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Podcasts as a Platform for Societal Development

2025.01.24





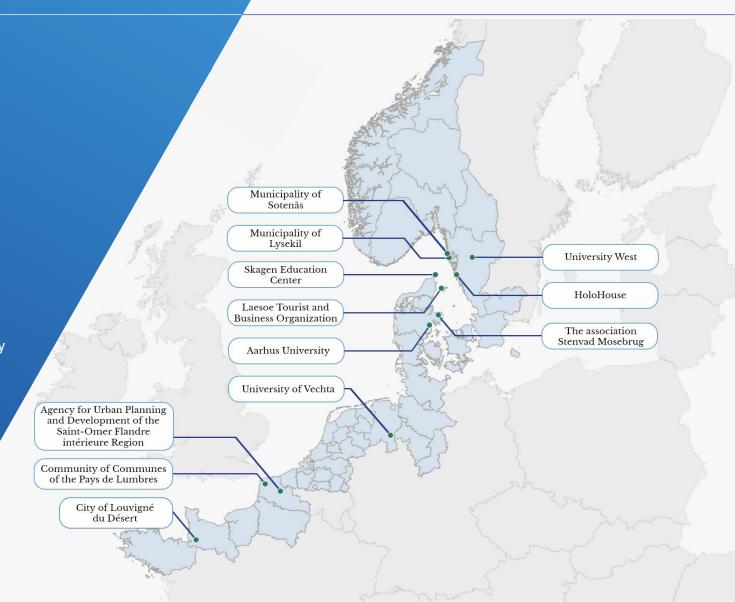




We develop sustainable, innovative and resilient rural areas together. *All onboard in rural societies for a fair future!*

The Project Hubs will implement Multi Helix pilots, collaboratively developed with the support of the project's knowledge partners.

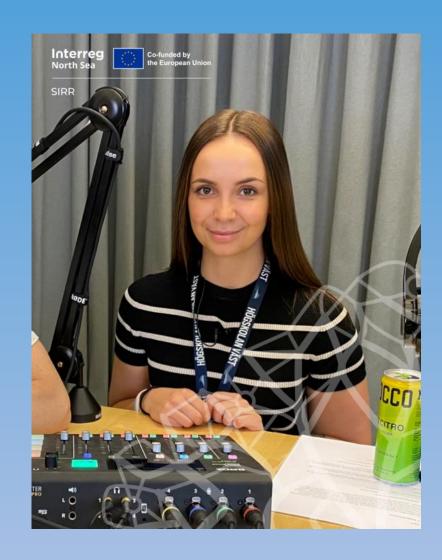
Project period: 01.10.2022 - 30.09.2027





Who am I?

- Wilma Westin Lundqvist
- Social Scientist, University West
- Teaching, research & project work
- And now... Podcasting! ©
 - Fritidspodder
 - Till Punkt



What is a podcast?

- The term comes from combining "iPod" and "Broadcast".
- It refers to recurring audio content often distributed via subscription over the internet → a method of publishing audio files online.
- Podcasts are available to listen to at any time.
- They can be streamed online or downloaded for offline listening.



What to think of when creating a podcast?

- Who are your listeners? Or more specifically, who is your ideal listener?
- How long should each episode be?
- When will episodes be released? (Consistency is key!)
- Will you invite guests? If so, how many and how often?
- Remember... creating a podcast takes time and commitment!
- Think of a unique name—but bear in mind, the first name you think of might already be taken.
- Plan your graphic design and visual identity: always have a profile picture and consider creating unique visuals for each episode.





Let's see what type of Podcast you would like:



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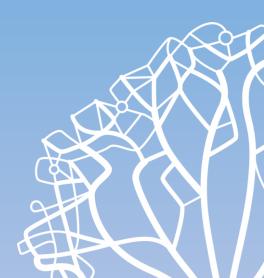
Leading a podcast

- Main role → Guide the conversation and connect with the audience. Focus on dialogue rather than a strict interview.
- If edited, ask again if needed!
- Use clear and concise language
- Contextualise ideas, encourage examples and comparisons to make concepts relatable.
- Help the audience follow a story & lead the audience seamlessly between topics to avoid confusion
- Take notes & have someone act as a second pair of ears so you can clarify any unclear points before the guest leaves.
- Why me?
- Why now?
- Why this?



A podcast, or a project?

- Pre-production
 - Brainstorm, decide how many episodes, layout of episodes, production schedule, finding guests, preinterviewing, theme music, visualizations, communications, etc...
- Production
 - Meet before, get comfortable, test the equipment, avoid time-sensitive phrases like "yesterday" or "last week"
- Post-production
 - listen to the audio through headphone, Write show notes, "quick clips" emotionally powerful moments that keep listeners interested
- Distribution
 - Communication strategy, teasers, marketing (SoME, E-mail)
- Putting it into the word





The more technical stuff....

