

Nordic Libraries for sustainability  
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# The Freedgedge movement

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# freedge.org

## WHAT IS FREEDGE?

Freedge is a sharing mechanism aiming to reduce food insecurity and food waste, building a stronger community. We promote equal access to healthy food through the installation of community fridges (public refrigerators) that are used to share food and ideas at the neighborhood level.

### GIVE

Wanna help a friend in need? Your garden is full of fruits and veggies and you wanna share some? Leaving for the weekend with a full fridge?

### TAKE

Feeling Hungry? Planning a grocery run? Check the freedge. Maybe what you need is there waiting for you.

### SHARE

Get involved in your community and start a conversation about food insecurity, food waste and the food system. Freedge is a free sharing space used not only for food, but also stories, art and ideas!

# First freedge in Iceland

Opened in 2021 at Andrými,  
a radical social center





# Amtsbókasafnið á Akureyri

## Our library and community

20.000 habitants

a service point for the Northern region

1 public library

13 staff members

300-400 visitors per day

located in the city center







# Our freedge

Has been running since July 2022

In line with our policy

Social equity

Sustainability

# Where to begin?

Outside or inside?

Will we have problems?

Is there stigma around accepting free food?

Will people use it?









# Cold climate challenges





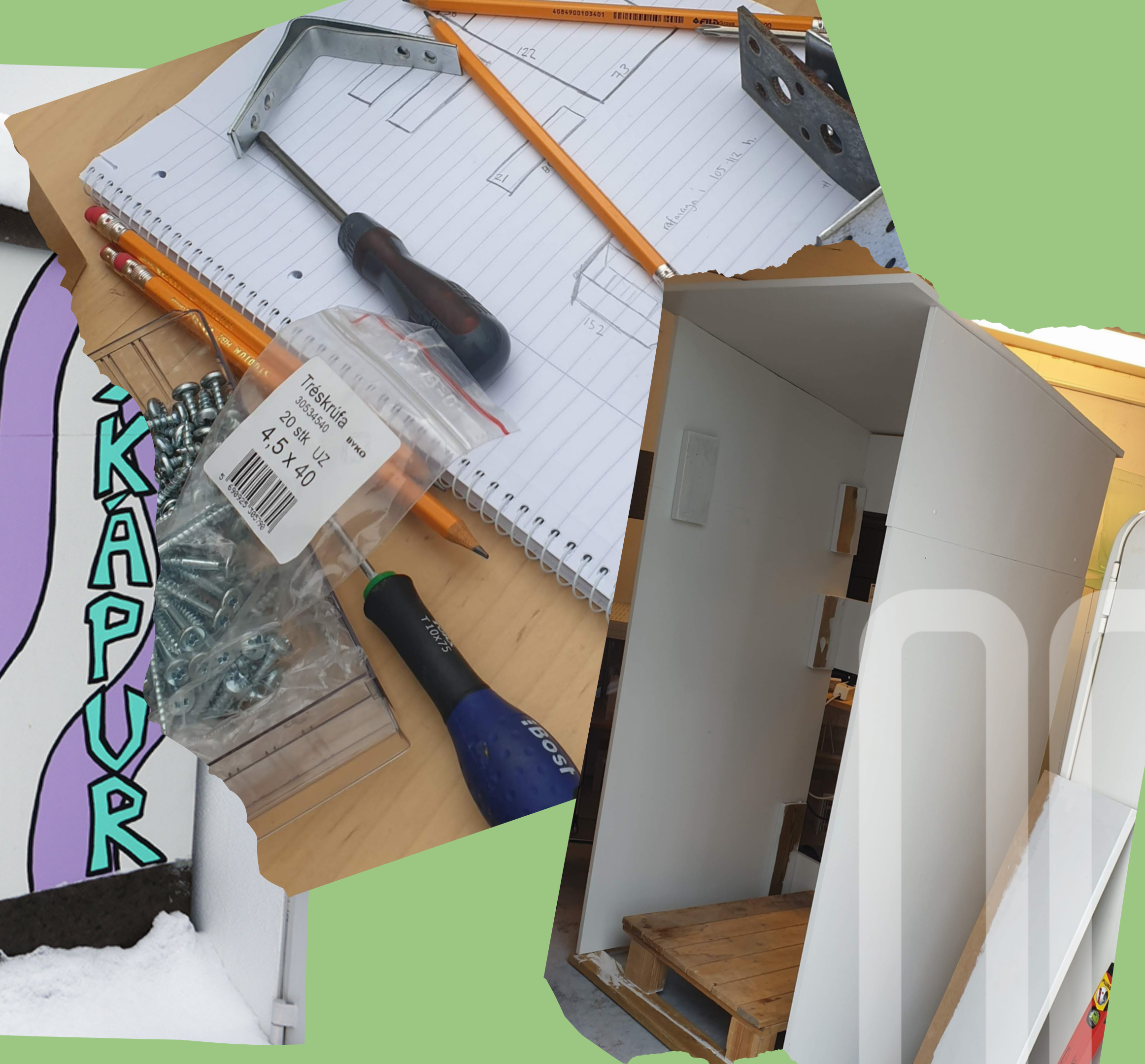
# Lumar þú á gömlum ísskáp?



