

TALLINN

Kopli, a subdistrict located in northern Tallinn, bears historical and industrial significance, tracing its origins back to the early 20th century when it served as a Russian shipyard. Positioned on the Kopli peninsula with a population density of 3,472 (Pohja Tallinn) and a greenspace share of 12.5%, the Kopli district plays a vital role as both a production center and loop closer within the circular city framework. The establishment of the Russian Empire's primary naval base in Kopli sparked significant architectural revitalization, a trend that persisted from the 1910s to the 1930s. This meticulously planned living environment included essential amenities such as schools, churches, community centers, hospitals, canteens, shops, post offices, fire stations, and more. Noteworthy among these structures is Kopli 93, an Art Deco-style building erected in 1936. Initially serving as a community and cultural center, a military sailors' club, and an educational facility, it now holds heritage status, being repurposed as an innovative hub with the mission of revitalizing traditional skills, local food production methods, and common-based peer production.

City Population size	S	Productive focus	Traditional skills, educational community focus
Population density	Tallinn Pohja-Tallinn: 3,472 people/km2	Partners	TalTech University of Tallinn, City of Tallinn
Pilot scale	Neighborhood	Website	Cartography web: https://www.CENTRINNO-cartography.org/tallinn



Figure 26. Map of the Tallinn pilot area by Metabolic Institute

Vision

To valorise and upgrade traditional artisan skills by opening a new physical space where the community comes together to experiment towards circular production while empowering the resilience and long term self-sufficiency of local makers.



Figure 27. Tallinn Pilot Key Performance Indicators

WORLD CAFÉ

Debate, switch, share and repeat. A method to facilitate inclusive debates by Tallinn



Photo by Tallinn pilot

Online
Setting

Urban food actors,
agricultural stakeholders

Target

Digital platform
Format

What is it about?

World Café Community Meeting is a tool that was greatly inspired by the original World Café method that is used for hosting large group dialogue. In the Fab City Hub context in Tallinn, the original tool was modified to support community relationships and decision-making. In a community that prioritises reaching a consensus on an important matter, all voices must be heard.

The World Café Community Meeting helps to discuss potential solutions and make decisions in a large group efficiently.

Story behind

Organizing numerous debates using the World Cafe Methods session empowered the Tallinn pilot to establish an inclusive community. The goal was to enhance collaboration, align the needs and vision of both the community and the municipality, and improve the capacity for self-organization and decision-making. This initiative successfully navigated differences in languages, backgrounds, and beliefs.

Key steps

- Identifying the right location
- Sending invitation to the community members
- Defining topics for discussion and the purpose of the session
- Preparing the space and welcoming participants
- Developing the activity
- Summarising and sharing the results
- Implementing the decision made

Recommendations for future applications

- The tool could start with a discussion on a more easy and fun note and follow with more difficult or serious ones.
- Let the people warm up and get to know each other first, then make decisions afterwards.
- The topics for the discussion rounds can range from getting to know each other, sharing knowledge, figuring out strategies or making decisions. This tool should be used creatively.
- Change the topic for discussion and share the results of the discussion more often. However, if the group gets larger than 30 people, a greater number of rounds for the same discussion topics might be necessary.

A CO-DESIGN TOOL FOR COMMUNITY VALUES AND PRINCIPLES CREATION

Strengthening collaboration and common goals



Photo by Tallinn pilot

Hybrid
Setting

Urban food actors,
agricultural stakeholders
Target

Digital Platform
Format

What is it about?

This co-design tool helps to map the values of a community and create a shared value system. It is necessary to have a common understanding of the values to apply in a community in order to achieve its goals.

Collectively addressing the value system will help to understand both oneself and other members of the community. As a result, the communities' sense of mission and belonging improve. In this way, collectively defined, interrelated, and clearly mapped values are necessary to give meaning to community events. The values serve the community to create strategies, take decisions, plan, and organise community activities.

Story behind

The Tallinn pilot saw the need to bring the community together long-term and set healthy boundaries for the future of the Kopli 93 community makerspace. They used the co-design tool to map the values and principles that make Kopli 93 what it is today so that any future visitor can become familiar with the principles and apply them.

Key steps

- Introduction, explaining the purpose of the workshop, and setting the agenda
- Setting personal expectations
- Writing and presenting personal values
- Mapping and grouping common values
- Titling common value groups
- Generating operating principles based on the value system
- Summarising and mapping the journey

Recommendations for future applications

- The co-design values should be overlooked and updated by the community on a regular basis.
- Enable clear self-expression for participants by providing an inspiring and safe space for discussion.
- The values and principles need to be put somewhere visible and used for the long term.
- The tool is useful when the community has a common space where it is more difficult to divide responsibilities and ownership of areas.

