

Activist Lab

Mitrovica, Kosovo

Public engagement & Urban development



activistlab

Our Bridge, Our City

The Mitrovica Bridge is one of the most well-known symbols of the city: although a bridge is usually a symbol of connection, in Mitrovica the main bridge over the Ibar / Ibri river has become a symbol of division. During the 1998-99 Kosovo war, Mitrovica was divided, with a majority of Serbs moving to the north side, and Albanians concentrated in the south. The future of the bridge itself and the zone surrounding it has been a point of contention between Albanians and Serbs for 17 years, and decisions are usually made in Pristina and Brussels, with minimal input from local people.

Citizens should have the opportunity to determine the future of their city. With that principle in mind, one of Mitrovica's most respected civil society organizations, Community Building Mitrovica (CBM), developed a project with PAX and Butterfly Works to use the Activist Lab methodology to inspire and improve the work of civil society activists, and enable them to connect and collaborate around the future of the bridge. In April 2016, this project focused on the development of the bridge zone, including the riverfronts and adjacent commercial and residential areas on both sides of the Ibar / Ibri, and the crucial participation of the Mitrovica citizens in that process. It aimed to develop concrete and engaging public campaigns that will result in a flourishing bridge zone.

Mitrovica Activist Lab

Mitrovica Activist Lab is a unique tool designed by PAX to inspire and improve the work of civil society activists, and enable them to connect and collaborate creatively around vital local issues. During the Activist Lab we follow a co-creation process, designed by Butterfly Works, whereby activists from different backgrounds come together to interact, network, exchange good practices, and develop an innovative and concrete action around a priority issue determined in advance. Activists are supported by an ensemble of experts from outside the traditional peacebuilding field, "unusual suspects" whose involvement guarantees a fresh perspective, new energy, and the novel application of skills. Concepts for concrete actions produced during Activist Lab are elaborated into practical projects implemented with support from PAX country programmes.

Goal and intended results

The goal of this project was to stimulate democratic governance in Kosovo by creating an environment in which civil society is able to effectively mobilize and represent citizens from all communities vis-à-vis state institutions, ensuring both that (1) people are motivated and able to take collective action for its own sake, and that (2) policymakers are accountable and responsive to those actions. The project will contribute to achieving this goal by enhancing the impact of CSOs on determining the future of the bridge zone in Mitrovica.

Specific results of the project include:

- Activists connected to each other and inspired to collaborate in new ways
- Cooperation and exchange between activists from Kosovo's main communities strengthened
- Activists equipped with new tools and methods to mobilize the public and engage policymakers
- Innovative, practical action on engaging the public in the future of the bridge zone designed and delivered, showcasing the value of activism to the public and policymakers alike

Day 1

Laying the foundation

The first day was devoted to laying the foundation. Getting a full understanding of the purpose of the lab and the social issue, before proceeding to ideation.

Aim of the day:

- getting to know each other;
- understanding the aim of the Lab;
- mapping and alignment of the expectations and challenges;
- getting familiar with the Activists Hive;
- getting familiar with the social issue;
- mapping the area: Photo walk.

Methods used: glossary brain storm & photo walk.

Official opening

Michael Warren from Pax opened the Activist Lab by embracing the idea of creating action orientated ideas during the lab and giving a special welcome to the experts coming from abroad: Urban developer Jens Aerts and Rami Maksoud. Michael pointed out that the Lab is not an activity in isolation. The outcomes can get integrated in the activities of CBM and others working on the theme.

Florentina Hajdari from CBM welcomes the group by giving a very short introduction to CBM and shared her excitement about the Lab: a new way of coming up with new ideas for difficult issues in Mitrovica and Kosovo.

Warm up

During a warm up we got to know each other. In short shifts everyone was able to meet each other by introducing him/herself with something they brought that said something about themselves, such as a photo.

Expectations & challenges

The facilitators Pim Gerritsen from PAX and Lisanne van Vliet from Butterfly Works shared the aims of the Lab, the four day programme and the detailed programme for day, after which all the participants shared their expectations and challenges.

Expected to:

- Have an amazing action on day 4;
- Meet great people and hear their experiences;
- Have fun;
- Learn new methods that complement urban planning;
- Learn new knowledge;
- Design something creative.

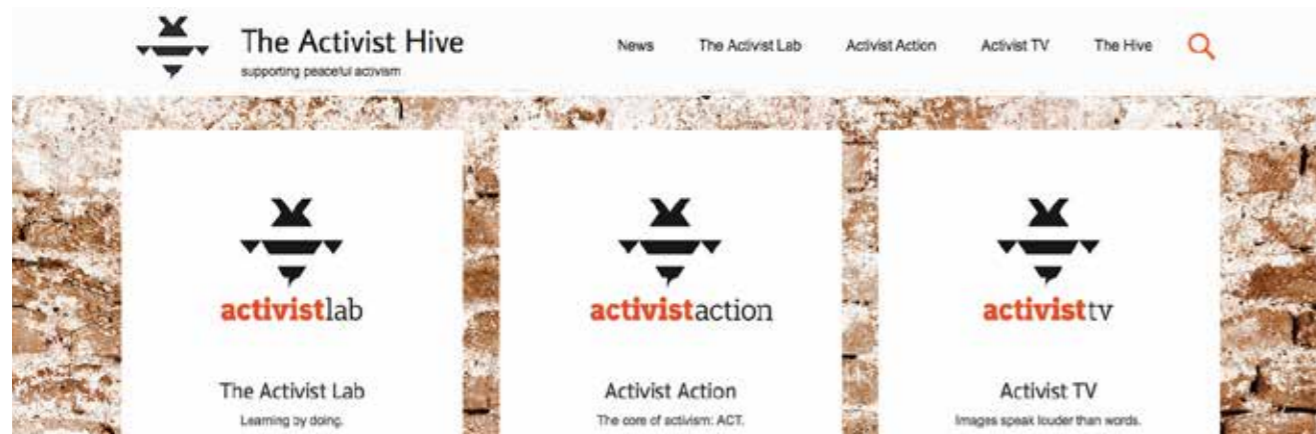
Seen a challenge in:

