Open-source respiratory health commons

15 projects communities can adapt, repair, reproduce for low cost medical care (libre and open-source tech)

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⁸ LogAir, Switzerland ⁹ Open Source Pharma Foundation, India ¹⁰ EchOpen, France

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A core goal of public policy should be to facilitate the development of institutions that bring out the best in humans.

Elinor Ostrom. 2009

Harnessing open-source methodology will ensure that funding used to develop scientific equipment is spent only once. Scaled replication saves 90–99% on conventional costs.

Joshua Pearce. 2014

An example: open-sourcing MRI scanners in Germany could spare up to 3.3 billion dollars within 20 years. This does not fundamentally change the medical system, or business, but promotes real innovation.

Lukas Winter et al. 2019

Today, 6 humans in 10 have no access to medical care or do not adhere to it.

Health as a business (IP)

Health as commons (open-source)

limited number of employees
black box design
excluding propriety
centralized validation
centralized mass production

open network of interdisciplinary contributors
iterative co-creation and documentation
shared rights to use, repair, study, reproduce, adapt
shared responsibility
distributed crowd/peer production
fair price or gratis, costs cut by 10-100 with mutualization

competition, dependency

price barrier excludes users

solidarity, capacity building

disease management

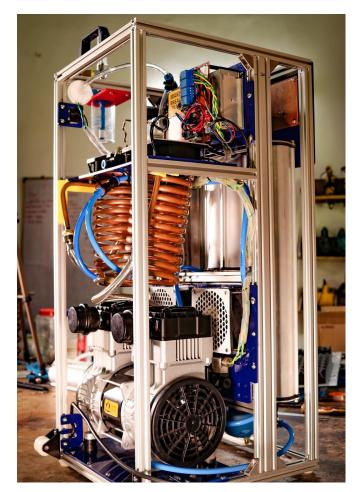
Please refer to the websites regarding the projects aims, and seek professional advice before using or reproducing them.



Isinnova Charlotte – valve for mask

Challenge	Providing a rapid solution to the shortage of C-PAP masks in hospitals, which ensures the right amount of air/oxygen is provided to users with a sealed system.
Current version	3D-printable valve to connect a commercial snorkeling mask to oxygen supply, a PEEP valve, and optionally a reservoir (adding a 3D-printed fork element).
Readiness	Ready to manufacture, not a medical device
Licences	open-source (not described) - mask is closed source
Reprod. cost	filament + time (~ 10 pieces daily per printer)
Next steps	_
Inspiring story	The start-up created a prototype, tested it and printed a hundred pieces in three days. 1200 manufacturers contacted them to support with the manufacturing.
Websites	www.isinnova.it/archivio-progetti/easy-covid-19/

Source: isinnova.it



M19 O2 – Oxygen concentrator

Challenge	Activating local communities to make an oxygen concentrator in India; building capacity to manufacture and maintain it locally and in a decentralised manner.
Current version	Delta version with indigenously sourced parts, 15 liters per minute, 96% oxygen concentration, OSHWA certification, 150 organisations contributing
Readiness	Final stages of functional testing, ready to manufacture
Licences	CERN OHL S 2 (hardware), MIT (software), CC BY 4 (doc)
Reprod. cost	1000 € material + 8 hours
Next steps	Capacity building for repair and reuse, research paper on scaling decentralised manufacturing (Cambridge), final certification on functional testing via NABL
Inspiring story	1 million face shields in 49 days, 42 cities → M19 O2 The M19 collective has a centralised open source design philosophy with decentralised manufacturing.
Websites	www.makersasylum.com/m19o2/ www.github.com/MakersAsylumIndia/M19O2