ENHANCEMENT OF PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING FOR COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT IN TALLINN

Circular Economy
Heritage
Vocational Training
Innovation Spaces
Social Inclusion

Related key concepts

Heritage value and innovation
Policy-making mindsets
Contingency and macro trends
Spatial Planning and Urban Development Frameworks
Regulation
Funding
Knowledge and Capacities

Areas of influence

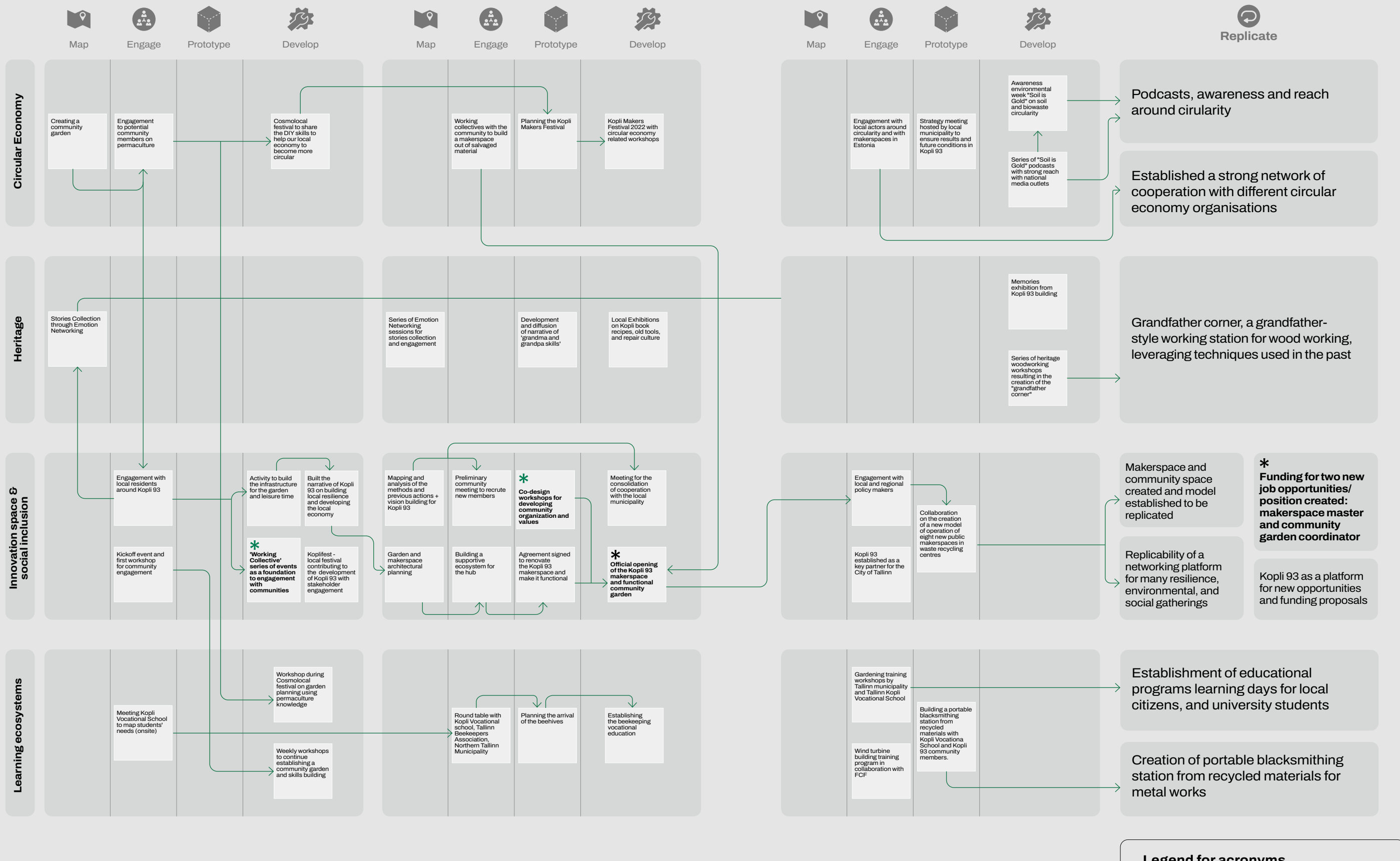
Recommendations

- Creating a platform for the emergence of ideas from communities, ensuring representation and sustainability of projects' realisation
- Developing initiatives aimed at enhancing citizen awareness regarding local governance procedures and decision-making processes.
- Making the residents think and act together, increasing coherency and a sense of community
- Encouraging a wider range of project ideas by diversifying the types of initiatives eligible for funding
- Implementing robust evaluation mechanisms to assess the impact and effectiveness of funded projects.
- Establishing platforms for sharing success stories, best practices, and lessons learned from the participatory budgeting program.

Practical case

While revitalising an abandoned cultural house in Northern Tallinn transforming it into a functioning community hub (Kopli 93), the pilot implemented a new mechanism for participatory budgeting. It aimed to empower residents, granting them agency to propose innovative projects that could be financed by the city through the following process: An expert committee evaluates the feasibility of the ideas submitted and the best ones are introduced, discussed, and put up for public vote. In accordance with the conditions of the participatory budget, each city district has the option to carry out one project a year, which the residents of the city districts have submitted, and which has gained the most votes. The created funds should be dedicated solely to public facilities, open and accessible to all.

The project's success wasn't just in its execution but also in its influence. It sparked a citywide wave of support for community activities. Other districts followed suit, enhancing communication strategies to facilitate broader participation in the participatory budgeting process, aiming to maximize the submission of ideas and ensure a majority engagement in voting. The success of Tallinn's model calls upon other cities worldwide to adopt similar approaches, fostering inclusive governance and empowering communities to co-create public infrastructure spaces.



SPRINT 1: M8-M14

Building a foundation for the hub: opening the discussion, activation of local residents and stakeholders

SPRINT 2: M19-M25

Building a thriving Fab City Hub: opening Kopli 93 for the wider public, building a self-organised community, and strengthening the circular economy stakeholders network

SPRINT 3: M30-M36

Turning Kopli 93 into a platform for local resilience and self-sufficiency

Legend for acronyms

FCF: Fab City Foundation

- * Trigger moment for policy recommendation
- * Tool development and application