

Huasipichanga Methodology Manual

Everyone is invited!





Who is Huasipichanga? And its Methodology?

“Cities have the capability of providing something for everybody, only because, and only when, they are created by everybody.”

Jane Jacobs

BACKGROUND

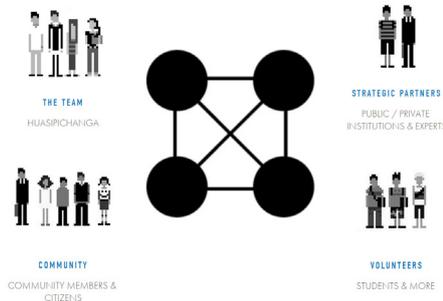
HUASIPI...WHAT?

Huasipichai - is a word in Kichwa (indigenous Ecuadorian language) that refers to the inauguration of a house built together with the support of the community; **Pachanga** - is a word commonly used for “party.” We believe that any new project created as a community is worth celebrating, and that is why all our projects are a Huasipichanga!

OUR STORY - We started in Ecuador in 2014 as a passionate group of young professionals who wanted to contribute to the development of cities. Since we all came from different backgrounds, we began by exploring projects that could be done in a transdisciplinary way. That steered us to focus on the reactivation of the public space and the use of participatory methods to engage various stakeholders in the process (local governments, citizens, universities, civil society, international organizations). After a first pilot intervention, this approach influenced the design, planning, and implementation of our further projects. It also inspired us to develop methodologies, tools, and actions to actively involve children, youth, and their network in the process while motivating them to be proactive and generate the change they want to see in the world. Since 2018, Huasipichanga opened its office in The Netherlands to continue working on urban management and development. By having a twofold perspective that addresses inclusiveness and collaborative practices in both developed and developing countries, our team has

now become an active member of city makers’ networks around the world. It is eager to continue inspiring the development of good citizen practices.

THE METHODOLOGY STORY - Our participatory methodology was developed by the Huasipichanga team in Ecuador and tested throughout the years in various places in South America and Europe. Its validation relies on the outcomes of our projects, which, despite being implemented in diverse cities and engaging different groups of people, have a proven record of being successful. Since our approach is founded on a collaborative model, this methodology is a useful framework to follow when co-creation takes action. Furthermore, each working team has the freedom to define its collaborative model. This shown, here, is the one used by Huasipichanga.



Who is Huasipichanga? And its Methodology?

The Huasipichamethodology is useful to guide your project step by step. It is a co-creation process that shows how to organize a project into phases and how to work with the stakeholders in each stage.

WHAT IS YOUR GOAL?



This manual is thought to guide you through the process of co-creation in the (re)activation of public spaces. It explains every phase you can implement while linking them to a specific tool and validation practice that will help you prove the previous step and facilitate the development of the next one.



HOW MUCH TIME DO YOU NEED?



There is no specific time frame when using Huasipichanga Methodology, as each project has its priorities and stakeholders' involvement. Although it is crucial to keep in mind that there is always the right time for the right action. Successful co-creation processes are those developed on an attentive timing framework. In other words, be mindful of each stakeholder's schedule and plan, as their active engagement is crucial.



WHO CAN USE THIS MANUAL?



The methodology can be used by anybody willing to implement a project by following a co-creation process. You do not need a team of people with specific expertise; on the contrary, a multidisciplinary team could be the winning card for a more sustainable and resilient result.

Whoever is your audience can turn public spaces into inclusive and human-centered places. Remember, effective participatory processes should empower both citizens and people implementing the project. It is about fostering a sense of ownership in the one hand and social responsibility on the other.

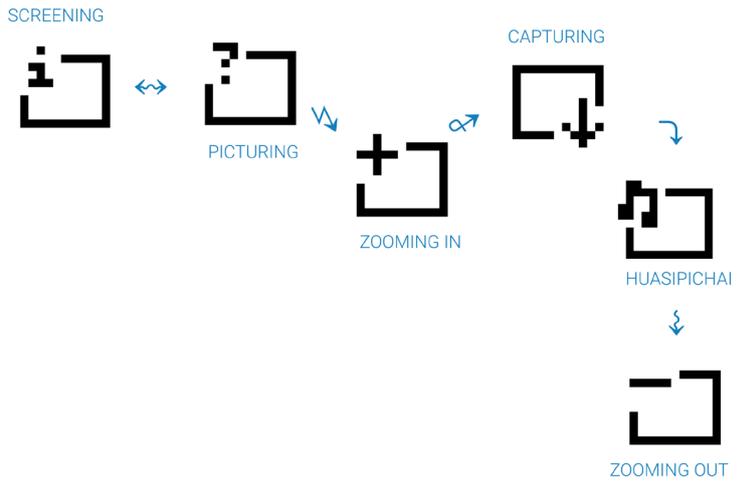




1. METHODOLOGIES STEPS

OVERVIEW

-  **SCREENING** - Fieldwork to understand the context, identify the current problems, the social dynamics and community organisation.
-  **PICTURING** - We invite people to participate and picture possible solutions and outcomes to co-design a proposal.
-  **ZOOMING IN** - We prepare activities to validate the proposal and co-create a strategy for action.
-  **CAPTURING** - We take action by executing the proposal as planned
-  **REVEALING** - We inaugurate the project, celebrating our results together. Huasipichai
-  **ZOOMING OUT** - The results, outcomes and process of the project are evaluated with specific indicators to understand the impact on the stakeholders. We generate strategies to communicate the results and outcomes such as publications, digital media, events, etc.



TIP
 You can share the methodology with the stakeholders if you want them to understand the process, and decide with them when is the right time to take the next steps.



1. METHODOLOGIES STEPS

1.1 SCREENING



Fieldwork to understand the context, identify the current problems, the social dynamics, and community organization.

