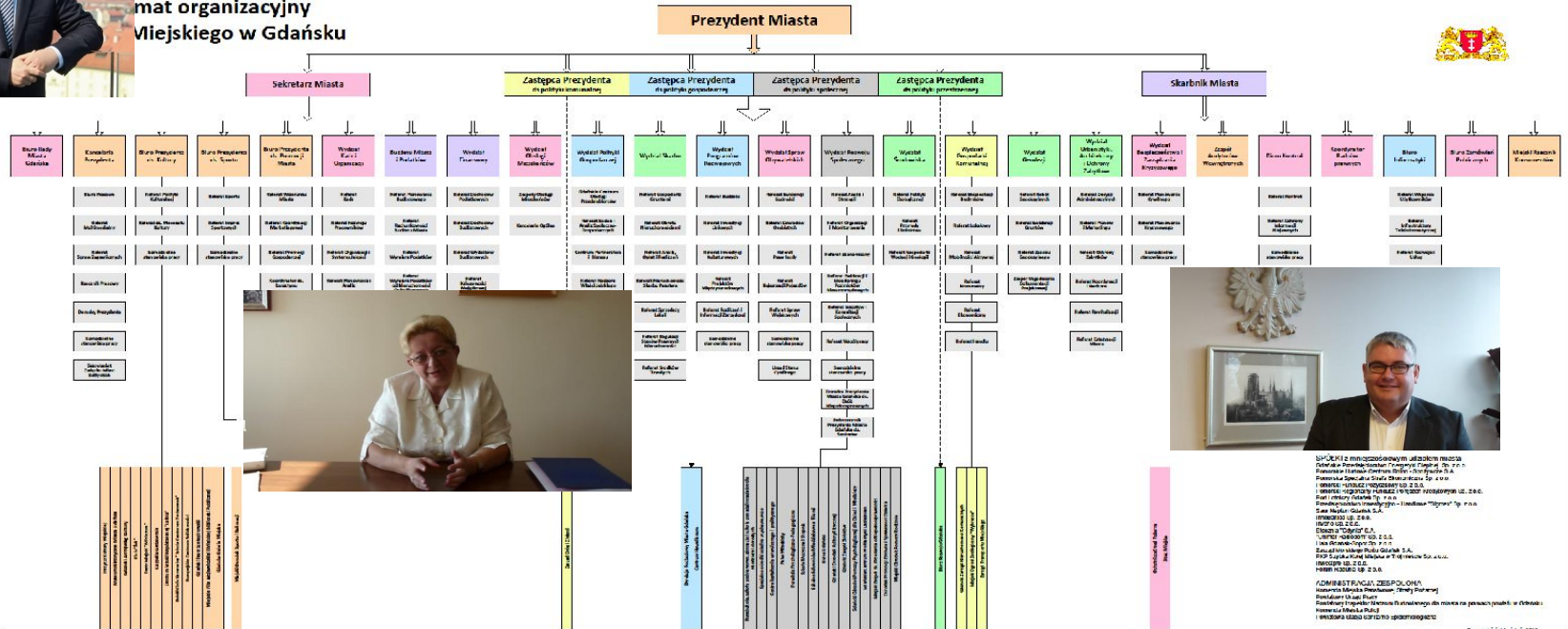


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Reform of the administrative structure



Plan organizacyjny
Miejskiego w Gdańsku



„...to be innovative, the city has to start from its' own administration”

Paweł Adamowicz, late Mayor of Gdansk





Citizens empowerment

- Role of NGOs
- Advisory bodies, working groups
- Urbact projects implementing co-creation methods to planning and policy making





Citizenship based on.....

- empowerment
- engagement
- activity
- involvement
- inclusion
- responsibility





Need for space..... ...physical and mental for civil society collaboration in cities

- **Fostering social innovation**
- **Empowering, engaging, involving**
- **Local or/and city-wide or/and specialized**

HOW & WHO with to create such a space





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Gdansk model of Neighbourly Houses was initiated in 2008, then developed and implemented by the citizens, local NGOs and Municipality of Gdansk and based on the concept of the British & Irish Community Centres.

Community centres are playing a major part in the concept of community development and democracy seen through individuals organizing themselves into neighbourhood groups responding to people's needs, aspirations and desires.

Started

2009 – 5 houses

2021 – 24 houses (21 cofinanced by the city)





EXAMPLES.....from Gdansk..... Neighbourhood Houses

places open for diversity of individuals and groups with activities initiated, organized and managed by the local communities, aimed on long-term empowerment of their activism, participation and identity.

Seated in:

- premises belonging to the organizations
- municipal buildings, adapted to this aim
- new locations developed by regeneration programmes

Houses are cofinanced by the city of Gdansk in the form of contract with local NGOs.





