



urbanA

Community Conversation
Co-Creating Just and Sustainable
Cities with Children

*Harvesting slides:
What the UrbanA Community of
Practice thinks about it*

24th November 2020



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement N° 822357.



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Breakout discussions



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INSTRUCTIONS

- (1) Choose a person to report back in plenary
- (2) In your group discuss the question in the slides
- (3) Enter relevant images on the collage slide - This will be shared in plenary
- (4) Take a few notes in your written slide
- (5) Share key findings with the bigger group

Breakouts last 30 minutes - enjoy :)





URBAN ARENAS
FOR SUSTAINABLE
AND JUST CITIES

Breakout room 2

Breakout room 2



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Names:
erick, ilka, alexandra, anna, hein

1. How could you, or how are you incorporating the children's point of view in your work, activism etc

- copenhagen, porto, budapest, asia
- we raise kids as parents
- what else exists outside the playground for children?
- children as a scale, make it good for a child and it is good for everyone
- right safety and security in city
- creating spaces that encourage free play, discovery, exploring borders and dangers
- priorities in developing youth friendly spaces put it on the right place, have the right budgets, tailor made not mass produced because of the bureaucracy
- people who have children (children perspective) and without (single person perspective)
- teaching teachers and architects about methods that can help them to understand young people's perspective (kultúrAktív)
- cities must be more connected to nature in different scales,
- children should get the opportunity to create spaces





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Breakout room 3

Breakout room 3



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1. How could you, or how are you incorporating the children's point of view in your work, activism etc

- Lee: Project in Chile; intervention in a park in which they engaged children. Different colours and materials in the different squares
I am urban planner, interested in this. My thesis on people using bikes in informal settlements
- Example of Medellin: municipality funded the regeneration of an informal settlement area by engaging youth through art and music
- Problem of not having time > before getting into the outcome of the collaborative process you need to challenge the process with the right questions. You need to challenge it in order to not come up always with the same things





- How do you engage people around a certain vision.
- Consult kids on how they would like to have their space
- Level of response of children
- Creating a balance between creating space for creativity and ideas to emerge and at the same time guide them, ask the right questions to put them a bit out of their comfort zone
- Project in Milan: instagram to put pictures of the places that they prefer and also to share the pictures of how they would like the place to look

Very interesting what comes up. It allowed people to participate. Use of internet and apps is very important for engaging children. Climate change debate > climate change games to engage children. There are many games that can create awareness/engaging for children.





- It is not children that need to be educated but more adults.
Children are more open
- Children do not need things for them > they can just play with a tree / climb ; we have still a very mechanised way of planning.
- For example in Amsterdam playgrounds were very different, more creative, some other places the playgrounds are very similar





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Breakout room 4

Breakout room 4



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1. How could you, or how are you incorporating the children's point of view in your work, activism etc

- Children's ideas are often filtered through the eyes of the adult
- Spaces are for use by all age groups, not necessarily only for play
- In-between spaces are important, not only those designated for children
- Alternative use of streets can be designed into such spaces
- Gathering perceptions on the space at different times of day can be useful
- There are sometimes conflicting uses and perceptions e.g. of noise
- Potential method: Design a space in Minecraft
- Amsterdam is a good example for such mixed-use spaces
- Consider the use of perception mapping e.g. using 'Mapping for Change'



ENJOY!

Suggested links and materials

Guests, please enter links to projects or content you feel is relevant to developing this conversation...

- Co-Creation in Theory and Practice, Exploring Creativity in the Global North and South, Eds C. Horvath, J. Carpenter
- <https://policy.bristoluniversitypress.co.uk/co-creation-in-theory-and-practice>



From breakouts and plenary discussion:

- There is a need to teach architects, urban planner, city-makers in general how to listen and integrate children perspectives. At the moment, they are not trained for this.
- Cities should feel safe to children and their parents
- To include children, we should follow the example of some cities to include citizens through alternative engagement techniques
 - Eg. music workshops in Medellin
 - Eg. Instagram engagement of preferred spaces in Milan
- Need to think about urban spaces in completely and new innovative ways. Not being afraid to hear children's ideas
- We still need to navigate challenges of what could be children's wishes dictated by a system that is not completely sustainable and just (e.g. overuse of social media...)

- **Upcoming Rotterdam events:** UFGC + Ecocity builders
https://twitter.com/arena_urban/status/1318950411047456769
- Wiki on just and sustainable cities https://wiki.urban-arena.eu/index.php?title=Main_Page
Content such as: Database of approaches - Database of drivers of injustice - Database of governance arrangements - Database of projects & initiatives - Database of people
- UrbanA CoCos https://wiki.urban-arena.eu/index.php?title=UrbanA_Community_Conversations
- UrbanA Community of Practice
https://wiki.urban-arena.eu/index.php?title=UrbanA_Community_of_Practice
- Blog <https://medium.com/urban-arenas-for-sustainable-and-just-cities>
- Twitter https://twitter.com/arena_urban
- Hashtag #SustainableJustCities
- Instagram https://www.instagram.com/arena_urbana/
- Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/UrbanArena.project>
- Podcasts on Spotify <https://open.spotify.com/show/7L5ll3Tqv65HLSl3MI6Grz>
- Podcasts on UrbanA Site <https://urban-arena.eu/resources/#podcast>
- Contact email: info@urban-arena.eu

