

Spatial Justice as Framework for Policy and Design Evaluation

Prepared by Roberto Rocco
Spatial Planning and Strategy
Delft University of technology



<https://just-city.org>



Summer School

**Justice is a human
invention: it does
not exist in nature.**

**Justice is an 'invented
order' that allows us
to live together.**

**The question of how
are we going to live
together is central.**

The question I want to answer is:

Justice not as a moral preference.

**But as an analytical framework
for policy and design evaluation.**

A black and white close-up photograph of Henri Lefebvre. He is shown from the chest up, looking slightly to the right with a thoughtful expression. His right hand is raised to his chin, with his fingers resting against his cheek. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the texture of his skin and the details of his facial features.

The spatial turn in the social sciences

Henri Lefebvre

Heidegger's existential philosophy and focus on the experience of being in the world influenced Lefebvre's concept of everyday life and the lived experience of space.

Lefebvre built on Simmel's sociology of space, particularly the idea that space is not merely physical but also shaped by social interactions.

Henri Lefebvre (in *The Production of Space*) showed that space is both physical and social, influenced by politics, economics, and everyday life.

**The 'ontological
spatiality' of all
being**

Everything happens somewhere!

Henri Lefebvre (in *The Production of Space*) argued that space is both physical and social, influenced by politics, economics, and everyday life. Space is... perceived, conceived, represented.

The 'ontological spatiality' of all being

The significance of
space, place and
geography in
understanding social
phenomena.

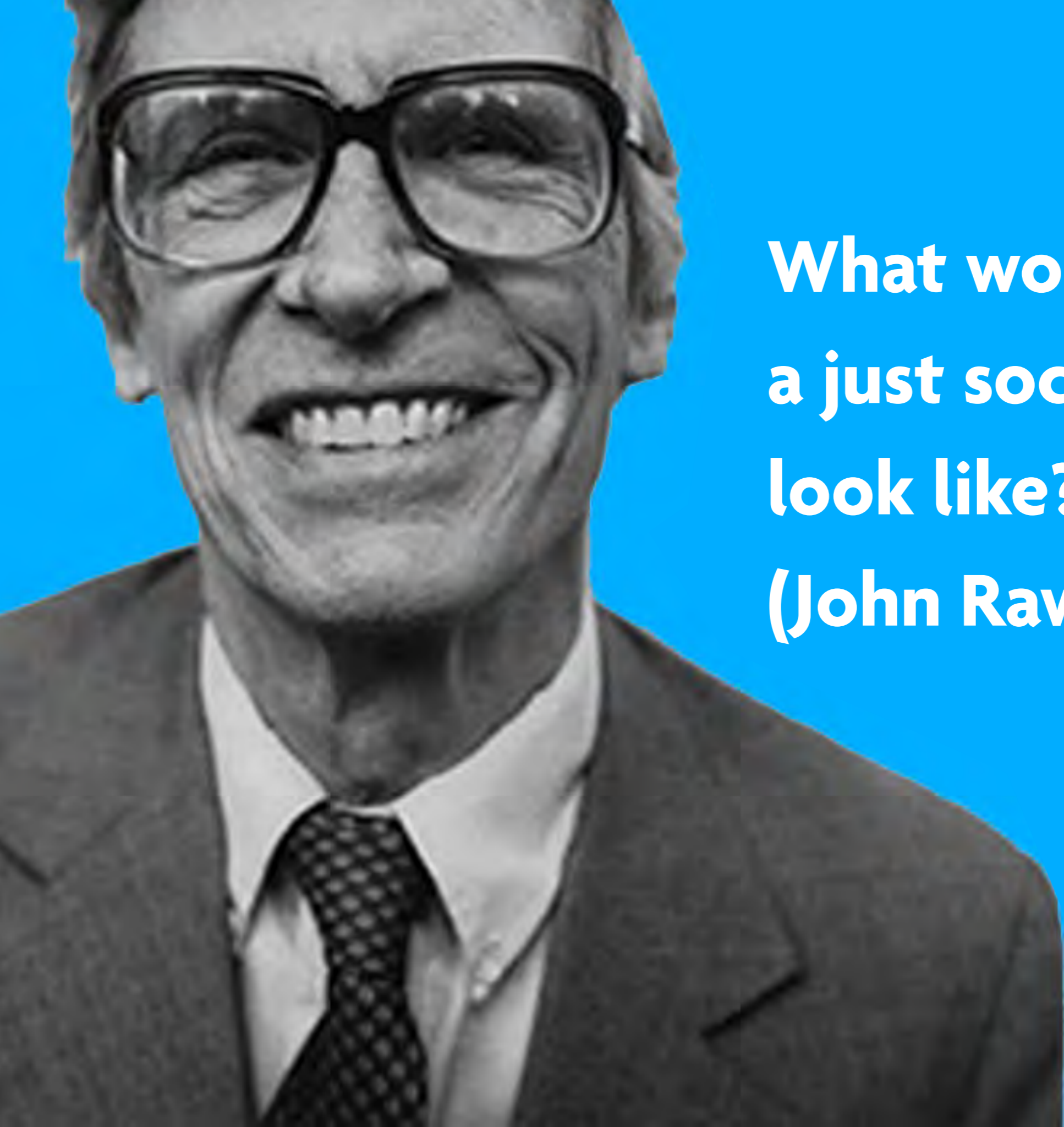
**Shifts focus from
temporal and political analyses
to considering how
spatial arrangements
influence political, economic, and social structures.**

**It underscores the importance of 'space' as a critical
factor in the production and reproduction of
societal processes.**

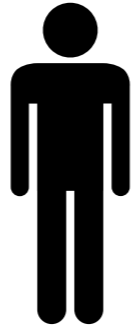
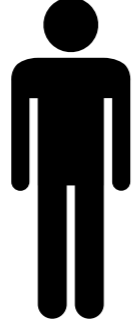
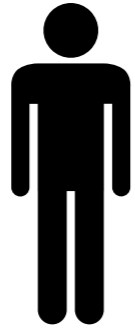
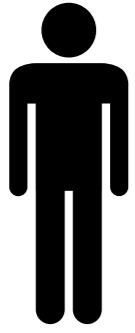
Soja's key argument was that

the spatiality of (in)justice affects society and social life as much as social processes shape the geography of (in)justice (Soja, 2010, p. 5).

This mutual constitution of space and society establishes spatial justice as a necessary dimension of any broader conception of justice.



**What would
a just society
look like?
(John Rawls)**



VEIL OF IGNORANCE



You need to slice the pie:



But you know you will be the last one to pick a slice

COLLECTIVE RIGHTS



IBRAHIM

UTILITARIANISM

London's Congestion Charging Scheme (2003).

By charging vehicles to enter central London during peak hours, the policy reduces traffic congestion, leading to **faster travel times, lower emissions,** and improved **public health.**

<https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/driving/congestion-charge/congestion-charge-zone>

Room for the River policy
Building codes/
Aesthetic regulations
Public Goods

POSITIVE RIGHTS



MICHELLE

ECONOMIC
EGALITARIANISM

Vienna's €365 Annual Public Transport Pass (2012).

By offering unlimited travel on public transportation for just €1 per day, the policy ensures that **all income groups** can afford reliable transportation, promoting **social inclusion and reducing mobility inequality.**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/jul/09/vienna-euro-a-day-public-transport-berlin-365-annual-ticket>

Zero Fee Transport Movement
Basic Income Movement
Social housing
Public Goods

NEGATIVE RIGHTS



LAURA

LIBERTARIANISM

Houston's Zoning-Free Development Policy

By avoiding zoning regulations, Houston exemplifies the libertarian principle of limiting government intervention, allowing individuals and businesses to make decisions based on personal preferences and market demand.

<https://houstonlanding.org/no-zoning-in-houston-provides-flexibility-complications-experts-say-why-does-it-matter/>

Protecting ownership rights
Protecting entrepreneurship
Private Goods

Comparative justice

AMARTYA SEN

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**Making the
world more
just today
than it was
yesterday
(incremental
justice)**

AMARTYA SEN

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Public reasoning

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**Rationality?
Ain't nobody
got time for
that!**



The Ancient Greeks feared democracy would lead to the rule of the unqualified, the manipulation of the masses by demagogues, and rule by emotion and prejudice rather than reason.

**The crisis of public
rationality
(Epistemic collapse)
Is also a crisis of
Planning**

**The problem of
'justice for whom'**

**I have *my* justice
and you have *your*
justice!**

Why this seems reasonable

- **Recognises diversity of experiences and values**
- **Avoids imposing a single moral worldview**
- **Sounds pluralistic and democratic**

Nancy Fraser's critique: the category mistake

**Justice is not about personal
preferences.**

**It is about whether social
arrangements enable parity of
participation (Fraser, 2000).**

What “Justice for whom?” obscures

- Treats all claims as morally equivalent
- Ignores **structural inequalities** (power, wealth, recognition)
- Masks how some voices are already institutionally dominant

The real question for planning

Not: “Who has a different view of justice?”

But:

**Do existing spatial and institutional
arrangements allow people to
participate in public life as equals?**

But what is REGENERATIVE justice?

Regenerative justice moves beyond repairing harm (restorative justice) to transforming the social and ecological systems that produced harm in the first place.

Key principles

- * **Repair + Renewal:** Address past injustices while rebuilding social and ecological relations
- * **Systems transformation:** Change institutions, infrastructures, and power relations, not just outcomes
- * **Relational thinking:** Humans, communities, and ecosystems are interdependent
- * **Plural knowledges:** Recognises Indigenous, local, and non-hegemonic ways of knowing (Escobar, 2018)
- * **Future-oriented justice:** Ensures conditions for long-term ecological and social flourishing

In planning terms

- * From distributing goods →
to reconfiguring socio-spatial systems**
- * From participation → to co-creation and
stewardship**
- * From sustainability → to regeneration of life-
support systems**

RECOGNITION Justice

Recognition of needs, interests, histories and aspirations



SPATIAL
JUSTICE

DISTRIBUTIVE Justice

Fair distribution of burdens
and benefits

PROCEDURAL Justice

Fairness in decision-making

Public goods are goods or services that are non-excludable (people cannot be prevented from using them) and non-rivalrous (use by one person does not diminish their availability to others). They often require government intervention as they are not for profit and require large (societal) investments.

Ypenburg

30% Social Housing

40% in Amsterdam

Distributive





Distributive

Public goods

Example of hard infra: Oosterschelddenkering (1986)

Distributive

Public goods

<https://magazines.deltacommissaris.nl/deltanieuws/2017/03/zuidwestelijke-delta>

Adaptive strategies, robust or flexible measures: Room for the River

Distributive,
but also taking
nature as a
stakeholder.