Ta-da!









Permission

Health inspcetion

Rules

## FRÍsskápur Akureyri

**Freedge** is a sharing mechanism aiming to reduce food waste and build a stronger community through food sharing.

**Save** some delicious **food** and **donate** when you have too much of it. It's all **FREE!**

ENJOY, SHARE and SAVE free food!

freedge.org

#freedge

1. Anyone can use this freedge and everything inside is FREE
2. You take food on your own responsibility - use common sense and your senses to judge if edible.
3. Leave only food that you would eat yourself - if you don't think it's good, please don't leave it.
4. Leave the freedge and surroundings clean.
5. Don't take everything - it's about sharing and caring.
6. Label it - homemade food with date and ingredients (allergens).
7. No expired products unless the package says "best before".
8. No raw meat, fish or egg products.
9. No open cans and jars.
10. No alcohol
11. If bringing bread, please put it in a well-sealed bag
12. Fruits and vegetables are always welcome



# Who uses the freedge?



## Frísskápur / Freedge Akureyri

Public group · 1.7K members

Join Group



About

Discussion

Media

# Who puts food in the freedge? Individuals





# Who puts food in the freedge?

## Sunday roast





# Who puts food in the freedge? Businesses







Are people taking food  
from the freedge?

Yes!



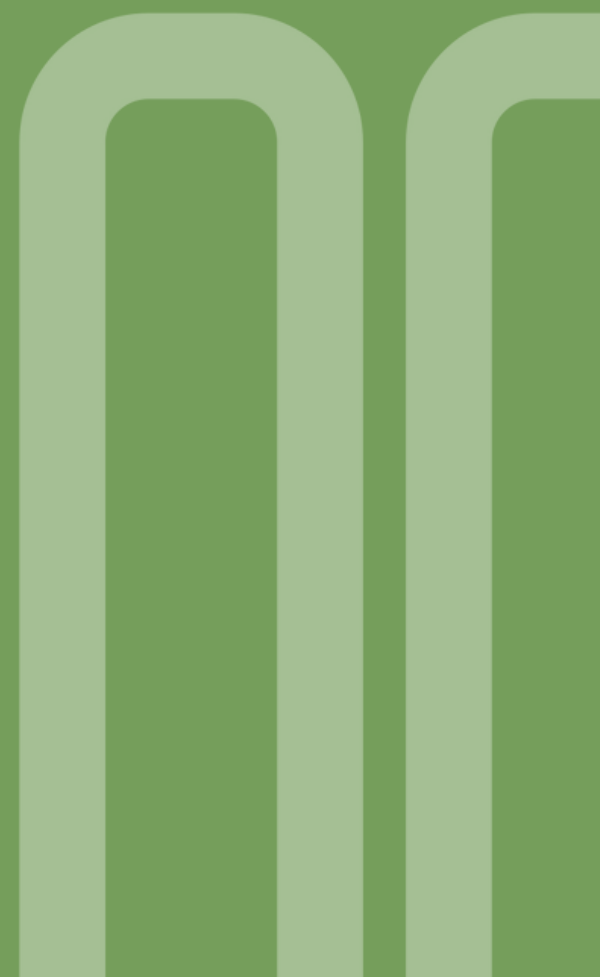
Dry goods  
cabinet  
added in  
April 2023





þurrvöruskápur  
(kælir virkar ekki)

Dry Goods  
(Fridge doesn't work)





# A true community project





But not everyone loves the freedge....

