





Dialogue between the city & its people

Methodology for municipalities on civic participation in public realm projects

BEATRIČĖ UMBRASAITĖ GIEDRĖ PUZINAUSKIENĖ

2022-10





Defining public space

Open

Public or private

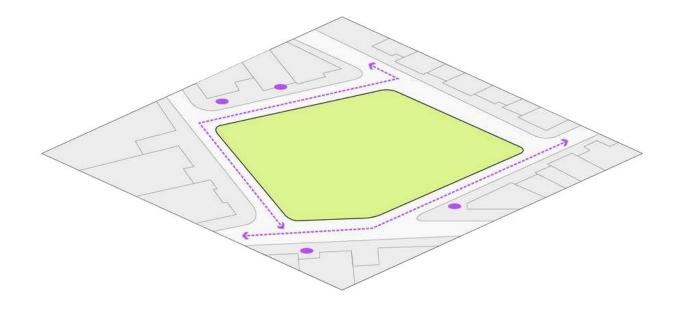
Intended for common public interests

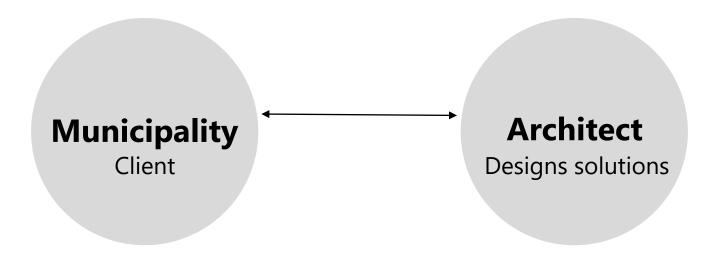
"An element of spacial structure of an urbanised territory of a residential area intended for common public interests"*

^{*}Republic of Lithuania Law on territorial planning

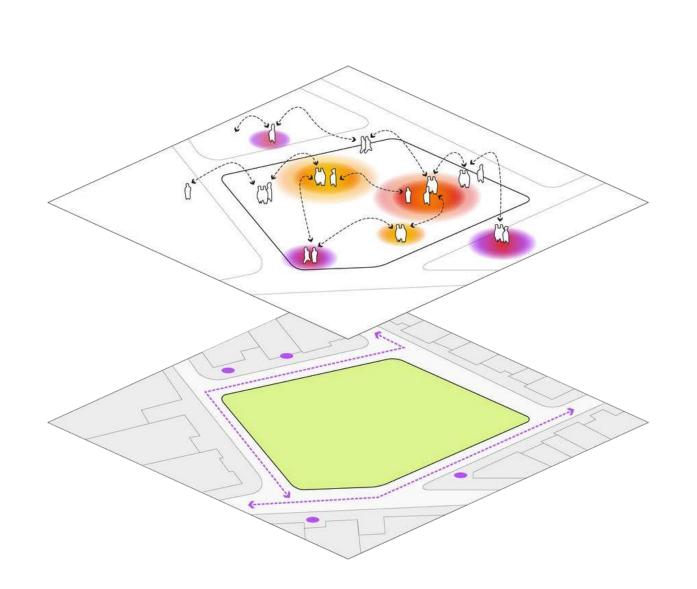
Why we need the public to participate?

