Community of Practice
eCollaboration

**revised concept of the SIG for eCollaboration (eCo)
based on the results from the need analysis 2015**

**Brig, May/June 2015
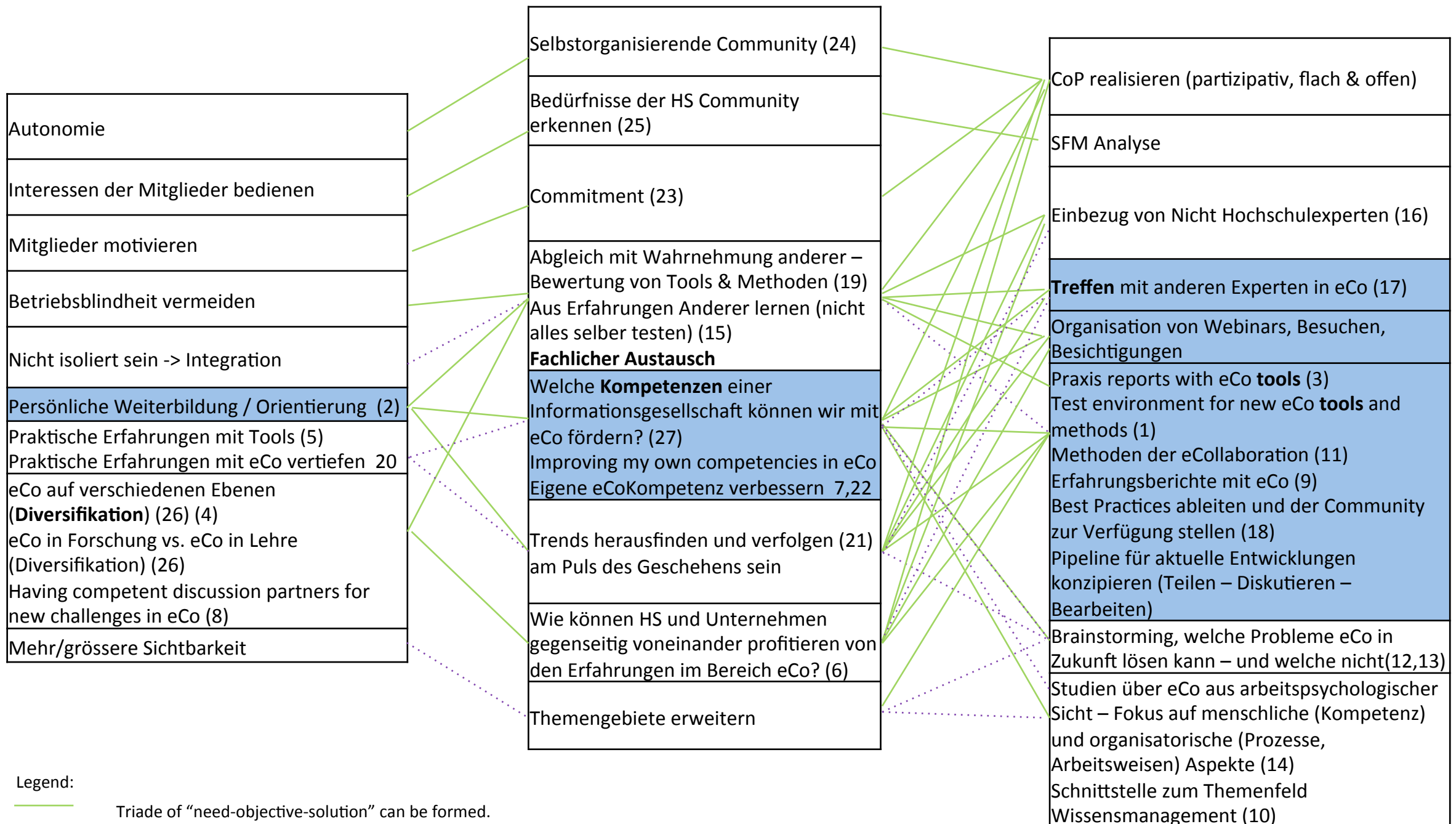Nicole Bittel, Willi Bernhard, Marco Bettoni & Victoria Mirata (IFeL)**

