**ABSTRACT**

Badebuddy is an application that aims to provide relevant and useful information for year-round bathers in Norway. The case is based on data from the Norwegian Meteorological Institute, where water temperatures along the coast are presented through an API[1][2]. Live water temperatures are retrieved from the sea areas around Oslo and are used by the app. Additionally, historical temperatures and related information can also be retrieved from the API to compare historical temperatures against current ones. The solution focuses on tracking baths, including spots and temperatures, as its core feature, and year-round bathers as its target audience.

**KEYWORDS**

Water temperature, statistics, global positioning, self-documentation, Android, mobile application

1 Introduction

This project is a result of the course IN2000 at Institute of Informatics at the University of Oslo.

The Badebuddy app functions as a tool for year-round bathers to record their baths, view their own history and statistics, check live water temperatures, explore new bathing spots and the facilities associated with them. The app also provides an overview of saunas along the Oslo coast, as these often serve as a social gathering place for the target audience, as well as a safe base for winter bathing. Users can choose to scroll through different bathing spots or navigate via a map with pins and symbols. The app aims to be informative and motivating for the user.

The target audience for the app is relatively widespread, both geographically and in terms of age. To recruit participants for data collection, various "bathing groups" on Facebook were used, as well as friends and acquaintances. The target audience can be described as engaged and explorative, which is something that the app seeks to support. The target audience is limited to women and men between the ages of 18-50, to better cater to users who are more likely to use such digital tools.

The app's usage is multidimensional and can be utilized in various ways depending on the user's needs and desires. Primarily, the app provides an overview of bathing spots and live water temperatures so that users can check them before bathing. The app also allows users to favorite bathing spots, so that they can be saved in a personal list. This aspect of the app supports tourism and cultural offerings.

Overall, the app covers bathing spots, facilities, and saunas, which provides a broader offering to users that potentially covers more needs. The app also includes a statistics section, where users can track their own history and related statistics. Allowing users to document their own bathing activity through a tool like this can be motivating and helpful for users who want to keep track of their bathing.
that tools for finding water temperature and facilities in the area are not particularly easily accessible.

Badebuddy is an application that seeks to provide relevant and useful information for year-round bathers. The app provides information on bathing spots, live water temperatures, and saunas, and encourages users to explore new bathing opportunities. The app includes a statistics section that allows users to document their own bathing activity, and it seeks to be informative and motivating for its target audience.

Based on data collected through the interviews and surveys we experienced a high interest for an easy access application like Badebuddy. By gathering the relevant information like temperature, facilities, and logging in one application the app serves a purpose by being practical, easy and accessible. Potentially, a future possibility for developing the app towards becoming a social network was also highly requested by our interviewees.

This project gave us new insight on how to utilize historical data to encourage year-round bathers and others who wish to discover new favorite bathing spots. Additionally, this may inspire people to spend more time outdoors and explore new places.

2 Methods

To collect data and gain insight into year-round bathing and the targeted user group, a survey and several interviews with both experts and potential users were conducted. The experts involved were two employees from a hotel located close to the water where year-round bathing was an emerging part of the culture. The data collected from these interviews provided a better understanding of this phenomena, and it was further used to plan and create a survey and user interviews. The survey aimed to reach as many within the targeted user group as possible, while the interviews aimed to investigate needs and use context more in depth. During and after the app was developed, user testing was conducted to evaluate the functionality and usability for further iterations and improvements [3].

3 Results

The collected data indicated that most people engaged in year-round bathing for self-discipline, meditation, and psychological and physical benefits, whereas the element of mental strength repeats itself. For many, year-round bathing was also done based on the bathing community it provided, as one often does it together with others in the form of a social activity. The data also revealed
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REFERENCES