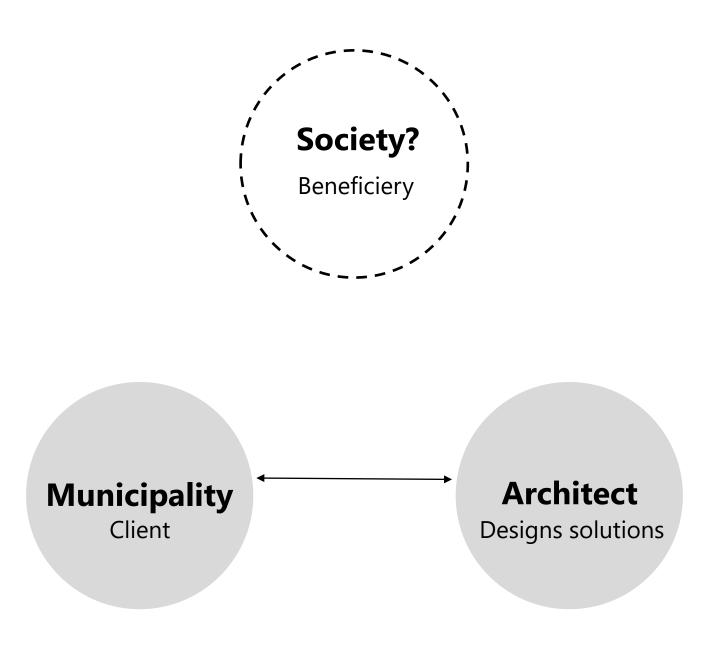




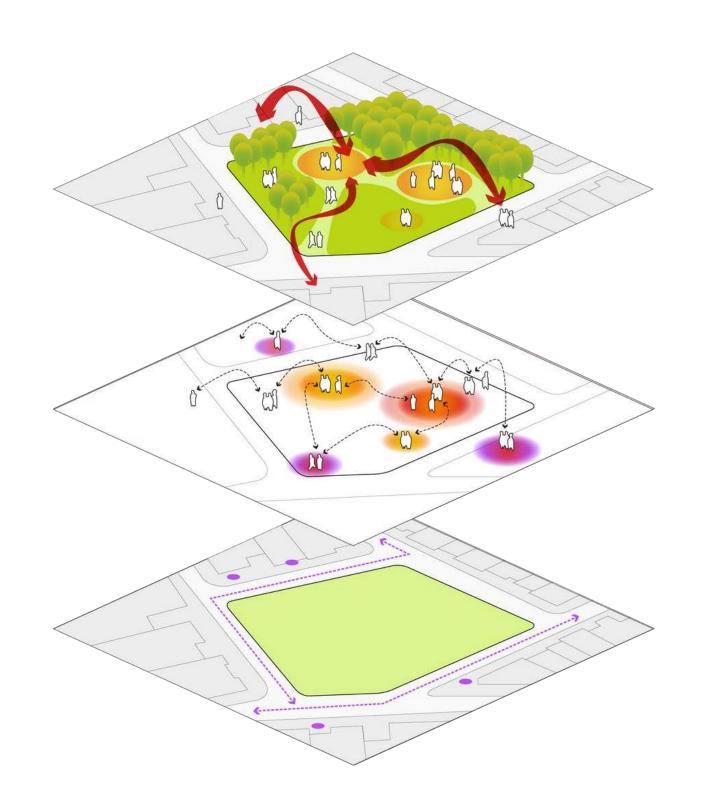


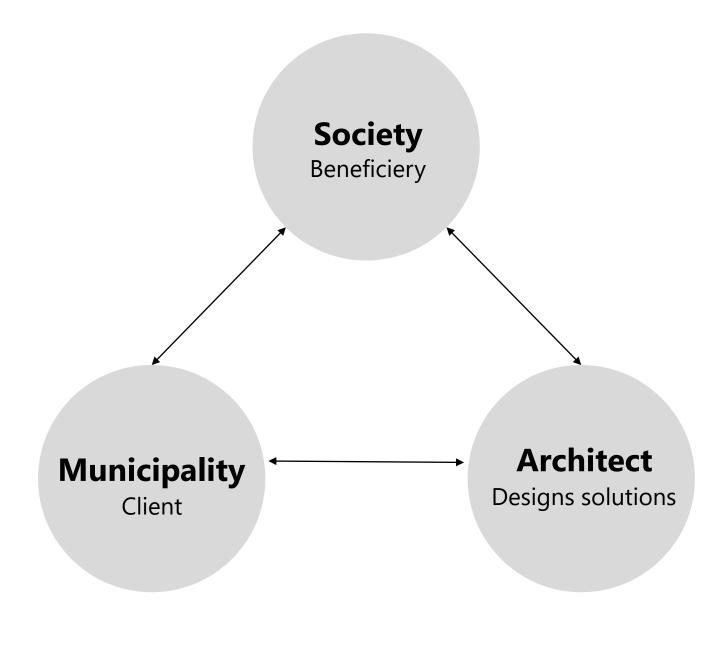
Why we need the public to participate?





Why we need the public to participate?





Good practice

- Public space projects as a tool to invest in **social capital**;
- Public participation is a **process**;
- Participation combines **formal and informal** forms of dialogue.





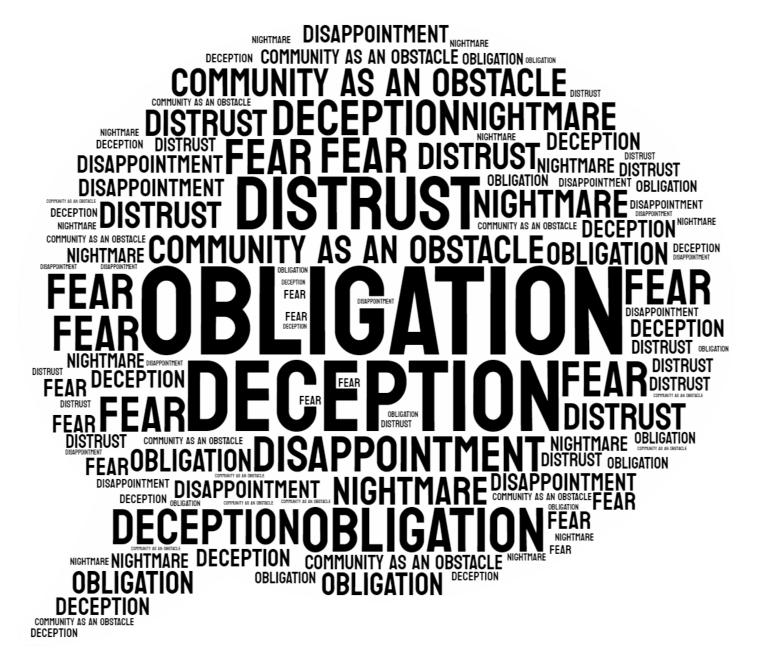
Lithuanian context

In 2019 there were protests against public space projects in all 5 major Lithuanian cities.

