

The Creativity in Green Care Activities

– The Socio-Cultural Perspective to the Possibilities of Care Farming

” Green Care: Health Effects, Economics and policies”

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Questions and special interests in Green Care

- What are the creative and innovative contents of the care farm practises?
- How can the creative place bounded dimensions be analyzed?
- How can they promote well-being?





Creativity as a Power in Cultural Context

"Culture" refers here to creative temporal, spatial and social processes:

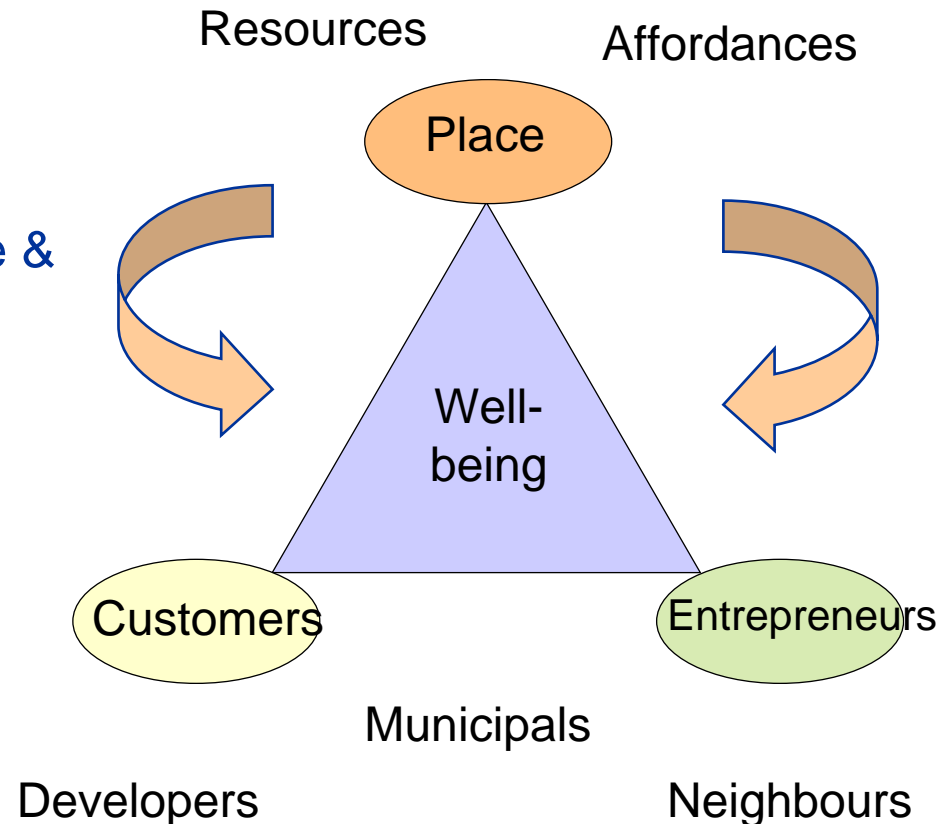
- 1) the artefacts and landscapes which are produced in human practises
- 2) the meanings and symbols produced by interaction between people and their surroundings
 - the sense of place, the resources of a place

