



Lecture at the VHS Simmering 2017 © Smarter Together/Andrea Klem

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adult education centre (VHS Simmering), with
1 Music School and
1 Municipal Library

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Regional Forum

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educational district
Enkplatz

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Project partner:

- City of Vienna Schools
- VHS Simmering
- Musikschule Simmering
- Städtische Bücherei Simmering
- DIE UMWELTBERATUNG



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Project context

Cooperation with local educational institutions – such as the Simmering educational centre with its adult education centre, music school and municipal library as well as local primary and secondary schools – plays an important role in the work of Smarter Together. Vienna's adult education centre network has a 100-year tradition of imparting knowledge and is organised in a decentralised manner through its branch offices in the city districts. VHS Simmering is an important centre for numerous participation activities in the district.

Smarter Together measures

- In cooperation with VHS Simmering, a number of larger events on smart city topics were organised in 2017.
- A series of workshops was held with environmental counselling organisation, DIE UMWELTBERATUNG.
- Numerous workshops for international professional visitors were also held at VHS Simmering.
- The municipal library was provided with a large touch-screen computer with project information. This allowed children to participate as judges in the Tommy Children's

Software Award for the first time.

- Numerous information materials on the project are now available at VHS Simmering.
- An energy-saving café was set up at the VHS.

Boosting the process

The anchoring of the project with VHS Simmering, an important local educational institution, has contributed significantly to its positive dynamics and success.

Using public space

- The forecourt of VHS Simmering was a central venue for Smarter Together.
- Numerous guided district walks started in front of VHS Simmering.
- Smarter Together participated several times in the Simmering Street Festival, as well as in the VHS Simmering Education Day.
- An information board on the Smarter Together thematic trail is clearly visible in the forecourt.
- The SIMmobile made several stops in front of VHS Simmering.
- The Mobility Agency's walking café was set up in front of VHS Simmering.
- The catering outlets located in



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the forecourt of the VHS were also regularly involved in the project.

Regional Forum and Educational Quarter

At the start of the project, structured cooperation with Regional Forum, a network of local socially participative institutions was agreed upon. It was subsequently possible to transfer the numerous cooperation formats with a focus on education into structured and continuous cooperation with local educational institutions in the Enkplatz Education Quarter.

Lessons Learned

From a project management perspective, networking with and among local partners was extremely conducive to success respectively for reaching out to so many people in the quarter on a personal basis. The local partners and their networking activities were also essential in generating public goodwill towards the project.

Replication

The numerous joint activities of the local actors contributed to sustainable networking.

Holistic thinking about participation and communication

- The structured cooperation with VHS Simmering made it possible to address specific target audiences from the outset.
- VHS Simmering was a central anchor for local networking.

