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Community Participation on public space.

**The case of the municipalities of Santiago, Providencia and Recoleta
in the Metropolitan Area of Santiago**

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Summary

- Community Participation:
 - Key concepts
 - Levels of Participation
 - Institutionalisation, Civil Association for Participation
 - Urban Development Policy, an opportunity today
- Public Space
- Municipalities Network Pro-Participation
- The case of three municipalities
- Some reflections

Key concepts in relation to participation

- Participation is about **people** (as individuals, families and organisations, as residents, tenants or inhabitants)
- It is about **interactions among actors** (community organisations, NGOs, government, agencies, etc.)
- It is about **citizenship and rights** (citizens and communities as active agents of their own process)
- Participation it is **fulfilling people needs** (housing, infrastructure, health, services, transport, recreation, etc.)
- It is about **inclusion and diversity** (ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to participate: youth, women, elderly, marginalised groups, etc.)
- It is about **commitment and agreement** among actors (setting the rules together)
- It is about **being part of the decision making process** (it is not enough just to be inform or consult)
- It is about **empowerment** (it will help to strengthen organisations to keep on going).

Levels of Participation

Level of participation	Arnstein, 1969	Brager and Specht, 1973	Davidson, 1998		ODMP, UK, 2004	OECD, 2006	SYNTHESIS	
 HIGH	Citizen control	Community has control	Empowerment	Entrusted control	Empowerment		EMPOWERMENT	Real participation
	Delegated power	Has delegated authority		Independent control				
				Delegated control				
	Partnership	Plans jointly	Participation	Limited decentralised decision-making	Involvement and collaboration	Active Participation	PARTICIPATION	
	Placation	Advises		Partnership				
				Effective advisory body				
	Consultation	Is consulted	Consultation	Genuine consultation	Consultation	Consultation	CONSULTATION	
		Customer care						
		Limited consultation						
Informing	Receives information	Information	High-quality information	Information	Information	INFORMATION		
			Limited information					
			Minimal communication					
Therapy	Community has no action							
LOW	Manipulation							

Source: own elaboration based in different authors

Why Public Space?

Because public space has **three main roles**, that are close to people, therefore can be reinforced:

- Public space as a **space of identity** for the city, enhancing the morphology of the neighbourhoods; integrating and by highlighting those elements that have come to constitute citizens references, milestones - geographic or constructed - recognizable for its inhabitants.
- Public space as **social space** to "go and be" representing an essential component of life and environment of citizens, provided an irreplaceable by providing places of interest that facilitate the meeting and interaction of people.
- Public space as a **functional space** as the skeleton of cities, enabling connectivity within and outside the community; and providing access and services to the population, including the streets, the basic urban services networks, communications and energy.

Associations and Citizenship in Public Management

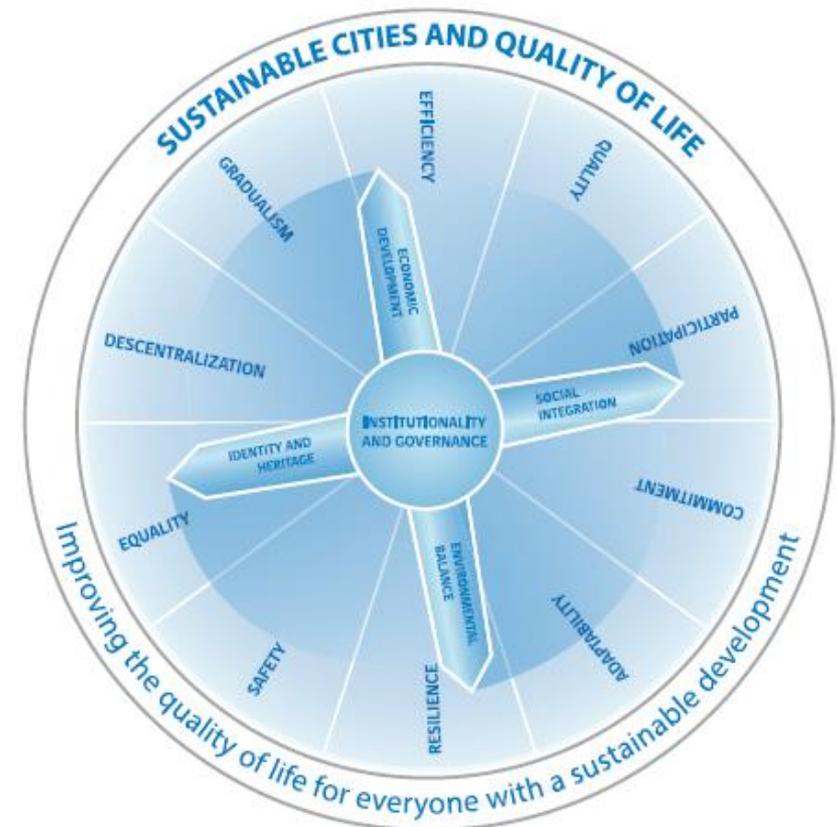
Institutionalisation of Participation in Chile: Law 20.500, 2011

