



Aalto University
School of Engineering

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Participatory planning



“We define public participation as any process that involves the public in problem-solving or decision-making and that uses public input to make better decisions”

Iap2

<https://www.iap2.org/page/ethics>

The rich terminology for participatory planning

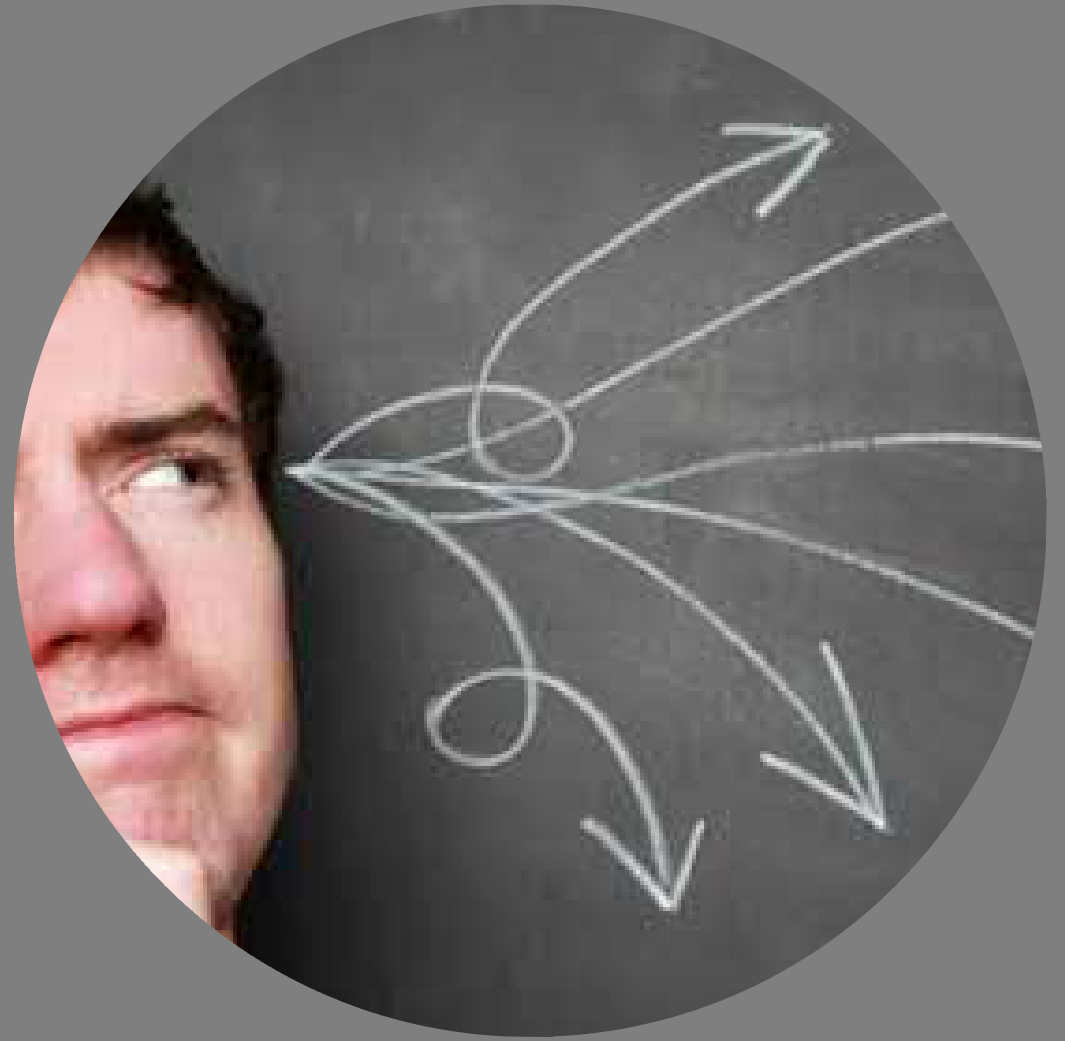
Traditional terminology

- Advocacy planning (Davidoff, 1965)
- Self-planning (Friedman, 1970),
- Transactive planning (Friedman, 1973)
- User-planning (Olivegren, 1975)
- Community action planning (Hamdi & Goerthert, 1997)
- Deliberative planning (Forester, 1999)
- Communicative or collaborative planning (Healey, 1997; Innes & Booher, 1999)
- Community planning and design (Sanoff, 1999)
- Agonistic pluralism (Mouffe, 1999)

Recent additions

- Self-organized planning
- Tactical urbanism
- DIY urbanism

Your own
views
about
participatory
planning



Your pre-course individual assignments

Your pre course personal attitudes survey

... please continue

6.

It is important that each participant is able to express his/her individual opinion



It is important that people are able to express their collective viewpoints

7.

A planner should be concerned about the common good



A planner should try to understand the variety of needs of people

8.

Traditional methods like public hearings and focus group meetings are best methods for participatory planning



New technology methods like online tools and social media are best methods for participatory planning

9.

Planners should be responsible for organizing public participation



Participants should be encouraged to self-organize participation

10.

Participatory planning should focus on detailed planning level



Participatory planning should focus on all levels of planning, also general and regional planning

11.

Participatory planning should be a deliberative process that includes participants also in the decision making and solutions finding phases



Experts and politicians are the ones who can make the final decisions and find the solutions



Pre-course individual assignment

You were also asked to reflect your personal attitudes to public participation

Let's discuss about these self-reflections

- Form pairs
- Interview your pair about his/her personal reflections, attitudes and experiences regarding public participation in urban planning
- Let's discuss 10 min
- Then you will be asked to introduce your pair

Reflect your personal
attitudes towards public
participation

Ideas about Public Participation

I think public participation is a good thing but as planners we shouldn't ask opinions or suggestions from public if we have no intention of listening to them.