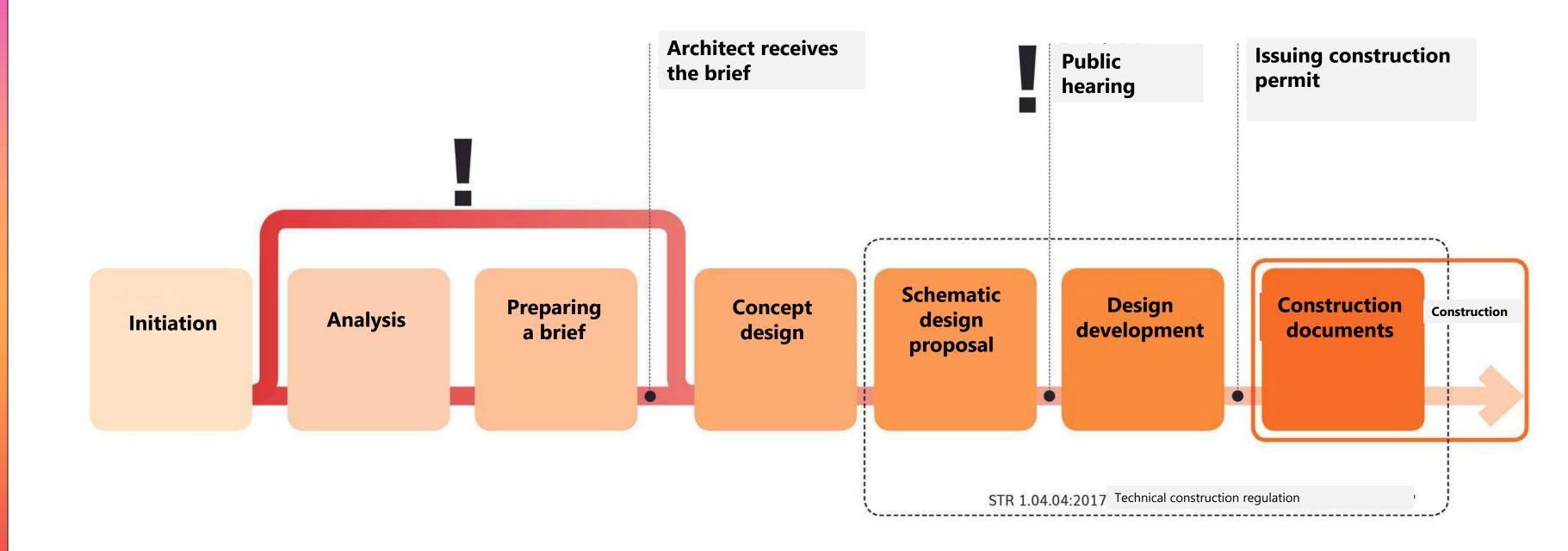
Sapiegų parko projektas sustabdytas: miestui jis jau kainavo šimtus tūkstančių eurų



How would you describe your experience in public hearings?



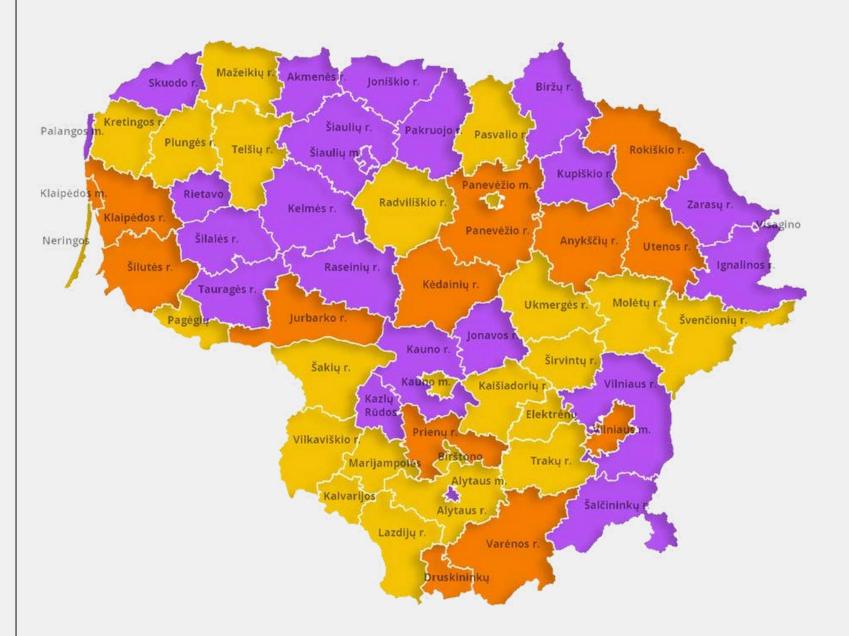
Data collected during interviews from September to November in 2021



Project process

Municipalities...

- **ALWAYS** involve society more than required by the law
- **SOMETIMES** involve society more than required by the law
- **ONLY INFORMS** society as required by law