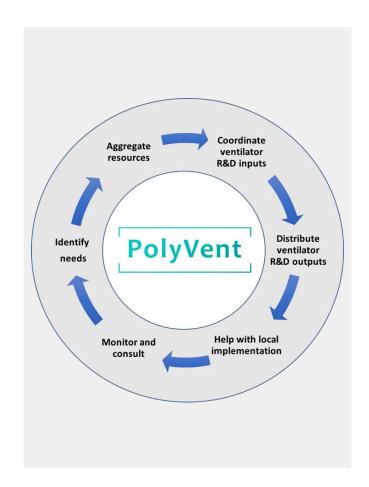
Source: makerasylum.com



OpenVent – Ventilation machine

Challenge	Answering the shortage of ventilation machines thanks to a design that can be rapidly manufactured in various countries and at low-cost.
Current version	Respirator combining an approved bag valve mask and a motorized arm, with adjustable PEEP valve, standard air outlet and setting interface. Requires a power outlet.
Readiness	TRL 3
Licence	MIT (hardware)
Reprod. cost	380 € material
Next steps	3d-printed flow sensors prototyping, laboratory testing (MHRA), application for medical device clearance (FDA, EUA, ISO-13485), life testing.
Inspiring story	?
Websites	www.github.com/Open-Vent-Bristol www.openventbristol.co.uk

Source: openventbristol.co.uk



Polyvent – Ventilator co-design platform

Challenge	Lowering entry hurdles to locally develop and produce intense care unit ventilators. Bridging geographical clusters around one adaptable design for accessibility.
Current version	Fourth prototype in development. Includes several interchangeable modules: gas drive, control, gas routing, gas supply, and more.
Readiness	6/10
Licence	CERN OHL S
Reprod. cost	1500 € material + 50 hours + 300 € post
Next steps	Finish the latest version and replicate 6 times to disseminate in the global clusters centering around universities.
Inspiring story	We have been operating as volunteers since the very beginning of the pandemic, and are still growing!
Websites	www.pubinv.org/project/polyvent/ app.jogl.io/project/577



OpenPCR – Genetic material development

Challenge	Improving access to genetic research with a low-cost, do-it yourself polymerase chain reaction thermocycler, especially for low-resource regions, students, hobbyists
Current version	Thermocycler with 16 sample well block to control PCR for DNA sequencing and barcoding. Heated lid, 2 °C per second ramp time. Software for Mac and Windows.
Readiness	Ready for production
Licences	GPL 3 (hardware, software and doc)
Reprod. cost	510 € kit + 5 hours
Next steps	Designs are accessible but the kit sold by the organization was replaced by a ten times more expensive model
Inspiring story	Two graduate students tested 60 samples of seafood in New York sushi restaurants and grocery stores and found out that most of them were mislabeled.
Websites	www.openpcr.org www.github.com/jperfetto/OpenPCR

Source: openpcr.org



OSPF OpenVax – Repurposing vaccines

Challenge	Rapidly and equitably fighting epidemics by repurposing existing widely-available off-patent low-cost vaccines with strong safety records to achieve medicine for all.
Current version	Computational discovery and late stage clinical trials. Creating an ecosystem of crowdsourced and computer- driven drug discovery, generics manufacturing.
Readiness	Collab. on phase 3 Covid-19 vaccine trials in Brazil
Licences	Public domain, dev. open source licenses for pharma
Reprod. cost	1% usual costs
Next steps	Develop field, create open model of R&D, create new generation of innate-immunity vaccines, curb epidemics earlier and more equitably with off the shelf vaccines
Inspiring story	Completing, with Gov of India, a multicentric phase 2b clinical trial for an off-patent TB adjunct therapy, for less than 1% the usual cost, and a decade faster than usual.
Website	www.ospfound.org www.ospfound.org/achievements.html

Source: ospfound.org



ANTICOV & DNDi – Repurposing treatments

Challenge	Identifying treatments for mild and moderate cases of covid-19. Ensuring populations affected who live in impoverished regions can access low-cost treatments.
Current version	Clinical research ongoing in 13 African countries. Open access protocols, operating procedures, and results. Public tracking of participation available day + 1.
Readiness	Recruitment open (target 3000 participants aimed)
Licences	IP agreements for shared use rights
Reprod. cost	Affordable (max 1\$ per treatment)
Next steps	Release of data safety analysis, launch of additional research arms, identification of new drug candidates for treatment, acceleration of regulatory approvals
Inspiring story	Thanks to compulsory licensing, DNDi was able to make one of their treatments accessible at 300 €, when the pharma manufacturer initially set the price at 50,000 €.
Websites	DNDi: www.dndi.org ANTICOV Consortium: www.anticov.org