- People don't engage;
- Overcoming skepticism in Mitrovica about activism NGO's, EU, future;
- Materialisation of the ideas;
- The respect of time during the Lab.



Activist Hive: Labs and Academies

Presentation of Guido de Graaf Bierbrauwer from Pax about the Activist Hive. He shared where the idea of the Activist Hive came from, what it entails and what it aims to achieve.



Public engagement & Urban development - bridge zone Mitrovica, Kosovo

Presentation of Milivoje Raicevic (CBM) and Florentina on public engagement and urban development in Mitrovica. They shared more about the history of the Mitrovica Bridge:

01. The bridge was built in 15th century. The first picture that can be found online of the bridge is from 1910. On the picture we see that the bridge is well integrated in the landscape. There is a smooth transition from the bank side to the bridge.
02. The second picture that they shared is from 1920. We see that the bridge got reconstructed by the citizens themselves. There is not a lot of visual heritage about the bridge from this period.
03. Picture of 1940: the bridge is better constructed and we can see the mosque that was demolished in the 90s on the picture. This was also the period that the bank side was being developed and used for cultural activities. Milivoje and Florentina shared that by then people started to organise competitions / gatherings around the bridge.
04. Picture from the 60s. In the 60s the bridge got even more developed; It started to be a 'public building' on its own instead of just a way to go from one to the other.
05. A picture of the 70s: this is a picture from the time before the war; We see a mill that was used to make flour; There was a space for recreation. The Lab participants react on the picture that they don't like how the bridge looks like.
06. Picture from the 80s: by then the bridge looked quite the same as how it looks now. Only the river banks were broader.
07. Picture of the 90s: in the 90s the bridge was further developed again; People living in the South were travelling to the North freely; The biggest market was in the south and people from the North came over to do shopping there; By then there was no distinction made by people between North and South. The Serbs and Albanians were living mixed. The town was one, the river was just a crossing point; The nightlife was great; there were big concerts on the river banks; Mitrovica was perceived as the capital; the city of rock.
08. Picture from 1999: the unfortunate moment that the bridge (zone) got destroyed; The

southern part was deserted; The war was focused in the South; Albanians were forced to move to the South; Serbs living in the south moved to the North; The obstructions that we see on the bridge were done by private actions; The French troops blocked the bridge after the war; During the war the bridge was controlled by troops; people could move from one side to the other but were controlled; The bridge zone was deserted, shops were demolished, no people walked around in the area; People were afraid to cross the bridge and people stopped to cross the bridge.

09. Picture of 2001: the bridge was reconstructed by the French troops based on the design of a bridge that was built in France; There has been no involvement of the citizens in the reconstruction of the bridge, just a mixed group of builders from both sides were involved; The French troops wanted to create a new picture of the bridge. By then nobody was moving back and forward. Tourists in Kosovo wanted to see the bridge because of the historical importance: they wanted to capture a picture of the place where the war concentrated; The bridge was not used as a crossing point or cultural point; There was another bridge that was used; People had business in both sides and used the other bridge to cross. By then also all the institutions located around both sides were blocked; It became a stopping point instead of a crossing point / meeting point.
10. Picture of 2011: The bridge got completely blocked.
11. Picture of 2015: in one day they changed the bridge completely; The bridge was re-opened by the Serbian authorities for crossing and trees were placed on the bridge, called 'Peace parc'. This change came out of nothing for everyone; What we now know about it is that the authorities from the South wanted to open the bridge and the way it was done was the conclusion of a political negotiation.
12. Picture of 2016; Now there is the EU sign on the bridge that shows that the EU is going to reconstruct the bridge; The idea is that the cars can cross the bridge again. People are not involved in the process.

After the presentation of CBM on the bridge, we had a short discussion: what does the bridge zone mean to us? The participants would like to have the bridge zone as a vibrant zone. It is a deserted place now which feeds the fear and stops people to go to the bridge zone and use the bridge.

The participants shared that: "It is our zone; from people from the North and the South. It is the best place for peace. It is a multicultural area and should be a vibrant area with lots of activities."



Urban space and public engagement Glossary

After the presentation we did a brainstorm exercise to capture all the necessary topics related to public engagement & urban development in the bridge zone in Mitrovica, Kosovo.

Part one of the exercise was to come up with associations.

Some associations that came out of the exercise:

- river: bike, walk, track , ecological corridor with cleaning plants, water energy, animals & plants
- friends: tv show, share information and experience
- social activities: elderly, kids
- open air activities: sports
- socialise: make new friends, relax, forget problems, from hot spot to hip spot
- civil servants: freelancers
- square: circle
- cultural events: national events

Part two of the exercise was to come up with ideas. Everyone came up with some first ideas by taking three words from the sheets. Ideas from the that came out of the glossary exercise:

01. Street theatre:

What if I wear your clothes and speak your language: I see myself in your mirror... who is who now?