- “*all people have the right to associate freely for a lawful purpose.*”
- was created the National Register of Non-profit Organizations.
- establish a fund to strengthen public interest organizations,
- created the Council of Civil Society Organizations. This council will be advisory and will include representatives of non-profit social organizations, regarding matters within the jurisdiction of each municipality.
- dissemination of the contents of the law among public staff, citizen leaders and community,
- reduction of 10% to 5% the percentage of signatures required for citizens to convene a community referendum,
- update the local citizen participation ordinance.

NEW URBAN DEVELOPMENT URBAN POLICY (2014)

It is an opportunity today

This policy was defined through the work of a advisory committee specially created for this purpose integrating people from different contexts (politician from different orientations, academics, social organizations, former ministers, among others).



Structure and principles of Urban Development Policy

Principles of the Urban Development Policy

- **Gradualism**
- **Decentralization**
- **Equity**
- **Social integration**
- **Participation**
- **Identity**
- **Commitment**
- **Quality**
- **Efficiency**
- **Adaptability.**
- **Resilience**
- **Safety**

Participation: decisions affecting cities, regardless of the decision's scale – be it at a local, regional or national level – should be taken in cooperation with citizens based on formal and organized participative processes.

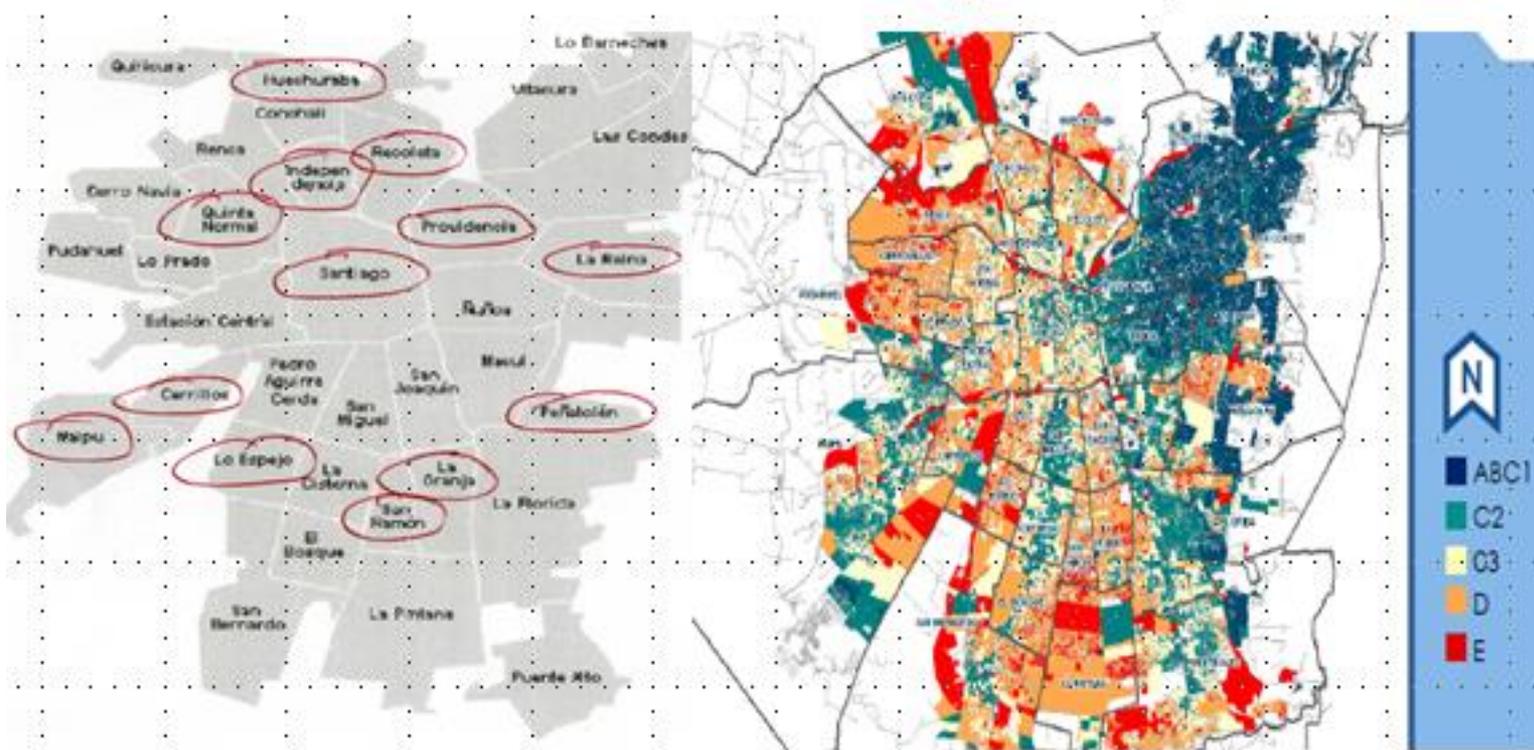