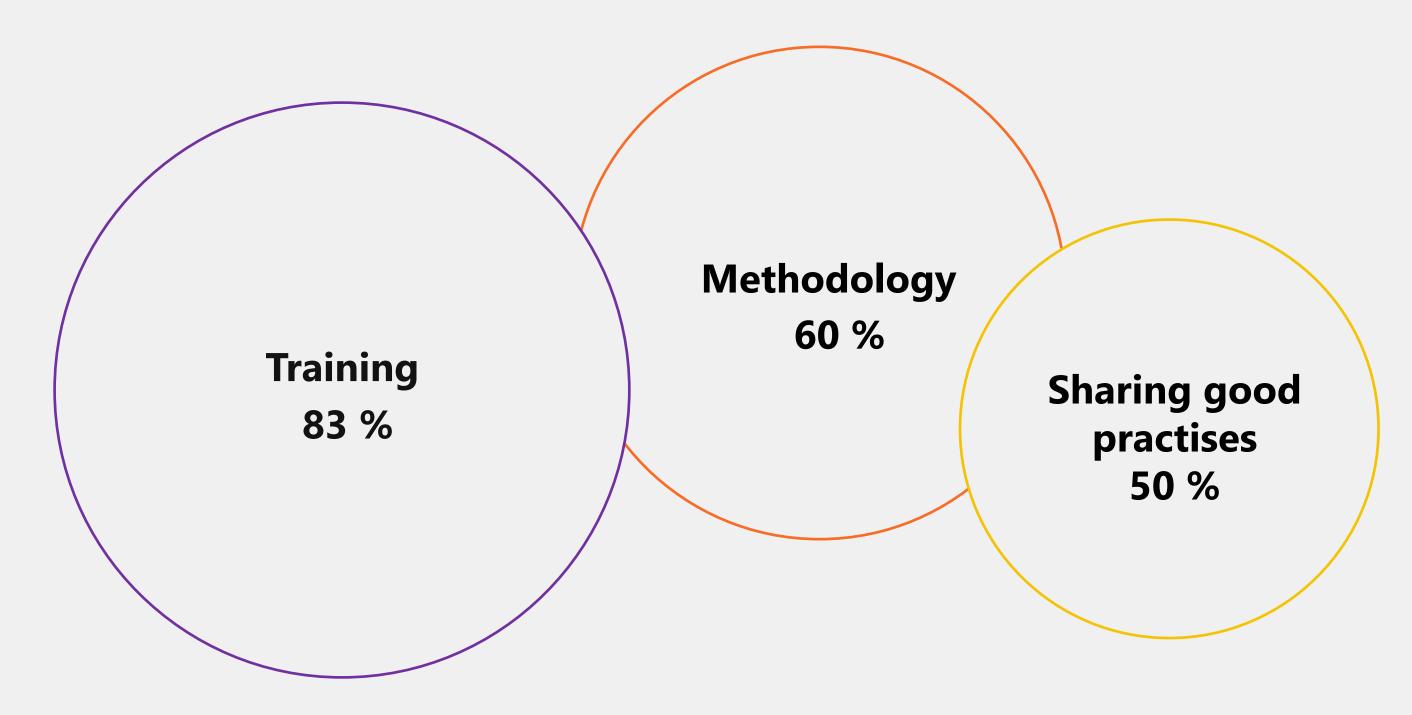


Municipalities' survey data (2021 December)

58 out of 60 local authorities value public engagement but 50% of them don't have enough knowledge and experience to implement that in practice

Problem

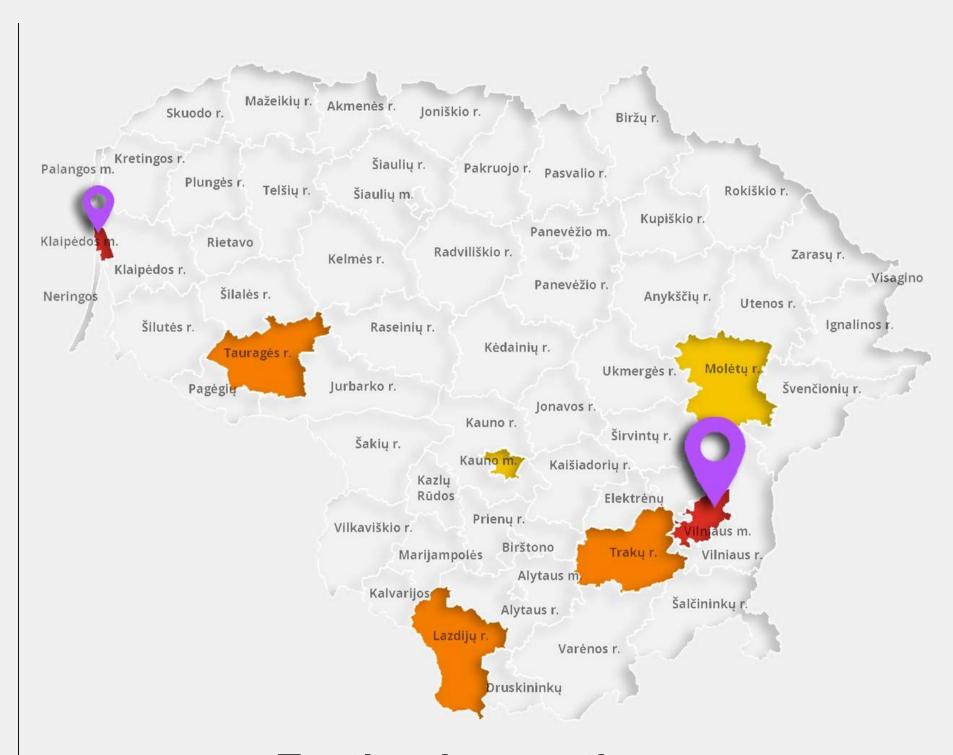
What would help municipalities to organise public participation?



