

“Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach him how to fish and you feed him for a lifetime”

PARTICIPATORY DESIGN



ELETTRA MELANI 2024-07-20

PARTICIPATORY DESIGN PROCESS

INVITING THE COMMUNITY TO BECOME INVOLVED IN THE CREATION OF THEIR OWN ENVIRONMENT.



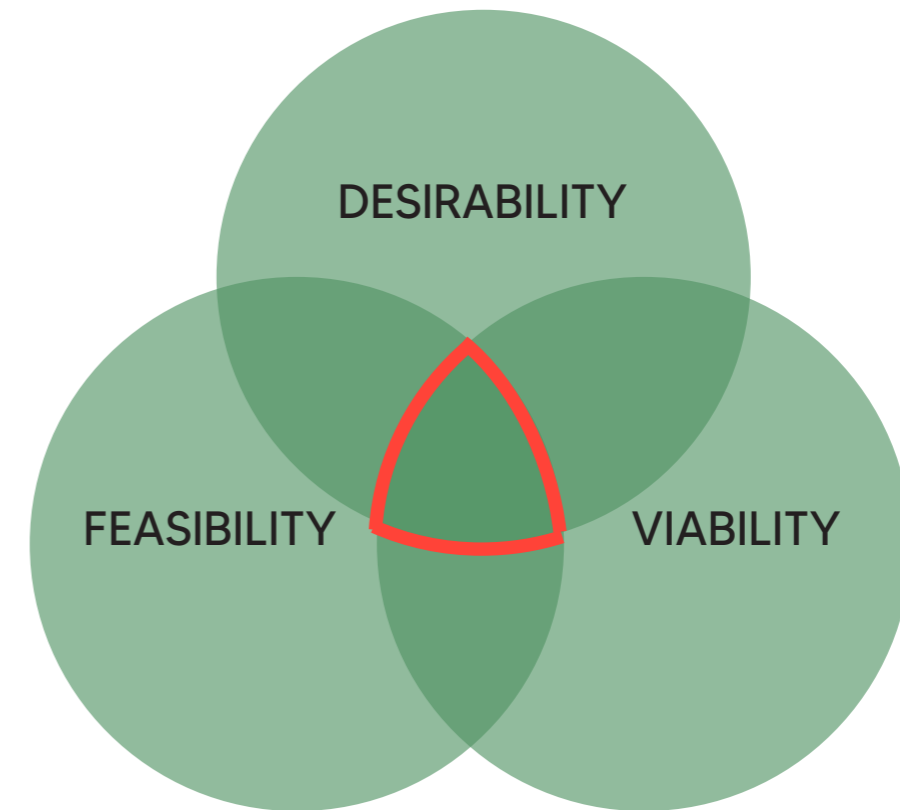
When designing community spaces, the architectural concept can easily clash with the user's experience. Therefore, engaging the community and future users in the project development and design process is a way of adding different perspectives to the architect's vision towards a more intelligent architecture.

By combining the knowledge of many individuals, a building becomes more efficient, with solutions that are more compatible with the context in which it is located. Moreover, working with the community is an opportunity to exchange techniques and vernacular skills, also providing opportunities for the people who are involved in the construction from the very beginning.

HUMAN CENTRE DESIGN

FOCUSES ON THE PEOPLE BEING DESIGNED FOR.

Quickly guide design observations into strategic design arguments.



FRAME THE ISSUE

Before any planning, it's necessary to develop the participation event to include a determination of **objectives**, such as new design ideas, identifying the attitude of the community, sharing information publicly, or reviewing a proposal. It's critical that the expectations for the participation planning process are defined at the beginning, otherwise unrealistic expectations will foster disenchantment among participants.

TOOLS

Worksheets with space to make observations and sketches while in the field,
A meeting space with a projector to guide the design team from observations to design direction. Sticky notes or dry-erase markers to fill in the blanks.

OUTCOMES

The final result is a shared set of diagrams with contextual metaphors indicating a design direction.

WHAT ARE **THE TOOLS** AND DATA NECESSARY TO COLLECT INPUT AND THEN TRANSLATE THAT INPUT INTO DESIGN RECOMMENDATIONS?