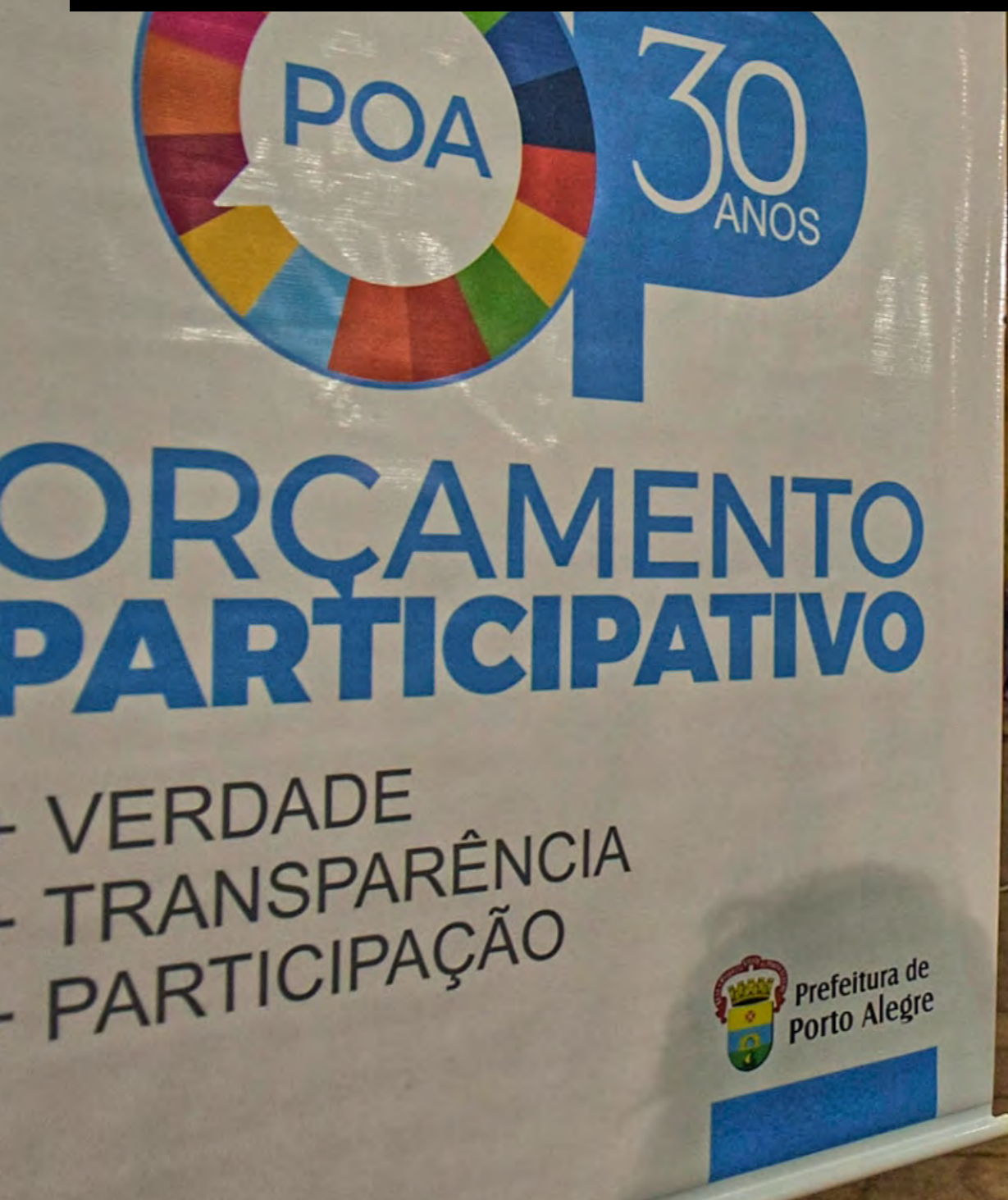
Adaptive strategies, robust or flexible measures: Room for the River



Distributive, but also taking nature as a stakeholder.

Examples of citizen empowerment

PARTICIPATORY BUDGET



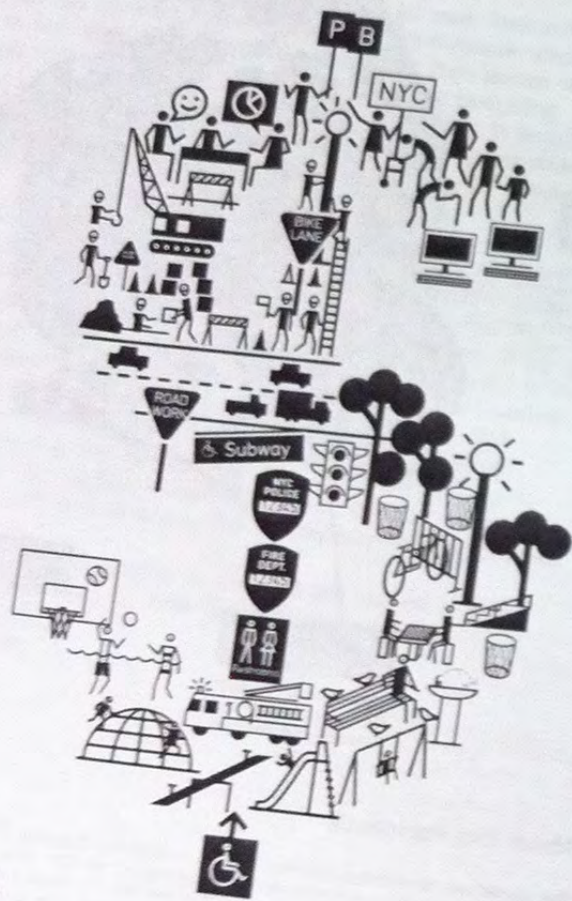
Procedural



Examples of citizen empowerment

PARTICIPATORY BUDGET

Participatory
Budgeting
in New York City



2012
book

Real Money.
Real Projects.
Real Power.



Be a part of a new way of making decisions
about public money in New York City.

HOW WOULD YOU SPEND

Procedural

ST MILLION OF THE CITY'S MONEY?

COME TELL US HOW:

Monday, Oct 24, 2011

Tabernacle of Praise

1274 Utica Avenue

(betwn Ave D and Foster)

6-8:30PM

BY DANIEL LATORRE - [HTTPS://WWW.FLICKR.COM/PHOTOS/NEOTINT/6267976938](https://www.flickr.com/photos/NEOTINT/6267976938), CC BY 2.0, [HTTPS://COMMONS.WIKIMEDIA.ORG/W/INDEX.PHP?CURID=62853174](https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=62853174)

Examples of citizen empowerment

Citizens' Convention for the Climate



Procedural/
Recognitional

[HTTPS://WWW.CONVENTIONCITOYENNEPOURLECLIMAT.FR/EN/](https://www.conventioncitoyennepourleclimat.fr/en/)

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/CONVCITOYENNE/PHOTOS/A.120563659339647/208996803829665/?TYPE=3&THEATER](https://www.facebook.com/convcitoyenne/photos/a.120563659339647/208996803829665/?type=3&theater)

Examples of citizen empowerment

Citizens' convention for the climate

Procedural
Recognitional



[HTTPS://WWW.CONVENTIONCITOYENNEPOURLECLIMAT.FR/EN/](https://www.conventioncitoyennepourleclimat.fr/en/)

[HTTPS://EUROPEANCLIMATE.ORG/A-TALE-OF-TWO-CITIZENS-ASSEMBLIES/](https://europeanclimate.org/a-tale-of-two-citizens-assemblies/)

Participatory Planning in Medellín, Colombia

Story of cities #42: Medellín escapes grip of drug lord to embrace radical urbanism



Distributive
Procedural
Recognitional

Screenshot

The Right to the City and Housing First Initiatives



WHO WE ARE

WHAT WE DO

OUR IMPACT

GET INVOLVED

DONATE

Recognitional

NOVEMBER 4, 2019 / OUR IMPACT

Housing First is More than a Buzzword

BY CHRISTINE SIMIRIGLIA

Housing First: Five Key Principles



In systems of care for people who experiencing homelessness, Housing First has achieved buzzword status.

Cultural Districts for Ethnic and Cultural Preservation



Recognitional

Indigenous Land Rights and Co-management Practices

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/01/opinion/climate-change-indigenous-activists.html>

OPINION

The Guardians of the Future

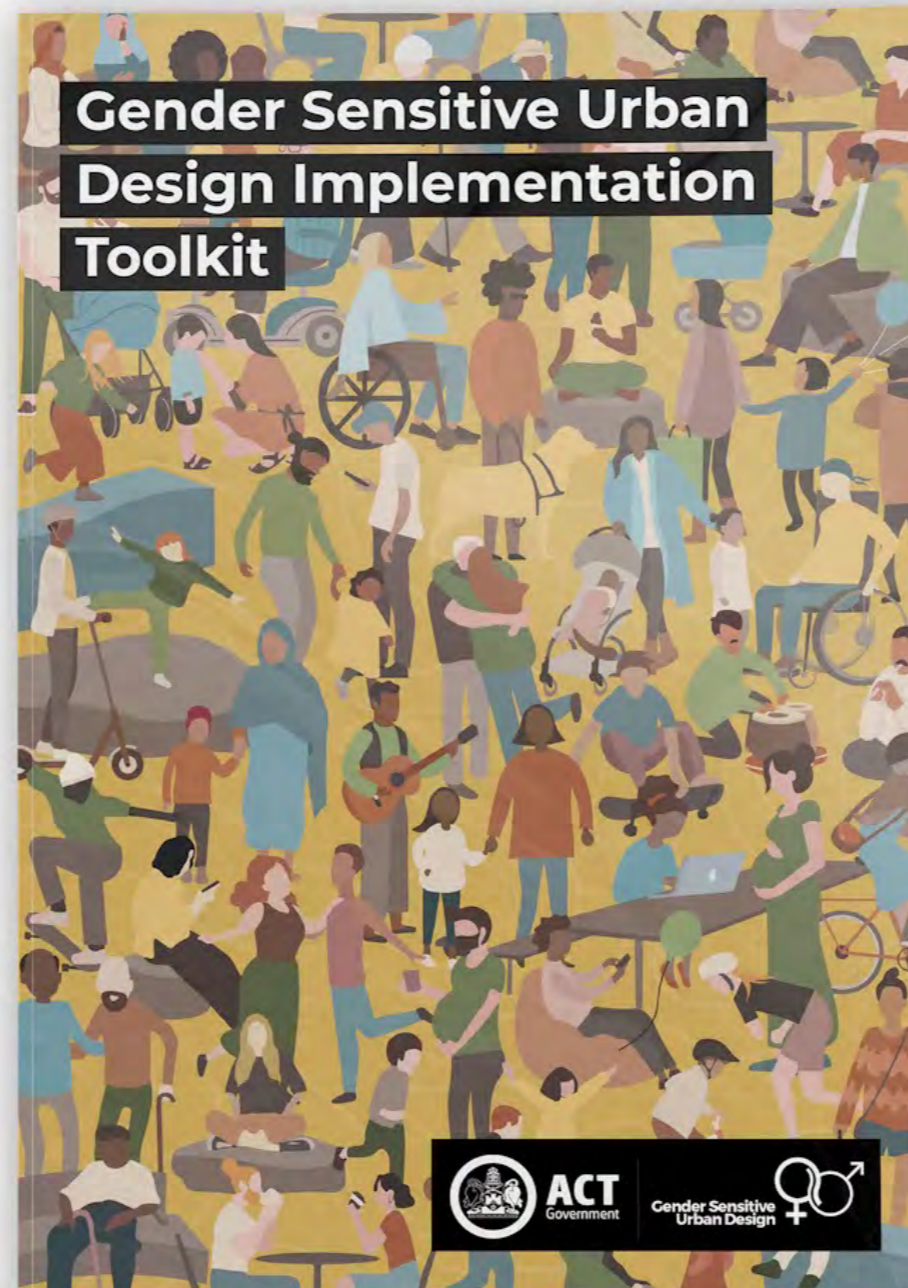
It's time for Indigenous voices to lead the climate fight.



