

Outdoor Space Mapping

Time: 2-3 hrs

Participant number: 8-40 (20 optimal) divided in groups

For: Local community/users of outdoor space

Description:

Practical workshop for any group of people being connected with one common outdoor space. Participants are divided in groups of 3-6 people at one table. One moderator per group might be needed. Group has a map of their local outdoor space and a set of cut out ideas for improvements/activities. Each group design their perfect outdoor space by placing cutout activities images and their own ideas in the map and present their plan at the end to other groups.

This workshop format originally has been designed for series of user engagement events in Riga, Latvia to ensure participation in redesign of mixed social housing and service centre. Target audience was existing residents from social housing, children day centre and daycare centre for mentally challenged youth, but workshop format is universal for any user group.

Plans created by the users are presented to the designers and stakeholders responsible for renovation. Ideally if they participate in the workshop. If that is not possible, it is recommended to create a “conceptplan” that condenses the main input from each group into one graphical masterplan for the outdoor space.

Steps:

1. **Prepare the materials.** Download print material example here: [link - Materials](#)

2. **Lead the workshop.** See example of a workshop plan and timing below:

15-30 min	Arrival and registration of participants.
30 min	Opening of the event, presenting workshop. Getting to know each other.
30-45 min	(Optional - recommended) Walk and talk to get to know the territory of the workshop. Organisers listening to local insights and start trust building. Optional – print an extra map on hard surface, place local insights as sticky notes on the map.
15 min	(Optional - recommended) Coffee break
45 min	Workshop in groups with printed materials – creating visions for future outdoor space
15-30 min	Presenting the ideas
10 min	End of the event. Next steps and thanking participants.

3. **Document the outcomes** and submit them to the designers participating in the event. Film the presentations of the groups. Make photos of process and maps created by the groups.
4. **Create a conceptplan.** In case designers or important stakeholders can't participate in the workshop, condense the outcomes of the workshop into a conceptplan. Especially recommended if multiple workshops for different user groups are held for the same territory. See example here: [link - Conceptplans](#)