Local Center:

- works for the benefit of the local community - individually defined on the basis of its needs and potential
- creates a place accessible to residents
- uses the available tools as part of animating neighborhood cooperation
- activates local leaders



Neighbourhood Club

One year contract

Neighbourhood House

one year contract

Neighbourhood House

3 years contract



EXAMPLES from Gdansk: Civil Hub



Instead of the „process”, better oiled gear machine

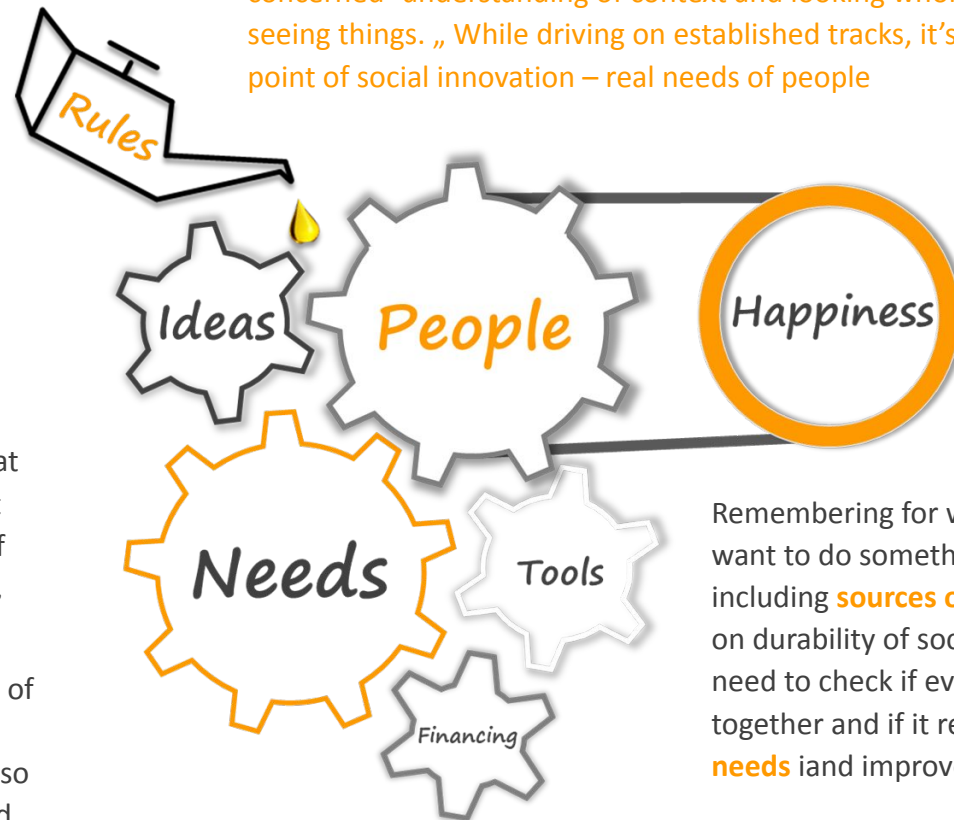
Improving life in our city is like well oiled gear machine, where in which each sprocket is important and if even one malfunctions, the whole machine can become obliterated.

There is need for holistic approach as far as creation of social innovation is concerned- understanding of context and looking whole picture instead of linear seeing things. „ While driving on established tracks, it’s easy to lose sight of main point of social innovation – real needs of people

Rules are like lubricant thanks which whole machine is working smoothly: we are using common language of values so we are understanding each other and we can trust each other

Social needs are needs of **people** , that means ours, citizens of Gdansk – that mean **ideas** how to improve quality of our life should be worked out with us, for us and through us.

Among us there are innovators- some of us are already inventing something, other have just **ideas**, but there are also those who don’t even know that could be great „changemakers”.



Remembering for who and why we want to do something, we choose **tools**, including **sources of financing** focused on durability of social impact. Later we need to check if everything works fine together and if it really respond to our **needs** iand improve **quality of our life**.



tasks and challenges

- 1 social innovation and social economy
- 2 Local ecosystems animation
- 3 public consultations, civic budget, panels
- 4 animation of seniors and youth
- 6 social projects, including external financing
- 7 changemakers network, social coworking





Hand in hand facing the challenges, co-creation and social innovation in the city

Participative processes

Co-creation policy making
Urban planning

Innovative tools

Citizens' budget
Youth fund
Seniors' fund
Neighbourhood Fund
Social Innovation Fund
Gdansk Lab
Open data
Citizens' Assemblies

Co-created services

Neighbourhood Houses
Creative Pedagogy
Migrants Integration
People with disabilities
The homeless





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THANK YOU



European Union
European Regional Development Fund