I think the key to an experience of participation is a sense of being heard combined with the sense of being able to influence decisions. It is also a key to becoming an active citizen who cares about shaping a better future together.

I think it is important to ask the views of the participants even before the planning, in the analysis phase, - not only when the plans are well advanced.

Is it ever truly possible to know which actions will 'work best' for a specific demographic or user-group if public input is minimal and decisions simply pass down from a higher level of planners and decision makers?

I have become increasingly aware that planning should be place-specific and in place specific planning we need information about the local qualities in different areas, as much as possible. Here the inhabitants are the ones with the most information about the urban experiences in their environment, so this information should be utilized in the form of participatory planning.

Good practices

I have started to follow the organization in Helsinki called Dodo, which is promoting low-key participatory planning practices in Helsinki with an environmental twist. They have transformed the former railway depot in Pasila to a beautiful urban gardening hub, hosting also sportive, cultural and social functions. I've considered their activities as a great example of self-organization

We had 50 thousand euros available for both areas, and in the end the residents were allowed to vote on their preferred proposals. Ideas were collected from people both on the internet and in addition, some physical places, such as some shopping malls, libraries, international associations, and churches had idea "boxes" where people were allowed to submit their ideas. We also went to both areas on-site to ask people for ideas

I think one good example of informing the residents what is happening and where, and how to participate and when, I saw in Lahti, where some development was happening in Aleksanterinkatu and there were these blocks of information on the street. They brought the information (with pictures) to the people on the exact place where the development would happen and told where to get more information.

Helsinki is actively developing citizen's participation opportunities. For example, I am a part of the community development group and have been also subscribed email notifications about currently on display plans plus attended resident events. Still, these opportunities do not reach all the citizens.

The power of public participation has been strengthened by a visioning workshop that I have experienced in another course during my studies. The project was about redesigning Lohja in a sustainable way and citizens from Lohja were invited to a visioning workshop on different topics, such as mobility and energy. I was positively surprised that so many people of different age and backgrounds were eager to participate and amazed by all their ideas, that we would not have thought of, and their insights about Lohja.

Not so good practices

One process that I've been following lately is the plan for new kindergartens in Kumpula that has raised a lot of frustration and anger within the neighbourhood. The problem in the plan was, that the kindergarten was planned on top of a rock that was a popular place to hang out and play. This came as a surprise to the locals, because the plan was from the 1990s and the hearings had been done then and hence the planners didn't have to organize the hearings now with the current residents.

My personal experiences on public participation in the planning field are strongly related to top-down processes, such as residents' hearing events, and to the reluctant attitude of designers towards public participation.

In Leppävaara they put some 3d models to site and then wait that citizens put their comments to software. And after that some Espoo worker maybe recognize and maybe put effort that their designers or planners get that comment. But I don't have full view of their processes about that how they manage to data what they get.

Methods

Näin ennen kurssia ennakkokäsitykseni hyvistä osallistamisen keinoista ovat hyvinkin perinteiset. Näihin kuuluvat kirjeitse tiedottaminen prosessin edetessä, yksityisten maanomistajien ja hanketoimijoiden kanssa käydyt neuvottelut sekä yleisötilaisuudet. Sosiaalinen media tuo lisäarvoa tiedottamiseen, joka ei mielestäni voi kuitenkaan korvata edellä mainittuja toimenpiteitä.

My most recent contact with participatory planning was last week when I was joining a public info meeting regarding a bridge build in Hanko, I was there via my work and took notes of the questions and answers. The meeting was a Teams meeting due to covid restrictions, and first the planners and city council talked about the different options and then the public participants could ask questions. I think this worked very well and there were + 50 people in the meeting and they asked a lot of questions.

I am very interested in the novel ways of facilitating participation such as soft-GIS. Since they provide a way to produce input to the process by the citizens which is in a form that is manageable and useful for the planner. Events such as traditional town hall meetings have the risk of being dominated by few loud individuals. They also might be attended only by a small section of the residents of the area.

Altogether, it's about people having fun and building something that they can be collectively proud of. The physical outcome is of secondary importance. The design is often quite low-brow—fun and colorful, but nothing that's going to attract tourists. Interestingly, the spaces rarely get vandalized. Is this a physical outcome or a social outcome? The line gets blurry.

Participants

Public participation meetings, at least in my experience, are situations where people can air out their frustration and anger. Often planners are seen as politicians or at least as people controlled by politicians. The average age of people who participate in such events seems to be over 50.

typically participants have certain attitudes and, in my experience, represent mostly elderly people or families. Young people are usually missing. This kind of participation environment does not always provide enough inspiration for young people, although there have been also interesting experiments, for example with games

we have to remember that city and its neighborhoods do not exist only for the local residents but should also exist for all the people using the space, so we should not overly much listen only about the opinions of locals, as that might create exclusionary spaces that are not very inviting for other people. Extra difficulties arise when building new housing areas, how to listen the options of future residents on what they want from their environment?

Issues

Something that I find really unpleasant is nimbyism even though I try to understand the feelings and fear behind all the opposition of something new and different. This is probably an iceberg and proper participation process is calm and represents all different kinds of people, not just the loud ones.