Recognitional

Gender-sensitive Urban Planning

<https://www.oculus.info/projects/gender-sensitive-urban-design-guidelines>



Recognitional

Examples of citizen empowerment through communing

Favela Paraisópolis came together to fight Covid-19

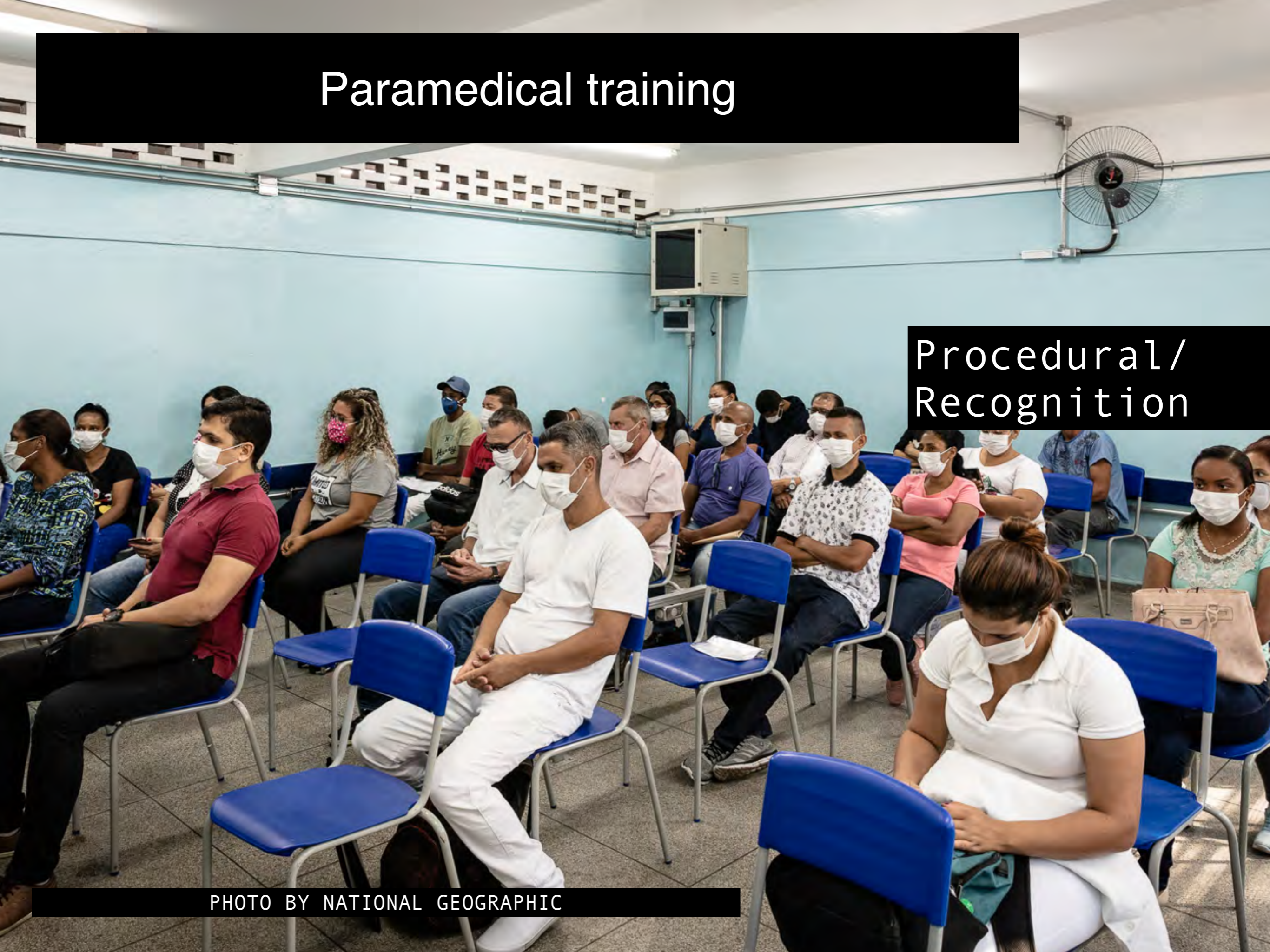
Procedural/
Recognition

PHOTO BY JOSI MARTINS

Paramedical training

Procedural/
Recognition

PHOTO BY NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC



The symbolic dimension



Recognitional



Recognitional

The Victory of Public Goods

NS: State owned (for profit) NS Groep NV.

Public goods

Non
excludable
and non
rivalrous

ProRail: Dutch government organisation

NS Railinfratrust: Dutch government agency

Cargo: DB Schenker: division of German rail operator Deutsche Bahn (Joint-stock company)

NS Reizigers: Interface with users

NedTrain (locomotive maintenance)

A number of subsidiaries.

Public goods



Evaluating Spatial Justice

Why to evaluate spatial justice considerations?

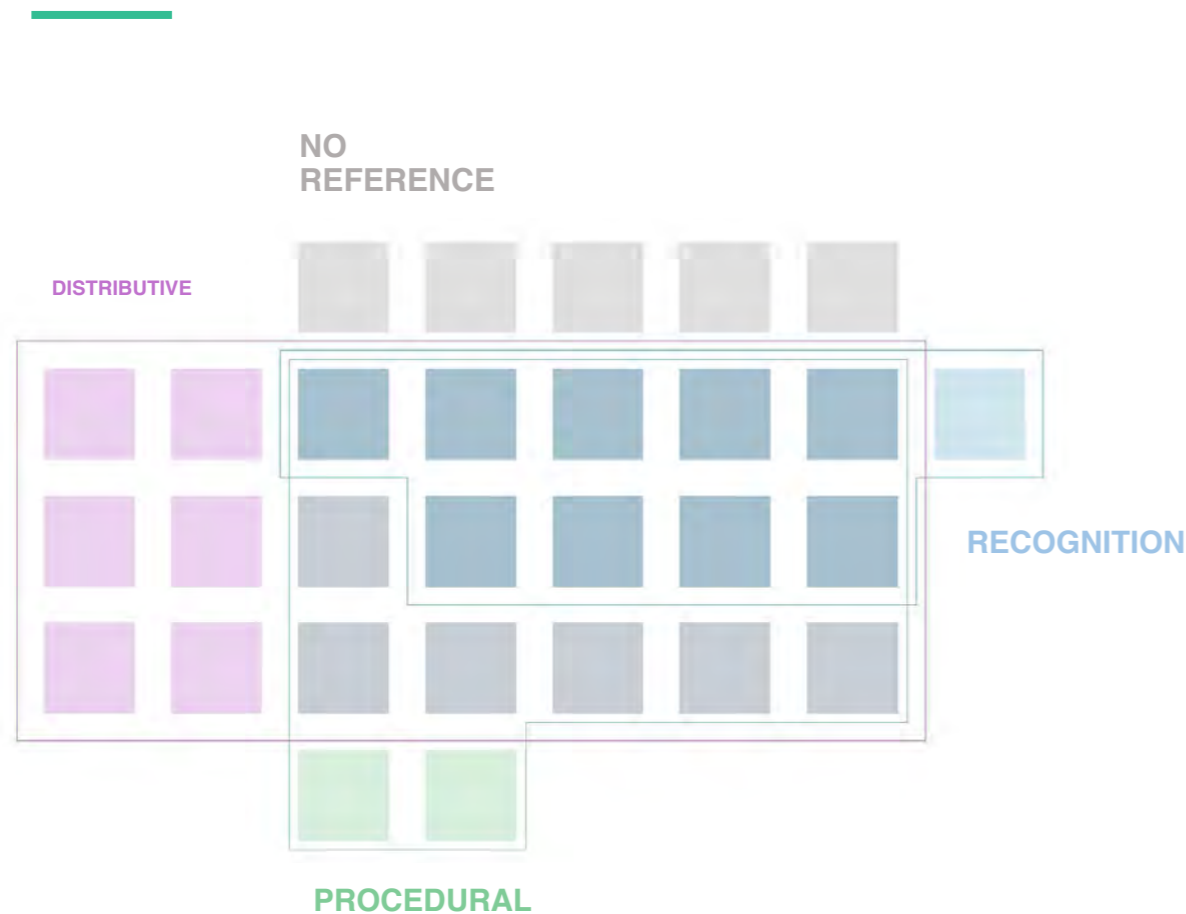


- **Processes are as important as outcomes.**
- **Compare: compare plans for academic and knowledge transfer reasons.**
- **Monitor: This entails identifying burdens and vulnerabilities, empowering communities, and fostering plurality.**
- **Inform just transition policies and plans.**
- **Tools for such assessment are missing.**
- **Spatial Justice Benchmarking approach comprising a conceptual model, a rubric, a tool, and this evaluation of city plans.**



Assessing Spatial Justice

Reference to the dimensions of justice in the selected articles

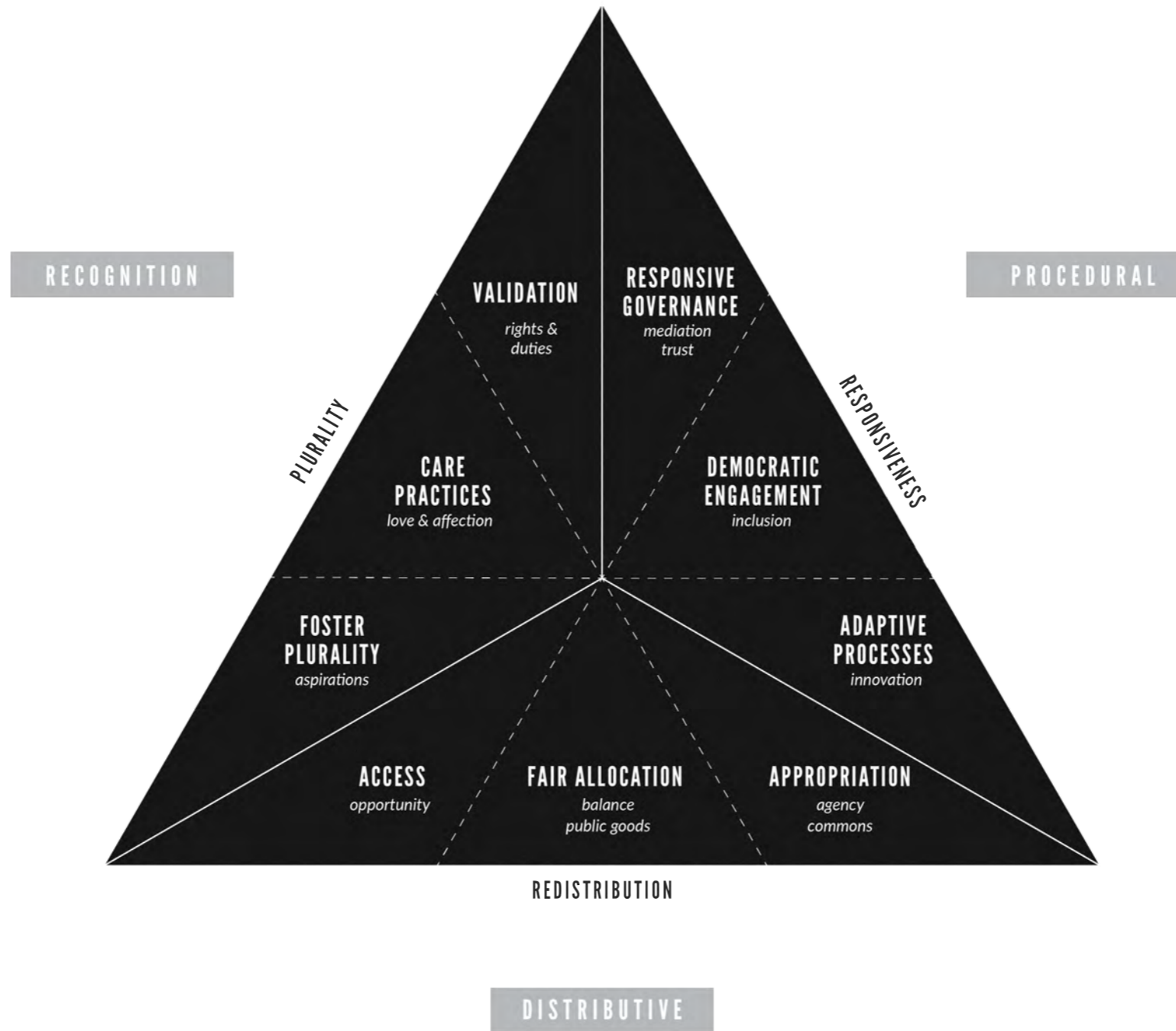


This project has received funding from the Horizon Innovation Actions under the grant agreement n° 101096405.

