## When citizens become experts

An approach for an integrated project and participation management

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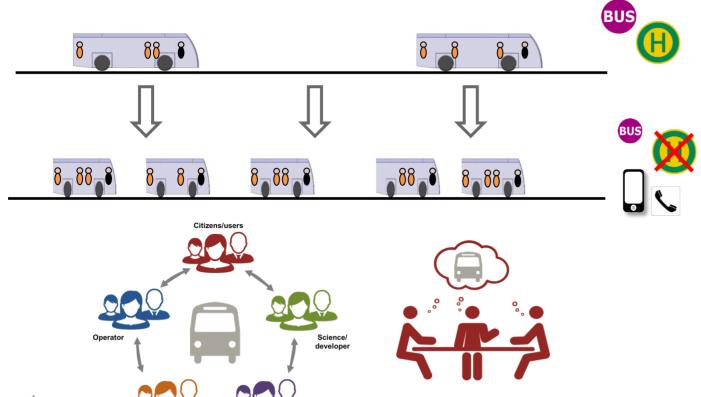




# The "Reallabor Schorndorf" (real-world lab Schorndorf)

#### Resource-efficient, flexible and user-friendly transport system:

• Development of an innovative, demand-oriented mobility concept for public busses by integrating the knowledge and the requirements of the citizens into the development process



#### Fact sheet "Reallabor Schorndorf"

Sponsor: Ministry of Science, Research,

and Art, Baden-Württemberg

**Funding volume:** 1.2 mio €

**Duration**: 3 years (2/2016-1/2019)

**Project consortium:** DLR, Esslingen University,

Stuttgart University, VVS, Knauss, City of Schorndorf,

Daimler

**City of Schorndorf:** approx. 39.000 inh.

Characteristics: high level of car use and

> ownership rates, stagnation of public transport use rates despite

increase of frequencies



# Participatory processes and formats in the real-world lab Schorndorf

#### Continuous information transfer through

- media coverage on the project's processes,
- information events.
- discourse with stakeholders, and
- weekly citizen surgeries.

### Co-Creation Workshops on new mobility concepts

- to explore needs and requirements, and
- to collaboratively create prototypical solutions.

### Citizen involvement in the testing and evaluation phase through

- information events.
- quantitative surveys, and
- qualitative surveys.





# Potentials and challenges of the participatory approach

### **Potentials**



- Activate innovative capacities and enhance acceptance among users/citizens
- Develop and adjust solutions to needs and demands of various stakeholders
- Gain a better understanding of technological development processes on the users'/citizens' side
- Gain a better understanding of socio-cultural context on the scientific/developers' side

### **Challenges**



- One perfect system for all?
- Different actors different language/vocabulary, sense-making, solution finding, etc.
- Collaborative planning phase but selective solution in the end
- Creative co-creation formats lead to very specific and visual solutions – but few actors were used to more 'conventional' participatory formats



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