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Gendered urban planning participation strategies as a tool for empowerment in Berlin, Germany.

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STUDENTERRAPPORT

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Abstract: Urban planning has been dominated by a white cis-male gaze, which has led to cities being planned from this perspective, only serving the needs of the privileged part of the world's population. Meaning, women's experiences have been dismissed or not accounted for in planning, leading to a perpetuation of inequalities such as socio-economic, safety, accessibility disparities. In this research, gendered urban planning is studied in Berlin, through an analysis of structural and tactical strategies to public participation that specifically target gender issues, namely GM policies as structural (institutionalised) and the fem*Map project as tactical (non-institutionalised). Through document analysis and semi-structured expert interviews, data is gathered to investigate how gendered urban planning shapes equitable and inclusive urban development in Berlin, in relation to participation disparities between genders. In the discussion chapter, Her City toolbox is evaluated as a method and how it could be introduced as an innovative participation strategy, considering also its coupling with current participation initiatives. Overall, this thesis concludes it is certainly important to couple a range of participation methods (artistic, NGO, institutionalised) for the different groups they aim to reach. Meaning, in the case of gender inequalities, tools and resources must be utilized in participation meetings as a way to empower citizens to create urban landscapes that meet their needs.

Preface

Reading Guide:

This report has been developed in the period from the 01/02/2023 to 03/06/2023. It is the document for the Master Thesis project, in the program 'Urban Planning and Management' at Aalborg University. It is the result of the final research project by Eva Sánchez Álvarez, contributing to academic discussions around the chosen topic, by analysing and critically evaluating data through exemplified findings.

There is a total of 8 Chapters, in addition to the front page, synopsis, table of contents, reference list and appendices. References use the Harvard method throughout the whole paper; in-text citations appear as (author name, year), and in case of more than two authors as (author name et al., year). The complete reference list can be found at the end of the report, under the title 'References'. The figures & tables used are numbered according the chapter they are included in and their position in that chapter. For instance '2.1' indicates that it belongs to Chapter 2, being the first one in this Chapter. Some of these have been prepared by the author; this is indicated by adding 'Author's Own' as the source in the figure caption.

To provide a user friendly experience for the reader, the online PDF document facilitates hyperlinks in the file; meaning, all in-text citations and figures can be clicked on and will directly take the reader to where these are found in the document. For example, clicking on Figure 2.2 in the text, will take the reader to the actual figure, and clicking on an in-text citation will take the reader to the specific reference in the reference list provided at the end of the paper.

Keywords:

Gendered Urban Planning, Feminist Theories, Participation, Gender Disparities, Gender Inequalities, Empowerment, Right to the City, Berlin.

List of abbreviations:

Gender Mainstreaming: GM
Urban Planning: UP
Right to the City: RttC
Public Space: PS
European Union: EU
Information and Communication Technologies: ICT

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Table of contents

Introduction 1

1.1   Introduction.

This research stems from the need to bring forward an intersectional gender approach to urban planning practices. Throughout history, the discipline has been dominated by a white cis-male gaze [Jarvis et al., 2009; Huning, 2020; Sandercock and Forsyth, 1992; Hayden, 2014; Horelli, 2017; Fenster, 2005]. Consequently, producing cities from this perspective, and, as such, reflecting these limited views in the built and social environments. Hence, a lack of women participating in decision making processes throughout history has led to their experiences and needs being dismissed. Meaning, there is a need to put forward a gendered urban planning approach which prioritises inclusive participation processes to consider certain aspects of urban life, for instance service, economic and political accessibility, which disproportionately affect women more than men. Following this, a call for *"the promotion of urban policies and targeted investments that recognize and address existing gender stereotypes and the specific needs of women is crucial to ensure that women are empowered and can equally benefit from urbanization"[Libertun de Duren et al., 2020, p. 19]*, justifies the chosen research areas of discussion in such a imperative urban planning topic.

The context of the analysis carried out is gendered participation strategies in Berlin, Germany. This study aims to deconstruct certain terms and develop an investigation around gendered urban planning and participation strategies, with the aim of highlighting the importance of women participating in the planning process, in spaces where they can share their views and experiences. To do so, expert interviews and document analysis have been conducted to retrieve relevant data from online reports, academic research and experts within the field. The case study of Berlin has been chosen as the scope of the evaluation, as it is an international and multicultural city that has implemented GM strategies to tackle gender disparities, and provides a good source of analysis to evaluate the advancements these policies have brought forward as well as their shortcomings, as a way to grasp new knowledge that can be then turned into recommendations.

Within this research, structural or systemic approaches to gendered urban planning are referred to as those that are usually centralised and institutionalised. In addition, this is combined with the non-institutionalised approach of other collectives and organisations, what is called the tactical approach within this research, being smaller steps or changes within urban planning. The combination of approaches proves important in order to have a real impact on women's lives in Berlin, as well as being inclusive in terms of women participating in decision making processes.