Preliminary Results from the Literature Review on Assessing Spatial Justice*:

- **Growing Interest:** From 2022 to 2023, there was a 120% increase in articles with the explicit objective of assessing Spatial Justice.
- **Distributive Justice is Central to the Assessments:** 75% of the articles directly reference the distributive dimension of justice.
- **Need for a Comprehensive Method of Assessment:** 53% of articles reference at least two dimensions of justice, while only 35% reference all three dimensions of justice.
- **Most Common Methods of Assessment:** The most common methods of assessment were GIS-based measures (17%) and compound indexes (11%).

*: 63 articles were systematically selected from the Scopus database, including articles that apply different research methods to assess SJ at any geographical scale.



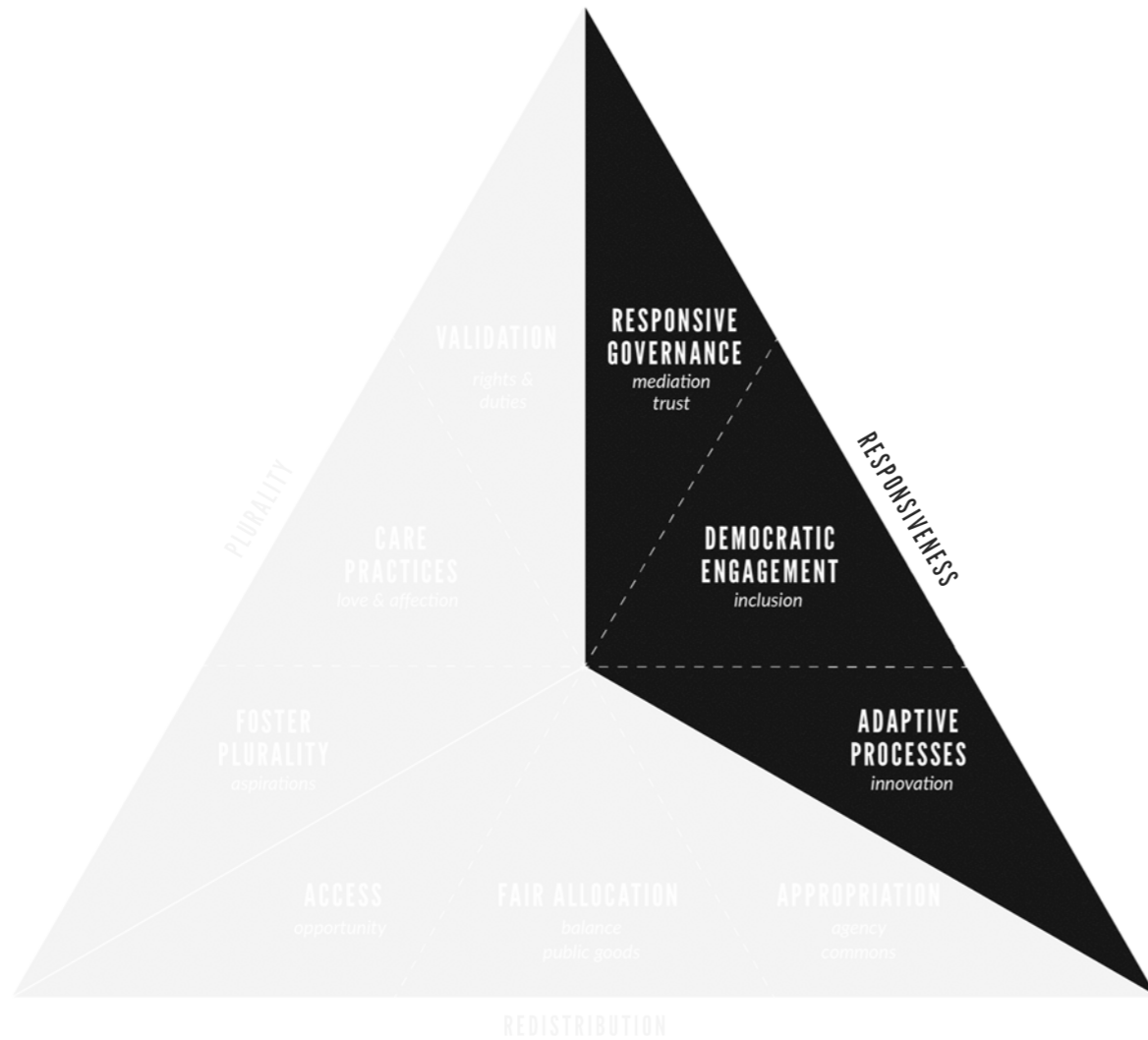
Distributive dimension



This project has received funding from the Horizon Innovation Actions under the grant agreement n° 101096405.

- The spatial distribution of the burdens and benefits of human association in cities and communities (Rocco, 2023).
- Allocation: fair allocation of burdens and benefits. Material or service provision of public goods, basic services, cultural goods, economic opportunities, and healthy environments.
- Access: the ease of reach to the material or service via the enhancement of opportunities. It concerns affordability, availability, connectivity, etc.
- Appropriation: appropriate the materials and/or services in a way that transforms, and the ability to make it 'yours' but still share and care for the other. It concerns for usage, programming, the design, etc.

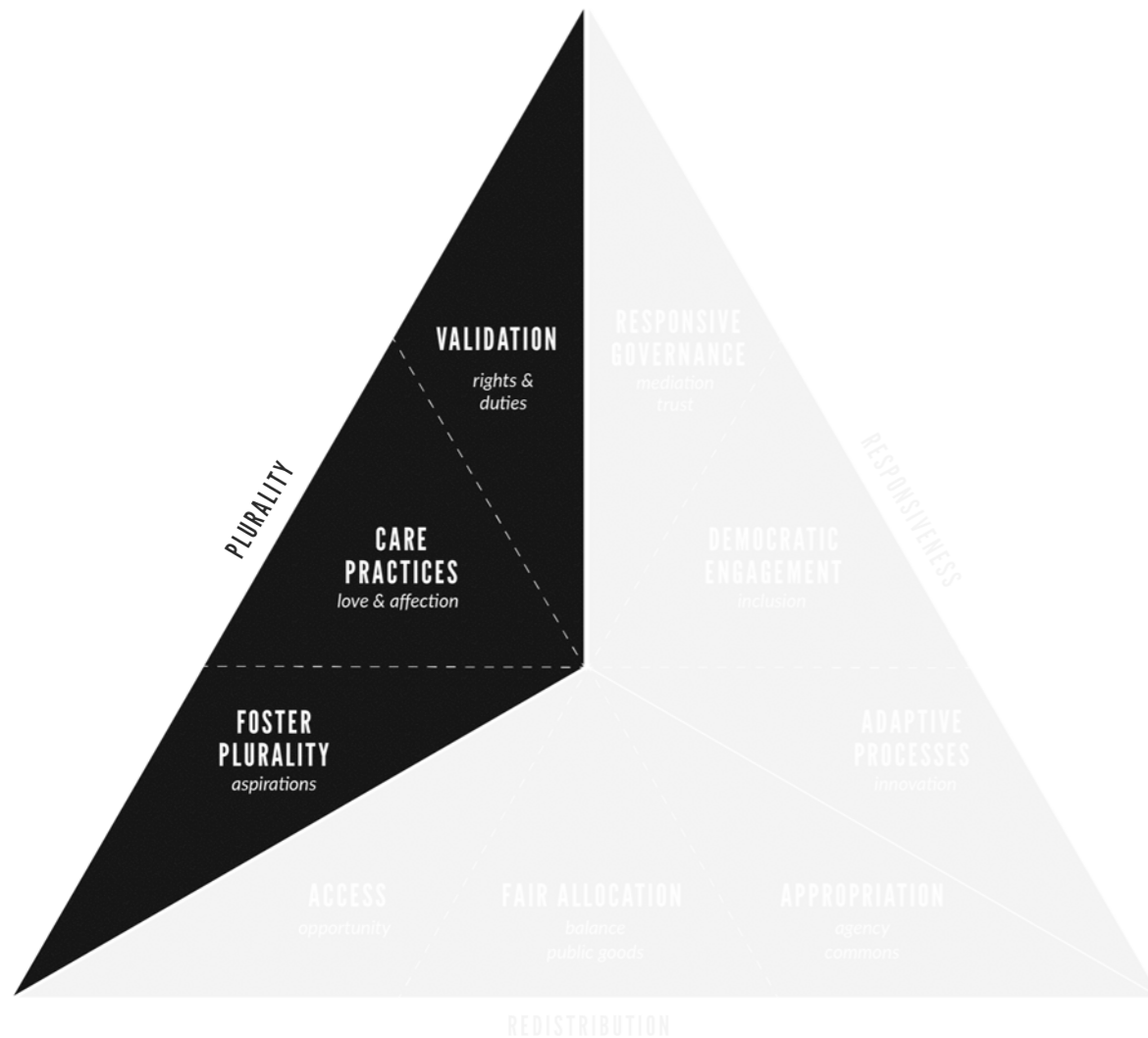
Procedural dimension



This project has received funding from the Horizon Innovation Actions under the grant agreement n° 101096405.

- Procedures and governance of the built environment should be ensured so that it does not reproduce, maintain, or create new inequalities.
- Democratic engagement: Residents are included and part of the agenda setting, the design, implementation and/or the decision-making stage/process, having the freedom and trust to negotiate. It concerns the levels of participation.
- Adaptive processes: It evaluates the institution's flexibility and adaptability to evolving circumstances, incorporating feedback, and adjusting policies, practices, and programs to better align with justice considerations.
- Responsive governance: the ability to build trust through negotiation, balancing mediation and direct action, expert knowledge and direct democracy, in views to uphold justice and that it legitimatises social sustainability.

Recognition dimension



This project has received funding from the Horizon Innovation Actions under the grant agreement n° 101096405.

- The acknowledgement, validation, respect, fostering of individual and collective identities, experiences, and cultural expressions. The argument for recognition justice is akin to a ‘social differentiation without exclusion’ (Young, 1990, p. 238)
- **Validation:** A form of respect and protection that provides space for recognising the acknowledgment in a broader definition of rights and duties, which includes constitutions, standards, regulations.
- **Care practices:** Highlight the practices that support and protect groups in marginalised or vulnerable conditions.
- **Investment in plurality:** Emphasises transformation of values towards plurality to foster novel socioeconomic and institutional arrangements.

Evaluates, discusses,
and reflects on Spatial
Justice considerations.

3. Spatial Justice Benchmarking Tool

A qualitative evaluation tool is designed to measure the application of justice considerations in urban governance and planning of a city or region, assisting evaluation and reflection. It defines "levels of justice", from "Low" to "Embedded", by assigning a score of the attainment of what is being assessed against the highlighted components of the Spatial Justice Conceptual Model. It also provides visualisations in a dashboard that assist the reflection and improvement of processes (and outcomes) towards spatial justice.