Creativity can be constructive but even destructive



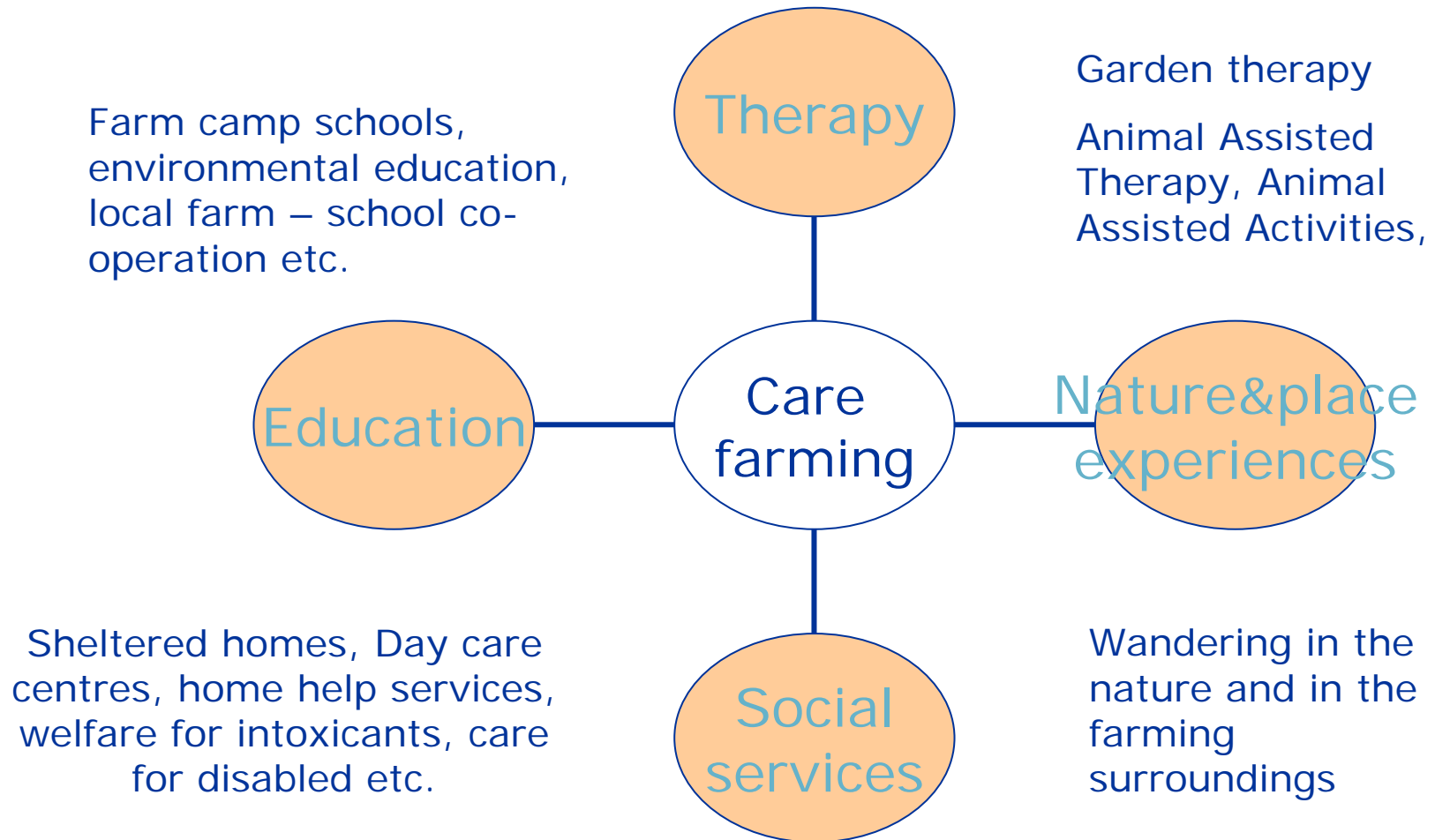
Innovations in interaction

- ⇒ How people produce, experience and consume care farms as places and social spaces?
- ⇒ What are the sustainable & renewable cultural resources for innovations from the perspective of well-being?





Different aspects of care farming and their use of environment





Care & Interaction

- Satisfaction of basic needs
- Promotion of health and well being
- Prevention of problems

Peace of Mind & Slow Time

- Experience of being close to the nature: woods, fields, water, snow, rain, trees, animals etc.
- Landscapes of Presence
- the Audio Landscape of Silence

Daily Exercises & Experiences

- Taking care of animals
- "Chopping fire wood"
- Manual skills and learning by doing
- Physical work, daily rhythm

Convictions & Ethics

- Think global - act local
- Local resources
- Human perspective
- Sustainable development

Farms as Places for Creative Practices

Who-Am-I & Who-Are-We

- Positioning oneself by memories and stories
- Places of belonging
- Landmarks of local history

Togetherness, Friendship and Love

- The sociality and rhythm of attending other people
- Interaction and networks Gemeinschaft

Garden Therapy

Environments of learning

Riding Therapy

Care Farms

Social farming



Observing the Case Study Enterprises:

- The values
- The elements of interaction
- The daily rhythm
- The cultural resources and disadvantages of the place (and farm)
- The possibilities and threats regarding the future





Elements of Interaction on Care Farms

- Actors: animals, emotions, care routines
- Active or passive use of surroundings?
- Same place for different ages, different meanings?
- Different time spans: slow time >< high season of work on the farms





Paradoxes and constraints

Market profiles
=> commodification of practices

Instrumental values

Non-market time for creative individuals
=> meaningful sphere of human practices
(doing things for their own sake)

Intrinsic values

Interaction between the different actors
⇒ reflection of values, goals and visions
⇒ alternative scenarios
⇒ long time perspective
(“public spaces for free access”)

Values and
the future
in the making



Social Economy & Space for Interaction: Development of the Ideas in Future Workshops

- interaction and empowerment: new discussions and processes based on the participants own ideas
 - open discussion about the problematic questions, trends and weak signals in the field of action
 - more specific innovations, networks and action
- => new economy based on the creativity of the individuals



Links and References

- COST866 Green care in Agriculture
<http://www.umb.no/greencare>
- Farming for Health
<http://www.farmingforhealth.org/>
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