

Participatory mapping

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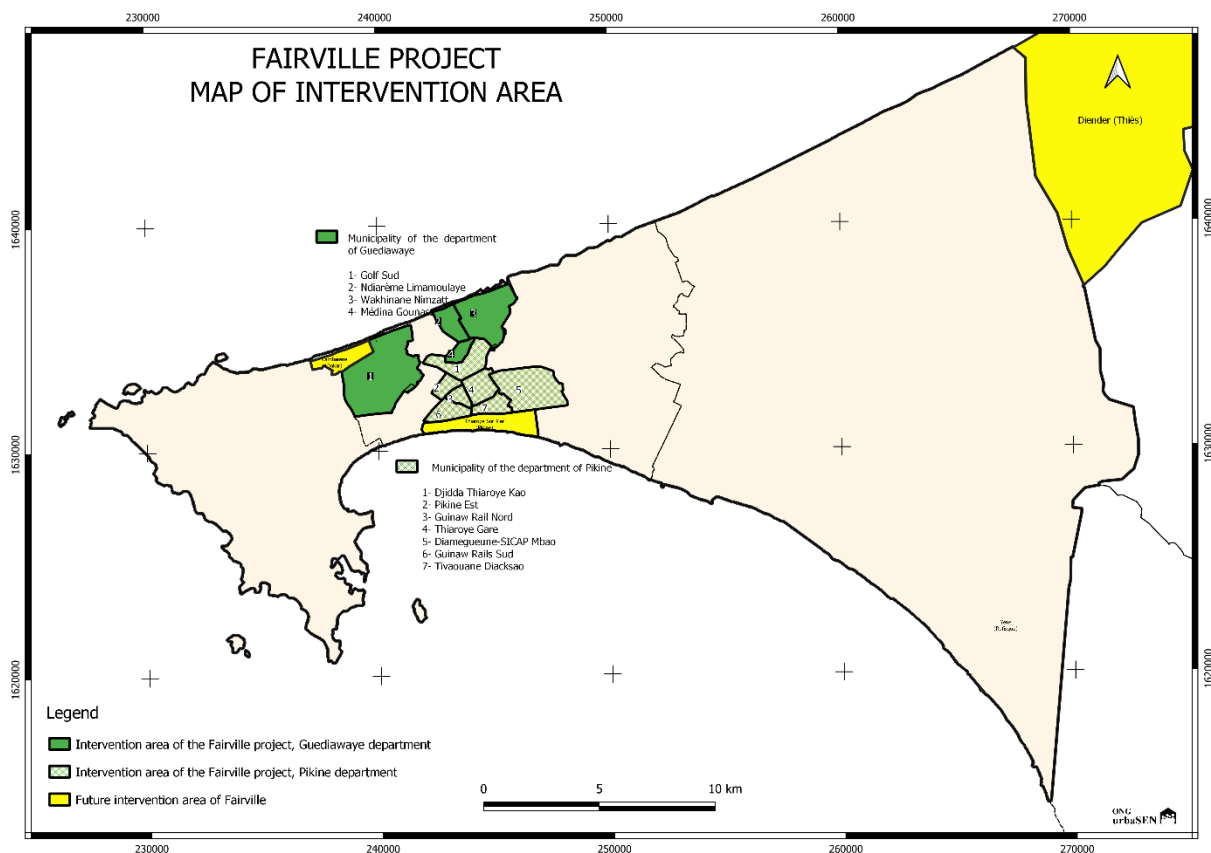


Figure 7: Map of Intervention area, Source: UrbaSen

Description

Participatory mapping is an innovative method that provides communities with visual tools representing their living environment, enabling them to be more involved in territorial planning and to better understand their territory. This democratic and inclusive approach is based on the idea that inhabitants possess valuable and unique knowledge about their environment, which can greatly enrich the reflection on the organization and management of space while ensuring the consideration of their proposals in the development of local plans that address the real concerns of communities.

By mobilizing all stakeholders throughout the process, this methodology proposed by Urbasen for the identification and prioritization of risk areas facilitates the production of decision support tools. The creation of highly representative thematic maps of local realities thereby strengthens the ties between inhabitants, decision-makers, and their territory.

For local governments, this approach constitutes an important decision-making tool. It ensures the development of public policies based on geospatial data representing the various and real problems and risks affecting the communities living there. These assessments, which result from collaborative work by all stakeholders, enable the implementation of actions that genuinely address the concerns expressed by communities.

The importance of this approach lies in its potential to transform the way development projects are conceived and implemented. By involving communities from the outset of the process, from the stage of idea formulation to planning and implementation, it fosters a sense of ownership and involvement, increasing the likelihood of project success and sustainability. This approach also serves to valorize local knowledge and expertise in identifying innovative solutions tailored to the specific challenges of territories.

Tags/ Keywords: Method, participatory method, local knowledge, territorial planning, mapping, geolocation.

Resources and materials required

Have sufficient materials: Drone, Tablets, GPS, Pencil, Geographic maps, Video projector, Training modules.

Who Can Use This Method or Be Involved?

- Local Communities
- Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)
- Local Governments (Territorial Communities)
- Research Institutes and Universities
- International Organizations
- Businesses and Private Sector
- Human Rights Advocacy Organizations
- Activist and Volunteer Groups

Steps

1. Aerial Drone Survey
2. Map Production for Diagnosis
3. Diagnostic Workshop
4. Urban Walk, Geolocation of Infrastructure, Facilities, Flood-Prone and Flooded Areas
5. Digitization and Production of Thematic Maps
6. Capitalization and Specialization of Infrastructure

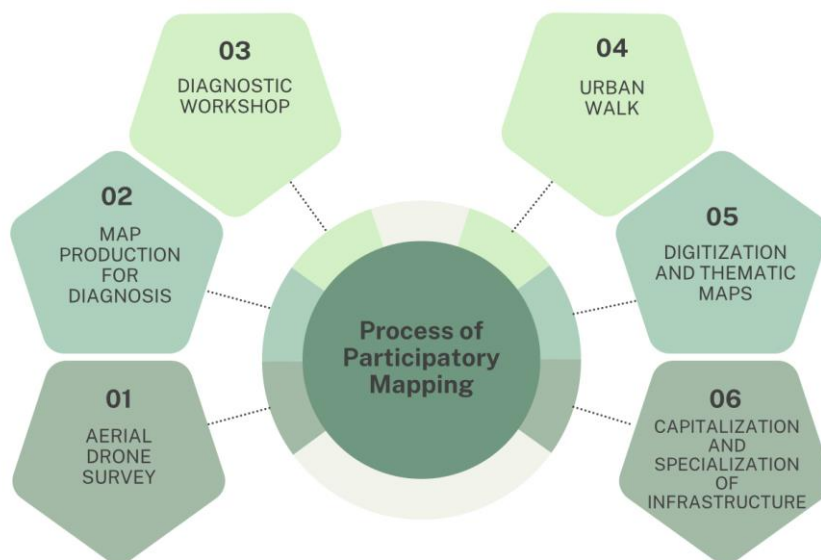


Figure 8: Process of Participatory Mapping, Source: UrbaSen

Tips/ What to Pay Attention to?

- Properly train the actors participating in field data collection.
- Ensure sufficient equipment.
- Mark all elements that may be important for understanding the area to be mapped.
- Ensure good coverage of the intervention area through the mobilization of field personnel.

Example of Use

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/tj5wapa5mmf1vzncd7w4h/h?rlkey=6dn8550wegz1fgkhighbfw6vq&dl=0>