Source: anticov.org

disease prevention

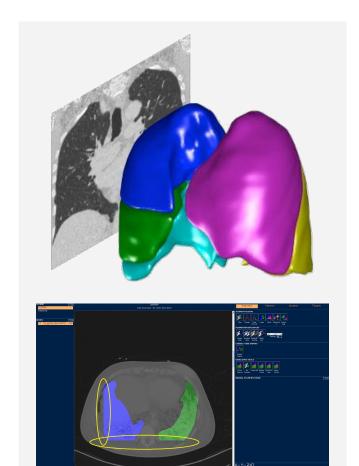
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Geneva Hand Hygiene Model – Hand rub

Challenge	One in ten patients gets infected when receiving care. Minimize the time required by caregivers to wash their hands. Nosocomial disease kill 20-50000 people daily.
Current version	WHO hand rub kills 99.9% of bacteria in a few seconds. Composition: ethanol or isopropyl alcohol, hydrogen peroxide, glycerol, sterile distilled or boiled cold water.
Readiness	Validated recipe ready for local production
Licences	Patent-free
Reprod. cost	~ 3.50 € / liter (vs 21-68 € for commercial product)
Next steps	Foster the adoption of efficient hand washing in medical settings and in the broader population. Strengthen infection prevention and control
Inspiring story	In Kenya, Dr Pittet discovers that hand rub costs three times the European price. He releases patent-free the recipe created with W. Griffiths so that all can afford it.
Websites	www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-IER-PSP-2010.5 www.cleanhandssavelives.org

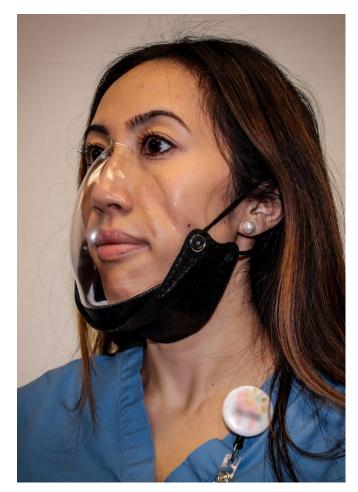
Source: wikimedia.org



Pulmonary Toolkit – 3D lung modeling

Challenge	Providing a functional and robust software to visualize and analyze (segmentation, detection, etc.) 3D medical lung images for academic research.
Current version	Toolkit with: GUI visualization and analysis (CT & MRI), library of algorithms, framework to run and develop algorithms, API to use external code. Requires MatLab.
Readiness	Alpha version
Licences	GPL 3 and others
Reprod. cost	0 € + time
Next steps	Developing functionalities such as freehand editing, zooming, export of non-mesh data.
Inspiring story	?
Websites	www.github.com/tomdoel/pulmonarytoolkit/wiki/Pulmonary-Toolkit

Source: github.com

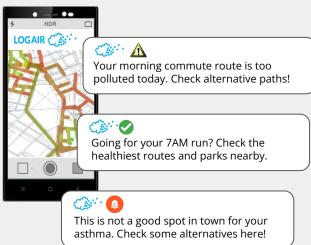


BEclear – Transparent mask

Challenge	Building a clear mask that eases emotional relatedness and lip-reading while providing sound filtering. Initially thought for deaf people and for educational settings.
Current version	Iterative design and testing, 1500 produced. Combination of conventional medical mask with vacuum-formed plastic adapter. Aim at KF94 standard.
Readiness	TRL 3
Licences	CERN OHL P (hardware)
Reprod. cost	7 € material or 17 € product + post
Next steps	Lab (filtration, pressure, blood resistance, flame spread, sound) and user testing, design-for-manufacture. Application submitted to Canadian research fund.
Inspiring story	Initiated by volunteers from Enable Buffalo, the project mobilized a dozen researchers within 10 days to sketch a plan towards the production of 100K units/months.
Websites	www.bemask.org/vacuum-forming www.enablingthefuture.org