Who has the final authority or decision-making power? If the planner has no power over decisions why participants waste their time collaborating with him

I would like to name this kind of planning 'pseudo-participation' where an effort is made to include people into the planning process but only persons with 'higher positions' and not the main users. I experienced something similar during my internship in mobility planning where there was a workshop for important plans which should be done in the future but only politicians and municipal leaders were participating where some of them were not even living in the planning area. Though, I think that people affected by the planning should be included more.

As a citizen, even though I can vote and make my voice "heard", I might feel as if it would be a struggle to effect local plans leading to any concrete change

leiskaavassa määritetään merkittävästi alueen yleisluonnetta, jolloin osallistumisella voisi vaikuttaa enemmän alueen tuleviin toimintoihin ja rakenteisiin, mutta ehkä mielenkiintoisempi ja yksityiskohtaisempi asemakaavoitus on sidoksissa vahvasti voimassa olevaan yleiskaavaan. Tällöin osallisten vaikutusmahdollisuudet ovat rajatut. Toisin sanoen, mitä konkreettisemmassa vaiheessa suunnitelma on, sitä haastavampaa siihen on vaikuttaa.

Own experiences/attitudes

Last year I took part in one public participation survey. I received a mail to my home address and followed its instructions for participation. Honestly, it was very easy to participate and also everything was made easy to understand from the perspective of any ordinary person. What's funny is that I found the data of my answers in the course "Urban experience" when investigating the Espoo city clusters. Taking part in public participation surveys also gives a kind of a feeling of being able to help the planners and influence the actual decisions.

*My general attitudes towards public participation are more or less skeptical and I think the reason for that is in our ways to make participatory planning. I think that the biggest problem is that it is so difficult to get all the groups of people involved to the process. For example some people just don't care, some people don't have **time**, some people can't speak Finnish or English.*

I have not myself participated in public participation processes very many times. I remember answering to a few questionnaires but that is mostly my experience of public participation. I find them quite easy to use and I think that they are a good tool for planners. I have occasionally followed the participatory planning processes of the major light rail projects.

It feels a bit contradictory that we spent a lot of time making plans ready for a public event, only to spend more time later making modifications to our plans according to the feedback we got. In a way this is a good thing because it does mean that we take people's feedback into account. On the other hand, engaging people in the earlier stages would probably decrease the amount of futile work and redoing things in the later parts of the project.

What you would like to learn

I do not know many methods of public participation so far but the ones I know are not that great. Exactly the fact that I do not know many methods is one weakness of them. If people do not know them, they are not useful. There definitely must be some information distribution process that reaches more citizens from various groups, for example via E-Mail, newspaper or during a lecture.

I have never participated in any public participation in urban planning. Hence, I would find it useful to reflect my general attitude and assumption generated from my background and the course's pre-survey towards public participation. Perhaps, at the end of the course, I'll be able to compare the learning outcomes with what I have assumed about public participation

Of course, it is hard to make everyone happy but in my opinion through participation it is possible to make more people more happy. I'm looking forward to hear more about different participation methods and cases. I hope that this course will give me good advice to use in my future job.

Your personal attitudes towards public participation – SURVEY RESULTS



In Finland

The law obliges Finnish cities and other actors to offer “anyone affected by the plan” a possibility to participate in an open planning process.

The Finnish

Land Use and Building act 2000



aims to ensure that everyone has
the chance to participate

Chapter 1
General provisions

Section 6
Interaction and publication of planning information

Plans must be prepared in interaction with such persons and bodies on whose circumstances or benefits the plan may have substantial impact, as prescribed below in this Act.

The authority preparing plans must publicize planning information so that those concerned are able to follow and influence the planning process.

Chapter 8
Planning procedure and interaction

Section 62
Interaction in drawing up a plan

Planning procedures must be organized and the principles, objectives and goals and possible alternatives of planning publicized so that the landowners in the area and those on whose living, working or other conditions the plan may have a substantial impact, and the authorities and corporations whose sphere of activity the planning involves (interested party), have the opportunity to participate in preparing the plan, estimate its impact and state their opinion on it, in writing or orally.

In this course ...

