

Transform cities into greener, more participatory spaces by enabling collaborative urban greenery design through AR.

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Vision

Our vision is to reduce bureaucratic barriers and actively involve citizens in the planning and development of urban spaces. By leveraging accessible tools like augmented reality, we aim to empower communities to collaboratively shape greener, more sustainable cities.



Research interest

Lack of Greenery

The absence of green spaces in urban areas contributes to poor air quality and higher temperatures, which can negatively affect residents' health and well-being. (Time.com, 2024)

Lack of Tools

43 % of cities in Germany don't offer digital participation opportunities and participatory planning processes face and a.o. lack of interest and trust from citizens (Karic et al., 2023)

Need for participation

Citizens participation is **critical for innovation and creativity in urban** development (Anthony Jr, 2023)

Opportunities of AR

- AR can increase the motivation to participate in planning processes and increases the quality of participation processes. (Othengrafen et al. 2023)
- AR is able to make urban planning more accessile to citizens with no professional background as it doesn't require deeper technical knowledge and the user can interact with the models. (Broschart & Zeile, 2015)

Research Question

How does the use of augmented reality (AR) tools, compared to traditional urban planning methods, influence the level and quality of citizen participation in sustainable urban planning processes?

Study Design

H1: Participants using augmented reality (AR) tools will demonstrate higher levels of engagement in urban planning processes compared to those using traditional tools.

Indicators of Engagement:

- More time spent on the task.
- Higher number of interactions with planning features.
- Increased sharing behavior (collaborating or seeking feedback).

Experimental study

Between subjects experiments:

- Group A: Participants will use the AR City Plantner app to design urban greenery projects.
- **Group B:** Participants will use paper maps, 2D planning software, and written proposals to complete the same task.

Randomized group allocation

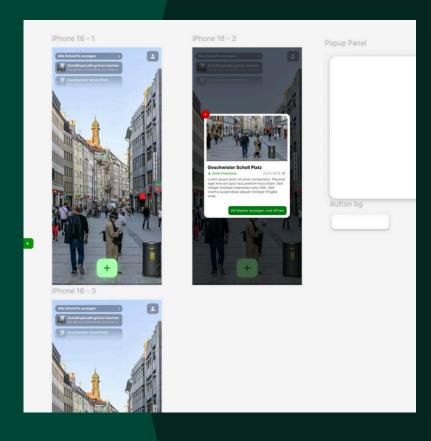
Independent variable: Participation Tool Used (AR vs Traditional tool)

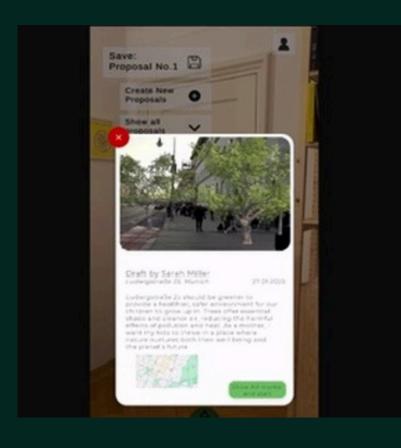
Dependent variables:

- Time spent on tasks in minutes
- Number of interactions

Prototyping Process





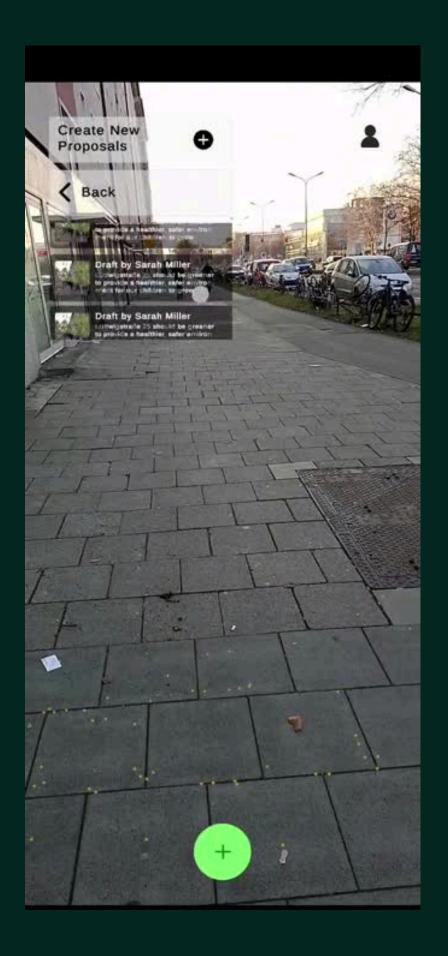






Demo







Challenges

Learning Unity

UI Elements Difficult to master in Unity

AR Functionality & Stability

Future Perspectives

Privacy & Data Protection

Voting Manipulation

VR Expansion

More Interaction

Thank You For Listening!



Looking forward to your questions



Sources

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