We can do a street theatre with people from both sides of the river - make them speak their language, wear their clothes; put a mirror and make it mysterious who is who.

02. Sensitisation campaign:

Politicians we are the power - citizens of Kosovo united, we stand! as a message using social media and street art to share it; Live better on both sides.

03. Everyone can be an artist:

We will organise cultural events; open air activities to promote each other cultures.

04. Cultural activities:

We will stimulate to get to know each other better; We will bring joy and fun to both sides; We will spread creative ideas to create cultural activities together;

05. Sports at the river banks:

Around the river banks there are all kind of sport activities; There is space for competition;

06. Cultural festival:

Hipsters / open minded youth / citizens join forces for a mutual fight for culture; A cultural festival with musicians and painters and create a gallery.

07. Mixed schools activities:

We will start with the next generation; We will organise concerts and cultural events;

08. We will use the nature for camping trips, outdoor activities to meet and share;

Passiveness will be transformed in activeness; Sharing painting activities to bright up the area

09. We are fed up that the decisions are made in Brussels and by the politicians:

We know we cannot open the bridge zone directly but we will work step by step to make it a better space;

10. It is now a dirty space, we want to clean it up

11. Freelance architects work on blue prints for peace, hired by the authorities.

Photowalk

Photowalk is a methodology developed by P.A.P.A. Platform, a concept of public space artist Lino Hellings. Photo walks are a tool to capture sociological patterns in an area. It is a practice in street-level observation, suspending judgment and opening our eyes to see beyond the problems, and towards solutions. This is not 'just' taking pictures; it involves critical thinking, gently fixing even the most stubborn pieces into meaningful patterns. On the basis of the photos we can together create fresh ideas for the given issue. www.papaplatform.org

The group went out to exploring the area. The exercise was to take pictures of that what attracts the eyes, letting go any prejudgments of the area. In this way we exercised to look at our own environment with new eyes, exploring (sociological) patterns and special features to build ideas upon.



The outcomes of the photowalk can be found here: [Link Pinterest](#)

Day 2

Innovate: idea generation

Ideation is the creative process of generating new ideas. Before we went to the ideation phase we first mapped out the actors and influencers and learned from the Urban development expert Jens Aerts.

Aim of the day:

- capturing the social issue
- capturing learnings photo walk
- actor mapping
- learning from the experts: urban development
- investigating risks & opportunities: influencers
- creating first campaign ideas
- building plans while thinking from a user perspective

Methods used: Photo reading, Learn from the experts, Actor network and User journey.

Warm up

We started the day with a warm up: drawing a superhero together. One person starts with drawing the head, the other with drawing the body and the third finishes with drawing the legs - without seeing what the others have made.



Aims of the day recap day 1: Vision Statement

Pim shared the aims of the day, the agenda and the recap of the first day of the lab. The vision statement that came out of the work of day 1 was formulated as follows:

"Public engagement leads to development of the bridge zone in such a way that the people of Mitrovica feel comfortable (safe) using the bridge zone."

The 'statement' was shared with the group and we discussed the statement to make sure everyone felt its thinking reflected in it.

Photo walk recap

The first exercise of the day aimed at reflecting on the photo walk. In smaller groups the participants shared the pictures made and looked up what categories could be extracted from the outcomes. The additional associations to public engagement & urban development in the bridge zone in Mitrovica that were mentioned were:

- (public) space
- nature
- friendliness
- free time
- hope
- messages: graffiti, signs
- expression
- physical blocks / limitations
- garbage
- security
- division



Presentation on Urban development by expert Jens Aerts

The participants were taken on an urban development journey by Jens. He shared some urban development theories and best practices from all over the world.

Presentation take-aways:

- Use new methods - for example gamification
- Claim the space
- Look for inspiration from abroad
- Politicians follow the people
- Look for allies inside the system
- Provoke! Example, use provoking questions in the public space: Who builds Brussels?
- Find the barriers to provoke the authorities
- Be part of your society
- Create a network - movement



Photo of one of the examples that were shared: public performance installation of a replica of Checkpoint Charlie by artist **Emilio López-Menchero** to raise awareness about the division in the city of Bruxelles during the Festival Canal in 2010.