DISTRIBUTIVE DIMENSION

PROCEDURAL DIMENSION

RECOGNITION DIMENSION

EMBEDDED	Benefits and burdens allocated fairly citywide with clear specification of resources (e.g. public goods, basic services, economic opportunities, green spaces, etc.).	Considerations about access to benefits and burdens across the city. All dimensions of Spatial Justice are considered. Evidence of what, how, and who is being considered.	Considerations for the appropriation of benefits and burdens across the city. All dimensions of Spatial Justice are considered. Evidenced in specification of what, how, and who is being considered.	There are considerations on how people are engaged in processes. All dimensions of Spatial Justice are considered. This is evidenced in the specification of what/where, how, and who is being considered.	There are considerations on how internal processes adapt towards justice. All dimensions of Spatial Justice are considered. This is evidenced in the specification of what/where, how, and who is being considered.	There are considerations for aspects of Spatial Justice in the government's actions. All dimensions of Spatial Justice are considered. This is evidenced in the specification of what/where, how, and who is being considered.	There are considerations for validating disadvantaged individuals and groups in laws and regulations. All dimensions of Spatial Justice are considered. This is evidenced in the specification of who, what/where, and how is being considered.	There are considerations to recognise practices of marginalised or non-hegemonic collectives and groups. All dimensions of Spatial Justice are considered, evidenced in the specification of who, what/where, and how is being considered.	There are considerations for aspirations, values, or livelihood of marginalised or non-hegemonic communities or diverse lifestyles. All dimensions of Spatial Justice are considered, evidenced in the specification of who, what/where, and how is being considered.
	Mentions fair allocation of benefits and burdens and specifies some resources.	Considerations about access to benefits and burdens across the city. More than one dimension of Spatial Justice is considered. Evidence in specifications of what, how and who is made accessible.	Considerations about the appropriation of benefits and burdens across the city. More than one dimension of Spatial Justice is considered. Evidenced in specifications of what/how is open.	There are considerations on how people are engaged in processes. More than one dimension of Spatial Justice is considered. This is evidenced in specifications of how, and who or what/where is being considered.	There are considerations on how internal processes adapt towards justice. More than one dimension of Spatial Justice is considered. This is evidenced in specifications of how and who or what/where is being considered.	There are considerations for aspects of Spatial Justice in the government's actions. More than one dimension of Spatial Justice is considered. This is evidenced in the specifications of what/where, and who or how is being considered.	There are considerations for validating disadvantaged individuals and groups in laws and regulations. More than one dimension of Spatial Justice is considered, evidenced in the specifications of who, and what/where or how is being considered.	There are considerations to recognise practices of marginalised or non-hegemonic collectives and groups. More than one dimension of Spatial Justice is considered, evidenced in the specifications of who, and what/where or how is being considered.	There are considerations for aspirations, values, or livelihood of marginalised or non-hegemonic communities or diverse lifestyles. More than one dimension of Spatial Justice is considered, evidenced in the specifications of who, and what/where or how is being considered.
	Acknowledges fair allocation of benefits and burdens but does not specify resources.	There are considerations about the access to benefits and burdens across the city. Specifies where or what service or material is being addressed.	Considerations about the appropriation of benefits and burdens across the city. Specification of where or what material and/or service is open to change.	There are considerations about how people are engaged in processes (policies, regulations, standards, etc). It specifies how or who is being engaged.	There are considerations on how internal processes adapt towards justice. It specifies how it is being addressed.	There are considerations for aspects of Spatial Justice in the government's actions. It specifies what, where, how or who is being addressed.	There are considerations for validating disadvantaged individuals and groups in laws and regulations. It specifies who is being validated.	There are considerations to recognise practices of marginalised or non-hegemonic collectives and groups. It specifies who is being recognised.	There are considerations for aspirations, values, or livelihood of marginalised or non-hegemonic communities or diverse lifestyles. It specifies who is being addressed.
	There is a general concern about the allocation of benefits and burdens across the city.	There is a general concern about access to benefits and burdens across the city.	General concern about the appropriation of benefits and burdens across the city, with initial efforts to acknowledge people's agency in usage and programming.	There is a general concern about how people are engaged in processes (policy, planning, projects, etc).	There is general concern about how internal processes (procedures, values, standards, etc.) adapt to promote justice inside institutions.	There is a general concern for aspects of Spatial Justice in the government's actions.	There is a general concern for validating disadvantaged individuals and groups in laws and regulations. There is an acknowledgment of disparities.	There is a general concern to recognise practices of marginalised or non-hegemonic collectives and groups.	There is a general concern for aspirations, values, or livelihood of marginalised or non-hegemonic communities or diverse lifestyles. There is an acknowledgment of their existence and relevance.
	There is no consideration for how benefits and burdens are distributed across the city.	There is no consideration of the access to benefits and burdens across the city.	There is no consideration of the appropriation and agency of benefits and burdens across the city.	There is no consideration for how people are engaged in processes (policy, planning, projects, etc).	There is no consideration for how internal processes (procedures, values, standards, etc) adapt towards justice inside institutions.	There is no consideration for aspects of Spatial Justice in the government's actions.	There is no consideration for validating disadvantaged individuals and groups in laws and regulations.	There is no consideration to recognise practices of marginalised or non-hegemonic collectives and groups.	There is no consideration for aspirations, values, or livelihood of marginalised or non-hegemonic communities or diverse lifestyles.

LOW	COMPONENT 1	COMPONENT 2	COMPONENT 3	COMPONENT 1	COMPONENT 2	COMPONENT 3	COMPONENT 1	COMPONENT 2	COMPONENT 3
	<p>FAIR ALLOCATION</p> <p>This component focuses on ensuring that resources are fairly distributed to address inequality. It concerns the material or service provision of public goods, basic services, cultural goods, economic opportunities, and healthy environments.</p>	<p>IMPROVE ACCESS TO OPPORTUNITIES</p> <p>This component highlights efforts to enhance people's ability to reach and benefit from key opportunities. It concerns affordability, availability, connectivity, etc.</p>	<p>EMPOWER PEOPLE TO ADAPT AND ADOPT</p> <p>This component emphasises empowering individuals and groups to actively shape and utilise available resources. It concerns the design, programming, and openness to people's agency.</p>	<p>DEMOCRATIC ENGAGEMENT</p> <p>This component focuses on the ongoing involvement of citizens in decision-making processes. The easeness of people to approach the institution.</p>	<p>FOSTER INTERNAL ADAPTIVENESS</p> <p>This component focuses on the institution's internal flexibility and adaptability to evolving circumstances, incorporating feedback, and adjusting policies, practices, and programs to better reflect justice considerations.</p>	<p>INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIVENESS</p> <p>This component focuses on how the institution address external stakeholders. It concerns ensuring that processes are fair, transparent, and sustainable, in views to uphold justice and that it legitimatises social sustainability.</p>	<p>LEGAL EMPOWERMENT</p> <p>This component emphasises the importance of legal frameworks in recognising and protecting the intrinsic value and dignity of individuals and groups as moral agents.</p>	<p>SUPPORT FOR COLLECTIVE CARE PRACTICES</p> <p>This component highlights actions to sustain and uplift collective efforts and everyday practices in disadvantaged communities, such as solidarity networks and the management of communal resources.</p>	<p>RECOGNISE AND FOSTER THE PLURIVERSE</p> <p>This component calls for a profound transformation of values to enable novel socioeconomic and institutional arrangements, advocating for considering the values, qualities, and unique socio-spatial dynamics of non-hegemonic cultures and communities.</p>

Spatial Justice Benchmarking Tool



About:
The Spatial Justice Benchmarking Tool (SJBT) is a qualitative evaluation tool designed to measure the application of justice considerations in urban governance and planning of a city or region, assessing evolution and reflection. It follows 'levels of justice', from 'Low' to 'Inhabited', by assigning a score of the attainment of what is being assessed against the highlighted components of the Spatial Justice Conceptual Model.

The tool serves to spark discussion and reflection based on Spatial Justice considerations. Using this lens, it is possible to pay greater attention to aspects that redistribute benefits and burdens, engage people and to learn responses in policy and decision-making processes, and recognise the needs and aspirations of disadvantaged individuals, groups and communities.

- How to use the tool:**
- 1) Start by clarifying what your vision/strategy/plan is. Use the vision statement provided above to keep it in mind throughout the process.
 - 2) Go through each column on the right. Each column represents a component of the Spatial Justice Conceptual Model (SCM).
 - 3) Discuss how well the vision statement aligns with each component and assign it a rating from 'Low' to 'Inhabited'.

Level 1-3 for consideration for the component:
Warning 1: General considerations to consider on impact.
Level 2: Explicit concerns, the component is mentioned.
Warning 2: In-depth concerns, context, the component with other elements.
Inhabited 1-3: Integrated concerns, it connects the component with all dimensions.

- 1) Use points to write down any ideas or recommendations discussed by the group. Place these directly onto the relevant component for easy reference.
- 2) Take a good number of each dimension's component scores. Use a marker pen to mark this number along the dimension axis. Connect these points to form a triangle which will help you consider the strength and balance of each dimension.

Guidance and more information:
[Page 100-101](#) (Spatial Justice Act)
[Page 102-103](#) (Spatial Justice Act)
[Spatial Justice Conceptual Model](#)



<p>FAIR ALLOCATION</p> <p>This component concerns the way in which resources and opportunities are distributed. It is about ensuring that everyone has access to the same opportunities and resources, and that the distribution is fair and equitable.</p>	<p>IMPROVE ACCESS TO OPPORTUNITIES</p> <p>This component concerns the way in which opportunities are distributed. It is about ensuring that everyone has access to the same opportunities and resources, and that the distribution is fair and equitable.</p>	<p>EMPOWER PEOPLE TO ADAPT AND ADOPT</p> <p>This component concerns the way in which people are empowered to adapt and adopt. It is about ensuring that everyone has the skills and resources to adapt and adopt to change, and that the process is fair and equitable.</p>	<p>DEMOCRATIC ENGAGEMENT</p> <p>This component concerns the way in which people are engaged in decision-making. It is about ensuring that everyone has a say in the decisions that affect them, and that the process is fair and equitable.</p>	<p>FOSTER INTERNAL ADAPTABILITY</p> <p>This component concerns the way in which people are able to adapt and adopt. It is about ensuring that everyone has the skills and resources to adapt and adopt to change, and that the process is fair and equitable.</p>	<p>INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIVENESS</p> <p>This component concerns the way in which institutions respond to the needs and aspirations of people. It is about ensuring that institutions are responsive to the needs and aspirations of people, and that the process is fair and equitable.</p>	<p>LEGAL EMPOWERMENT</p> <p>This component concerns the way in which people are able to access the law. It is about ensuring that everyone has access to the law, and that the process is fair and equitable.</p>	<p>SUPPORT FOR COLLECTIVE BARGAINING PRACTICES</p> <p>This component concerns the way in which people are able to support collective bargaining practices. It is about ensuring that everyone has the skills and resources to support collective bargaining practices, and that the process is fair and equitable.</p>	<p>RECOGNISE AND FOSTER THE PLURIVALENT</p> <p>This component concerns the way in which people are able to recognise and foster the plurivalent. It is about ensuring that everyone has the skills and resources to recognise and foster the plurivalent, and that the process is fair and equitable.</p>
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Roberto Rocco

Spatial Justice

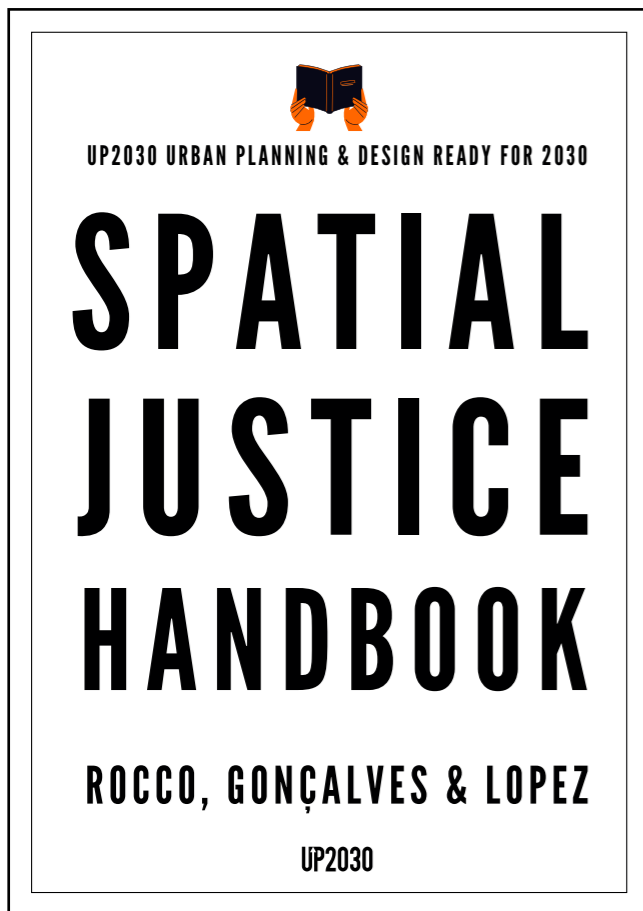
the basics

ROUTLEDGE



<https://www.routledge.com/Spatial-Justice-The-Basics/Rocco/p/book/9781041075431>

