



The Global Delivery Responsible Business Program

We lead the change to a better
and more sustainable tomorrow



Eco-View App

In 2020, as part of the Wabi-sabi* project, Fujitsu architects and designers together with young IT engineers created a demo of the Eco View application. Although it was an educational exercise, it allowed the creators to gather many experiences that could be used in the future to develop similar solutions supporting various social groups with unique needs.

The main goal of the Wabi-sabi program was to enable students from the Faculty of Physics and Applied Computer Science of the University of Lodz to search for intelligent, elegant and effective ways to solve problems related to sustainable development, and thus increase Fujitsu's social responsibility.

As part of Wabi-sabi, four students and two mentors from Fujitsu created a prototype of the Eco View application. The software provided an opportunity for developers to gain programming experience and was part of the final course grade.

Challenges

The challenge addressed by the application is insufficient information that can be found on the Internet about amenities for people with unique nutritional, motor or sensory needs: restaurants, hotels, grocery stores or shopping malls. In 2009, research was carried out in Poland, which showed that more than half of the restaurants were not adapted to the needs of people with disabilities. The situation seems to be improving since then, but there is still a lot of work to be done and consumers are driving this shift with a positive impact on property owners.

*Wabi-sabi (侘寂) (noun) is a Japanese "aesthetic concept" that refers to the particular subtlety, simplicity and discreet beauty of an object that appears not only generally simple, but also contains subtle details and imperfections that balance simplicity with complexity. The project responds to the need to create innovative ideas.



Environment



Community



Human Rights
and DE&I



People: 3 employees
4 students



Solution

Students and Fujitsu mentors have created a ranking portal that provides information about various types of facilities in terms of their environmental friendliness, availability of vegan / vegetarian cuisine and accessibility to the community of people with disabilities. What distinguishes Eco View from other solutions on the market is the number of categories in which the place is rated (an elevator, a toilet for people with disabilities, personel speaking sign language etc.).

Developers used PHP, html, CSS and Google Places API to obtain information about given places.

Promoting empathy,
pro-ecological attitudes
and solutions increasing
the availability of premises

The idea behind Eco View was to allow consumers to rate restaurants etc. from very different angles and thus highlight those places that best meet the needs of different communities.

Learning possibilities

The creators gained thanks to this project the possibility of using in practice the technologies they learned during the classes. They also learnt to deal with delays and to work in a diverse team of individuality.

App functionalities

Website in the demo version had the following functionalities: logging in, searching for objects, adding ratings in three categories, adding opinions, linking to social media and a tag system.



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Once the idea of what to create and what goals of sustainable development the application was to meet, new challenges appeared. As one of the creators admits:

"For me as a backend in this project, probably the biggest challenge was to implement the application so that it would work properly with the Google Places api. It was the first project where I used external api, so I had to learn how it works and how to use it correctly".

According to another developer, the visual side of the project turned out to be no less difficult:

"For me, when it comes to the frontend, the biggest challenge was to adjust the appearance of the application so that it looked quite modern, as well as kept in an ecological color and design. There was also a need to put a lot of information in a way that was accessible to users".

Also, the implementation of tips from "roasts" was not easy. Implementing other people's visions and ideas required design discipline and the ability to listen to others.

SGDs covered:



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