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Need Analysis with SFM*

*The analysis is based on the wishes, needs and expectations of the SIG members from the padlet wall (May 2015). Those statements were structured with the Solution Finder Model (SFM) method to identify those solutions which are sustainable regarding their intertwined needs and objectives. The figures next to the statements below refer to the original statements on padlet. Further, a webinar with more detailed information about the applied method can be found on SwitchTube.
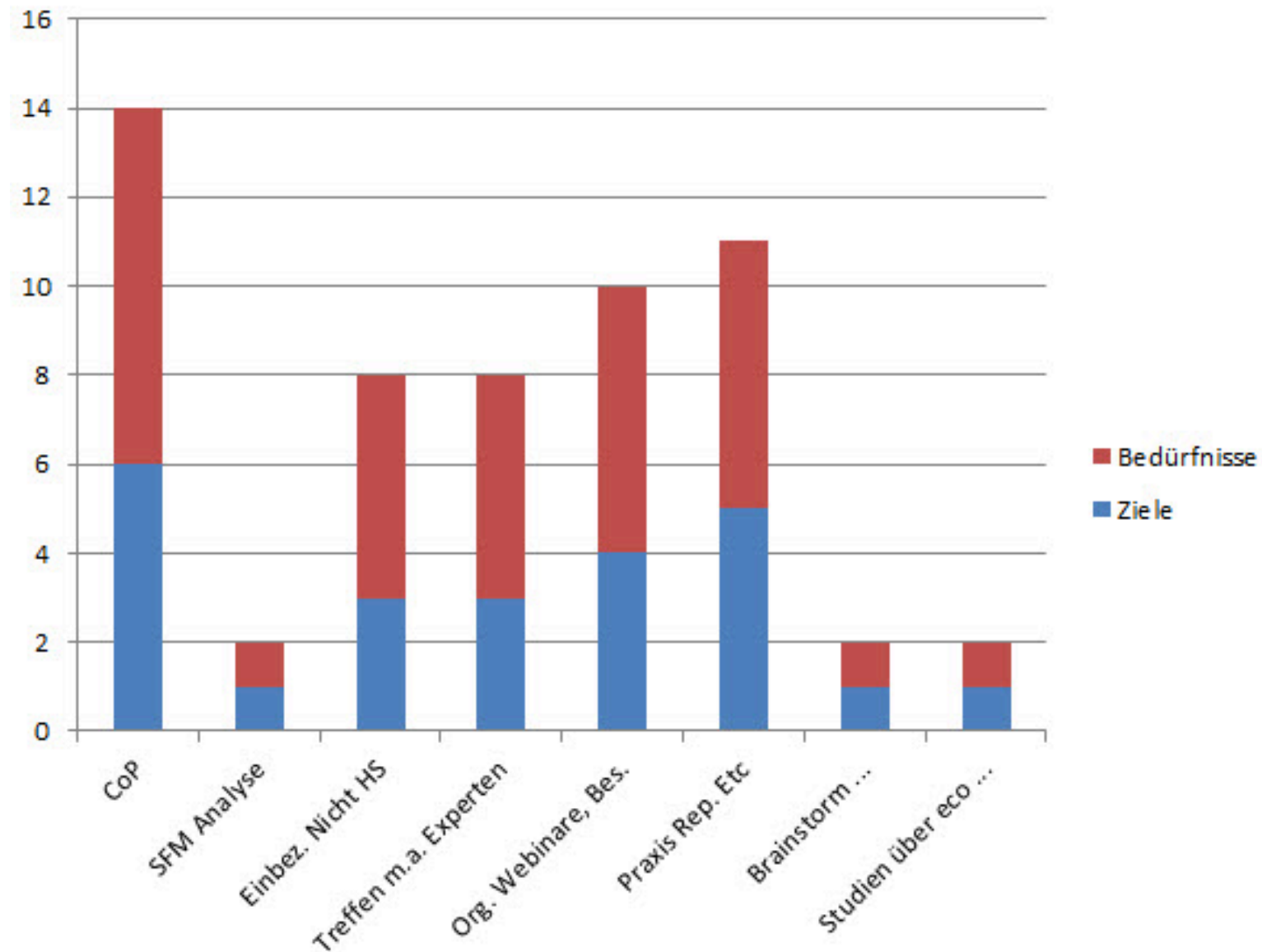
Need