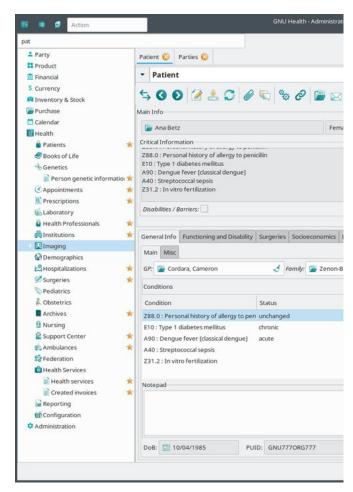
Source: bemask.org





LogAir – Air quality mapping

Challenge	Helping everyone map air quality using cheap portable devices. Generating data to avoid polluted streets, and motivating policy changes.
Current version	Arduino-compatible hardware measuring particulate matter and position data, one point per second. App and backend to collect and display data.
Readiness	Reproducible and functional
Licences	CERN OHL 1.2 (hardware), Apache 2 (software)
Reprod. cost	50 € material + 1 hour
Next steps	Grow the community Improve and characterize the hardware Industrialization
Inspiring story	From Switzerland to China, LogAir helps citizens take on environmental health by themselves, and build a case for healthier cities and communities in six countries.
Websites	www.logair.io www.github.com/logair/PM-monitor

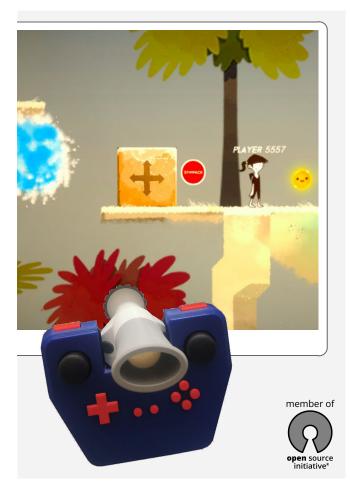


GNU Health - Digital health ecosystem

Challenge	Providing medical and patient communities with a libre, freely adaptable and modular software suite for the management of medical services and records.
Current version	Hospital / Laboratory Info Management System (3.8), Health Info System, Personal Health Record (1.0). ICD [9,10,11], ICF, HL7 FHIR, JSON-RPC, XML, GPG.
Readiness	Adopted by 100s organizations, millions of end-users.
Licences	GPL 3 (software), CC BY-SA 4 (doc)
Reprod. cost	0 € + time varies depending on complexity
Next steps	Capacity building for repair and reuse, research paper on scaling decentralised manufacturing (Cambridge), final certification on functional testing via NABL
Inspiring story	Individuals with respiratory conditions track their vitals, activity, nutrition and emotional status, and share them in real-time with med pro (Argentina covid observatory).
Websites	www.gnuhealth.org/download.html www.gnusolidario.org



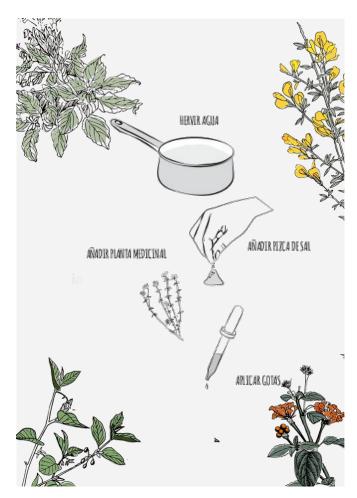
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Breathing Games – Fun respiratory care

Challenge	Tackling low adherence with ludic self- and mutual care. Fostering health and digital literacy through co-creation. Ease breath data collection and use as visual narratives.
Current version	Open game environment for up to four players, Games for children with asthma in 10 languages, gamepad with modular nose (flow in/out + resistance).
Readiness	Games playable on Win, Mac – Gamepad reproducible
Licences	AGPL 3 (soft.), CERN OHL S (hardware), CC BY-SA 4 (doc)
Reprod. cost	50 € material + 6 hours (gamepad), 0 € (games)
Next steps	Multiplayer game: have communities build levels Games for asthma: intl. study in various settings Gamepad: iteratively improve enclosure and outcomes
Inspiring story	A professor in linguistics mobilized and coordinated around 20 volunteers so that our games for asthma can be played in a dozen languages.
Websites	www.breathinggames.net www.youtube.com/c/BreathinggamesNet1