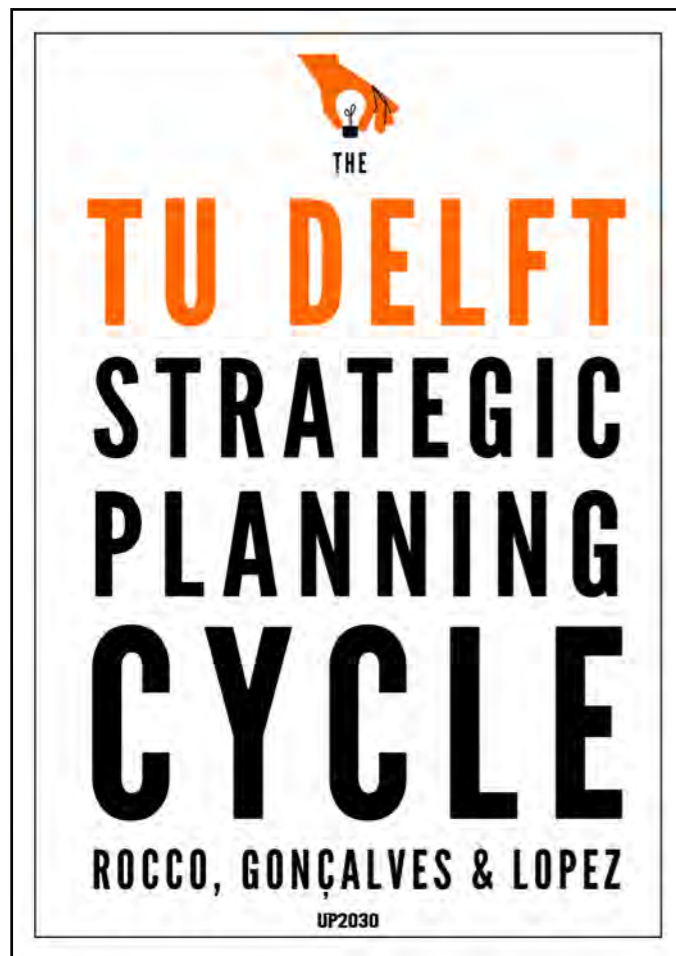
Spatial Justice Handbook



Comprehensive guide for applying Spatial Justice in urban research and planning practice.

Rocco, R., Gonçalves, J. E., & Lopez, H. (2024). The Spatial Justice Handbook. TU Delft. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.12598019>

UP2030 Strategic Planning Cycle



Outlines the strategic planning phases to integrate Spatial Justice and tools in UP2030.

Rocco, R., Gonçalves, J., & Lopez, H. (2024). The TU Delft Spatial Planning Cycle. TU Delft OPEN. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.12654288>

A
Spatial Planning
Guide to
**PUBLIC
GOODS**

**Designing, Implementing, and
Sustaining Public Goods for
Equitable Cities and Communities**

ROBERTO ROCCO



Main research question

How do different cities consider spatial justice in their urban sustainability transition plans? And how to measure it?

NOT a comparison between cities

*The demonstration is made
using the plans sent to us by
partner cities.*

*Next: **City Visions***

Urban Sustainability Plans

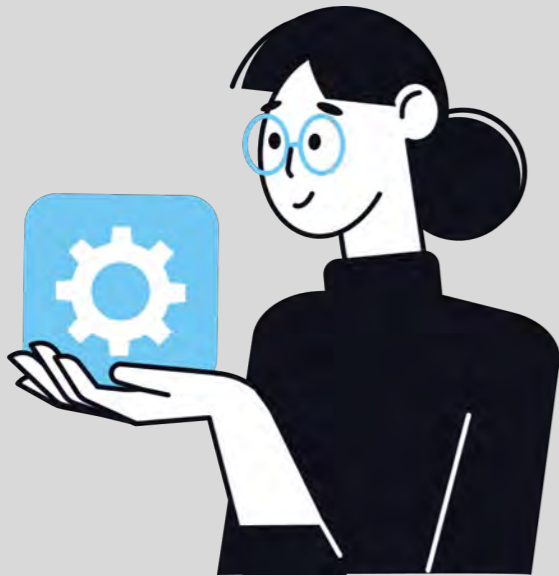
City	Main features	Governance level	Km2	Population (closest to plan year)	Document	Type
Rotterdam	Second largest city	City	324,14	(2023) 664 311	Rotterdams Weerwoord "Uitvoeringsagenda Agenda 2023-2026"	Action plan
Belfast	Capital Largest city	City	132,50	(2021) 345 418	Net-zero Carbon Roadmap for Belfast	Roadmap

Urban sustainability transition plans (demonstration)



This project has received funding from the Horizon Innovation Actions under the grant agreement n° 101096405.

Methodology



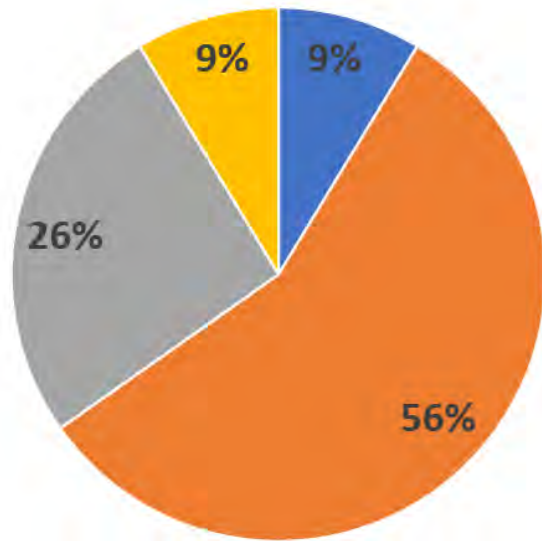
- Urban sustainability transition plans
- Thematic analysis:
VSOA method
- Qualitative analysis:
Spatial Justice
assessment and scoring⁷³

Thematic analysis: VSOA method

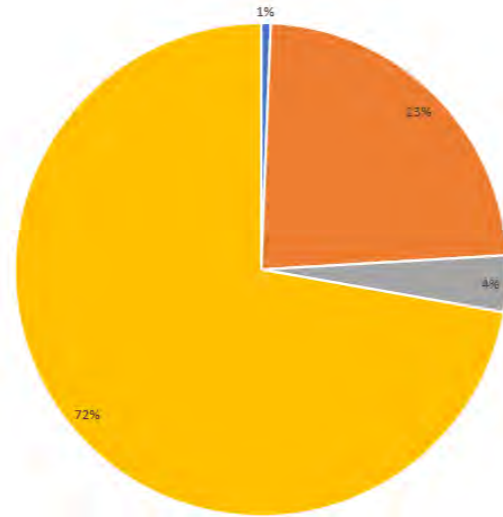


- The Values, Strategies, Objectives, and Actions (VSOA) methodology is employed to extract core information from the documents, since most urban sustainability transition plans are strategic planning documents.
- Urban Strategic Planning is distinct from the conventional urban planning approaches such as master plans or comprehensive development plans, they focus on the processes for implementations (UN Habitat).
- This methodology provides a structure for analysing the key elements of urban plans and understanding how values are articulated and translated into actionable items. It helps identify the overarching vision, the strategies devised to achieve it, the specific objectives outlined, and the concrete actions proposed.
- Importantly, it helps to highlight what is not present regarding justice in the written documents.
- Coding is done by sentence. This is the first layer of analysis, with 4 options

Vision Strategy Objective Action (VSOA)



Belfast



Rotterdam

■ Vision ■ Strategy ■ Objective ■ Action

Belfast: 24 codes. Rotterdam had 162 codes. More important than the numbers is the balance between them.

Belfast: Net-Zero Carbon Roadmap

- Strategy-oriented.
- Vision (9%), Strategy (56%), Objective (26%), Action (9%)

Rotterdam: Uitvoeringsagenda 2023-2026

- Action-oriented.
- Vision (1%), Strategy (23%), Objective (4%), Action (72%)

This is read as an advice for the further conclusions over spatial justice considerations.

Qualitative analysis: Spatial Justice assessment & scoring



- Spatial Justice Benchmarking Tool: each coded sentence as a V/S/O/A is also coded with a dimension and a component of Spatial Justice that is the focus of the sentence.
- Scoring:
 - "-3" means no consideration of spatial justice components, or its aspects.
 - "-1" indicates a general or indirect concern for spatial justice, but it is not a priority.
 - "0" reflects explicit concern for spatial justice in planning, but actions are limited.
 - "+1" denotes specific successful actions, more specific to the area, process, or group.
 - +3" demonstrates integrated concern with examples, specificity, and indicators for continuous monitoring.
- Median scores are calculated for each dimension and component from these coded sentences.