Participation is define as a fundamental dimension of sustainable urban development, it should constitutes a continue, organise, accountable and responsible process.

It also must be institutionalized, funded, implemented from earlier stages, technical and responsible.

NETWORK OF MUNICIPALITIES PRO-PARTICIPATION

- In the municipal elections (October 2012) the issue of public participation and transparency in the local management was much more present than in any previous election processes.
- the candidates of different parties, regardless their age or gender emphasized in their programmes the need and intention to strongly incorporate citizens and a transparent management.
- in December 2012, a Network of Mayors from the Metropolitan Area of Santiago in favour of Citizen Participation organised themselves with the commitment to carry out a new form of municipal management, more transparent and participatory. (13 mayors are part of this network, they were elected for the first time and represent more than 12% of the national population).
- In their declaration of constitution they state that *"The recent elections have left many messages regarding the urgent need to respond with concrete actions to a citizenry that is increasingly active and organized ..."*

NETWORK OF MUNICIPALITIES PRO-PARTICIPATION



Socioeconomic level

ABC1 are the wealthy areas and E the poorest

Source: ADIMARK, base in 2002 National Census

MUNICIPALITIES OF SANTIAGO, PROVIDENCIA AND RECOLETA

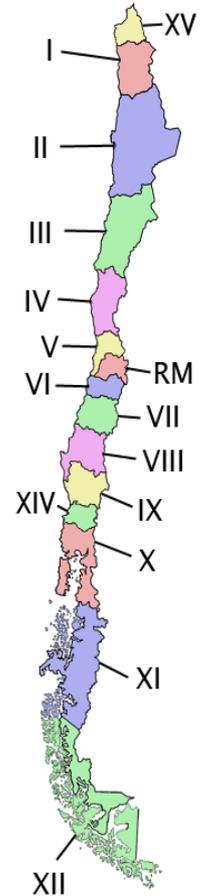
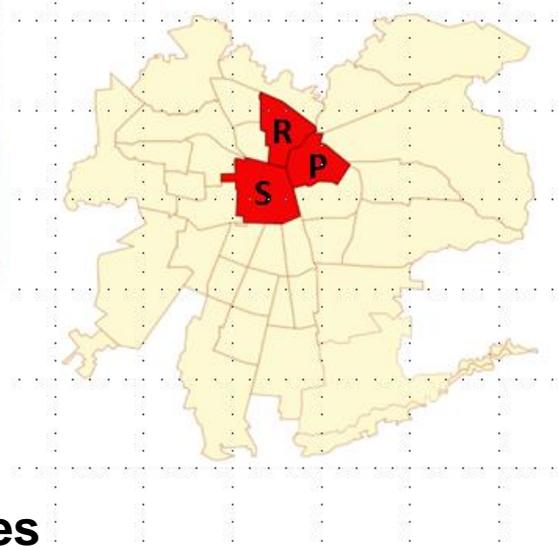


