

DE ANDERE MARKT

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a living lab

How do you imagine a workstation based on your unique capabilities? The project De Andere Markt (DAM, a Living Lab in the city of Genk) explores this question via the Participatory Design of semi-fictional 'workstations' addressing local skills. Through this process we give shape to the future of work together with local citizens, public and private organisations and an international network of researchers. The findings, methods, tools and artefacts are made public, which allows them to be transferred to other projects, locations and times, as a means of supporting a broader, sustainable and informed debate on 'work'.

transferring
imaginations
of **work**
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food workstations

In this exhibition we focus on one of the Lab's projects about an old coal track. For this project we intervened in public space, using a cargo bike with a DIY printing-press, asking small-scale initiatives (farmers, artists, bee keepers etc.) alongside the track to make a poster that expresses their skills. Based on these posters and the stories they told about their initiatives, we organised a series of co-design workshops and asked them how they could combine their skills in different speculative 'workstations'. Since most initiatives revolved around 'making', 'food' and 'energy', these became the thematic foci of these stations. In this presentation the idea of food-workstations is further developed. The different initiatives working around food are currently imagining food-workstations as places for technology and scientific experiment, production, processing, distribution and/or consumption of food. They are also thinking about concrete steps to turn this image into reality.

let's debate

We present a local case and approach, but the debate on work and who should be involved in it is much bigger. Therefore, this exhibition and workshop seeks to contribute to the debate on the values and ways of transferring this type of local initiatives to different groups in the city and other contexts, locations and times.

What does this local case mean to you?

Is the value in the scenario, the pictures, the individual stories or rather in the tools (e.g. website, cargobike) or approaches (e.g. capacity building)?

How would you make use of these tools, approaches, stories or scenarios for your own context/practice?

What are - according to you - good practices in transferring these kind of cases?