Actor network exercise

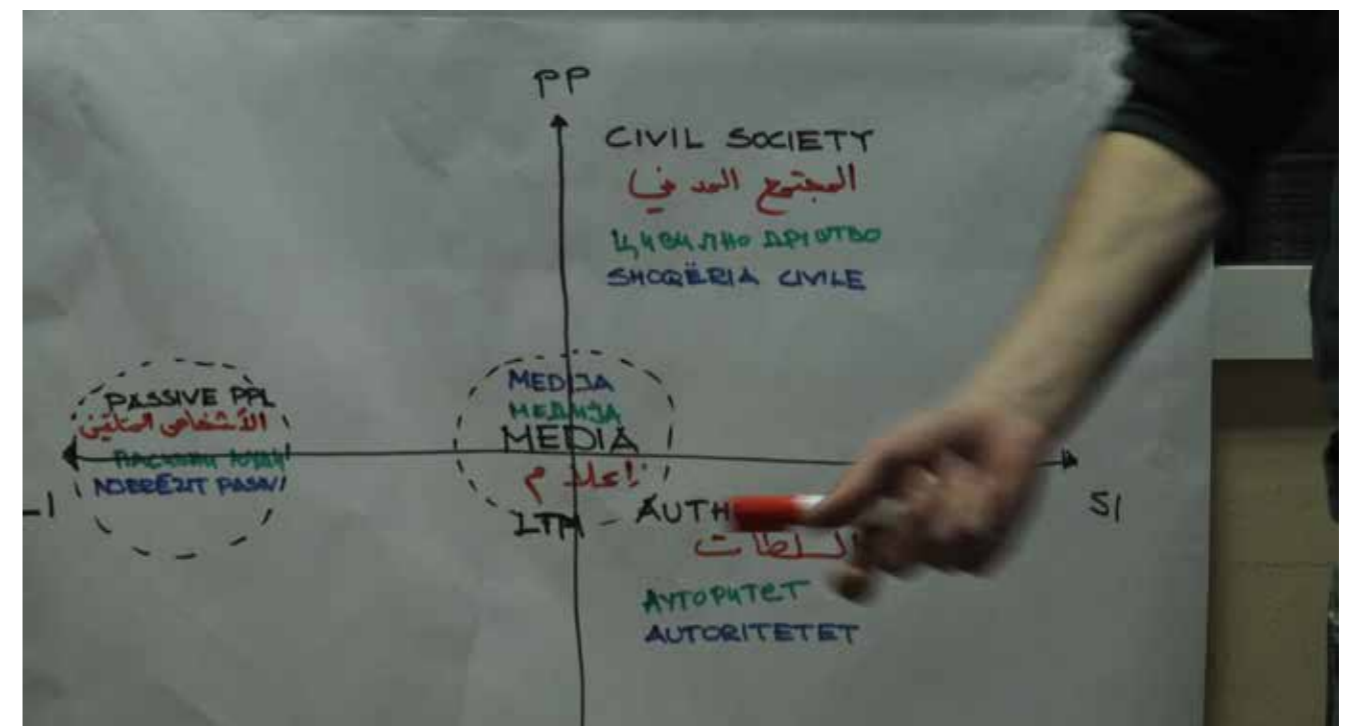
After we distilled the social need, we formulated the vision and were inspired by Urban development examples and knowledge from all over the world. Then it was time to take a good look at the stakeholders involved. We visualised an actor network map. In the visualisation different colours were given to different roles, degrees of separation from the problem and we had a look at their positions of power. In the visualisation we also noted media and technologies depicted as they also exert agency on the problem context.



Some actors that stood out:

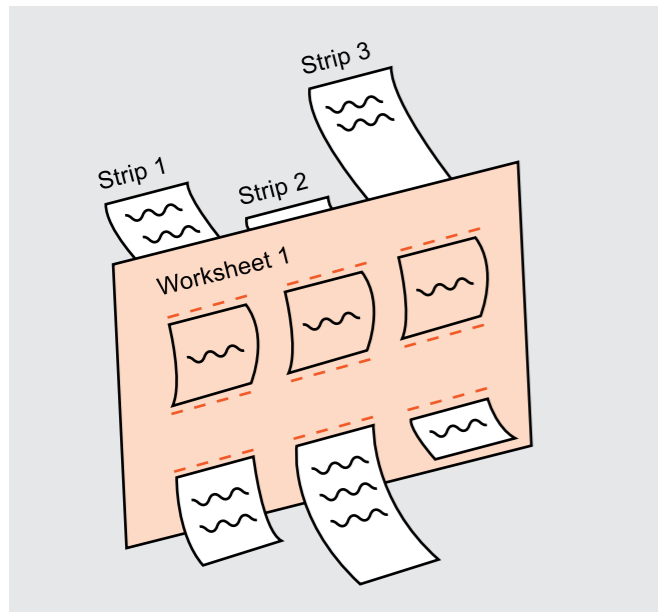
- fishermen
- barber shop owners
- artists
- radio bloggers
- university unions

Based on the actor network exercise we positioned the actors in a **influence matrix**. We divided the actors with a positive impact from the ones with a negative impact and the ones with a strong influence from the ones with a weak influence.



Ideation I: fruit machine

The fruit machine is a method for forcing new ideas. By combining categories that you would normally never put together you can force yourself to get new ideas. The participants worked with the actors, places and media they already came up with during the previous exercises. Ideas that came out of the session:



Group 1:

Easy to do - low impact

- Exhibition
- Street competition
- Chess competition
- Marathon
- Cycling with youth

Easy to do medium impact

- Photo competition with youth
- Graffiti painting youth and adults under the bridge
- Handicraft exhibition with women
- People with disabilities do an exhibition
- Cleaning with youth
- Radio show for the kids
- Language classes with people from both sides
- Food fair in the middle of the bridge - traditional foods
- Free coffee for all - middle of the bridge

low impact - difficult

- Bungy jumping
- Stands of NGOs / NGO fair

High impact / difficult to do

- Sport events
- Short movie projection
- Selling homemade stuff on the river bank
- Job fair business companies - for all
- Concerts with youth - local artists + famous artists
- Forum theatre in both sides of the river bank

Group 2

easy to do / high impact

- Sport: volleyball, climbing, football
- Competition: every year > the aim is to have mixed groups
- Clean river side on both sides > mountain of garbage
- Concerts in the cultural sport centre with famous people from the region
- Involve taxi drivers to promote the campaign
- Involve drummers to promote the campaign
- Use the river for the concert
- Music will be composed for drummers and taxi drivers (using their horns)