Solution

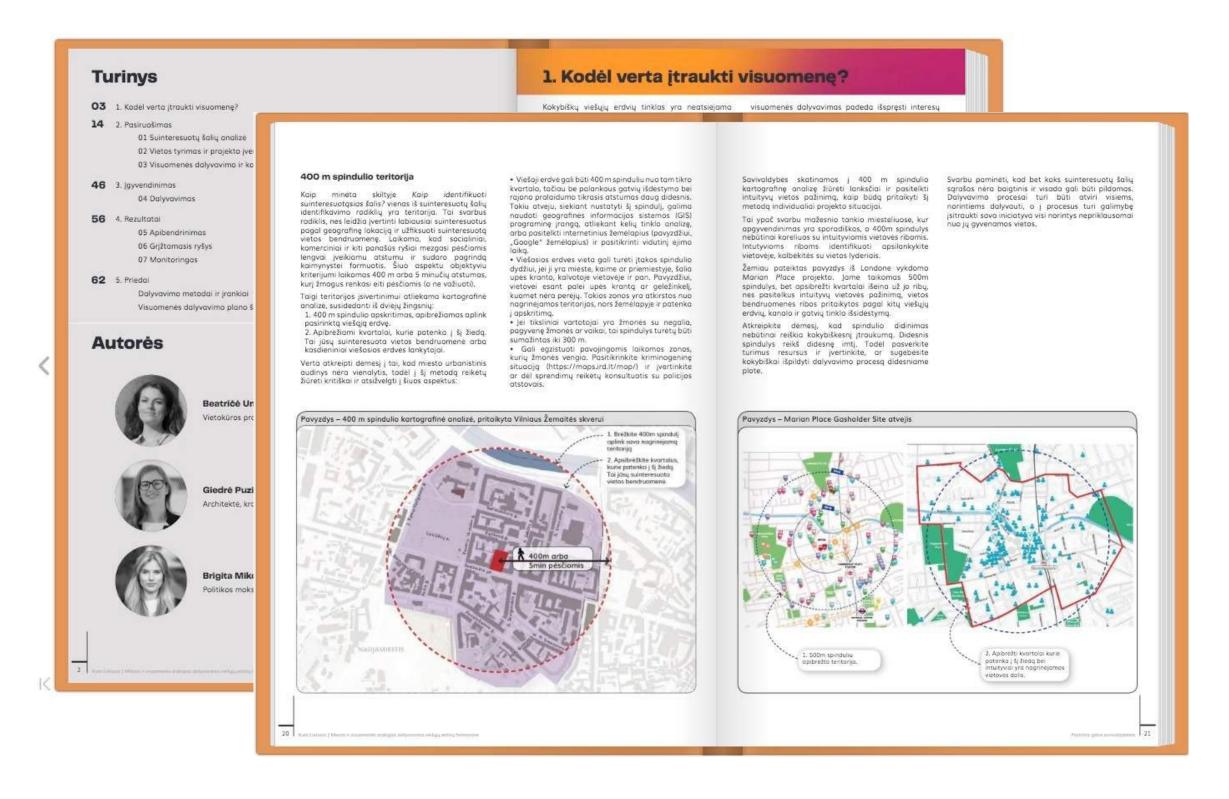


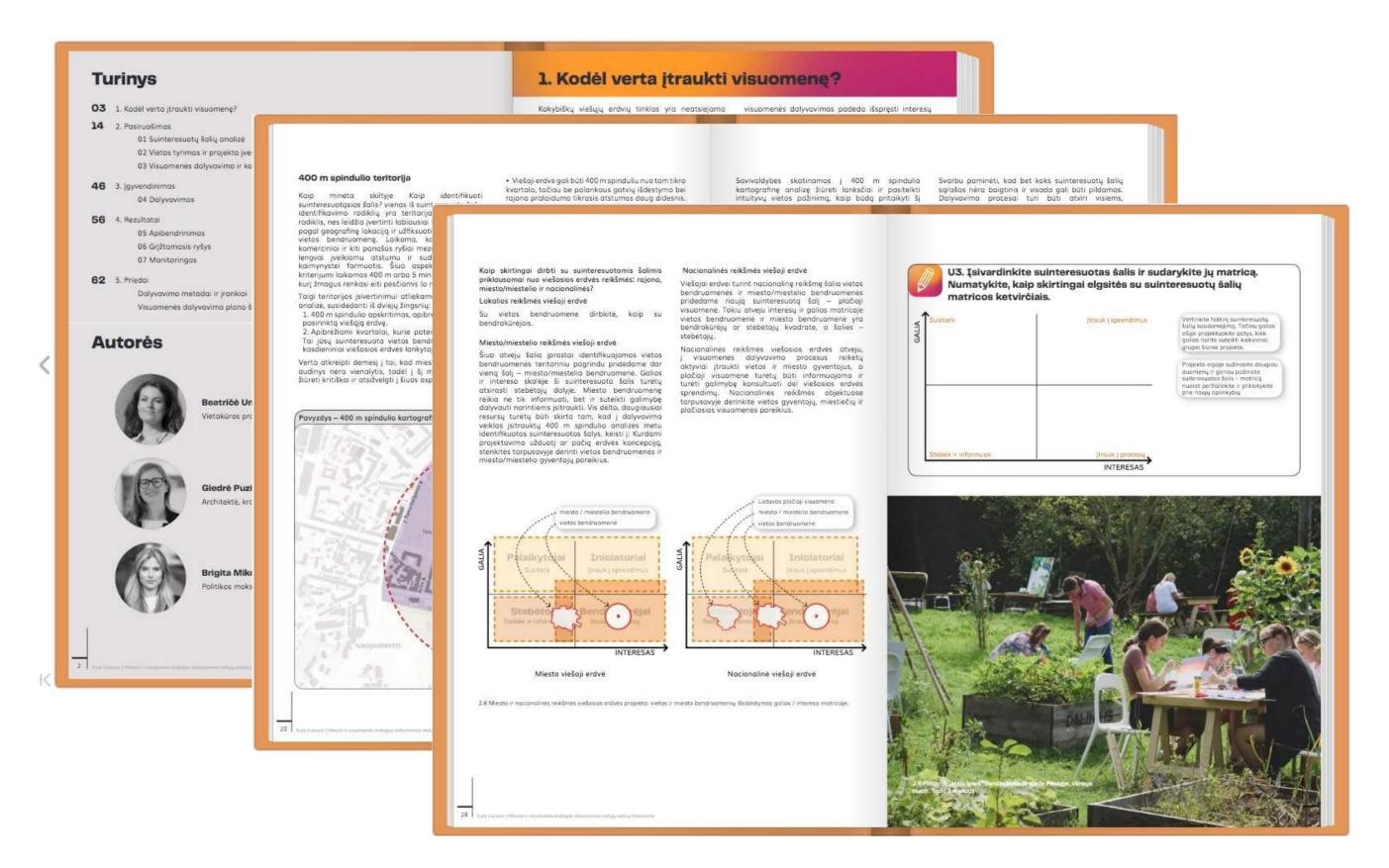
Practical guide

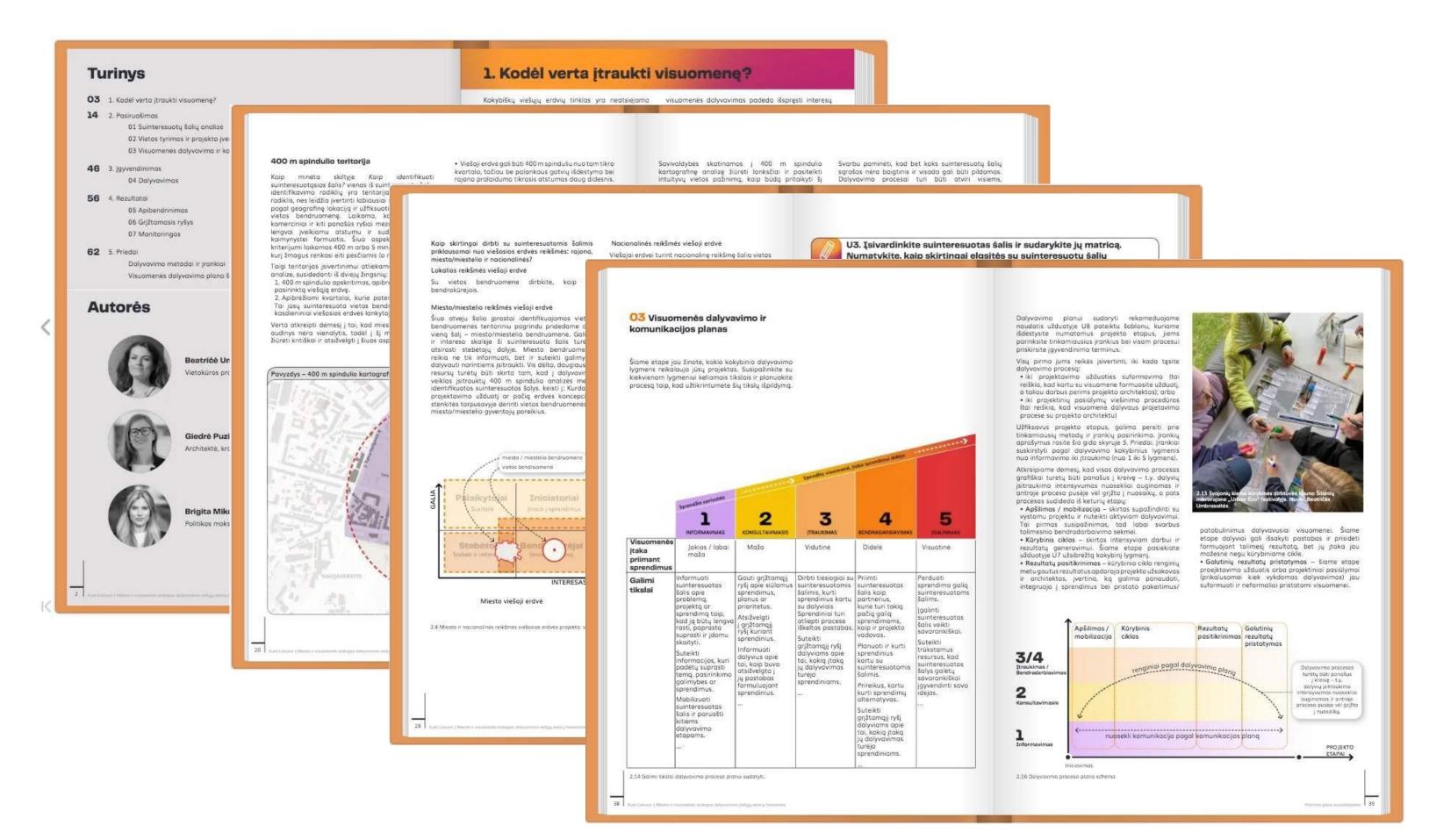


Testing in practise



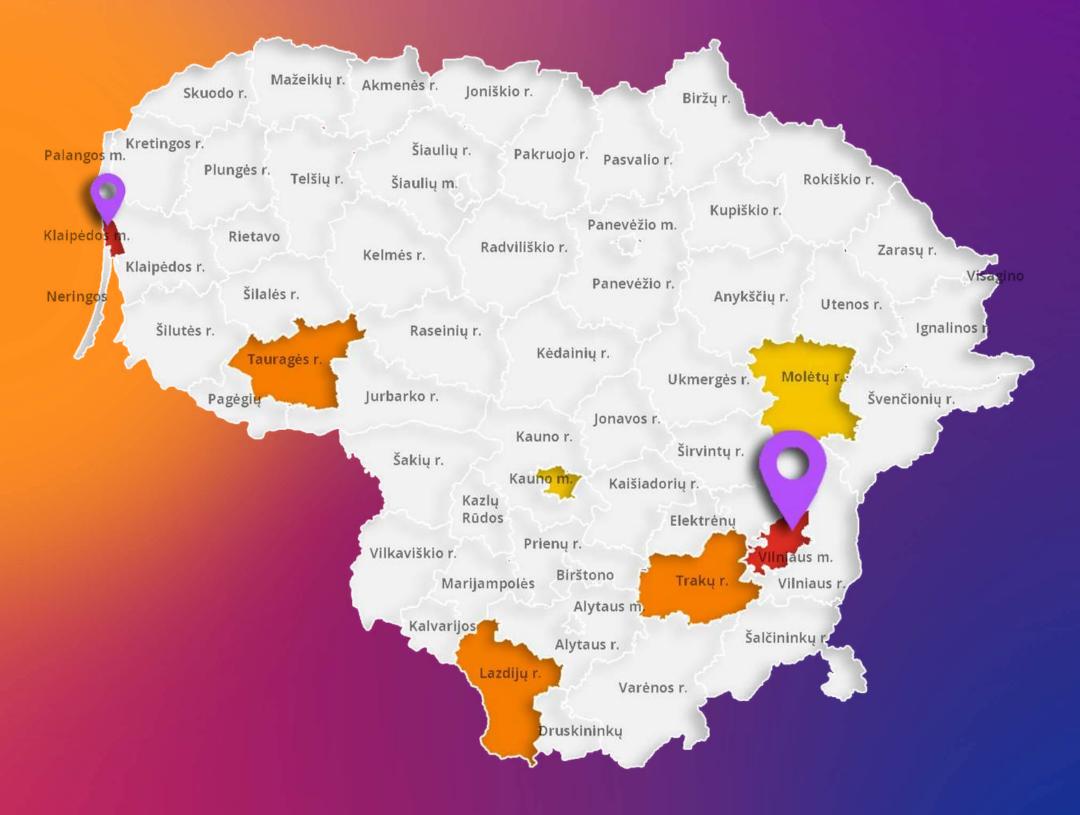




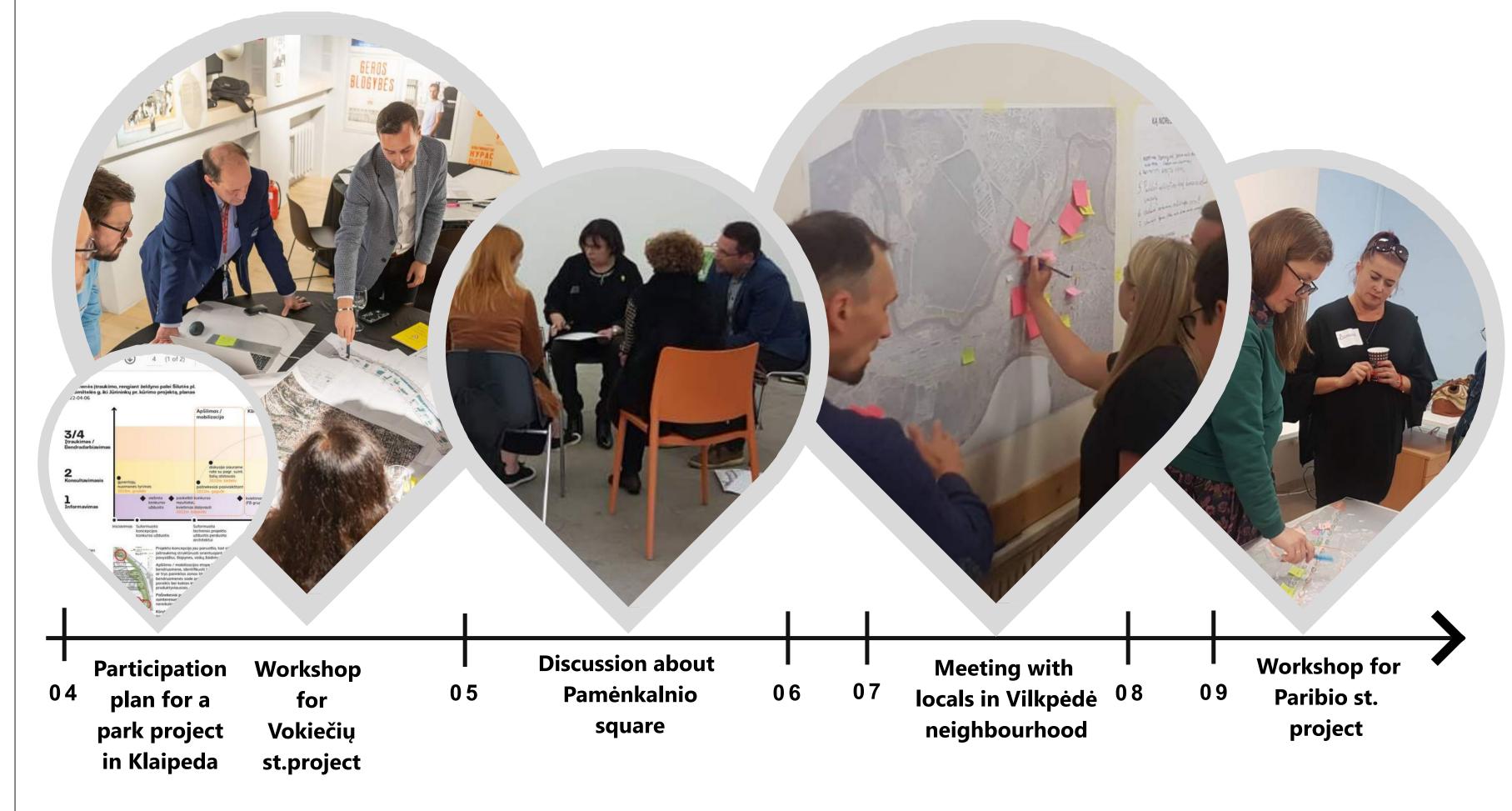


Guide tested

in 5 public space projects in 2 municipalities