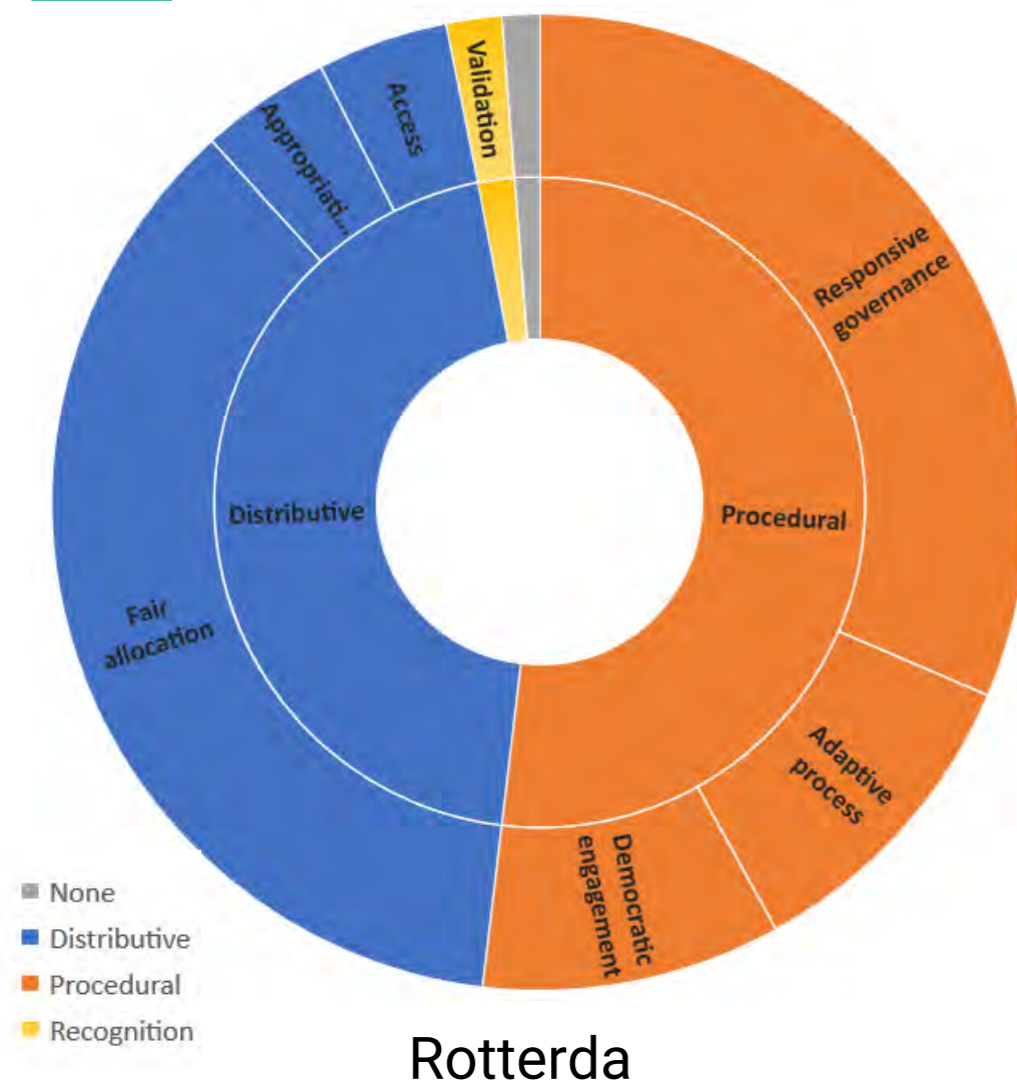
Spatial Justice Assessment: Belfast



Belfast

- **No Recognition dimension identified.**
- **The components of the Procedural dimension are evenly matched. There is a slight prominence of the component "Responsive Governance", which focuses on the ability to build trust through negotiation, in a form of mediation that is in view to uphold justice and legitimatise social sustainability building consensus among several actors.**
- **The components of the Distributive dimension demonstrate a higher consideration for the provision of material or services, a lower consideration of questions of access to them, and an even lower one for how people use and transform the benefits and burdens. Few mentions of appropriation, or how people could make use, programme, and transform what is being provided, be it a material (like a public square in an area with few squares) or a service (like subsidies for solar panels).**

Spatial Justice Assessment: Rotterdam



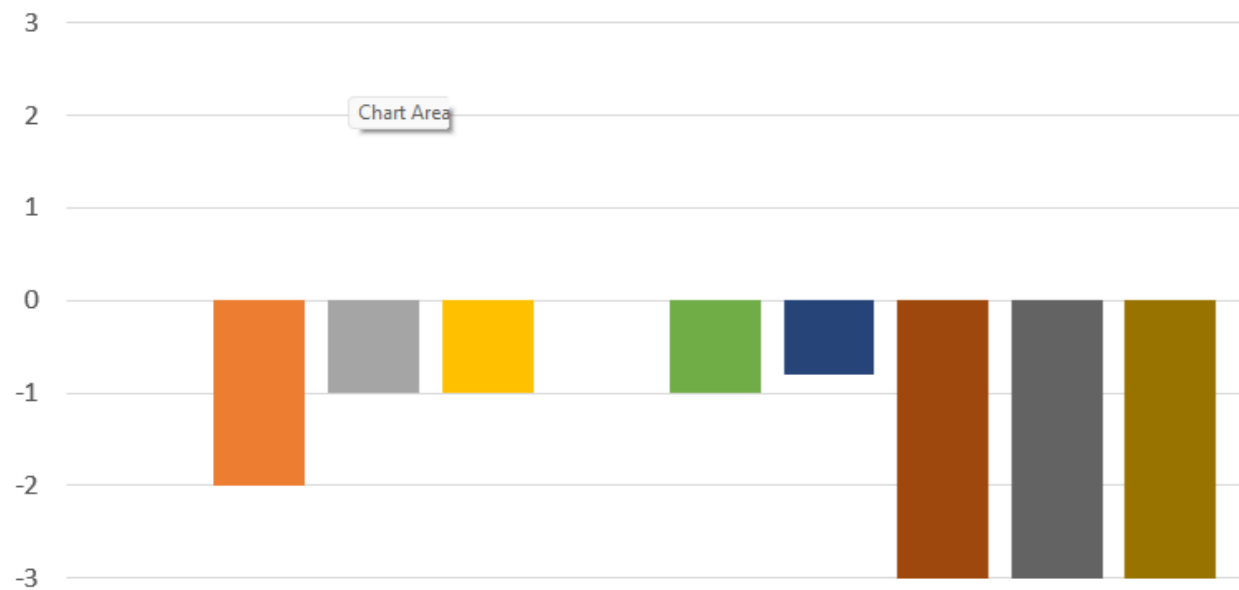
- In the Distributive dimension, the component “Fair Allocation” is featured in a considerate higher proportion in relation to the components “Access” and “Appropriation”. It is important to pay attention to this relation, since fair allocation does not seek equality of outcomes, but emphasises to correct spatial disparities, aiming to address the origin of inequality. The other components should have been more mentioned to address the overcoming of fragmentation and the concern over people’s usage.
- In the Procedural dimension, “Responsive Governance” is notably prominent, with considerable mentions for other components. This suggests a balance of direct and mediated actions influencing city operations.
- The Recognition dimension is rarely mentioned. The lack of focus on acknowledging and protecting individuals, collectives, and communities is worrying. Climate action must target the most **vulnerable and marginalized groups** to avoid reinforcing injustices in policies and measures for mitigation and adaptation.

This project has received funding from the Horizon Innovation Actions under the grant agreement n° 101096405.

Spatial Justice Scoring (A conversation starter)

Belfast

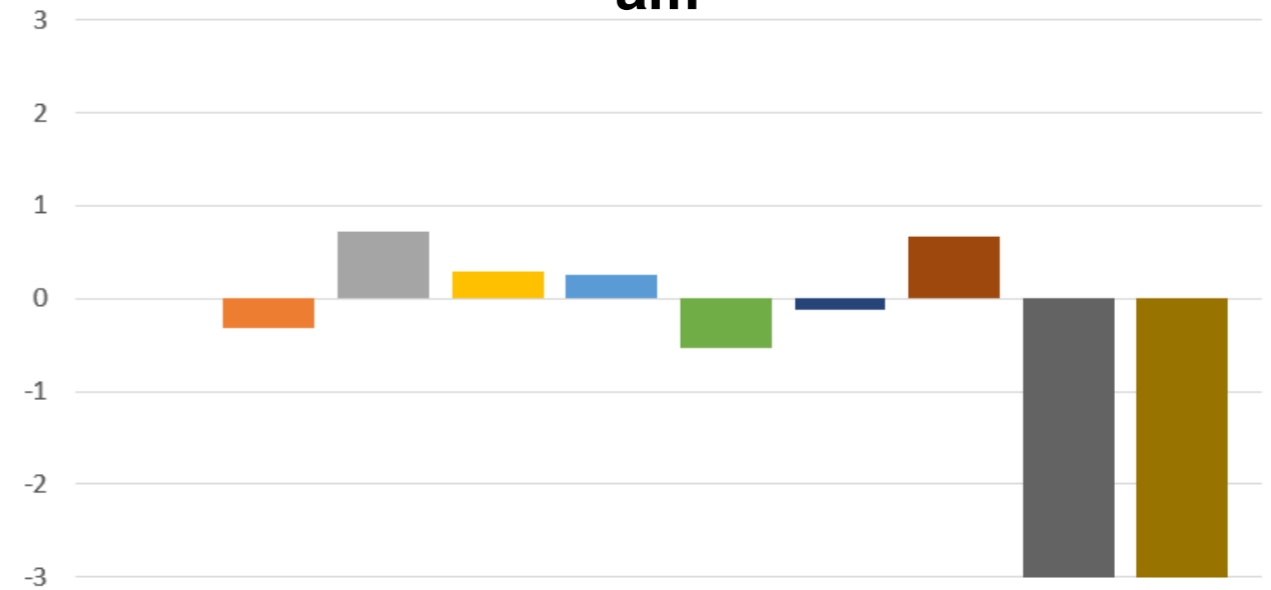
Final median score per component



- None
- Fair allocation
- Access
- Appropriation
- Democratic engagement
- Adaptive process
- Responsive governance
- Validation
- Care practices
- Fostering plurality

Rotterdam

Final median score per component

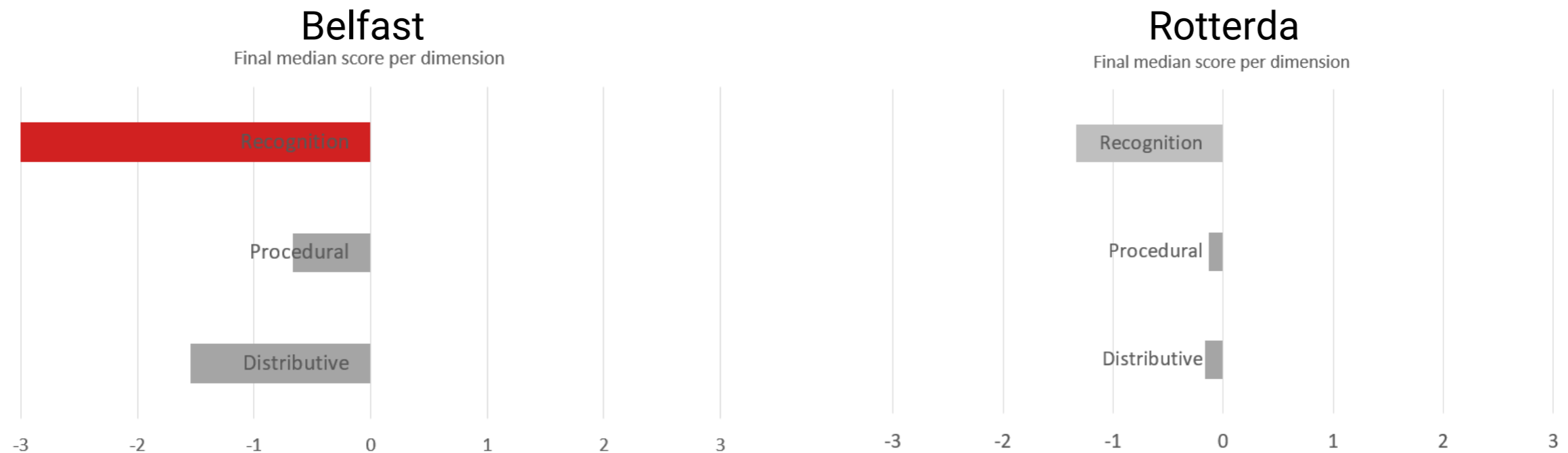


- None
- Fair allocation
- Access
- Appropriation
- Democratic engagement
- Adaptive process
- Responsive governance
- Validation
- Care practices

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Feeds into the Spatial Justice Readiness Level

Spatial Justice Scoring



In the analysed document, there is a "red flag", which is the absence of Recognition dimension considerations, which provided an immediate score of "-3".

A negative point is the low balances and levels for the dimension and components of Recognition, which should form the basis for transformative and just processes and provisions during urban sustainability transitions.