ProvidenciaActiva:
 Especial Cuenta Pública
 2013
 Municipalidad de Providencia



Barrio STGO N°2
 BarrioStgo
 Año 1 - Edición N2 junio / julio
 2013 Ilustre Municipalidad de Santiago Plaza de Armas S/N.

Metropolitan Area of Santiago



General information of the municipalities

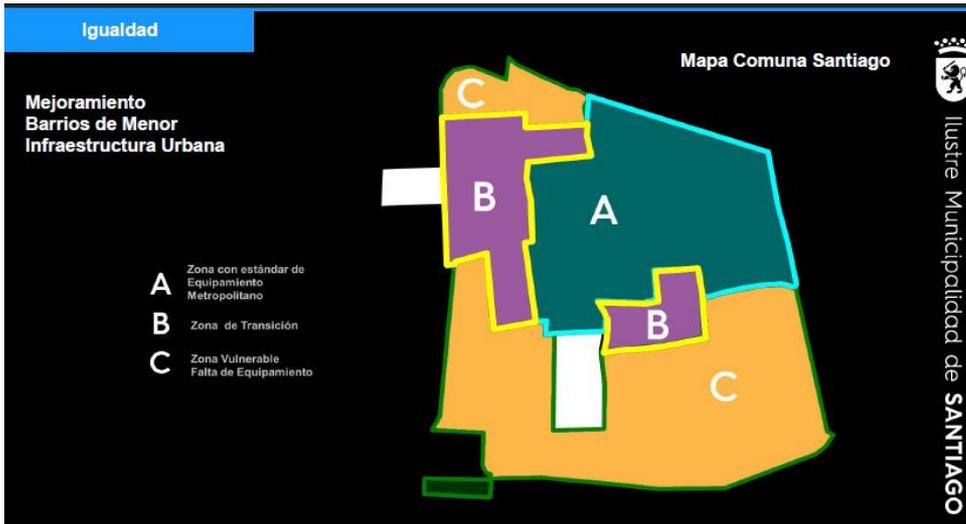
Municipality	Population Census 2002	Density Hab./km2	Income	Poverty % over the country	Professional % over the country
Providencia	120.874	8.512	\$ 93.544.560	0,2 %	37.1 %
Recoleta	152.985	9.273	\$18.531.566	10.9 %	22 %
Santiago	200.792	8.654	\$113.952.068	7,8 %	16.8 %

NETWORK OF MUNICIPALITIES PRO-PARTICIPATION

- Most municipalities have created Participation Units and in the process of updating the Local Planning Plan, (PLADECO) they have developed different activities such as: territorial and thematic councils, participatory diagnosis, public consultations, neighbourhood working groups, projects prioritization, conducted participatory design, etc.
- Some of the municipalities have come to the point of reaching certain level of compromise with the community to monitor the decisions taken in the use and maintenance of the designed works.



Municipality of Santiago



Municipality of Santiago

- The residents through a **community walk** together with teams from the Municipality identified the projects they wanted to select.
- From those, the municipality team developed **three alternatives** for each neighbourhood.
- Through a **public consultation** in December 2013, (in person and via the Internet) the residents choose the projects they wanted the municipality to put forward. (Everybody who daily use the neighbourhood: residents, students and workers where allow to vote)
- The main actions, agreed with the neighbours, to be undertaken are street improvements (installation of pedestrian lights, repairing streets and sidewalks, implementing corners downs with universal accessibility, provision of gardens in sidewalks, enabling space between streets with playground and exercise machines).
- Also some neighbourhoods have applied for the program Quiero Mi Barrio and initiated a process of participatory budgeting in three areas: Balmaceda, San Eugenio, Santa Elena.

