

CITIES SAVE THE WORLD. LET'S REINVENT PLANNING. 19/10/2015 – 23/10/2015

EINDHOVEN, THE NETHERLANDS
HOW TO REACT WHEN TRADITIONAL
INDUSTRIES MOVE AWAY?

SOCIETY 2.0

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WORKSHOP THEME

Urban planning is a main tool of social and economic progress of urban agglomerations worldwide and foundation for healthy governance and steered development. With the scale and the speed that current urbanization is taking place worldwide, cities house about 70% of the world's population. They are growing into major economic powerhouses, oriented towards economic growth, which endangers the people element in societies.

The great shift that can be sensed in urban planning and architecture transforms architects and urban planners from king/queen in architecture into sensors of the society. Their new design approach will leave the blue-prints and the "aesthetics of bricks" behind and move the focus on the process of knowledge sharing and nurturing between generations and social design, resulting with great movement of reusing the soft and hard elements of human society.

Our workshop will show participants a new dimension of making of places. By the use of the interactive method Hackathon, the workshop will re-examine the role of the urban planner/designer/architect in the society. Hackathon will bring focused innovation efforts in city-making, while mixing input of people with different backgrounds, regardless of setup constraints. The outcomes of this method are scenario driven and location specific with capacity to offer ready-to-use solutions.









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THE CHALLENGES:

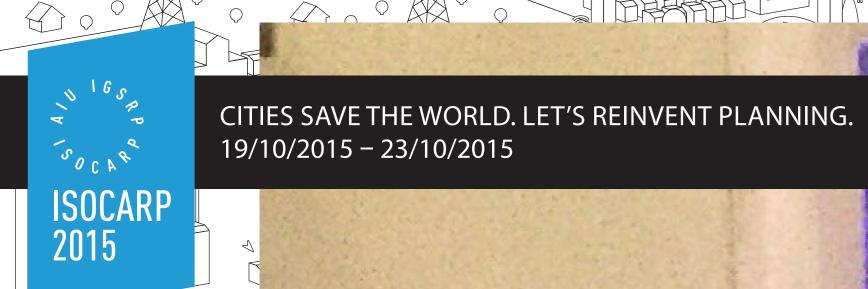
- + MOTIVATING
 PARTICIPATION
- + INTERVENING
 WHEN OWNERSHIP
 IS INTRANSITION
- + CONTAGIOUS REGENERATION

+ To test these ideas in the real time, the workshop broke into small group settings to apply these ideas and case studies to current situations in Eindhoven.

+ Team challenges addressed the question of motivating participation; intervening when ownership is transitory; and the question of how to spread regeneration from bounded areas, where an initial resurgence may be experienced, beyond and into neighborhoods.

+ Workshop participants visited the Challenge sites, met with the local Challenge representatives, and proposed a short-term activation strategy to a local audience at the end of the two days together.





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THE RESULTS: PLANNER AS PROGRAMMER

+ The planning profession needs to reinvent itself:

+ From designers of places to facilitators of urban processes: when cities change or stop their path of growth, planning becomes also a matter of non-physical interventions.

+ Builders of trust and social capital within communities: need for new tools to create resilient local networks, which are the basis and inspiration for planning.

+ Acknowledging the role of communities as the experts of the place: mutual learning between planning professionals and place users.

+ Stimulating starting points that generate meaningful engagements among actors: think about light-quick-cheap interventions allowing quick gains opening the path towards more complex plans.

