# The Brewery

Das Bräu



LOCATION

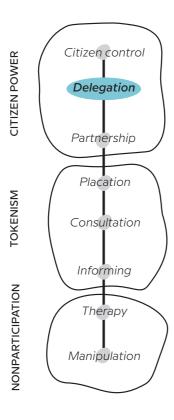
## **Munderfing, Austria**

TIME PERIOD

#### **Since 2018**

### THE PROJECT

To counter the rural exodus, the municipality has reacted with several measures in order to be competitive with other similar villages. The "Dorfbräu" inn, located in the center of the settlement, embodies this goal. For many years vacant, it has been reused to attract new residents and educational facilities were provided in this place. Moreover, a concept for the complete conversion to renewable energies was drawn up in 2004.



#### **DESCRIPTION OF THE SPACE**

Munderfing is **not a very remote** place. The only characteristic of remoteness is the low population density. The village is located in a ROLEOFTHELOCAL COMMUNITY quite developed area and is pretty & METHODS USED well connected to neighboring regions. Munderfing is composed The municipality, which was of different kinds of public spaces. convinced that the fiber-optic Among them, squares, recreational network was a prerequisite for spaces and community air-spaces. new settlements in the village, However, if the quantity of public has carried out the expansion of spaces is sufficient, their quality the network itself. In this context, leaves much to be desired. Since the old inn was renovated into build of the bypass road, the traffic a co-working space, a seminar in the main road, which crosses the room and a first-class restaurant. village, has dropped significantly.

#### **INITIATION AND ACTORS**

The Bräu is an initiative led by Erwin Moser, the long-time head of the office (of Munderfing), who had the goal of making Munderfing a better place to live. That is why

he also strongly advocated for the possibility of an inexpensive coworking space for young people in these premises.

Moreover, the municipality has built wind turbines. In this project, the population was involved through a citizen participation model called the "decision-making working group". According to this model, the municipality can present projects on which the citizens will decide together. They also have the

151

opportunity to introduce concerns and ideas. The project owes its creation to this participation model but also to the municipality's experience in obtaining local, national and European funding.

#### **RESULT**

The project is a total success. The municipal administration and all citizens have benefited from the activities, as well as local companies. The seminar house serves as a training venue for all interested groups and small start-ups were able to launch their project from the co-working space. The community has seen its incomes increase and the creation of new jobs. In addition, there is the income from the wind turbine, which now also produces electricity for many neighboring communities. The project was well received by the population because otherwise it would not have been carried out according to the participatory model.



©FH JOANNEUM – photo by



Transformation of the old vacant inn into a co-working space. ©Gemeinde Munderfing



The Braeu, a formerly vacant inn that now houses a restaurant, co-working space and seminar house.







Munderfing, Upper Austria

more about



152