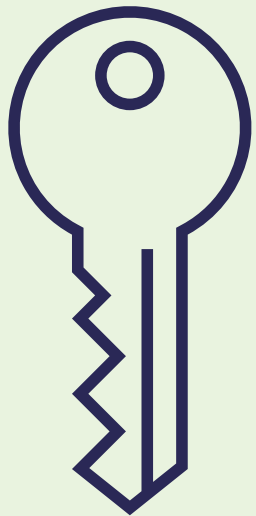


Navigating citizen roles at the border of Living Labs

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Key points of departure



- How is **knowledge transferred** beyond the Living Lab?
- Municipal **learning as crucial link** between experimentation and transformation (Evans et al., 2021)
- What then is the **role of researchers** in making this happen?

Why focus on citizen participation?

- Citizen participation can include **bottom-up** participation, or **top-down** institutional initiatives (Zandbergen & Jaffe, 2014)
- Participatory processes can concern **discourse** around an issue (e.g. consultations or dialogue processes), or **action-based** participation (e.g. involvement in a trial or living laboratory) (Chilvers et al., 2021)
- The "citizen" in transport and mobility policy, planning and research - **dominated by user or consumer perspectives** (Hansson et al., 2023), and **rational choice** beings (Kębtowski & Bassens, 2018)
 - At the same time, multiple roles exist in parallel!
- Living Labs are said to open up new sites and forms of participation (Cognetti, 2023)....
 - But **how do Living Labs operationalise different aspects of citizen participation?**

A policy-lab inspired workshop approach



Findings



Key insights from citizen participation workshop-series

A window to discuss the complexities of ordinary planning

- A workshop-process which sought to align with municipality's legally mandated role and responsibilities regarding dialogue and consultation processes
- Forum to discuss the possibilities and complexities with how the municipality works with various forms of participation

It's a “tricky challenge to listen in and have participatory processes and at the same time fulfil municipal goals” (Civil servant, workshop 1)

- Catch-22 of working with sustainable mobility, when existing infrastructure is designed for the car
- Responsibilities and timelines – regional, national, municipal, ...individual/personal?

Experimentation as a site for learning and transformation

- Yes, experiments can be sites to gain new kinds of knowledge – insights presented from LL Riksten confirmed existing municipal knowledge about everyday life, transport and mobility issues
- Insights presented from the WS series inspired to work further with citizen participation
- But! We see more potential for deliberation and citizen involvement in decision-making when it comes to LL content

! Reminder !

Please do not leave the zoom after the ConverStation ends – we will be redirected back to the main room 😊

Suggested themes for discussion:

- Experiences from the group related to Living Labs and citizen participation?
- Reflections on the role of Living Labs as new sites for citizen participation
 - Can/do they complement existing municipal processes?
- How can researchers and municipal actors work together to ensure relevant participation processes?
- What kind of methods are needed to help support public actor learning processes (connected to Living Labs)?

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