An ongoing struggle with bureaucracy





“It’s temporary”





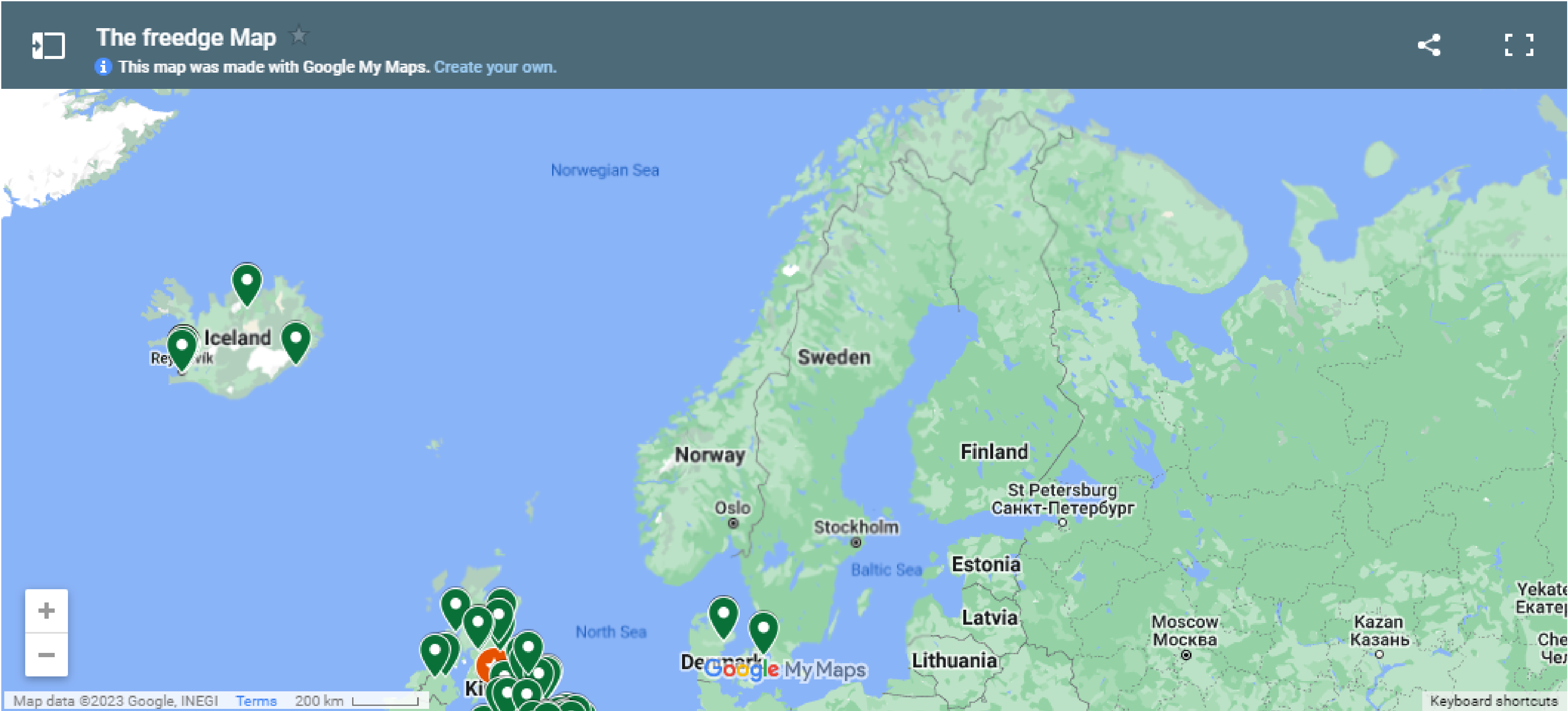
# Freedges are popping up all over Iceland





# Find a Freedge

We are not alone! Browse the map below to find other community fridges around the world, or [check our community fridge database!](#)





# Can you be part of the freedge movement?