Before the real action takes place, it is essential to have a clear understanding of the context. Your team will need to have clear insights into the socio-spatial dynamics happening in the area to have a preliminary idea and assumption of what could be the causes of the local challenges. For these purposes, desk research, as well as fieldwork, are crucial. This phase is also commonly used to start building trust both among stakeholders and between them and your team. This is an important step that will help you to have the first evaluation of the feasibility of the project, allowing you to make any adjustments on time in case that is needed.



1. METHODOLOGIES STEPS

1.2 PICTURING



We invite people to participate and picture possible solutions and outcomes to co-design a proposal.

The screening phase will now develop into concrete ideas to examine in-depth challenges. This phase sees the core team working with each stakeholders' groups separately, to understand which are their needs and the willingness to collaborate among residents. Some creative approaches, here, can be beneficial to better engage with your audience and build trust and a stronger relationship, such as collaborative cooking, playful activities, or dining.



Checklist

- stakeholders list
- Interviews
- Local representatives
- _____
- _____
- _____



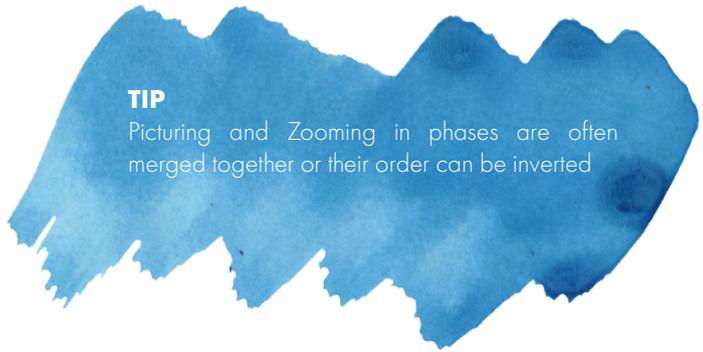
1. METHODOLOGIES STEPS

1.3 ZOOMING IN



We prepare activities to validate the proposal and co-create a strategy for action.

Depending on the stakeholders involved, your team will have to validate the proposal that was developed with the insights gotten from the previous phases. This means that you may have to consider government authorities, community representatives, neighbors, teacher of the school, etc. Depending on the place and city the intervention will take place, you may also need to request permits. Here, we invite you to be creative and motivate stakeholders to let their imagination run freely. Some ideas can be for instance, role games, playful and digital mapping, or walkshops. By this time you will need the audience better and they will be already involved giving you great ideas to validate the proposal.

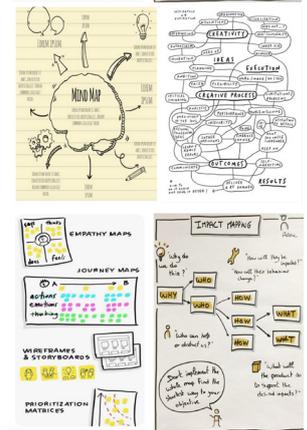


TIP

Picturing and Zooming in phases are often merged together or their order can be inverted

TIP - Some interactive tools

-  Hands on mapping
-  Scale maps and images
-  Participatory 3d models
-  Geographic information systems GIS
-  Multimedia & internet-based mapping



1. METHODOLOGIES STEPS

1.4 CAPTURING



We take action by executing the proposal as planned.

You have arrived at the most interactive phase. It is time to put hands-on. The whole community plays a vital role, as they are always the most curious people willing to take action. So, with due care, let them take as much part as possible during the implementation process. From painting to guiding you around to buy the materials, your team will find safe and fun ways to let them build the ideas they already may have given during payees 1 and 2. Since this is the phase where the physical intervention to the public space takes place, we encourage you to do it sustainably by recycling, using local materials, valuing and learning from local knowledge, and taking security precautions.

Checklist

- Materials list
- Stakeholders management
- Construction tools
- Transportation logistics
- _____
- _____



TIP

Consider children as the main agent for change. Their engagement power can bring on board the rest of the community!





1. METHODOLOGIES STEPS

1.5 REVEALING



We inaugurate the project, celebrating our results together. Huasipichai. HUASIPICHAI!

Celebrating achievement is vital for individuals, even more, when they accomplish something by working jointly. At this point, the project is done, and people will be willing to celebrate in their traditional ways. Depending on the context, people may dance, prepare food for everyone, hold religious rituals will, etc., let people take the lead and join them. Good timing in the Revealing phase is essential; it has to happen when construction work concludes, to collect the highest level of energies of all the contributors. Remember, pachanga not only relates to having fun, but it also symbolizes the commitment and ownership of the project by the different stakeholders that were involved throughout the process. You will be surprised to see the results!





1. METHODOLOGIES STEPS

1.6 ZOOMING OUT



For this final phase, you will need to develop specific indicators to evaluate the outcomes of the project. Therefore you will cultivate relationships with residents and all stakeholders involved who can provide you with the information you need to conduct medium and long term impact evaluations. Finally, You will have to create strategies to communicate the results and outcomes such as publications, digital media, events, etc.

Checklist

- Results and outcomes
- Indicators analysis
- Local contact for monitoring
- Communication strategy
-
-
-



2. CONCLUSIONS

This manual is open source and aims at sharing a working process for practitioners in the field of urban planning and urban development. Huasipichanga team encourages you to make good use of this manual and have fun while implementing it. Don't forget to share with us your experiences and outcomes!

2.1 USEFUL LINKS & SOURCES

[Huasipichanga website](#)

[Huasipichanga on issuu](#)

[Co-create Tools for Inclusive Cities - WORKSHOP](#)

[Methodology implementation example - Shaglli, Ecuador](#)

[The City At Eye Level for Kids](#)



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