

Metropolitan Participative Processes

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Agata Koszek-Pyka, Metropolis GZM

Jiří Svobodník, Dušan Pöllich, City of Ostrava / Ostrava MA

Prototyping Academies

as an example of inclusive and participatory approach to projects and to addressing challenges

Metropolis GZM
Górnośląsko-Zagłębiowska Metropolia

Prototyping Academies

1. **Live Testing - Prototyping**
2. **The "Lighter, Quicker, Cheaper" approach**
3. **Collaboration between experts and officials**
4. **Public Participation**
5. **Evaluation and data collection**



Advantages and Benefits of PA

1. Cost-Efficiency: Spending a few thousand EUR on temporary infrastructure prevents spending millions on a permanent reconstruction that might turn out to be dysfunctional.

2. Creating „a place” from „the space”

3. Giving residents, stakeholders a Voice:

PA moves planning from Excel spreadsheets onto the place, streets. Residents and different stakeholders can "feel" the change and provide feedback - saying "this works" or "this is inconvenient,, - before final decisions are made.

4. Agility: Permanent reconstruction can take years (due to designs, tenders, and construction). A prototype can be set up in a matter of days.

5. Building Local Identity: Transforming the space into a place with a participation of the residents encourages people to identify more closely with their neighbourhood.



Highlights / benefits of prototyping academies

- ✓ **Financing small projects.**
No big investments needed!
- ✓ **Quick implementation.**
Verification and opportunity to stop it.
There is no failure.
- ✓ **Involvement of possible opponents to the process.**
- ✓ **Wide range of stakeholders' approach.**



Civic Participation, Stakeholder Involvement, Metropolitan Upscaling

City of Ostrava / Ostrava
Metropolitan Area

Experiences with participatory planning - an example

Preparation of Ostrava

Strategic Plan for 2024-2030

- 5 200 questionnaires
- Emotional maps, 1 655 unique users positioning 23 865 „feelings“ connected to various sites in the city
- Street surveys, also during the Colours of Ostrava festival
- 7 working groups and more than 80 structured interviews conducted with experts, decision-makers from the politics and from business



Participatory revitalization of Dubina, Ostrava

A large, densely populated housing estate area
= a chance to intensively involve and inform the locals

- Broad scale of prototyping activities, **all tools at once**
- Involvement of **partner cities** from the Metropolitan Area
- A **community** of active locals, stakeholders and metropolitan partners has been formed



New Solution: Innovative Metropolitan Prototyping

Upscaling the Dubina pilot action to a metropolitan level

- Transfer to other cities in the Metropolitan Area
- Prepare a metropolitan guideline (a „cookbook“)

Implementation within

the Ostrava Metropolitan Working Group - a platform for participation processes in the Ostrava Metropolitan Area



Long-term metropolitan cooperation

Metropolitan Working Group for the Ostrava Metropolitan Area

- Originally launched as Regional Stakeholder Meetings (RSM), for the purposes of MECOG-CE
- Meets regularly several times a year
- Discusses common topics (strategic development, international cooperation etc.)
- Will continue after the MECOG-CE project closure, also to implement the „post-MECOG-CE“ Action Plan for the Ostrava Metropolitan Area



Ostrava = city of participation approaches

Lead partner of the URBACT project WE CREATE SPACE

- participation of citizens and NGOs in the co-creation of public space
- enabling communities to implement projects and co-create their city

Partner of a URBACT project on TACTICAL URBANISM

- improving public spaces through solutions co-designed with local actors and communities



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Agata Koszek-Pyka, Jiří Svobodník



<https://www.interreg-central.eu/projects/mecog-ce/>
a.koszek@metropoliagzm.pl; jiri.svobodnik@ostrava.cz



+420 599 442 341



[Linkedin.com/company/mecog-ce/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/mecog-ce/)

