

2. MATERIALIZING
If building relations is key, we still should not neglect the aesthetics of the materialization. A beautiful artistic proposal is what reduces the complex to the simple and vice versa, maintaining the same level of quality in both the design process and its materializations.

1. SITUATING
Participatory art and design that only portrays the vision of the artist, but does not situate itself within the context misses out on valuable support from the inhabitants. On-site research helps artwork to build relations with the locals.

3. DIVERSIFYING
When engaging in participation, it is important to reach a vast diversity of participants. Focusing the attention solely on the most active participants could exclude other social groups.

THE STREET IS OURS!

9 PRINCIPLES IN PARTICIPATORY ART AND DESIGN

As the interest in participatory art and design has grown exponentially over the past years, a group of experts met to share their experiences and advocate an agenda to stimulate reflection and action.

4. APPROPRIATING
By involving the participants from the beginning and enabling them appropriately, the project could generate unexpected processes and outputs. However, this also allows maximum engagement and long-term implementation.

5. COLLABORATING
Both bottom -up and top-down approaches to participation are needed in order to achieve sustainable changes and a deeper and multi-layered understanding of the rich complexity of everyday life.

6. OPENING
Participatory processes should avoid being dictated by a particular technology and should have a principle of opening the technologies used to people who do not have access to advanced tools or devices.

7. EMPATHIZING
The strength of good participatory artists and designers is based in their relational qualities and in their capabilities in empathizing with the people with whom they work and allowing their processes to be guided by empathy instead of predefined solutions.

8. SUSTAINING
Both when participatory projects are planned temporarily or permanently, practitioners should plan "the day after", ensuring a sustainable implementation.

9. ROOTING
The strength of good participatory projects lies in their relational qualities, but also in their interest in rooting themselves deeply into existing relational networks. This allows them to become familiar with the opportunities and challenges of their working context.