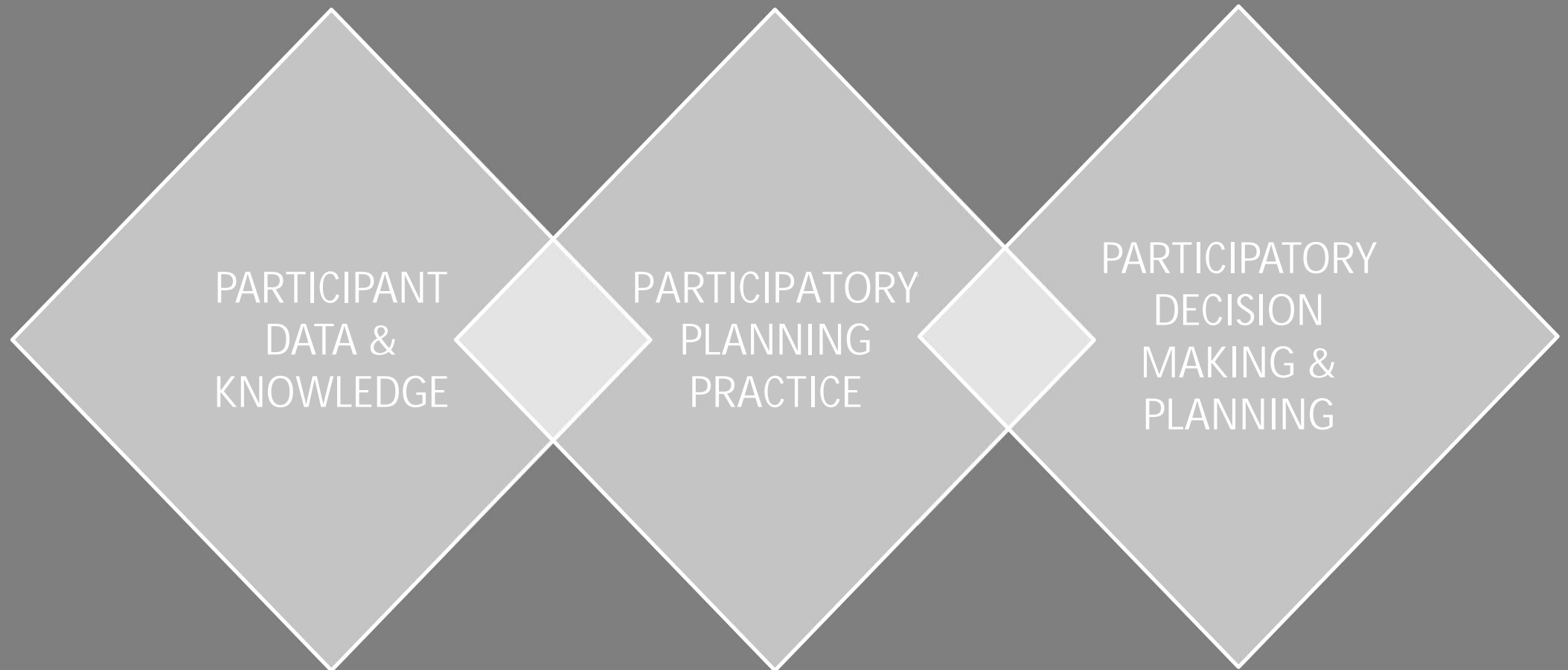
We will study the diverse,
sometimes contested
approaches and practices
In the field of
participatory planning



Varying THEORETICAL views – Course literature

This course:

The varying views concerning PP practises



The varying views & course structure

PARTICIPANT DATA & KNOWLEDGE

Aija Staffans
Marketta Kyttä
Maarit Kahila
Damiano Cerrone
Kimmo Lapintie

ORGANIZING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Sirkku Wallin
Maija Faenhle
Pilvi Nummi
Eveliina Harsia
Saana Rossi

PLANNING & DECISION MAKING

Mikko Rask
Johanna Palomäki
Lasse Peltonen

Course assignment options:
RENEWED Participatory Planning Plan (PPP) (Osallistumis- ja arviointisuunnitelma, OAS)
Your own PPGIS-survey

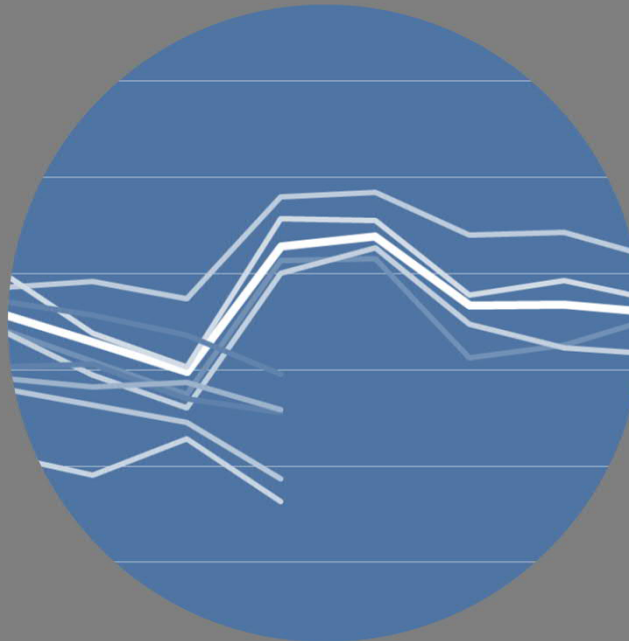
Data & knowledge?

Scientifically valid and reliable knowledge?

Local knowledge building?

Generalizable knowledge?

Context specific knowledge?



Who participants?

Neighbourhood
unions?

Common good?

Random
sampling?

Nimbyism?

Activists
"Super-people"?



How to organize?

Landuse and
planning act?

Informal?

Formal?

Self-organized
participation?



Where is the focus?

Planning process?

Content/ outcome?

Master planning?