Group 3

- Citizens can play a game in the sports centre - *high impact / not easy*
- Panel discussion with protection forces about safety on the bridge, to find out how far we can go - *easy / no impact*
- Old newspaper with headlines about the bridge: exhibition - *easy to do / low impact*
- Exhibition of uniforms that have been in Mitrovica in the youth centre, followed up by a social media campaign - *easy to do / high impact*
- Fair with public universities; unions share knowledge on public space - *difficult to do / high impact*
- Artists and activist art centre to shows a problem - *not easy / not difficult / no high impact / no low impact*
- BBQ in the public zone; everyone invited - *high impact / not easy / not hard*
- Representatives of universities broadcasted on radio - *not easy / not hard / high impact*
- Party with free drinks around the bridge, shown in social media - *high impact / not easy / not hard*
- People from can take a rubber boot on the river, shown in social media - *high impact / difficult to do*

Group 4

Easy to do / low impact

- Storytelling by the elderly through radio and tv - with positive stories from the past
- Business association from trade near the government office - about free trade
- Art festival from the youth covered by media

Medium impact

- Graffiti competition on the river banks from both sides with mixed teams
- Sport competition on the river banks; men and women boys and girls mixed
- Field of tennis in the middle of the river - jacobish plays a match
- Youth using reconstruction and post it on FB
- Festival of traditional music for elderly

Difficult to do / high impact

- Elderly friends meet up on both sides and are interviewed - personal stories
- Invite politicians to explain why they are there - covered by media
- Public tv debate at the bridge with all actors - eu representatives speak up - citizens can interact and express why they want to use the bridge freely

Easy to do / high impact

- Fair with goods and traditional foods at the bridge; food on one side; drinks on the other to stimulate to go to both sides and to acknowledge the specific food/drink traditions



Ideation II: Use case

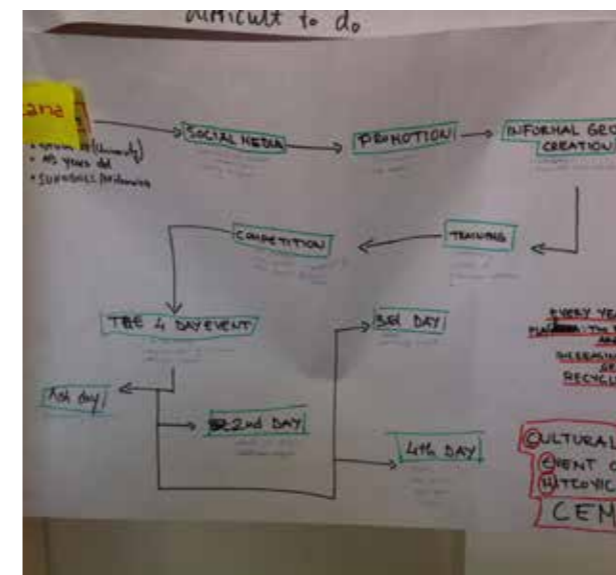
The last exercise of the day was to work out a selection of ideas out in a use case. A use case describes the journey of a 'user' of your campaign. How does he/she learn about the campaign, it describes what happens next, why, where and how. And what comes after till he/she reaches the vision you have in mind. The groups worked out the following ideas:

Group 1 Floating square in the middle of the river for multiple use

Group 2 Promote the river area as an unique space where everyone can enjoy for many uses

Group 3 4 day arts event

Group 4 Panel debate with 2 mayors + EU representatives on the bridge, screened on tv



Day 3

Make it practical

Fail fast and succeed early is the best way to avoid a big failure later on in the programme. For this it is useful to prepare prototypes.

Aim of the day:

- defining the resources needed
- developing an activity plan
- learning from the experts: branding & campaigning
- prototyping the ideas
- preparing for the expo

Methods used: Fail fair, Prototyping, Learn from experts.

Warm up

The day started with an energy giving yoga warm-up given by one of the participants.

Recap day 2

The programme started with a little reflection moment on day 2. The best ideas were discussed so to make sure that during the day all ideas were integrated in the prototype.

Group 1

- “Floating Square” - design competition for the floating square
- Sports competitions (chess, cycling, running)
- Forum theatre on both sides of the river
- Radio show for children (suggestion: children as radio makers?)
- (idea from group 2: tennis in the middle of the river)

Group 2:

- Garbage mountain & Public engagement campaign (involving taxi drivers to promote the campaign)/ #BeautifulRiver / re-design of the garbage bins

Group 3:

- Skill training street artists, photographers & product designers / architects
- Best projects (of how to use the bridge zone) are chosen and presented during a cultural event
- Generally: cultural transformation in engagement with the bridge zone

Group 4:

Engagement Campaign & Panel discussion on the bridge: *“we’re sick of division, nationalism & demand transparency (on the bridge)”*

- “Storytelling from Elderly on Television - Stories of the Past”
- Traditional foods on both sides of the bridge

Ideas write up

The groups worked out their ideas by writing out: the vision, the purpose, the actions, the target group and key stakeholders, capturing the outcomes of the exercises done the previous days.



Presentation Branding and campaign

Lisanne shared key points to take into account when setting up a successful campaign as well as inspiration on successful campaigning, public engagement and branding from all over the world.