in 3 training sessions for municipalities

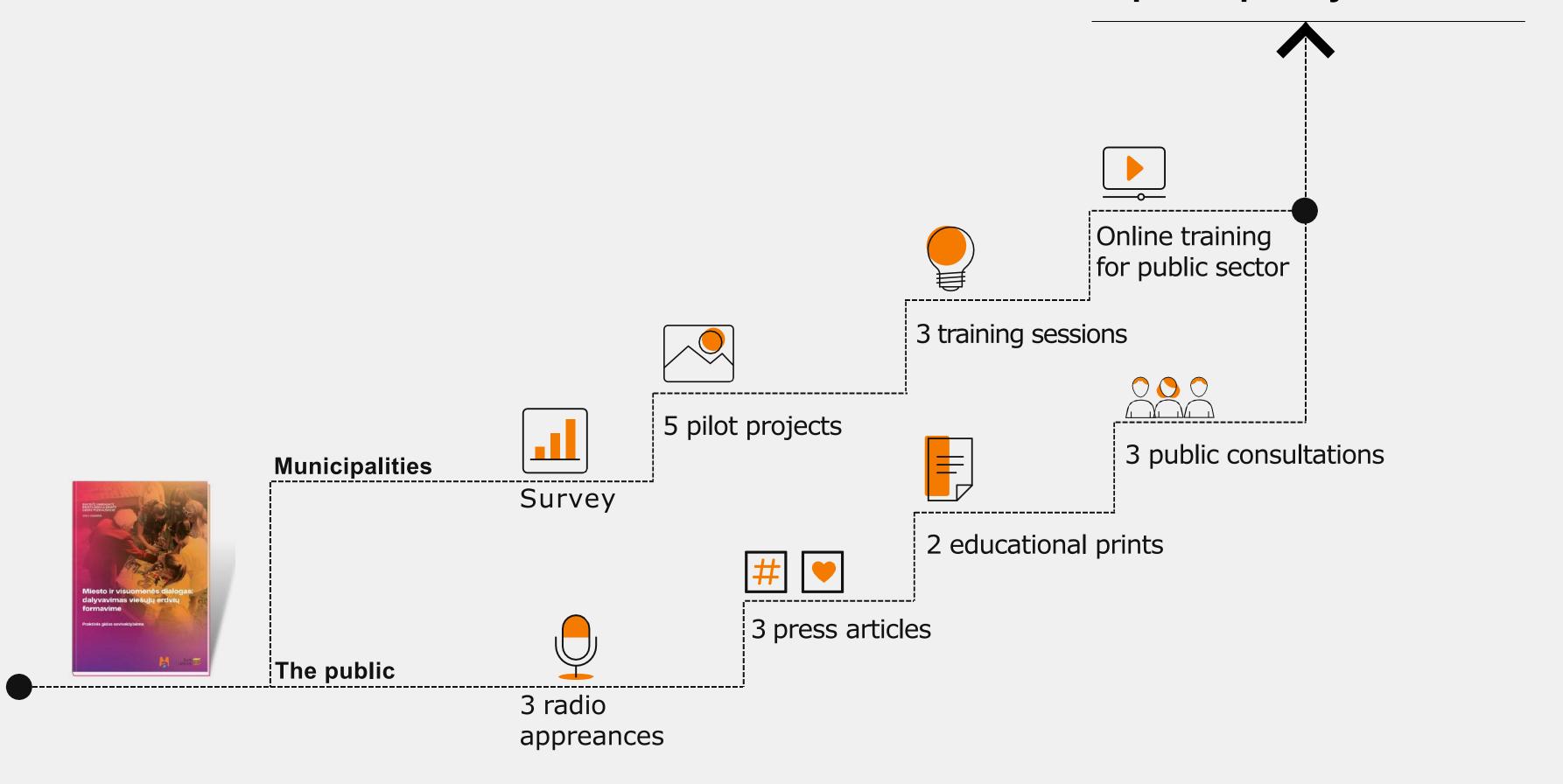


Pilot projects

Savivaldybių mokymai

Discussions with communities

Development & growth of participatory culture



Impact

Short-term 2021/09-2022/09

5 municipalties applied the guide

200 public sector specialists participated in guide training

3 public participation events organized in Vilnius

Impact

Short-term 2021/09-2022/09

Long-term from 2022/09

5 municipalties applied the guide

200 public sector specialists participated in guide training

3 public participation events organized in Vilnius

Ministry of environment's leadership in forming public participation policy and culture

Public participation implemented through municipalities' architecture departments

Project partners















Beatričė Umbrasaitė

Communication specialist, placemaker



Giedrė Puzinauskienė

Architect, landscape architect