**Kulen Outreach academy, Siem Reap -
Developing designs for phase 3 of the campus. Feb 2023**



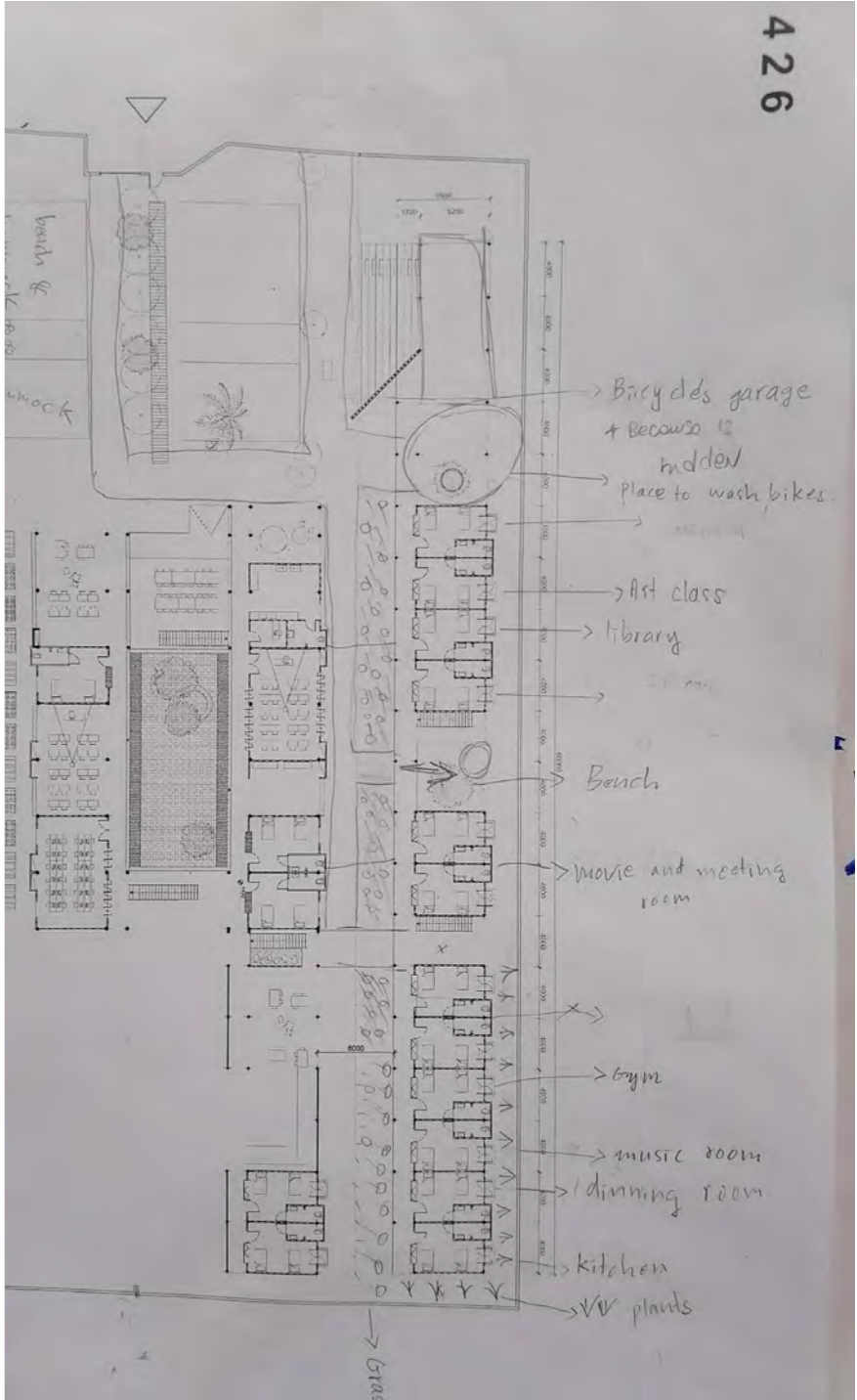
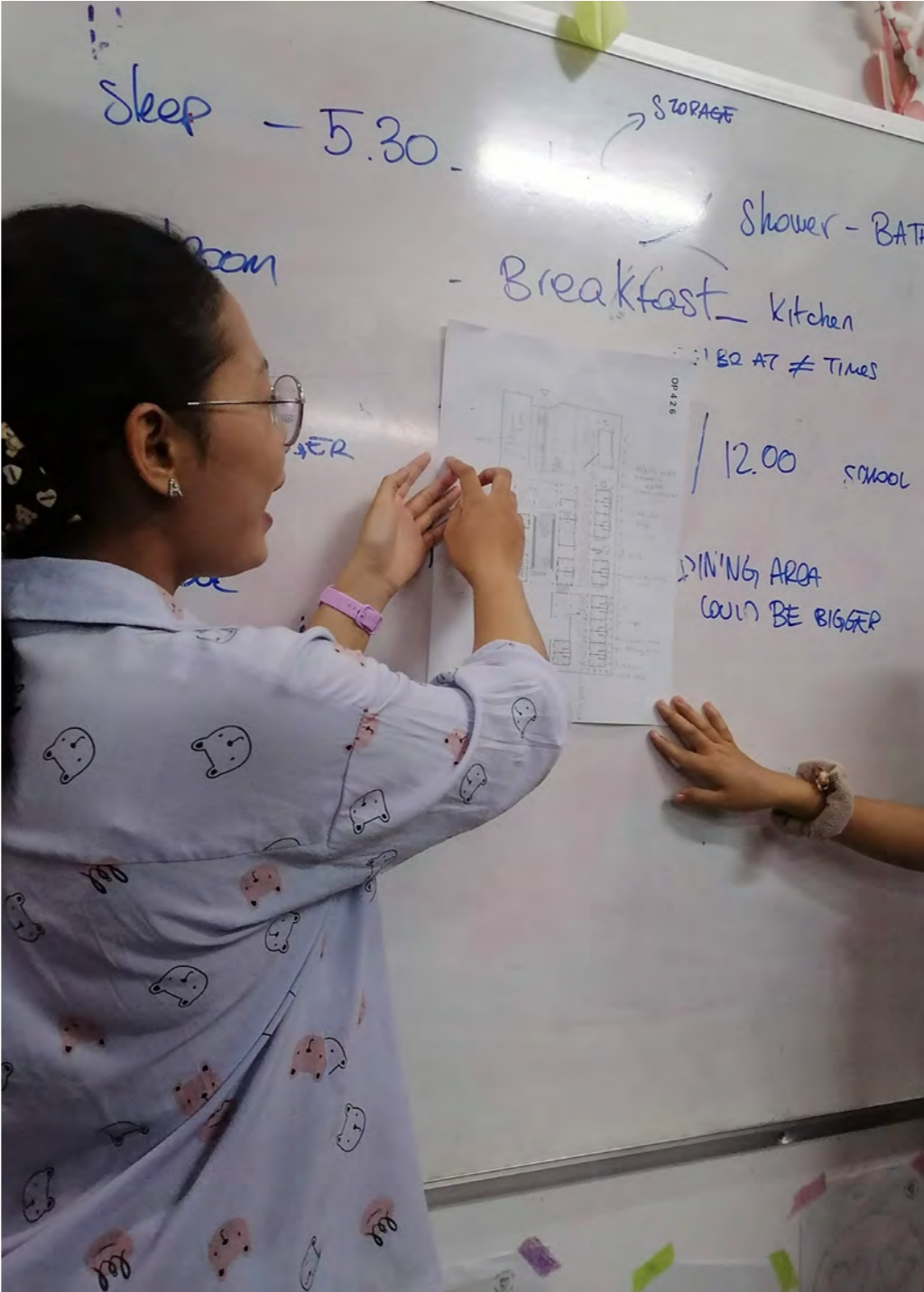
SET CLEAR OBJECTIVES FOR ENGAGEMENT AND BE TRANSPARENT ABOUT THE PROCESS