Take aways:

- Define the basics: what is our vision, what do we want to achieve, who are we talking to?
- Define your campaign: what are our actions, what do we do?
- Define what and who you need: Do we use media, who can support our actions, what resources do we need?
- Define your message: what do we sound like, what is our main message, who are we in one word, what is our call to action?

Messaging

After the inspiration presentation the groups further worked out their ideas, complementing it with key messages.



Group 1: Floating square

Why: By creating a public space which is neutral we can:

- Have all kinds of open air activities
- Exhibits and fairs
- Small arts and shows
- Small sports
- Create a common space for cultural activities

The square will be accessible from the bridge only which means people have to cross it to get there and since the square is only in the river it will be a neutral area for all people!!

Target groups: everyone: young people, old people, artists, NGOs, fishermen

Team: someone neutral - not from north, not from south, someone who has the trust of both sides and who can arrange income generating activities to maintain the square

Media: social media, guerrilla actions offline, traditional media

Supporters: local NGOs, artists, musicians, painters, stand-up comedians

Resources: HR, designers, NGOs, crowdfunding

Messages: innovative and open, make yourself at home

One Word: Optimistic builders

Sounds Like: fun

Call to action: "Join the initiative for a place to meet."

Group 2: Improving the bridge zone #beautifulriver

Why: promote the river area as a unique space where everyone can enjoy for many types of use.

Idea: motivate people to work together towards a clean and vibrant river area.

Actions: clean up, visually attractive, landscape improvement, skate, concerts, yoga, climbing, leisure

Target groups: everyone, students, scouts, fishermen, ecologists, fitness, yoga, sports and aerobics clubs, NMA - material arts, musicians, old bands, rock school

Sound like: AUMM... / SHHHH... river / trees / chanting people

Our words: national, peaceful and nice

Call to action: Hajde key, #cleanuptheriver, #enjoytheriver

Media: Website, Twitter (#beautifulriver, #enjoytheriver), Flyers, Radio, Posters, Tv, Sound cloud

Supporters: music bands, taxi drivers, universities, ngo's

Group 3: 4 day cultural event

Why: Making the bridge zone more comfortable to be; Brings people together

Actions: finding funds, social media to inform people about the event, competition, promotion, artists training, celebrations, photo exhibition, landscape design exhibit

Target groups: Youth, NGOs, donors, artists and different media

Resources: money, art supply, people

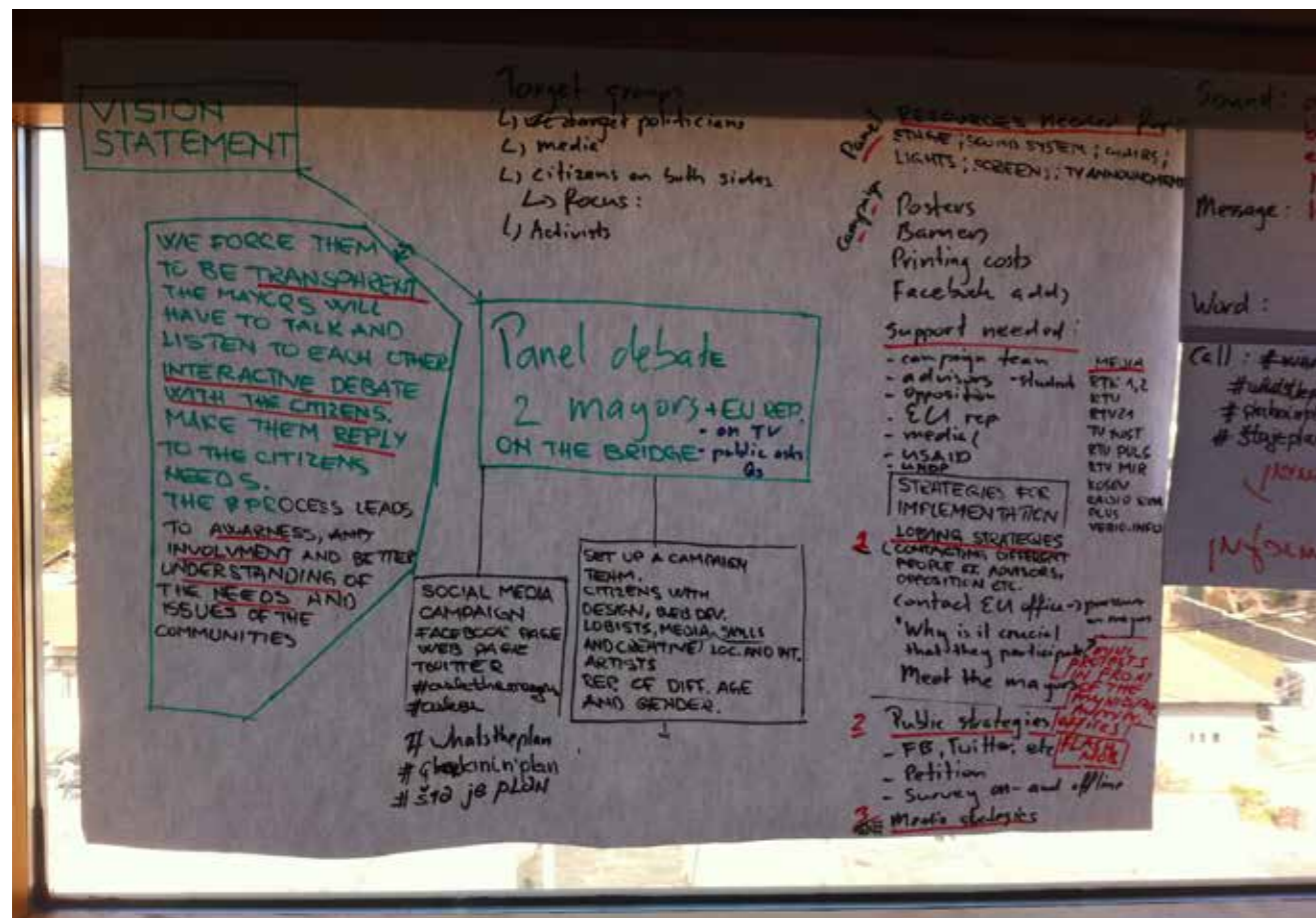
Supporters: CB, rock school, promoters, citizens, municipalities, universities