- Autonomie
- Interessen der Mitglieder bedienen
- Mitglieder motivieren
- Betriebsblindheit vermeiden
- Nicht isoliert sein -> Integration
- Persönliche Weiterbildung / Orientierung (2)
- Praktische Erfahrungen mit Tools (5)
- Praktische Erfahrungen mit eCo vertiefen 20
- eCo auf verschiedenen Ebenen (**Diversifikation**) (26) (4)
- eCo in Forschung vs. eCo in Lehre (Diversifikation) (26)
- Having competent discussion partners for new challenges in eCo (8)
- Mehr/grössere Sichtbarkeit

Objective

- Selbstorganisierende Community (24)
- Bedürfnisse der HS Community erkennen (25)
- Commitment (23)
- Abgleich mit Wahrnehmung anderer – Bewertung von Tools & Methoden (19)
- Aus Erfahrungen Anderer lernen (nicht alles selber testen) (15)
- **Fachlicher Austausch**
- Welche **Kompetenzen** einer Informationsgesellschaft können wir mit eCo fördern? (27)
- Improving my own competencies in eCo Eigene eCoKompetenz verbessern 7,22
- Trends herausfinden und verfolgen (21) am Puls des Geschehens sein
- Wie können HS und Unternehmen gegenseitig voneinander profitieren von den Erfahrungen im Bereich eCo? (6)
- Themengebiete erweitern

Solution

- CoP realisieren (partizipativ, flach & offen)
- SFM Analyse
- Einbezug von Nicht Hochschulexperten (16)
- **Treffen** mit anderen Experten in eCo (17)
- Organisation von Webinars, Besuchen, Besichtigungen
- Praxis reports with eCo **tools** (3)
- Test environment for new eCo **tools** and methods (1)
- Methoden der eCollaboration (11)
- Erfahrungsberichte mit eCo (9)
- Best Practices ableiten und der Community zur Verfügung stellen (18)
- Pipeline für aktuelle Entwicklungen konzipieren (Teilen – Diskutieren – Bearbeiten)
- Brainstorming, welche Probleme eCo in Zukunft lösen kann – und welche nicht(12,13)
- Studien über eCo aus arbeitspsychologischer Sicht – Fokus auf menschliche (Kompetenz) und organisatorische (Prozesse, Arbeitsweisen) Aspekte (14)
- Schnittstelle zum Themenfeld Wissensmanagement (10)

Legend:

——— Triade of "need-objective-solution" can be formed.

·········· Triade of "need-objective-solution" can *not* be formed.

The SFM-Analysis as Graph

Tab. 1: Solutions weighted by the number of related objectives and solutions. Multiple counting of needs are possible.

Recommendation

Based on the results of the SFM analysis, the concept of community of practice (CoP) turns out to be a good solution for addressing the various needs of the SIG members. With this in mind, the CoP eCo would address in particular the **2 following areas of activity**:

1. Providing experience reports and best practice examples, testing new eCo tools and methods, implementing an activity pipeline/pool for relevant topics, ideas and inputs.
2. Organizing webinars, excursions and visits etc.