Municipality of Providencia

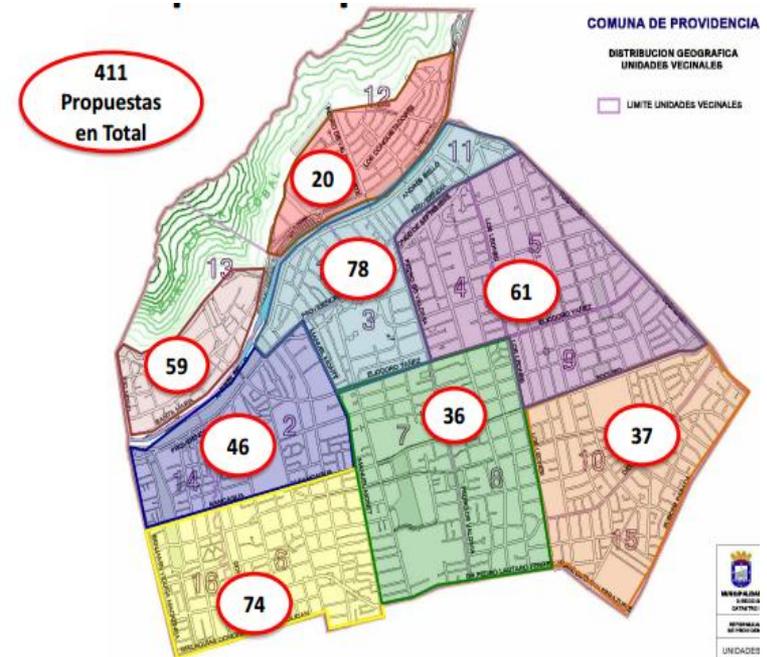
“Thought Providencia” was created to implement the participatory process of the developing of the new PLADECO for the period 2013/2021. This initiative was promoted by the municipality in the context of what it was established in their initial programme: *“made the men and women neighbours protagonists of the construction of their own commune.”*



Municipality of Providencia

Territorial Plans are the result of this participatory process developed in eight sectors of the commune, during the first semester of year 2013. Each Plan included the proposal made by the neighbours with projects to be developed in the next four years (2013/2016).

Mainly those proposals were related with upgrading the public space (lightening, green areas, sidewalks, among others), new parking areas, create new community centres, more places for controlling community safety, training workshops and proposal to improve the Local Urban Plan (Master Plan)



Municipality of Recoleta

“Process of neighbourhood re-foundation”, 2014

- The municipality is calling the community to participate in a public consultation in order to know more about their communal territory, (for identifying the different activities that take place within it and the needs in the different areas of the commune searching for new leaders that could contribute with the articulation between municipality and community).
- They hope to improve the relationship that take place within the neighbourhoods by identifying the problems and potential and reinforcing the relationship among neighbours with the aim of reaching common goals.
- They wanted to empower the community so they will be able to change the actual culture of dependency from the municipality (situation inherited from previous local administration).
- Aims to make a new recognition of their neighbourhoods, gave them a name and make them the axis of communal development.
- **Through 72 meetings**, 2 in each of the actual 36 units

Some reflections

- For the implementation of the Urban Policy, it was created the **Council for Development**, so I hope it could be possible to include more real participation .
- The Network for Municipalities is promoting and developing different levels of participation.
- They are not only involving community in the decision process but in the monitoring of the projects.
- They are trying to promote a culture of participation by changing the way in which local management had been developed by training the municipal staff and the community organisations.
- They are including a more permanent, real and effective participation in all the process and people has start to realise that they do have rights and duties within their neighbourhoods.

If you would like more information about the content of this presentation please contact:

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