- At University West we are use a RODECASTER, a hardware-based tool.
- You can use almost anything—computer, phone, Zoom, and so on—as long as it allows you to record.
- Good sound quality is important, so a good microphone is essential

Online tools for recording and editing include:

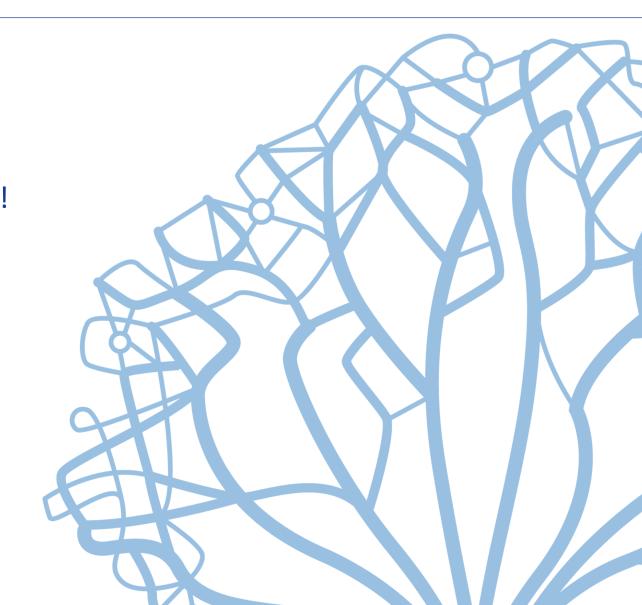
https://podcastle.ai/ https://podcast.adobe.com/

That said, this is not my strongest area, and I've been fortunate to have a media technician who handles all of this—because quality matters!











Podcasts as Catalysts for Societal Development

- A Meeting Point for Diverse Perspectives
- A Two-Step Learning Experience
- Tackling Complex Issues with a Long-Term Vision
- A Platform for Engagement and Mobilization
- Accessible and Inclusive





A Meeting Point for Diverse Perspectives

- Academics, professionals, citizens...
- Cross-field collaboration & collective effort
- Neutral spaces
- Creating connections





A Two-Step Learning Experience

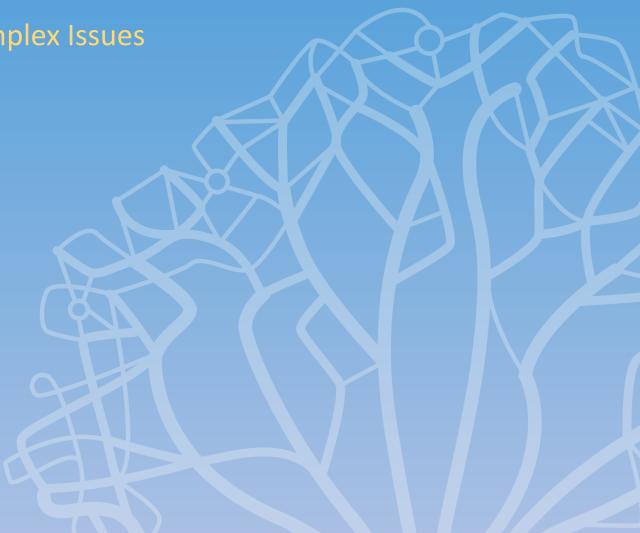
- The live dialogue during recording
 - Transdisciplinarity
 - Co-creation of knowledge
 - Challenging assumptions
- During the Listening Experience
 - Personal pace and timing
 - Reflection and knowledge integration
 - Opportunity for application to everyday situations







- Defining the problem and building consensus
- Inclusive perspective
- Addressing immediate needs while planning for the future
- Steps for action that works together
- Inpspiring for change
- Real world examples





A Platform for Engagement and Mobilization

- Highlight areas for input and collaboration
- Create connections
- Empower the audience (!)
 - For change to happen, we need our citizens not only onboard but together with us, sharing their realities and expertise





Accessible and Inclusive

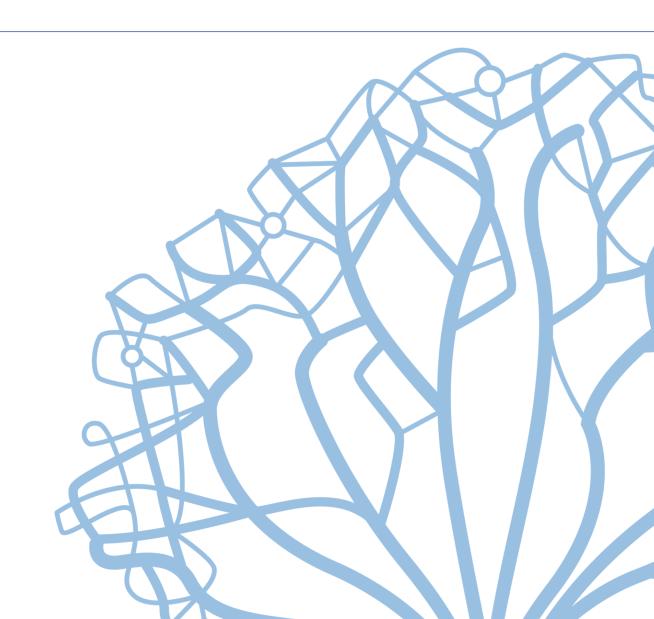
- Accessibility & flexibility
- Conversational and story telling





What about challenges?

- Technical learning curve
- Audience engagement
- Resources and time





5 things for your success

- Be consistent people should recognize the content, and it should be published at a specific time and day. Hook into the listeners' routines.
- Adjust the sound so it sounds good.
- Pre-meeting, let participants get comfortable speaking into the microphone and with each other. Record this as well, some golden moments come when they don't know they're being recorded.
- Be relaxed and help your guests relax.
- Remember it takes time!







Your thoughts



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