# Idea sharing in Open Professional Virtual Communities

This survey is about participation in open professional virtual communities that give users the opportunity to voluntarily exchange ideas and work collaboratively towards common interests with their peers (such as Facebook, pages for professional interest, applying Google Drive etc.). These open professional virtual communities aim to foster collaborations beyond organizational boundaries, enabling networking and personal development of the members.

Answering this survey will take about 15 minutes of your time.

Answer questions as they relate to you. For most answers, check the box(es) most applicable to you or fill in the blanks.

#### 1. Your Age

**(Select only one.)**

17 or less

18-25

26-35

36-45

46-55

56-65

66-75

76 or more

#### 2. Your Gender

**(Select only one.)**

Female

Male

Other

#### 3. Your Role

University

School

Company

Other, specify\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What is your role in your institution? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

### About Your Organization

Do you have a work contract in a company or in academia? Yes/No

(if no, jump over 4)

#### 4. Organizational openness

Please choose the appropriate response for each item:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1  (Strongly  disagree) | 2  (Disagree) | 3  (Neither  agree or  disagree) | 4  (Agree) | 5  (Strongly  agree) |
| My organization encourages workers to engage in cross-organizational  business opportunities on the internet |  |  |  |  |  |
| My organization puts much value on  taking risks even if that turns out to be a failure |  |  |  |  |  |
| My organization encourages employees  to start new collaborations with external stakeholders and organizations |  |  |  |  |  |
| My organization encourages employees to develop their competences as they see best |  |  |  |  |  |
| My organization encourages employees to actively promote the organization on the internet |  |  |  |  |  |

### About your previous engagement in Open Professional Virtual Communities

#### 5. Previous experience

Please choose the appropriate response for each item:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1  (Strongly  disagree) | 2  (Disagree) | 3  (Neither  agree or  disagree) | 4  (Agree) | 5  (Strongly  agree) |
| I frequently participate in knowledge-sharing activities and share my knowledge with others in virtual communities. |  |  |  |  |  |
| I usually spend a lot of time conducting knowledge sharing activities in virtual communities |  |  |  |  |  |
| I frequently share my experiences with my peers in virtual communities |  |  |  |  |  |

### About your preferences in Open Professional Virtual Communities

#### 6. Emotional attachment to the group and to the ideas being shared

Please choose the appropriate response for each item:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1  (Strongly  disagree) | 2  (Disagree) | 3  (Neither  agree or  disagree) | 4  (Agree) | 5  (Strongly  agree) |
| Feeling like a part of the group is important for me in virtual communities |  |  |  |  |  |
| Emotional attachment to the group of collaborators encourages me to share knowledge online, even outside my contractual obligations |  |  |  |  |  |
| Feeling a strong sense of belonging is important for me in virtual communities |  |  |  |  |  |
| Feeling a strong connection to other members of the virtual community is important for me |  |  |  |  |  |
| I get emotionally attached to the resources I am creating (writings, products, services) |  |  |  |  |  |
| I expect to be emotionally attached to the ideas I am sharing in open professional virtual environments |  |  |  |  |  |
| Feeling a strong ownership of the ideas and resources being created in the virtual community is important for me |  |  |  |  |  |

#### 7. Collaborating with peers unfamiliar to you

Please choose the appropriate response for each item:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1  (Strongly  disagree) | 2  (Disagree) | 3  (Neither  agree or  disagree) | 4  (Agree) | 5  (Strongly  agree) |
| It is important to me that I know who my collaborators are in an open professional virtual community |  |  |  |  |  |
| I prefer to collaborate only with peers I know from before in an open professional virtual community |  |  |  |  |  |
| I do not mind exchaning ideas with peers unfamiliar to me in an open professional virtual community |  |  |  |  |  |
| It is easy for me to get to know to other members in open professional virtual communities |  |  |  |  |  |

#### 8. Working with ideas that haven’t matured

Please choose the appropriate response for each item:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1  (Strongly  disagree) | 2  (Disagree) | 3  (Neither  agree or  disagree) | 4  (Agree) | 5  (Strongly  agree) |
| I enjoy online collaboration on ideas that haven't matured |  |  |  |  |  |
| I enjoy engaging in collaborative settings online when ideas are still raw and enable creativity |  |  |  |  |  |
| I enjoy brainstorming online with my peers on how to turn raw ideas into real solutions |  |  |  |  |  |
| Being involved with the virtual community when the group is being formed increases my activity |  |  |  |  |  |
| I want to be included in the virtual community when I can best influence the direction of the ideas being exchanged |  |  |  |  |  |
| I prefer engaging to collaboration with the virtual community when idea sharing has matured and concrete outcomes and activities are foreseen |  |  |  |  |  |

#### 9. Outcome expectations

Please choose the appropriate response for each item:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1  (Strongly  disagree) | 2  (Disagree) | 3  (Neither  agree or  disagree) | 4  (Agree) | 5  (Strongly  agree) |
| Sharing my knowledge can build up my reputation in the open professional virtual community |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sharing my knowledge in an open professional virtual community will give me a sense of accomplishment |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sharing my knowledge will strengthen the tie between other members in the open professional virtual community and me |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sharing my knowledge will enable me to gain better cooperation from the outstanding members in the open professional virtual community |  |  |  |  |  |

#### 10. Willigness to contribute in open professional virtual communities

Please choose the appropriate response for each item:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1  (Strongly  disagree) | 2  (Disagree) | 3  (Neither  agree or  disagree) | 4  (Agree) | 5  (Strongly  agree) |
| I will engage in open professional virtual communities for the sake of my personal development in the future |  |  |  |  |  |
| I will engage in open professional virtual communities for improving my business contacts |  |  |  |  |  |
| I will share my knowledge with others in open professional virtual communities related to my work |  |  |  |  |  |

As you might be aware, the Idea Space collaborative environment is being developed by the designers of this questionnaire. We would like to ask about your involvement in the idea space.

Have you used the Idea Space –collaborative environment?

Yes/No

If Yes, Which ideas did you work on?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

If Yes, What was your username?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Your provided information will be handled with consideration and will only be used for academic purposes and to create the Idea Space further.

Thank you for completing this survey.