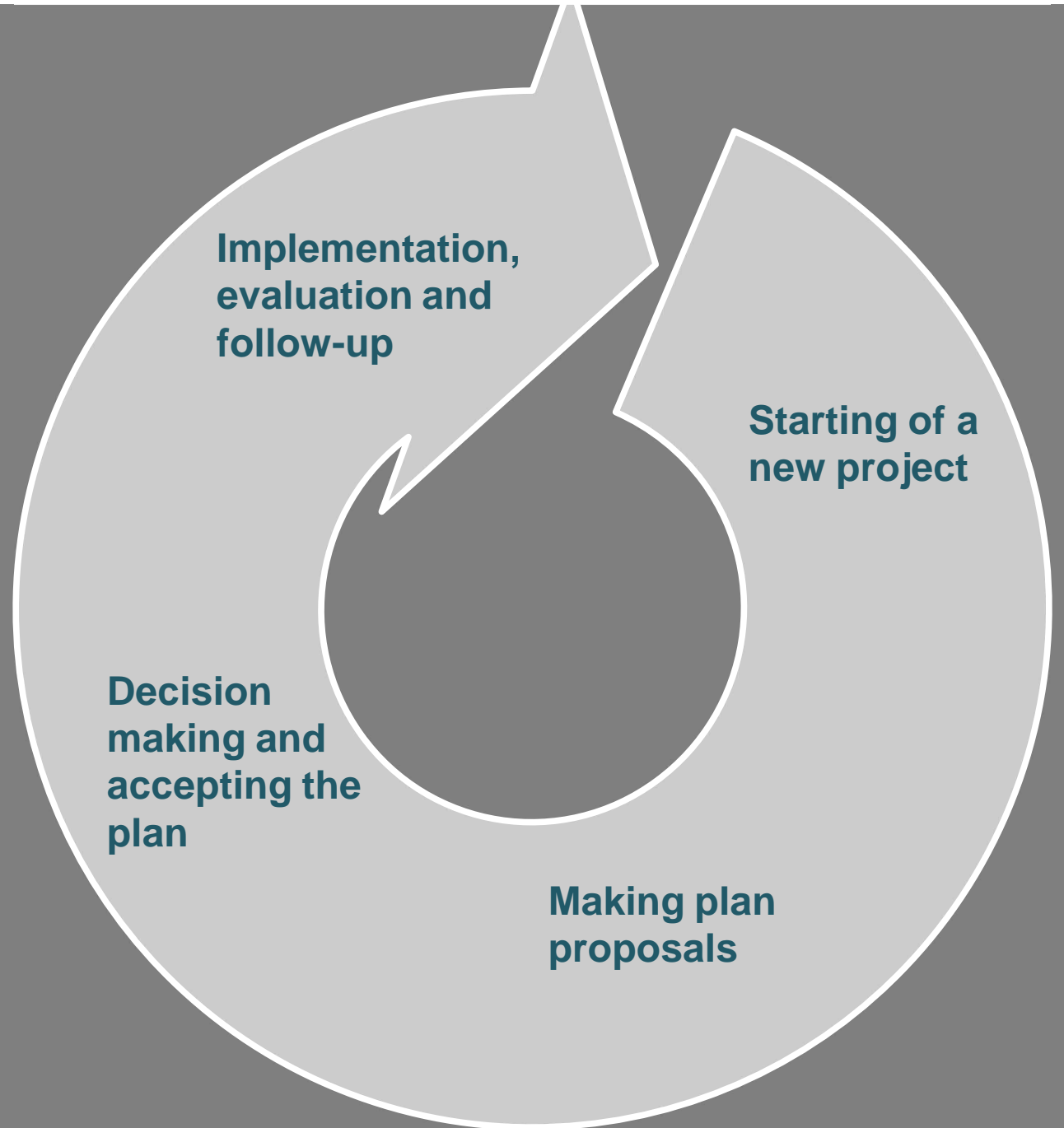
Strategic planning?

Detailed planning?



When & how?

**Participatory
planning can
be realized in
various
phases of the
planning
process?**



Who decides & makes the final plans?

Closed profession

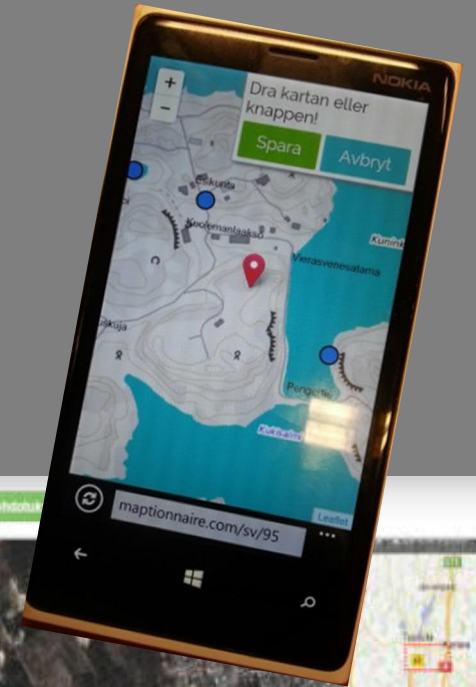
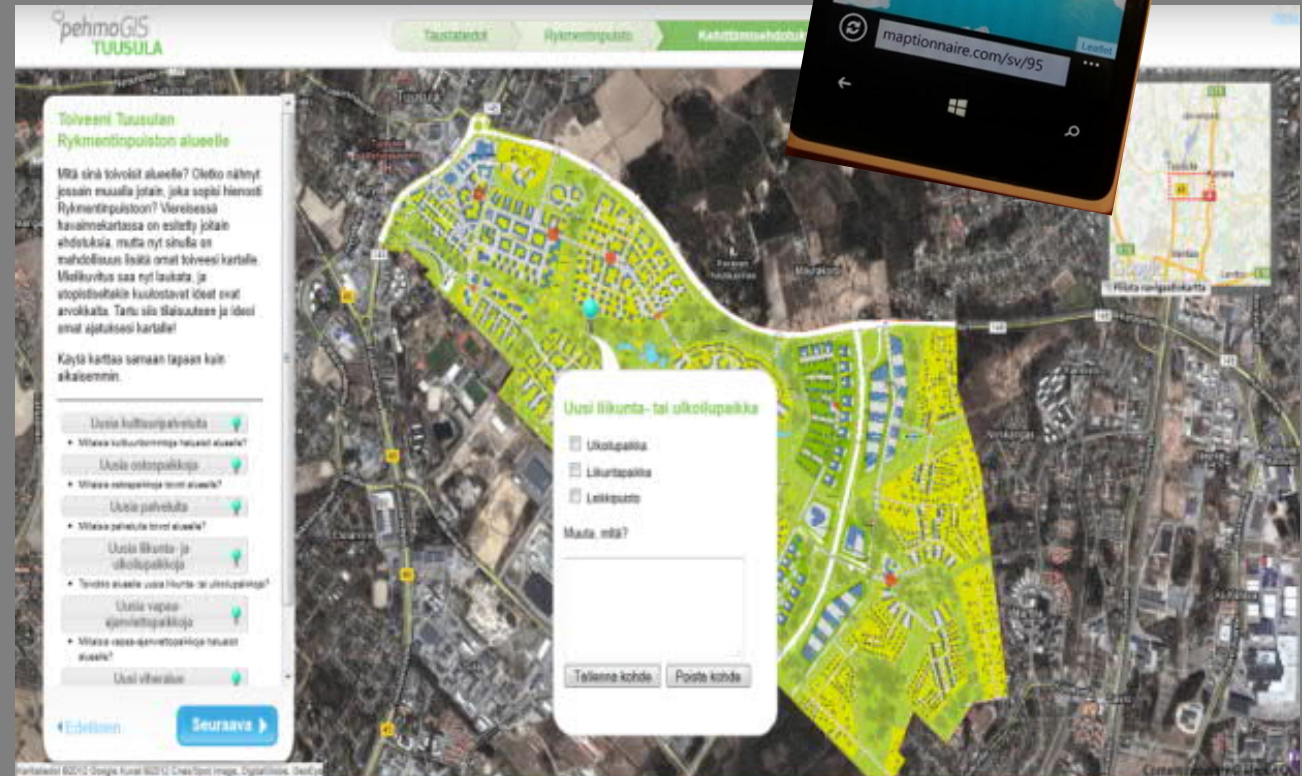
Deliberative
planning