Source: breathinggames.net



CEMI – Traditional medicine

Challenge	Preserving a living heritage of communal ways to take care of respiratory health. Maintaining natural, local resources such as medicinal plants.
Current version	Guide to preserve the air quality, understand health as a whole system, adopt healthy habits in one's daily life, value traditional knowledge and natural remedies.
Readiness	Ready to use
Licences	_
Reprod. cost	Cost to garden medicinal plants
Next steps	Promoting intercultural initiatives to recover/strengthen traditional medicine knowledge and resources. Research-action to promote the health of communities.
Inspiring story	A local committee of traditional medicine users worked with a local university to co-create a training program to enhance intercultural skills of medical students.
Websites	www.cemi.org.co/s/Lo-que-podemos-hacer-para-respirar-bien.pdf



Art Hives – Social support network

Challenge	Providing people with freely accessible, inclusive spaces to build solidarity and respond creatively to community issues, and cultivate the artist in each human.
Current version	224 art hives for dialogue, skill-sharing and art-making between, mostly in North America and Western Europe, including online gatherings.
Readiness	Guides to launch an Art Hive (in person or online)
Licences	CC BY (guide)
Reprod. cost	Material to launch an art hive
Next steps	Developing and contributing to public practice art therapy through qualitative and quantitative research, building more accessible ways to art therapy.
Inspiring story	A young adult with cystic fibrosis joined an Art Hive as a volunteer to socialize, contribute at his own rhythm, share music he created, and learn to play Tibetan bowl.
Websites	www.arthives.org www.arthives.org/resources/art-hives-how-guide

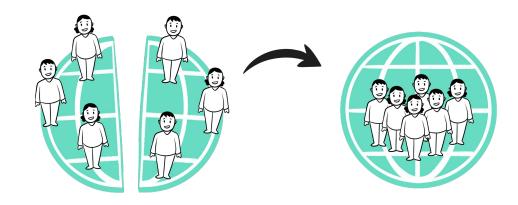
Source: Victoria Kelly

Next steps

Next steps

Research policies: integrate open-source as an ethical requirement in medical research methods Regulation and monitoring: fund and build capacity for community-driven, open source innovation

Production and distribution: fund and build capacity for distributed manufacturing (crowd/peer production)



Source: breathinggames.net

Thank you







breathinggames.net/pub/add.htm

Copy this slide and add your open-source, not-for-profit initiative for respi health.

Please keep the format as is.

We will review and update the publication monthly.

First and last name:

Affiliation:

E-mail:

Co-author: yes/no

ORCid:

Title – Aim

Challenge	Goal, audience.
Current version	
Readiness	
Licences	
Reprod. cost	x € + x hours
Next steps	

Inspiring story

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Websites www...

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Annex: Project assessment

0 – Minimum

not available ←

not validated ←

not tested

Impact validation

(see Guba and Lincoln)

	0 = Millillillilli	1	Z	3	4 - Maximum	
Health (see Greenhalgh)	not acting, not supported (isolated)	coping with illness (disease management)	whole-system approach (prevention, promotion)	critical public health (political action)	holistic, lifelong wellbeing	
	$low \ compliance \leftarrow \\ \hspace*{2cm} \rightarrow intimate$					
Contributors	experts alone	users consulted in end product	users give inputs in certain stages	users participate on full life cycle	users adopt initiative for other aims (forking)	
	top-down ←				→ emerging	
Process, standards, documents, software,	closed not shared	closed and shared	partly open and shared	fully open and shared	fully libre, contributing to other libre projects	
	opaque ← → trustworthy					
Licenses including for the core	patent, copyright	patent with free reuse	public domain (ex. CC 0)	non-commercial licence (ex. CC BY-NC)	Reciprocity (ex. Peer Production lic.)	
	excluding rights \leftarrow \rightarrow building commons					
Resource allocation (see Benkler)	for-profit company	social enterprise, cooperative	open access commons	open access commons with value accounting	fewest projects possible,, as much as needed	
	extractive ←				→ generative	
Physical availability	not produced	centralized	decentralized	distributed, industries (mass production)	distributed, communities (crowd production)	

positivist, quantitative

studies

naturalistic, mixed

methods, one setting

tested with users

4 – Maximum

→ locally reproducible

 \rightarrow validated

naturalistic, mixed

methods, multi settings