Kulen Outreach academy, Siem Reap -
Developing designs for phase 3 of the campus. Feb 2023



Kulen Outreach academy, Siem Reap -
Developing designs for phase 3 of the campus. Feb 2023



Cambodian Children's Fund, Phnom Penh
Concept design for 3 new pocket parks. Jan 2015



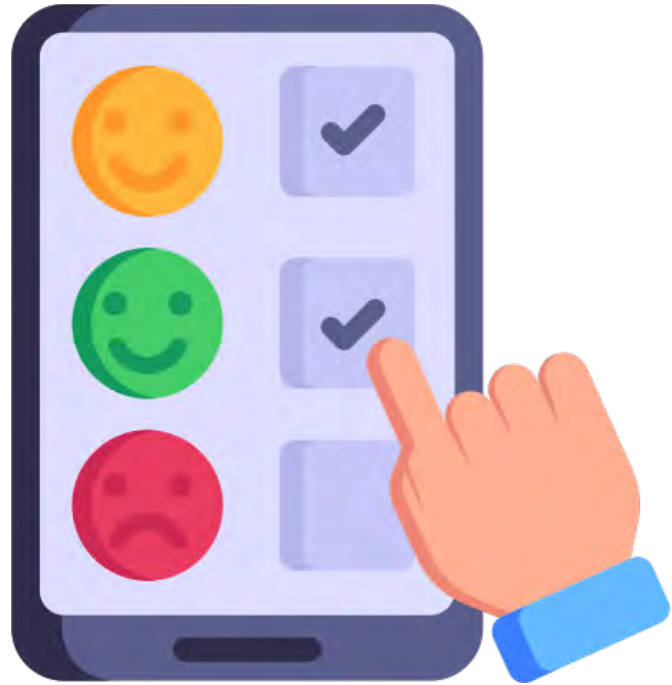
Cambodian Children’s Fund, Phnom Penh
Concept design for 3 new pocket parks. Jan 2015



