

ORAL SESSION 2: HOUSING AND DAILY ACTIVITIES

Sharing Neighbourhoods –Barriers and drivers to share spaces and the role of technology

D. Baer, K. Høyland, L.A. Bø (SINTEF Community)

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Purpose Active healthy aging is provided through participation in social life, loneliness is reduced. But the number of availabilities to participate in social life is limited in rural and decentral housing neighbourhoods. Especially in these areas voluntary activities plays therefore an important role to provide meeting places for participation in social life and society in general. With a limited number of spaces for voluntary activities available, the sharing of spaces plays an important role to enable voluntary activities. We argue that technology can besides good spatial design and architecture foster sharing of spaces, but a number of barriers limit the sharing of spaces in general and the implementation of technology to overcome these barriers. Our paper will present barriers and drivers for sharing spaces for voluntary activities and dis-cuss the role of technology and good spatial design and architecture to foster sharing of spaces on the neighbourhood level. **Method** We have chosen the city of Trondheim and the decentral housing area of Saupstad as case study to combine a quantitative and qualitative research approach. Our study focuses on in-door shared spaces as due to climate conditions and the limited availability of outdoor shared spaces to short timeslots during the year. Based on a mapping of spaces shared for voluntary activities within the case area, we identified stakeholders involved at the supply and demand side. Through qualitative interviews with them and providers of technological solutions as applications for booking and smart locks for space sharing, we identified the potential of technology and good design to improve space sharing and enhance social life.

Results and Discussion Our study shows, that a wide range of institutions share spaces for voluntary activities in Saupstad that foster social participation. These institutions are mainly public as schools and e.g. the library and accompanied by other institutions as the church or sport clubs. The accessibility to spaces shared for voluntary activities is limited due to physical, organizational and institutional factors. Especially the booking and access to the room are pointed out as crucial factors by the interview partners. Technological applications for room booking and smart locks were identified as solutions to solve these challenges, but their implementation is challenged by diverse responsibilities at the neighbourhood level. We also observed that a good design and architecture of buildings and the neighbourhood in general contribute to space sharing and social participation. We conclude that a combination of technological solutions and good physical design and architecture can foster space sharing at a neighbourhood level, but the existing conditions – mainly the diverse interests of stakeholders involved- limit their implementation. We summarize our findings by naming a number of recommendations to improve space sharing at a neighbourhood level.

Keywords: space sharing, voluntary work, neighbourhood development, smart lock

Address: Daniela Baer, SINTEF Community, Norway

Email: Daniela.baer@sintef.no