



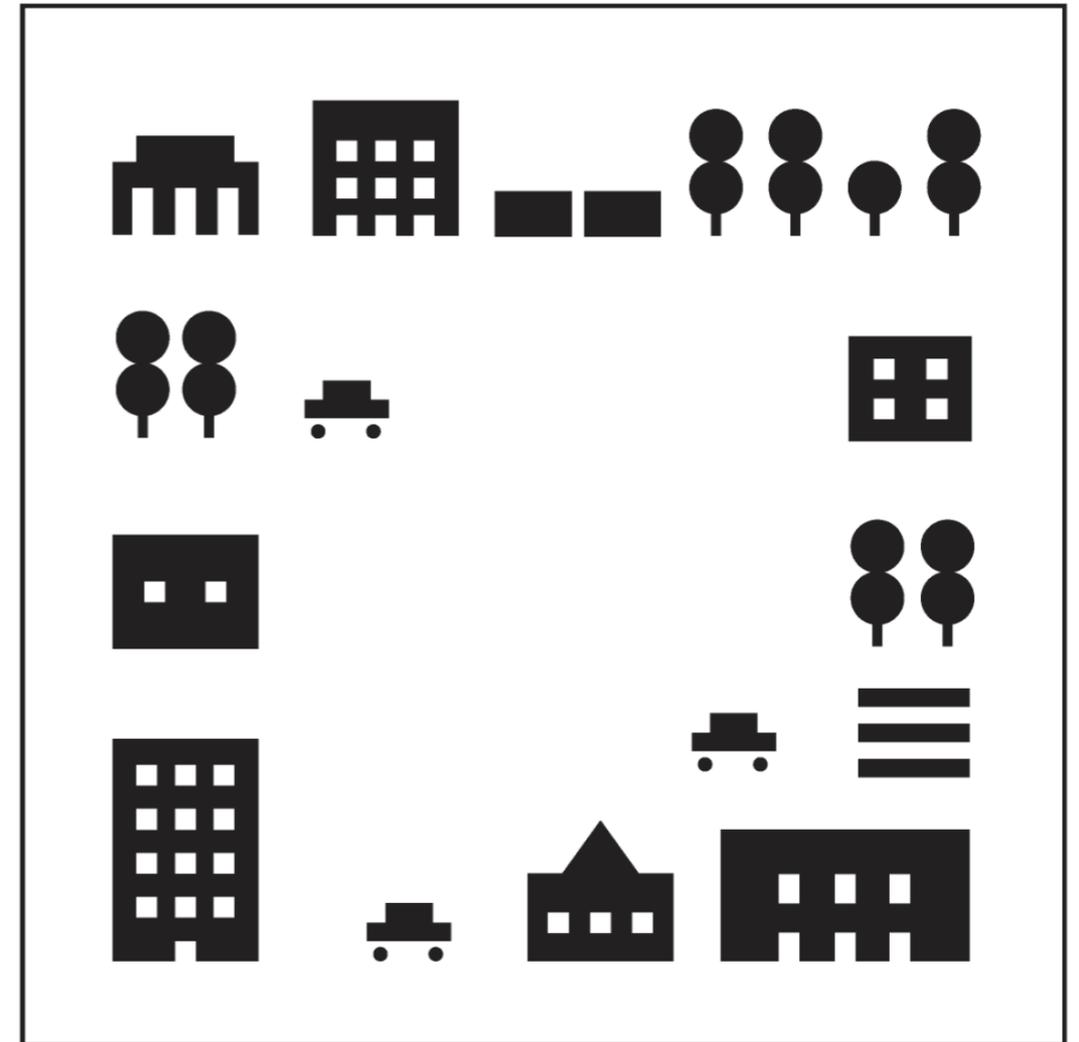
**The Square:
Applying
SDG principles**

The challenge

You need to redevelop a square in a neighborhood ensuring that the SDG principles are taken into account throughout the entire planning process.

The square

“There is a square in the middle of a suburban neighborhood with heavy traffic throughout the day. Almost no locals or visitors use the small area of green space in the center of the square due to the lack of infrastructure present, such as benches, lighting, or sidewalks. Shop owners have complained to the local government about the lack of clients that they are receiving. Also, many residents avoid the square due to the air pollution from the cars and the trash lining the streets.”



SDG principles for planning



1. Leave no one behind
2. Integrated nature
3. Partnership-based approach
4. Multi-level governance
5. Accountability

Leave no one behind

Account of the needs of all, and especially of disabled citizens, minorities, children, women... this is, the needs of the different vulnerable groups in the society. This focus on inclusiveness underscores the need to identify who is being left behind and in what ways, and to address patterns of exclusion in order to reduce inequalities. Hence, this also refers to leaving no territory behind, meaning that the implementation of the SDGs has to take into account the needs and priorities of the outermost territories, as well as of those most deprived.

Integral nature

Holistic approach (whole of government as well as whole of society approach) to the redevelopment of the square taking into account local planning, mobility, climate, commerce, security, technology, gender, social needs etc. in a multi-dimensional approach. This means that different levels of government have direct competences concerning the redevelopment of, say, a square (planning, traffic, lighting, security, accessibility, youth, gender, commerce, etc.).

Partnership-based approach

Alliances with local stakeholders
(private companies, trade unions, associations,
foundations, citizenship, international
organizations...).

Multi-level governance

Alliances, coordination and joint work with other levels of government (local, regional, national levels of government) as well as with the neighboring territories.

Accountability

Establishing mechanisms of monitoring and evaluation (indicators, data), reporting and keeping all stakeholders informed (social media, local news, information boards), and being transparent and accountable to the citizenship and local stakeholders.

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