Which methods?

Traditional

New technology



Participation tools/toolboxes

International
Association for Public
Participation:
<http://www.iap2.org/>

Participedia:
<https://www.participedia.net/>

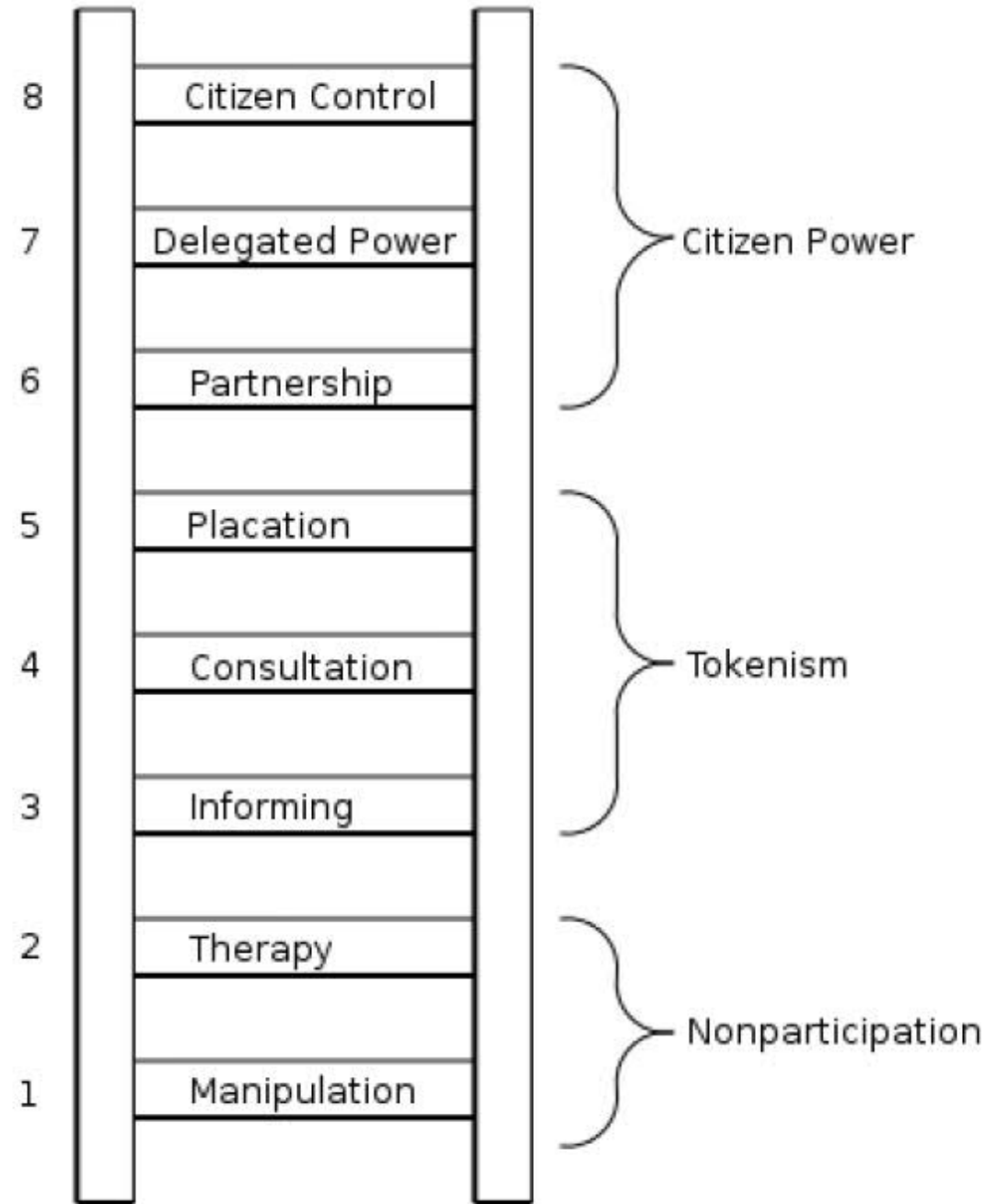
Toolkit on Public
Engagement with
Science:
<https://toolkit.pe2020.eu/toolkit/section-b-pe-methods-and-tools/b2-designing-pe-initiatives/?rsrc=pe2020-4>

Action Catalogue:
<http://actioncatalogue.eu/>

Participation
Compass:
<http://participationcompass.org/planning/index>

Find your own: ?