The CoP eCo is a community of individuals who get in touch with eCo in their professional life and who bring their knowledge, expertise and concerns into the CoP. The group is **open**, **self-organized** & **participatory** and has **flat hierarchies**. Each member is invited to participate actively.

There is no predefined agenda of activities. The CoP works on topics, ideas and inputs which are continually handed in by the members. All members who are interested in a particular idea are invited to work on it. Thus, the CoP follows a **driven by passion** approach.

All ideas for activities are collected in a **subject pool/ pipeline.** If a member intends to implement one of these activities, (s)he looks for other interested colleagues to join. Together, they realize the planned activity and share the outcomes with the whole community.

Thus, the CoP is able to fulfill the diverse needs of its members, from developing eCo **competences**, contributing to current **trends** and developments in the eCo field or **sharing** knowledge & expertise with other experts.
Further, the community provides its members **opportunities** that are not easily to realize for a single person (e.g. visits and excursions).

Implementation 1/3

Domain
The eCo CoP deals with all topics related to *virtual teamwork*.
The domain includes trends, current developments, tools, exchange of experience and many more.

Community
The eCo CoP is a community of stakeholders from higher education institutions, research and economy, establishing practice in the domain of eCo through mutual exchange and collaboration.

CoP für eCo

Practice
The eCo CoP: aims to give its members support in tackling their daily challenges with eCo. This can include:
- experience reports, best practice examples, tool tests
- the organization of events that are not easy to realize for single persons (e.g. tours)
- etc.

https://dokuwiki.toolbox.switch.ch/e-collaboration/

E-Collaboration

Edit

Description and Aims of the

The aim of the SIG E-Collabo   s to establish a network of specialists in e-collaboration from different domains (teaching, resea   earning, educational development and project management) and different universities. W   t to exchange experiences and know-how on e-collaboration and implement projects together

Edit

Subject Pool

There is no predefined agenda of SIG activities. Thus, please continually hand in your ideas and suggestions for community activities below. All members who are interested in a particular idea are invited to work on it (in a passion driven manner).

Which concrete activities would be helpful for you to handle your professional challenges with e-collaboration? Please add...

- Testing 🌐 realtimeboard 👆r education - an interactive whiteboard tool for collaboration
- ...

To initiate the realization of an activity, just open a new discussion 🌐 here and look for other members who are interested in joining you. Finally share the outcomes of your team work with the whole community (via forum, mail or another appropriate channel).

Implementation 2/3

Procedure

1. Members **hand in continually** their ideas in the topic pool. To this, they use the wiki in the SwitchToolbox.

2. Each member can **initiate the processing** of an idea as a thought leader. That means:
   - (s)he starts **a call** to all members in the SwitchToolbox forum. Those members who are interested, join the idea.
   - The idea team works then **self-organized** on the implementation of this idea and **shares** the outcomes of its activities with the whole community.

3. The coordinators of the CoP are responsible for **supporting the commitment** of the members. That means: they regularly motivate them to hand in their ideas into the topic pool and to join exisiting ideas. Furthermore they organize an annual meeting where the outcomes of the activities throughout the year are going to be presented. It's up to the coordinators to organize this meeting f2f or online.

Implementation 3/3

Roles & responsibilities

-Thought leader: takes over the responsibility for an idea/activity from the topic pool that is of relevance/interest for him/her. (S)he invites colleagues to work collaboratively on its implementation. Each member can become a thought leader.

- Coordinator: promotes and activates the engagement of the community members and organizes a yearly flashback event. Coordinators are: Nicole Bittel, Marco Bettoni, Willi Bernhard & Victoria Mirata.

- Members: participate in those activities which are interesting/relevant for them and join the annual meeting.

Some literature

- **Brief Introduction to Communities of Practice - Etienne Wenger (http://bit.ly/1g3OwYm)**

- **Growing a Vibrant Community of Practice (http://healthycampuses.ca/resource/growing-a-vibrant-community-of-practice/)**