



LECTURE SUMMARY

Participatory Design and Planning: Cases from Practice (Greece)

EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Introduces students to the way participatory planning is applied in practice, with case studies from Greece
- Understanding the ways in which participatory processes are integrated into the system of urban governance and urban planning practice in Greece
- Understanding the multiple ways in which participatory planning permeates various levels of planning and decision-making processes (development strategies, design of public spaces, empowerment of citizens' groups)
- Understanding the challenges and problems of implementing participatory processes through three examples in Greece.

SUMMARY OF THE LECTURE

The aim of the lecture "Participatory Design: cases from practice (Greece)" is to introduce students to the practice of participatory design, through cases from Greece. The aim is for students to understand the multi-level application of participatory practices through examples that touch on issues of enhancing democracy in the decision-making process, public space design and the formulation of development strategies. Firstly, an introduction is made to the role of participatory planning in the urban governance and spatial planning system in Greece in general. Where the basic tools and processes are presented, and the main problems of the institutional framework. Then three examples are presented which are also pilot projects:

The first is the Localwatch platform. Localwatch is a platform that aspires to allow citizens to monitor the activities of their local representatives, and to communicate directly with them, giving citizens the opportunity to experience a sense of effective participation in the community and the ability to improve their daily lives.

The second is the project "Gavdos: participatory planning for sustainable development". The project is a multidisciplinary approach designed for a small island located under Crete, in Greece. This work seeks to deal with the decreasing population, lack of job/social opportunities, and inadequate infrastructure through public involvement. The





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sustainable development plan aims to create communities by including inhabitants, actors, and agents interested in participating in the Cultural, Local, Energy, Production, Research, and Visitors' Communities. The implemented toolkit includes interactive and participatory workshops, digital applications, tailor-made questionnaires, and innovative handcrafted models (such as the spatial SWOT analysis).

Finally, the project CULTURAL HIDRANT is presented. The project employs Hadrian Aqueduct as a vehicle to reveal the local cultural capital, tangible and intangible heritage of Halandri through water networks, beyond the usual 'sight-seeing' approach and towards the reconstitution of its contemporary use-value as heritage and water commons and potential community network.

REFERENCES

Gkoltsiou A and Mougiakou E (2021) The use of Islandscape character assessment and participatory spatial SWOT analysis to the strategic planning and sustainable development of small islands. The case of Gavdos. *Land Use Policy* 103: 105277.

Mougiakou E and Karimali E (2023) Public Participation Project for the Sustainability of the Greek Island Gavdos. In: *Computational Science and Its Applications - ICCSA 2023 Workshops: Athens, Greece, July 3-6, 2023, Proceedings, Part VII, Berlin, Heidelberg, 3 July 2023*, pp. 307-320. Springer-Verlag. Available at: https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-37123-3_23 (accessed 19 February 2024).

<https://localwatch.gr/project/>

<https://culturalhidrant.eu/en/>

<https://uia-initiative.eu/en/uia-cities/halandri>