Message: Hayde Brey (come on/let's go), express yourself, expressionists, haydre brey express yourself

Sound like: makes arts to speak, non-political, ok to be there

Group 4:

- Why:** we force them to be transparent. The mayors will have to talk and listen to each other. Interactive debate with the citizens. Make them reply to the citizen's needs. The process lead to awareness, involvement and better understanding of the needs and issues of the communities.
- Idea:** panel debate with 2 mayors + EU representatives on the bridge, tv
- Target groups:** politicians, media, citizens from both sides, activists
- Media:** social media campaign, facebook page, web page, twitter (#askthemayors, #askeu, #whatistheplan)
- Campaign team:** citizens from both sides, designers, web developers, lobbyists, media skills, creative skills, local and international artists, representatives of different ages and gender
- Resources:** stage, screens, posters, banner, printing costs, fb banner, tv announcement, lights, screens
- Supporters:** campaign team, advisors, students, opposition, eu representatives, media, funds
- Sound like:** demanding, inspiring, positive, empowering
"It is our city, we have the right to be informed and involved."
- Our words:** people's power



Fail fair

A very effective exercise to improve your plans is the 'fail failure'. All participants were given the opportunity to write out positive point of the idea and one point for improvement. After which the groups had to turn the points for improvement into something positive, making use of the weak element in their idea (instead of coming up with a solution). Example: "there is no electricity in the night." "This is good because... then we can play hide and seek in the night."



Group 1: Floating square

- We cannot do this with the barricades on the bridge - this is good because it stops cars and the square area stays more peaceful
- We need too much money for this - this is good we can engage people in our campaign by make use of crowdfunding

Some good points mentioned:

- It is very good because it is much different than other ideas that happened in our city
- Ambitious and we claim something back that is from us
- A place that can be used by everyone

Group 2: #beautifulriver

Garbage smells - this is good because people will recognise the problem

- Not all people are interested in yoga - this is good so there will be enough place to practice

Some good points mentioned:

- Good idea to clean up the river side
- Positive and engaging on many levels
- It is easy to accomplish in one year and will have huge impact on the citizens

Group 3: cultural event

- I think it would be a challenge to bring both communities together - this is a good thing because it makes you work harder and therefore leads you to the great results!
- No sustainability - this is a good thing because people take it over
- Will culture 'survive' the reflex to split in ethnicity, language - it is a good thing because art doesn't have to do with languages

Some positive elements = points mentioned:

- Only art will survive
- Good, very creative
- The campaign slang is awesome

Group 4: Panel debate

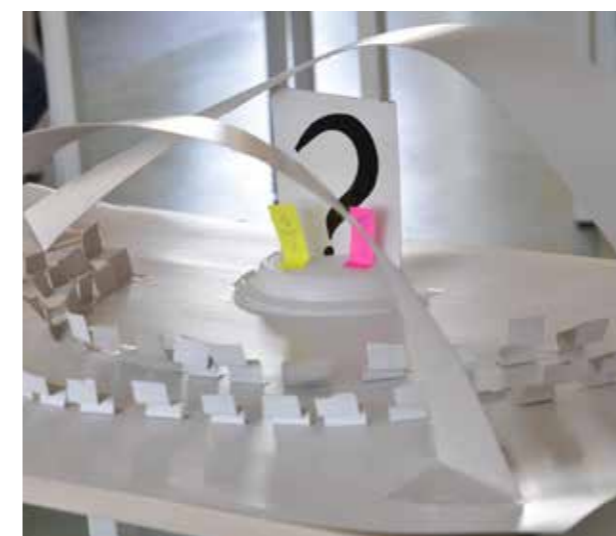
- It can revolt citizens - this is a good thing because we need to hear from them and spark the fire
- I don't think a panel debate is attractive enough - this is a good thing because then there will be no security risks
- It doesn't fully involve common folk - this is a good thing because politicians don't like to listen to common folk anyway

Some positive points mentioned:

- It can provoke politicians to act
- It can help us to get started
- The voices of the people heard by politicians

Making session

During the afternoon the groups worked out their prototypes to present during the expo the next day. The best way to avoid a big failure later on the program, it is good to fail fast. This also means you need to create something to people (your target group and stakeholders) can react on. Before you have the budget, planning, people etc. ready to really get started it is therefore useful to prepare prototypes.





Day 4

Looking back & forward & exposition

The last part of the co-creation process was to look back on the process, look forward and define the ideal scenario for the execution of the ideas.