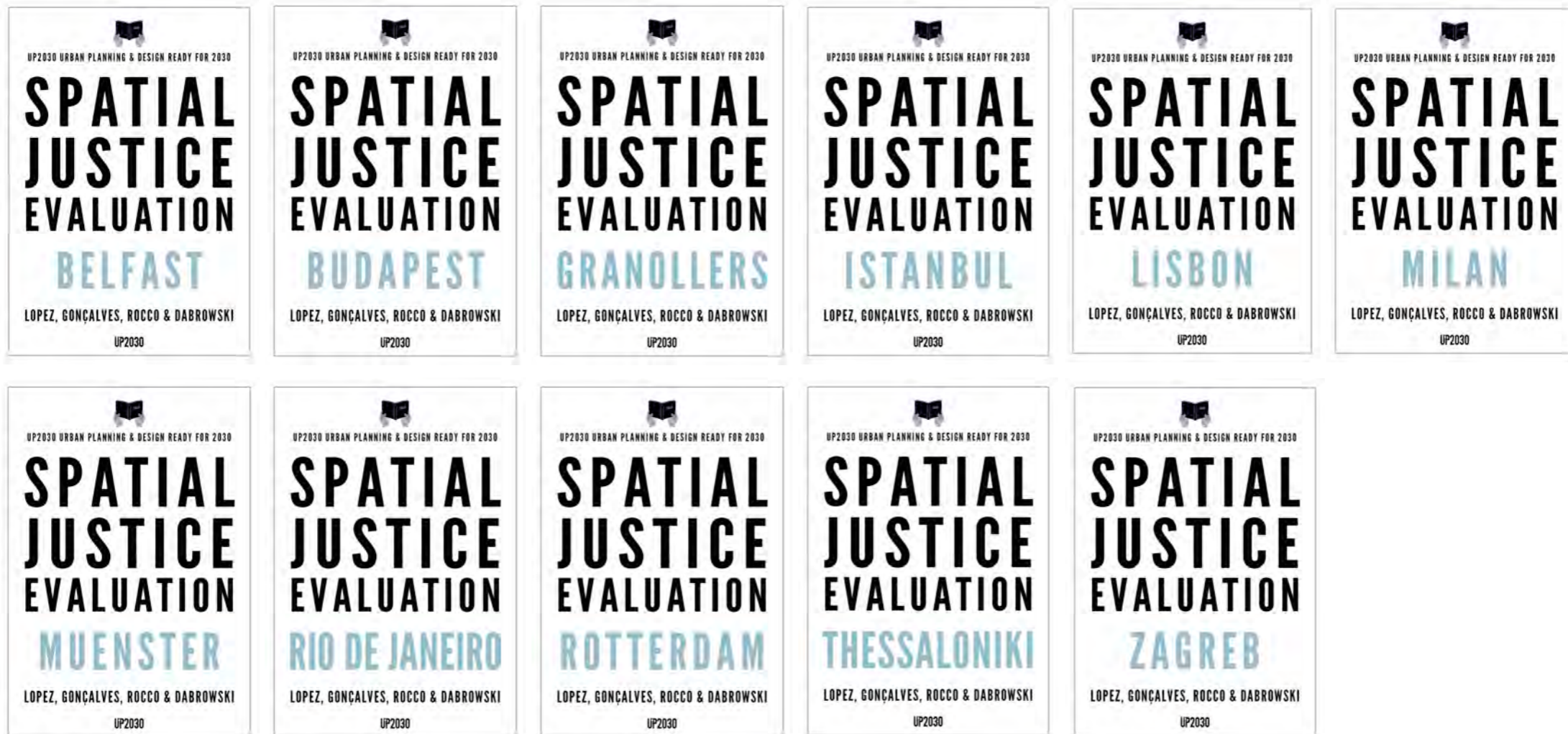
This project has received funding from the Horizon Innovation Actions under the grant agreement n° 101096405.

Spatial Justice Analysis

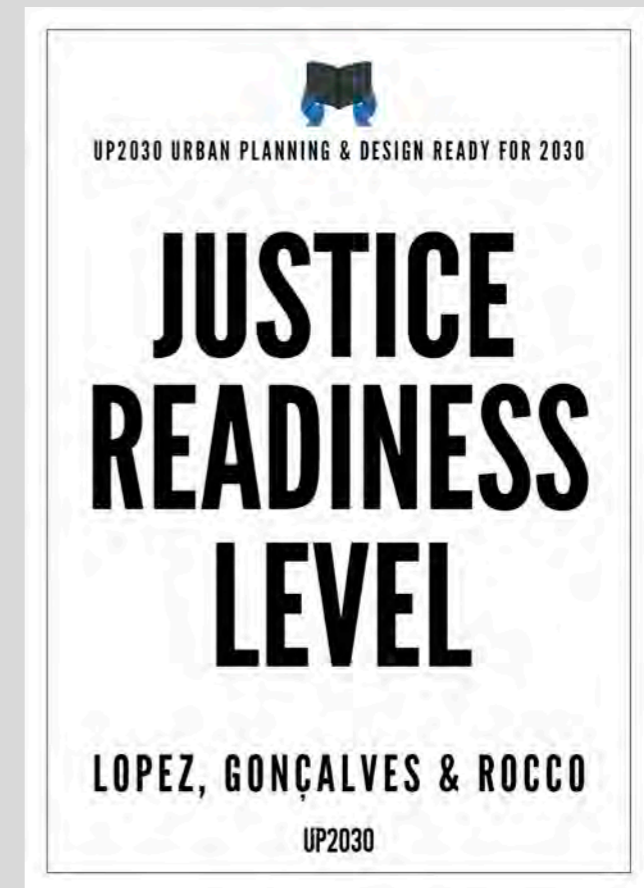
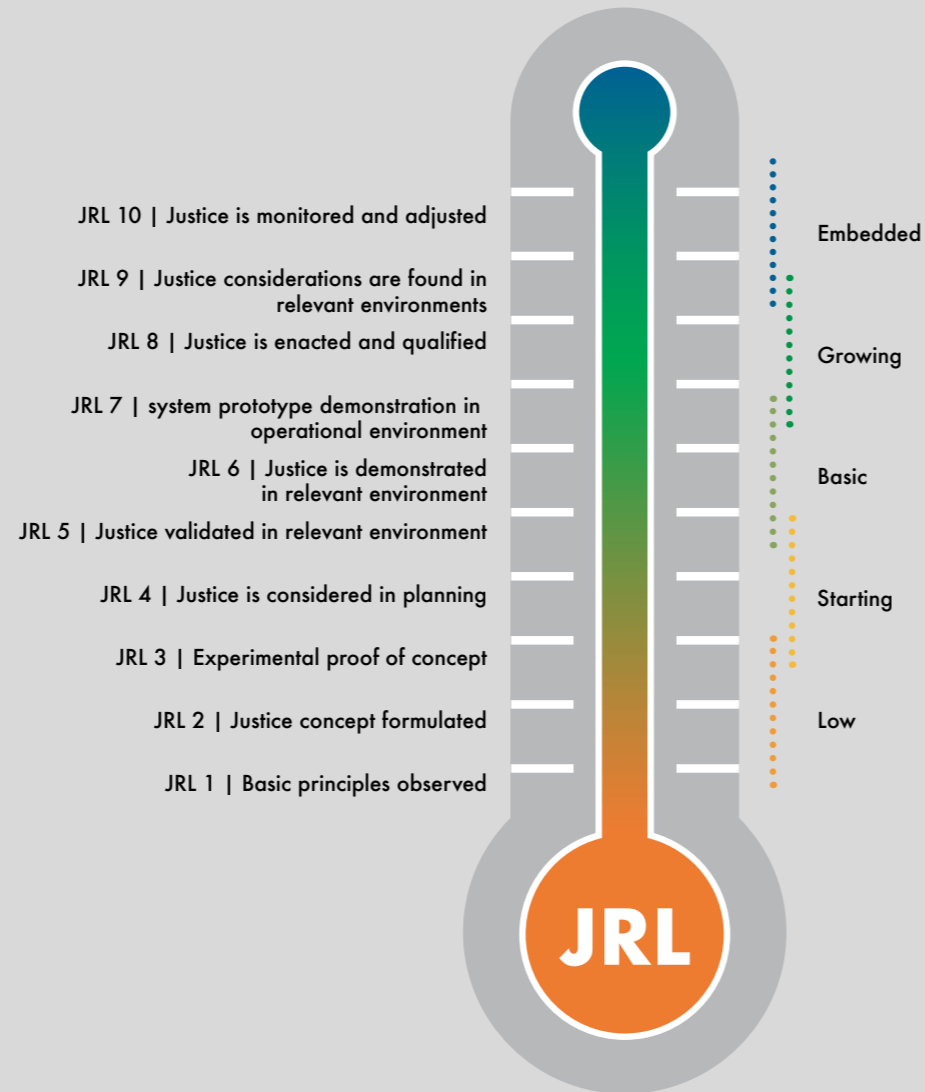


- There is no explicit mention of Spatial Justice considerations being addressed in both plans. However, many aspects were identified. Which point to the provision of public goods and the engagement of the population. Some of them have the potential to lead to a reinvention of relations, and the strengthening of local communities that care for the provision and build solidary networks.
- A negative point is the low percentage and levels for the dimension and components of Recognition, which should form the basis for transformative and just processes and provisions during urban sustainability transitions.

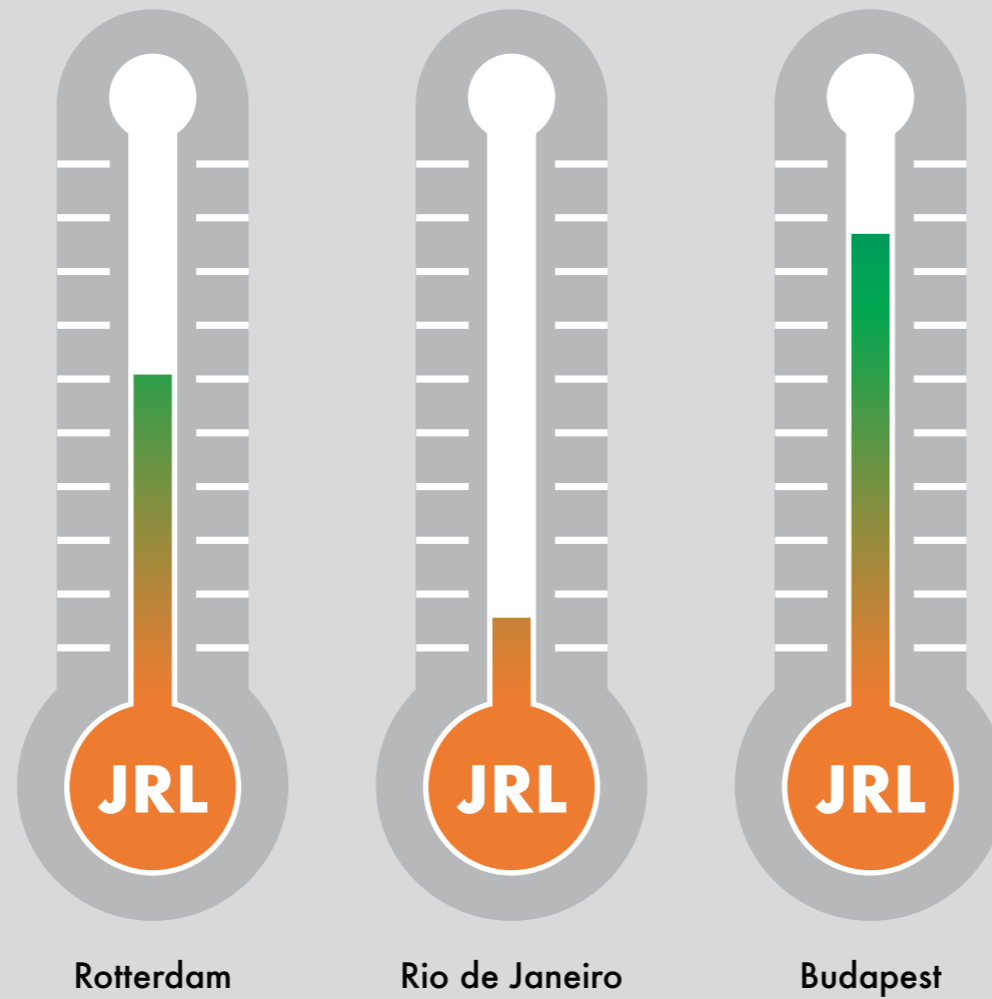
Spatial Justice Evaluation Booklets



4. Justice Readiness Level



4. Justice Readiness Level



Questions



This project has received funding from the Horizon Innovation Actions under the grant agreement n° 101096405.

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