The ladders of participation by Sherry Arnstein (1969)



iap2 public participation spectrum

developed by the international association for public participation

International
Association
for Public
Participation
<https://www.iap2.org/>

	INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL	To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problems, alternatives and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decision.	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public issues and concerns are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision-making in the hands of the public.
PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC	We will keep you informed.	We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and issues are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will look to you for direct advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advise and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.	We will implement what you decide.
EXAMPLE TOOLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fact sheets • Websites • Open houses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public comment • Focus groups • Surveys • Public meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops • Deliberate polling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizen Advisory committees • Consensus-building • Participatory decision-making 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizen juries • Ballots • Delegated decisions

PHASES OF THE CYCLE OF PARTICIPATORY PLANNING

LEVELS OF PARTICIPATION	Initiation	Planning and design	Implementation	Evaluation/ Research	Maintenance
Community control	Paper and pencil tests, visioning	Modeling, games, trade offs	Contracted and self-building	Internal and external evaluation	Contracted or self-maintenance
Partnership	Future workshops, mapping, stakeholder analysis	Planning workshops Consensus building	Contracted and self-building, training workshops	Self-evaluation portfolios Citizen panels	Collaborative maintenance
Consultation	Surveys, meetings/ Campaigns, demonstrations	Communication and information techniques (ICT)	Displays	POE	Surveys, ICT
Information	Leaflets, lobbying	Media	Videos	Traditional research methods	Traditional research methods

The structure of the course

	Theme	Lecturer(s)	Opponents
1.3.2021	Introduction	Marketta Kyttä	
4.3.2021	Does mapping improve public participation? Exploring the pros and cons of using PPGIS in urban planning practices	Maarit Kahila & Marketta Kyttä	
8.3.2021	Collaboration with residents' through decades	Aija Staffans	
11.3.2021	Building knowledge as a community for a brighter future	Johanna Palomäki	
15.3.2021	Argumentation and tacit knowledge in (participatory) planning	Kimmo Lapintie	
18.3.2021	Meet a planner with practical experience about public participation	Saana Rossi, Pilvi Nummi & Eveliina Harsia	
22.3.2021	Social Media & Participatory Planning People First. Urban indicators for a just and equitable transition	Pilvi Nummi & Damiano Cerrone	
25.3.2021	Insights that enable cities to change - Maptionnaire onboarding	Kirsi Forss/ Marketta Kyttä	
29.3.2021	Conflicts and Collaboration in Planning	Lasse Peltonen	
1.4.2021	Participatory budgeting at the City of Helsinki	Mikko Rask	
8.4.2021	Updating collaborative planning for self-organising cities Self-organized urban development and urban activism	Maija Faehnle & Sirkku Wallin	
12. tai 15.4	Coursework presentations and discussion	Marketta Kyttä	

Opportunities to follow real life participatory planning

Helsinki

Find participatory planning events:

<https://www.hel.fi/helsinki/fi/kaupunki-ja-hallinto/osallistu-ja-vaikuta/hankkeet>

Online event 4.3: Mayor's evening concerning
Arabianranta, Kumpula & Toukola

Onsite (?) event 25.3: Nature & zoning night
concerning Central Park

HELSINGIN KAUPUNKI » KAUPUNGINKANSLIA » ARABIANRANNAN, KUMPULAN JA TOUKOLAN ASUKKAAT KUTSUTAAN VERKOSSA JÄRJESTETTÄVÄÄN PORMESTARIN ASUKASILTAAN 4.3.



Arabianrannan, Kumpulan ja Toukolan asukkaat kutsutaan verkossa järjestettävään pormestarin asukasiltan 4.3.

25.02.2021 07:45

Lisää aihealueen uutisia

Kaksi uutta raideyhteyttä muuttavat raitioliinjojen 6, 7 ja 9 reitit
6.4. ja 3.5.

26.02.2021 10:17

Vuosaaren Mosaikkikortteliin esitetään asuntoja ja työpaikkoja

26.02.2021 08:29

Pormestarin info koronavirustilanteesta 26. helmikuuta
Helsinki-kanavalla - katso tallenne

25.02.2021 16:55

Pääkaupunkiseudun koronakoordinaatioryhmä linjasi, että
päätös tartuntatautilain väliaikaisen 58 g §:n käytöstä tulisi
tehdä välittömästi

25.02.2021 16:08

Kevään tuokset herättivät Korkeasaaren karhut talviunilta

25.02.2021 15:28

[Kaikki uutiset »](#)

Helsinki Tapahtumat Etsi tekemistä Suosittelemme

Asukastoiminta Etäosallistuminen Helsingin keskuspuisto Hyvinvointi
Keskustelu Osallistuminen Maksuton

To 25.3.2021, klo 18.00 – 19.30

Keskuspuiston luonto- ja kaavoitusilta

Teemoina luonto, eliöstö, ekologia, geologia ja miten
luontoarvoja voidaan kaavoituksella suojella.