Cambodian Children’s Fund, Phnom Penh
Concept design for 3 new pocket parks. Jan 2015



ONLINE SURVEY



WHAT IS AN OPEN PUBLIC SPACE?

Preliminary questions

1. In which city district do you live?
2. How old are you?
3. What is your gender?

To begin with, we are interested in understanding how you feel about the public open space in your immediate neighborhood.

4. How satisfied are you with the public open space in your local neighborhood?
 - very satisfied
 - satisfied
 - neutral
 - unsatisfied
 - very unsatisfied
5. In what ways, if any, do you think the public open space in your local neighborhood could be improved?
6. Do you use local public open spaces daily?
If yes, how does the public space available in your neighborhood look like?
(is there grass, trees, benches etc)
If yes, what do you use it for?
 - Walking, exercise
 - Walk the dog
 - Bike riding
 - Playground
 - Pic nick
 - Others
7. Are there other things you would like to use your neighborhood open space for?
8. How long do you normally spend in public spaces?
9. Who do you meet normally during your recreation time in public spaces?
 - Friends from other neighbors
 - Members of the community
 - Members of your family
10. Is the public space you use normally:
 - Too crowded
 - Normal
 - Too empty
11. Are you able to easily access the park(s) in your immediate neighborhood by walking?
If no, indicate why:
 - Too far to walk
 - Not accessible
 - Significant barrier, such as a busy road, railway line, creek, river etc that limits access
 - Others
12. Do you feel safe in public spaces in your neighborhood? If no why.
13. If there was an open space in your neighborhood, would you want it to become:
 - Park
 - Playground
 - Market
 - Indoor shopping centre
 - Residential building
 - Other

KEEP THE COMMUNITY IN THE LOOP

Community based eco-tourism project at T'mat Boey, Cambodia



In preparation for the second meeting with the local community we made a series of models to show and talk through the design.

Community based eco-tourism project at T'mat Boey, Cambodia



It is encouraged to have engagement sessions and community presentations at each major design milestone to ensure the project is progressing in a productive direction.

Community based eco-tourism project at T'mat Boey, Cambodia



DIALOGUE

UNDERSTAND HOW TO BETTER COMMUNICATE WITH EACH OTHER

- 1. SUSPEND ASSUMPTIONS, DO NOT JUDGE**
- 2. OBSERVE AND LISTEN TO ONE ANOTHER**
- 3. WELCOME DIFFERENCES AND EXPLORE THEM**
- 4. ALLOW TABOO ISSUES TO BE RAISED**
- 5. TAKE TIME TO REFLECT INTERNALLY**
- 6. SLOW THE DISCUSSION**
- 7. SEARCH FOR THE UNDERLYING MEANING**
- 8. ASK OPEN-ENDED QUESTIONS**



HAVE FUN & CONNECT



INTERACTIVE ARCHITECTURE

INVITING THE COMMUNITY TO BECOME INVOLVED IN THE CREATION OF THEIR OWN ENVIRONMENT.

Interactive architecture can foster a stronger connection between people and the places they inhabit. Interactive buildings have the potential to produce more significant and lasting experiences by enabling users to engage with their surroundings in meaningful ways.



‘We salute this new paradigm, one in which designers actually welcome the opportunity to work with communities to open up places for new interpretations, creating more room for public art—especially in parks, transforming them from ersatz cemeteries and static sculpture gardens into great multi-use public destinations.’

Octavia's Orchard



“There are indeed many good things in life which may be unequally apportioned and no such serious loss arise, but the need of quiet, the need of air, the need of exercise, and, I believe, the sight of sky and of things growing, seem human needs, common to all.” (Octavia Hill, 1877)



The quality of public spaces is defined by their accessibility, safety, inclusivity, aesthetic appeal, and ability to foster social interactions and community engagement.



Public artworks are stimulating and inviting active dialogue rather than just passive observation, thereby fostering social interaction that can even lead to a sense of social cohesion among the viewers themselves.



END

ELETTRA MELANI 2024-07-20