OPEN 2020 Webinar – Open Collective

Webinar notes - 7th May 2020

[OPEN 2020](#) asks:

Could *ALL* the groups that are developing platform co-op, new economy and commons building projects, come together to create an online event where we collectively figure out:

How to enable small groups to form, exchange ideas, define shared purposes, to collaborate effectively, and trade – within a global network of like minded commons building initiatives?

In the lead up to the main event on the 11th and 12th of June we are running a series of webinars to highlight some of the existing networks, projects and protocols that contain elements of effective commons building initiatives.

In this webinar we hear from [Xavier Damman](#), to learn about [Open Collective](#) – which lets groups manage their finances so everyone can see where money comes from and where it goes, without requiring the group to be an incorporated entity.

Open Collective's mission is to:

Help organize the world in open circles, where everyone can contribute.

The Open Co-op uses Open Collective to host 4 different projects - if you would like to contribute to any of them we would be very grateful: https://opencollective.com/open_coop

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Please add comments below - **PLUS YOUR NAME!**
Amy Hulme - social change agency

They have an onboarding process.
- most groups already have a collective decision-making process
- groups must have at least three "admin" people

Timeline:
Intro >> Presentation >> Discussion >> Breakout rooms >> Feedback >> Sum up

Questions / Ideas
1. How can the .org, open source version of Open Collective, support the acceleration of networked groups?
2. Are there any tips / tricks for gaining more donations and contributions on an OC?
3. How does OC relate to other ideas / platforms?
4. How does OC integrate with other platforms / API etc? - What could be standardised to help the interface with other platforms…?

Xavier - OC is "reducing friction" for small groups and communities

      Transparency of the accounting increases trust

Oliver: does the Open Collective have any tools to help with governance and collective decision-making?
- Depends on the size and other factors
- The platform provides transparency
- All the expenses and approval is public

Oliver: Is there a requirement generally on administrative requirements?
- It depends on the fiscal host

What is a "fiscal host"?
- a legal entity that is hosting the other entities.
- An interface between the 20th C bureaucracy and new projects
- recall the analogy with web servers – people don't have to do it all themselves

Amy: at the start of the pandemic they committed to offering free services. Fees are paid when interactions are on the platform. Social Change Agency has funding from elsewhere.

Xavier: Foundations of public authorities are the right people to fund the infrastructure.

Oliver: technical question: you can create a 'goal' and 'donation button'. Can you integrate the facilities on your own site? Yes.

Filipa: The funders – can they at some point ask for something that the group considers confidential? Say if they were developing new technology...

Xavier: example of facilitator collective.

Filipa: imagine a group of engineers that would want to develop a piece of technology to share (e.g. environmentally friendly portable homes, to provide at very low price to 3rd world countries) but were worried that before that this piece of technology would be finished it would be patented (by one of the private funders) before it was finished?

Amy: people use OC so that people don't have to do the financial side

Sam:

Xavier: Open Collective is Open Source

- working on OC communities – to make it easier for people to

Jennifer: Do you have to be a non-profit? No.

Robert: relating to fiscal hosting

No easy platforms for quickly getting up a community currency!

Grace: I've been working on a currency course around how to shift money to manage natural resources. This is my links document: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1M3ooTulljGehOJ9lzcT0QSH1OcRmcAPbO-E8ej_DJuY/edit#

Aleeza:

FYI fun fact, the shirt I was wearing is from a community currency https://duniter.org/en/

I'm a contributor to Trustlines Network, a P2P mutual credit network, https://trustlines.app/

Mary Fee:

At LETSlink UK - http://www.letslinkuk.net - we have been working on "Local Exchange" and could develop a demo here: http://www.localexchange.org.uk