Maunula-talo, Metsäpurontie 4, Helsinki

Maksuton

Kuvaus

25.3.2021 @ 18.00 – 19.30

Keskuspuisto on helsinkiläisten oma metsäinen ulkoilualue, joka ylettyy
kymmenen kilometrin matkalla Laaksosta Helsingin pohjoisrajalle
Haltialaan ja Vantaanjoelle. Vaihtelevien ja luonnontilaisten metsien läpi
ristelee lukuisia hiekkateitä ja polkuja, jotka palvelevat keskuspuiston
ystäviä suosittuina urheilu-, retkeily- ja työmatkareitteinä.

Päivä ja aika

To 25.3.2021, klo 18.00 –
19.30

[Lisää kalenteriin >](#)

Paikka

Maunula-talo
Metsäpurontie 4
Maunula
Helsinki

Please visit

https://www.espoo.fi/fi-fi/asuminen_ja_ymparisto/kaavoitus

Espoo

Online event 16.3:
The zoning of
Masalakuja



Etusivu > Asuminen ja ympäristö > Kaavoitus > Etäasukastilaisuus Masalankujan kaavahankkeesta

Suomeksi Anna palautetta

Asuminen ja ympäristö

- Asiakaspalvelu >
- Asuminen >
- Kaavoitus**
- Yleiskaava >
- Asemakaava >
- Arkkitehtuurikilpailut
- Julkaisut >
- Mun Espoo kartalla
- Nimistö >
- Kadut ja liikenne >
- Kaupunginosat >
- Kestävä kehitys >
- Rakentaminen >
- Ympäristö ja luonto >

Etäasukastilaisuus Masalankujan kaavahankkeesta

[f](#) [t](#)

Masalankujan kaava-alue suunnitellaan muutettavaksi työpaikkojen ja urheilun alueeksi. Tavoitteena on huomioida mm. mahdolliset erityiset luontoarvot, maaperän kunnostamistarve sekä pyrkiä asemakaavoituksen keinoin luomaan rakennuksista kokonaisuus, joka samalla parantaisi viereisten pientaloalueiden melutilannetta.

Osallistu etäasukastapaamiseen tiistaina 16.3.2021 klo 17 —18.30. Osallistuminen ei edellytä erillistä sovellusta tai rekisteröitymistä, voit osallistua selaimen kautta.

[Osallistu etätilaisuuteen.](#)

Osallistumis- ja arviointisuunnitelma (OAS) ja valmisteluaineisto on nähtävillä 8.3.2021 – 7.4.2021.

Tutustu kaavahankkeeseen [Masalankuja, 130308](#)

Tervetuloa!

Lisätietoja etätilaisuudesta:
Mervi Romppanen, mervi.romppanen@espoo.fi, 050 524 6026

Käytämme evästeitä parantaaksemme sivuston käyttökokemusta, kts. [espoo.fi/tietoasivustosta](https://www.espoo.fi/tietoasivustosta).

Salli evästeet

Estä evästeet

Your course
work:
two options

Course work: option 1

Participation and assessment scheme 2.0

Osallistumis- ja arviointisuunnitelma OAS
Public Participation Plan (PPP)

Participation and assessment schemes are drawn up at the start of the planning process, to define how citizens, organizations and other interest groups can contribute to the whole process. Such co-operation begins during the initial phase of the planning process, while alternatives are still open, to allow participants to genuinely influence the plans.

Section 63

Participation and Assessment Scheme

When a plan is being drawn up, a scheme covering participation and interaction procedures and assessment of the plan's impact must be drawn up in good time, as required by the purpose and the significance of the plan.

The initiation of the planning process must be publicized so that interested parties have the opportunity to obtain information on the principles of the planning and of the participation and assessment procedure.

Such publicity must be arranged in a manner appropriate to the purpose and significance of the plan. The publicity may also take place in connection with the publication of a planning review.

Option 1

Create your own OAS 2.0/PPP 2.0

- Select real or imaginary urban planning case
- Use course literature to justify your approach
- Sketch and write: The format of the work is free. You can combine texts, visualizations, webpages, videos etc. in your work.
- Length of the work is 5-10 pages or corresponding amount of other material

Option 2

Design, realize and test a Public Participation survey

Aim: Learn how to design and realize PPGIS survey workself. Test your tool with a few participants.

Tool: Maptionnaire-service

Instructions:

1. Plan your survey by using course literature from this course or perhaps lessons that you have learned in other courses (e.g. Urban Experience). Justify your approach.
2. Design PPGIS survey for a real or imaginary publica participation process. Describe this process briefly.
3. Register to the Maptionnaire service (opens later) and use the available survey tools.
4. Test your survey by collecting a small PPGIS dataset. A few participants are enough. Analyse the findings by e.g. using the online analysis tools of the Maptionnaire service.
5. Report your project by writing a short description (5-10 pages)

Also...

- Each visiting lecturer recommends an article or two
- Please read the recommended article(s) before the session
- I will assign "opponents" for each session who will lead the discussion
- You will be an opponent twice during the course
- You are supposed to read the articles recommended by the teachers also during the other sessions

Volunteers for the first opponent role?

Discussion!

Grading of the course

The course is assessed with the scale 1-5. The score is calculated based on the following rules:

20 % individual reflections

20 % active participation in classes

60 % individual course assignment

See you on Thursday!