Welcome to Seraing

LUCA arts - DESIS Lab
Belgium
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Promoter(s).
City of Seraing
Reciprocity
Wallonie Design

Funder(s).
City of Seraing
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LUCA arts

Aknowledgements.
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Context.
A neighbourhood of a formal industrial area, with a high range of unemployment and issues connected to the reconversion of the empty spaces and former industrial area, lack of social cohesion and safety, and the development of a new master plan.
The project.
The project aims at
develop new models of
social entrepreneurship
and new initiatives that
can socially innovate the
neighbourhood, strengthen
the social tissue, tackle
unemployment and
generate a sense of well
being and collaboration in
the neighbourhood.
The design process.
After a first round of field research in the neighbourhood and in collaboration with the civil servants working for the city masterplan, students will in the short run co-design some actions in the neighbourhood to strengthen social cohesion and in the long run co-design some possible solutions for tackling the neighbourhood issues.
The project relates to governance and policymaking, as civil servants working at the master plan and policy makers are actively involved in all the different steps of the project: there is an interplay between top-down (the master plan of the city) and bottom up (small design interventions co-designed with the neighbourhood) actions. They will have an implication on governance and planning, since they will inform the new round of decisions that will be taken in the next phase of design of the city master plan; all the stakeholders will participate in the decision making and will be involved in the co-design and co-production of solutions.
The project relates to activism and civic participation as it involves citizens in the harmonisation of the existing master plan and bottom up small actions that will be undertaken by the citizens and involve them in the process of formulation of guidance for a second stage of the existing master plan; the project will promote and encourage civic participation and a more open and transparent approach to citizens participation in city life.
The project aims to enhance social interaction and cohesion, feeling of belonging, proudness, identity, create connections amongst people, conviviality, connections and resilience.
The project is developed together with the city and provence, and will be showcased as case of best practice in the Triennial of design Reciprocity. This will guarantee a given resonance to the project in the region. The co-created interventions will be showcased on situ, so that the inhabitants will also have direct access to its first results.
Job Creation

The project works to collaboratively co-design and co-create new ideas of job creation: the potential of the initiatives is to re-think together the idea of work for the neighbourhood, designing together alternatives for the neighbourhood.
www.reciprocityliege.be/
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