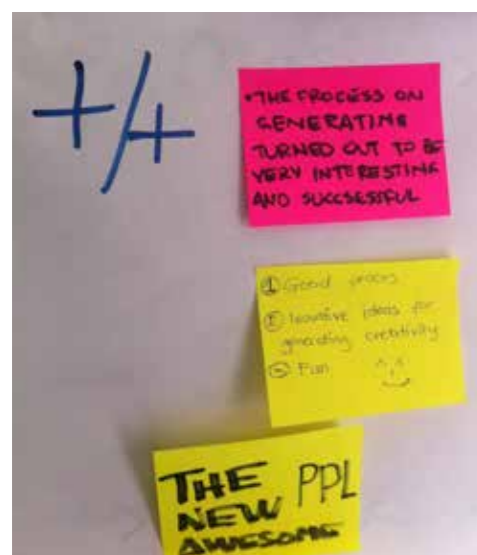
Aim of the day:

- discussing the future execution of ideas
- capturing the learnings
- translating the lessons learnt in action points
- discussing possible roles and responsibilities
- starting the movement: expo

Good points of the Lab

+/+

- Everything
- Innovative method of co-creation
- Attractive; not boring
- Time pressure makes you think; that is good
- The process on generating new ideas turned out to be very interesting and successful
- Meeting new people
- Heard great ideas that came from true team work
- Had a wonderful time
- Met new great friends
- Shared experiences
- New knowledge about the city
- Met new people
- New method on project development
- Good process
- Innovative ideas for generating new ideas
- Fun
- The new people are awesome
- Food
- Good projects
- The weather
- Met new people
- More knowledge of how to create a project
- Good idea for architects and designers
- Grew activist network
- Came up with new solutions
- Great ideas
- Meeting new people
- Lunch was great
- Free food
- Good working process
- Nice explanations
- Full of energy
- Working process
- I like to work with these people, they are great
- About the project, it was fun because we did it like we needed for the riverside and bridge
- Shared experiences
- Made some new experiences
- Improved my English
- Learned many new things
- We started from scratch
- Good methodology - into-action, intro-action, intro-action
- Bits and pieces
- Perfect ideas
- Diversity, but complementary
- Good energy
- Excellent ideas
- Creativity
- Socialising
- Photo walk
- Great presentations



Points of improvement

-/-

- Time should be shifted to 10.00 - 19.00
- Sharing of experts expertise in all groups
- Too little time
- I want breaks
- More colourful talking
- Too little time, too much thinking
- Breaks should be respected
- Sometimes it seems too intense
- Too many things in too little time
- Giving more hope to people
- Work more with citizens needs by direct involvement in the project
- The music
- More contact with the 'people'- check assumptions
- Some people cancelled at the very last moment
- Link project vision could be more explicit
- Agenda should be printed
- Music during the work
- Jens lecture should have been on day one, before the site visit
- Long sessions
- We lost time during the breaks
- Uncertainty
- Little time for big things
- Too early
- Be more clear about the next steps
- Less food
- Too many hours
- Break took too much time
- Approach to the problem of the bridge zone
- Quality not quantity
- Respect of time
- Getting up too early
- More coffee breaks
- More music
- Waking up in the morning
- More music

Follow up wishes

Group 1:

- There will be a floating square to enjoy by all citizens ; difficult to say when it will be opened maybe in - 5 years, depends on the politicians
- campaign idea; make it real through multimedia approach; help in lobbying, set up flasmobs
 - find donors, making posters using propaganda

Group 2:

- Project will be used this year #beautifulriver
- We can look for a team and get citizens involved
 - People will use the bridge to cross the river and enjoy the riverside within one year
 - We will find people to support us, NGOs, companies to make it happen, make all citizens comfortable and safe

Group 3:

- A 4 day cultural event will happen within one year
- Propaganda person: social media and find representatives, will take care of the involvement from the south
 - trainings for the artists I can support can help with the competition set up : organizing
 - we can provide logistic support

Group 4:

The 4 day and panel will happen in 2 years depending on the situation in politics

- Gentrit: web and social media coordinator
- Milica: Political strategy coordinator
- Genc: campaign design and strategies
- Baton: Communication coordinator
- Guido: promote and support the campaign (inter)national & advisor
- Michael: lobbyist, fundraising, advising, opening doors to relevant people
- We still need an overall coordinator, lobbyist south & EU, fundraisers, volunteers and logistics
- We will hold monthly meetings

Before the preparation for the expo started Milivoje closed off:

Milivoje shared that he can create a follow up communication, make sure the bigger picture happens, finding the donors. He also shared that there are some funds reserved for the activities; that we can and will continue the work that we started with. He shared that CBM can support the activities and that together with Pax and Butterfly Works he will look how to best support the next steps.

Expo

And then it was time to present the ideas to the audience by means of an exposition of the ideas developed and prototyped created. People from UN Habitat, SIDA the K4, friends and family all joined and enjoyed the fab expo at the International Business School in Mitrovica!





The Activist Lab is a unique tool from PAX to inspire and improve the work of civil society activists, and enable them to connect and collaborate creatively around vital local issues.

Want to learn more about the Activist Lab?

Visit www.activisthive.org or
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Want to learn more about CBM:

visit www.cbmitrovica.org or
send an email to info@cbmitrovica.org

Want to learn more about co-creation?

Visit www.butterflyworks.org or
send an email to inspire@butterflyworks.org