

# Open Participatory Design and Digital Tools for Inclusive & Resilient Development

Full-Day Workshop

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## ABSTRACT

This workshop explores how open participatory design processes and digital tools can be effectively used for making local and urban development more inclusive and resilient.

During a one-day event, participants will be invited to reflect on the impacts of global socio-ecological dynamics in local contexts. Specially, on how open participatory design processes, as Urban Living Labs, can encourage and support bottom-up participation and community agency, contributing to envisioning, designing and implementing more sustainable and resilient urban development processes. Further, the participants will be invited to discuss the role that digital tools can play when applied to inclusive development and capacity building in community-based contexts.

The workshop's dynamic is based on co-creation methods, which will encourage participants to collaboratively write their ideas as structured abstracts, with the aim of turning them into publishable material for an international publication on Resilient Development and Digital Transformations.

## CCS CONCEPTS

• **Human-centered computing** → Interaction design; Interaction design process and methods; Participatory design;

## KEYWORDS

Open participation design, Inclusive and resilient development, Urban Living Lab, Digitalization

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

Global trends, especially those related with climate change and fast processes of urbanization, bring new challenges related to: i) urban and local development planning, and ii) effective community participation in decision-making processes.

These trends are changing the quality of life at local scales, increasing socio-ecological vulnerabilities at meso-scales, and producing further socioeconomic inequalities at macro-scales. Due to the complexity and changing circumstances of these trends, communities and planning stakeholders require inclusive and integral strategies fostering resilience as a pre-condition for sustainable development [1].

Therefore, it is crucial to investigate how real-time experiences and local knowledge can be used and integrated effectively alongside expert knowledge in planning and decision-making processes in order to adapt to changing circumstances (see Figure 1) [2].

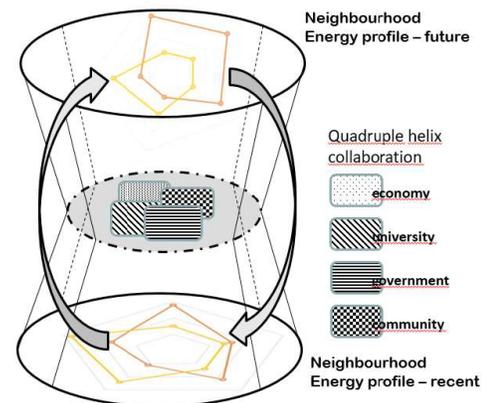


Figure 1: Quadruple helix approach for energy transformation of quarters. Own design based on Kolehmainen, et al., 2016. ©Rudolf Giffinger [3]

## 2 GOAL AND QUESTIONS

The main goal of the workshop is to bring together scholars, public officials, practitioners and interested citizens to envision transformational digital and open participatory strategies that can contribute to comprehensive resilient local development, whilst integrating multiple voices.

Specifically, the workshop explores the potentials and opportunities that open participatory design methodologies, as Urban Living Labs, bring to foster effective community participation, leverage and enhance collective intelligence and promote social cohesion [4].

Furthermore, this workshop aims to explore how new digital tools can be used for bringing professional expertise and local knowledge together, and how to apply it in planning and decision-making processes [5], which follow the goal of comprehensive resilience [6]. These interrelations are being examined with the following questions:

- How can technical innovations meet urban challenges effectively and adaptively, and how can they enhance urban and regional resilience?
- How can technical innovations produce and integrate expert and local knowledge in a participatory manner?
- How planning processes can be designed to use real-time experiences and local knowledge as an innovative planning tool?

A complementary goal is to consolidate the reflections and co-productions of our one-day workshop into structured abstracts. We aim to publish the output of the workshop as papers in a special issue about Resilient Development and Digital Transformations.

## 3 NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

Minimum 7 and maximum 21

## 4 RECRUITMENT PROCEDURE

If you are interested in participating, please send an intention letter including: a short description of your relevant professional and/or research practice in max 200 words, and, a motivation statement related to the workshop's objectives outlining your interests, questions, aims and/or insights in max 500 words. These documents can be submitted in English or Spanish.

## 5 LANGUAGES

The official languages of the workshop are English and Spanish, thus, we invite and encourage Spanish speaking participants to apply and write their contributions for the workshop in Spanish.

All introductory presentations in the workshop will be in English, but further clarifications and explanations can be provided in Spanish if needed.

## 6 STRUCTURE OF THE WORKSHOP

The workshop is structured to encourage participants to reflect and co-create together along five interdependent sessions that will take place during one full day.

9:00 to 10:15	Working Session One General introduction of the workshop's agenda, objectives, topic, and expected outcomes. Participants share their background, motivation and their research interests.
10:15 to 10:30	Coffee break
10:30 to 12:30	Working Session Two Introductory presentations by organizers about i) resilient development, ii) participatory design techniques supported by digital media, from a global-local perspective, and iii) open learning processes for cohesion and solidarity.
12:30 to 14:00	Lunch break
14:00 to 14:30	Working Session Three Teamwork in small groups
14:30 to 17:30	Working Session Four Teamwork in small groups
17:30 to 18:30	Working Session Five Presentation and discussion on team reflections and preliminary ideas for abstracts. Brief round of conclusions.
19:00 to 20:30	Dinner (Optional)

## 7 RELEVANCE OF THE WORKSHOP FOR PD

Participatory design methodologies and techniques can contribute in shortening the increasing gap between actors involved in urban and local development planning [7], but for that, they should be designed and contextualized according to the challenges driven by global and local trends.

In that sense, a comprehensive perspective that articulates macro and microscales together is the starting point for a resilient and sustainable development path oriented to mitigate and adapt from adverse corresponding challenges.

Open innovative initiatives as urban living Labs have the capacity to articulate together the so-called Quadruple helix of collaboration [8]. This strategy articulates the flow of knowledge between all actors involved in development and materializes bottom-up processes of decision finding together with top-down communication and dissemination channels.

## 8 RELEVANCE OF THE WORKSHOP FOR THE 16TH PDC

The contribution of the workshop to this 16th PDC conference is both conceptual and methodological. Firstly, it is conceptual because it contributes to the broad discussion about the socio-ecological challenges that cities and local communities experience today and will go through in their near future. From a global/local perspective, participatory open strategies enable community agency and participation. Secondly, the methodological contribution lies in the application of co-creation techniques throughout the session that stimulate cooperation

between participants. Both the topic and format of the workshop are intended to contribute to the theme of the conference, Participation(s) otherwise, by exploring open participation processes from a global perspective and reflecting how Urban Living Labs can reinforce community agency and collective intelligence.

## 9 EXPERTISE OF THE ORGANIZERS IN THESE TOPICS

The pool of four organizers articulates the expertise of experienced senior and junior scholars together with young researchers from three nationalities Austria, Colombia and Croatia affiliated to two institutions based in Vienna and Bogotá. The organizers' experience in designing, studying and publishing on open participatory processes, digital technologies and inclusive and resilient planning in different geographical, institutional and social contexts, guarantee a global/local perspective that will facilitate a south-north conversation. All four organizers have been engaged in the organization and execution of several academic and professional workshops on these topics before.

## 10 RECRUITMENT PROCEDURE

The organizers will distribute the call for participation through different academic and professional networks in Europa, Latin America and Colombia. The institution from Vienna will support financially the participation in the workshop and the conference of about three affiliated scholars by organizing an internal call and selection

processes. Both calls would be distributed in the last week of February 2020. The Internal call's deadline in Austria will be set up for the end of March 2020 in order to select the participants that would be financially supported to travel to the event. The international participation's deadline will be set up for mid-April 2020, in order to invite the selected participants to register with the early bird registration of the conference.

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