Therefore, this research contributes to the current state of research, by providing an analysis that focuses on Berlin's GM and fem*MAP strategies, in relation to the academic concepts of gender

inequality, gendered RttC and inclusive participation. To do so, the methodological approach chosen has been case study analysis from a social constructivist perspective, due to the social context and actors being the key area of the analysis, as well as considering how social structures and processes generate different and alternative social capacities. The methods combine the use of document analysis and semi-structured expert interviews, as they provide in-depth details to be interpreted and critically evaluated in relation to urban planning.

The main research question formulated throughout the research has been: *How do gendered urban planning and urban participation strategies shape inclusive and equitable urban development in Berlin, Germany?*

This question is useful to explore the case study and academic theories, as it provides insights into the ways these theories have percolated urban planning decisions in Berlin. It also sheds light on the complex grounds upon which new gender frameworks appear, through representation and participation strategies, bringing women experiences to the centre of urban planning debates. In order to give this research an appropriate structure and coherence, a research design diagram has been carefully compiled (see figure 2.1).

To answer the research questions, an analytical framework that focuses on gendered participation strategies has been formulated, presenting the angle taken by this research, and how these strategies and toolboxes can be a resource to enact change and bring women's needs and priorities towards the centre of urban planning debates. For clarity reasons, and so the differences in approaches are more easily understood, these have been divided into tactical and structural approaches to participation, as seen in diagram 3.3. This research argues that it is a combination of institutionalised (systemic/structural) and non-institutionalised (tactical) techniques towards engendering participation strategies that achieves a more inclusive and therefore gendered urban planning in Berlin. This in turn, raises awareness about the potential to be developed within the planning field, which can contribute to a more inclusive urban environment. To do so, planners must be aware of of how gender influences their work and proposals, as well as having the ability challenge gender-based biases. Therefore, this research aims to investigate how these processes have developed in Berlin, what barriers still exist, and, consequently, to improve the current gendered experiences in the current urban fabric. Berlin has been chosen as a case study due to the city being considered and constituted with an 'advanced' and potentially open-minded atmosphere, that therefore allows for innovative openings in urban planning. However, the research demonstrates that initiatives and strategies still have a long way to come in terms of gendered urban planning, therefore, articulating how this approach could be further enhanced through the use of the 'Her City toolbox' (previously applied in the German context in the city of Weimar) in Berlin. Hence, the discussion chapter focuses on how this toolbox could be applied in Berlin, meaning, the steps to be taken in terms of its implementation, its scale and timeline.

Some of the limitations of this project are mentioned throughout the chapters, and mainly in the last section explaining potential further research avenues (7.2), with some relevant issues not addressed in the report. The cause for non-inclusion of these areas of research have mainly been due to budgetary and time constraints. Berlin's large area coverage imply it is hard to cover other strategies in depth. Additionally, the research is dependent on some networks and contact replies for interviews, which in some cases where not replied to and therefore the talking of these has resulted in other methodological approaches being taking instead.

Research design 2

2.1 Problem definition.

Historically, there has been a lack of an approach that specifically deals with gender inequalities within urban planning. The main reason behind this has been the fact that usually, white cis-men have been designing and planning cities, meaning they lack certain views, experienced by other historically marginalized groups. Moreover, due to a lack of women being able to participate in decision making processes throughout history, which in turn, has led to their experiences and needs being overlooked or dismissed. This all implies urban planning policies have not considered certain aspects of urban life, for instance service, economic and political accessibility, which disproportionately affect women more than men. This has been highlighted by recent investigations such as Libertun de Duren et al. [2020], demonstrating the gender pay gap, the lack of political representation, mobility inequalities due to safety concerns, education inequalities and the persistence of gender roles in society, perpetuate inequalities and result in women's experiences being different to those of men. Urban planning can have an impact in tackling such inequalities; this research acknowledges that the discipline can indeed have an influence in inclusiveness and equality, and it is therefore important for urban planning research to focus on such significant issues, as *"the promotion of urban policies and targeted investments that recognize and address existing gender stereotypes and the specific needs of women is crucial to ensure that women are empowered and can equally benefit from urbanization."[Libertun de Duren et al., 2020, p. 19]*.

In order to explore such a complex issues that have led to gender discrimination, referring to the systematic, unfavorable treatment of individuals on the basis of their gender, which denies rights, opportunities and resources [Libertun de Duren et al., 2020], this research focuses on Berlin (Germany) and its approach to tackling gender disparities. The municipality has attempted to include a gender perspective through GM policies, and thus, it is important to analyse how these affect urban participation and what the resulting landscape of these is, also in relation to academic concepts such as the gendered RttC, women empowerment, and participation strategies. Engaging in such literature includes for instance Sandercock and Forsyth [1992], examining the ways in which planning is inherently gendered (being shaped by and reinforcing social norms and power structures). Consequently, this paper aims to contribute to this discussion focusing on the specific case study of the city of Berlin, as Sandercock and Forsyth [1992] focuses on some other case studies such as Canada, Australia, and the United States, to illustrate how a feminist perspective can be applied in urban planning. This research brings forward the experiences and strategies Berlin has adopted throughout the years, to raise awareness in terms of urban planners being conscious of how gender influences their work and proposals, as well as having the ability challenge gender-based biases.

Furthermore, key strands within the topic refer to inclusive participation, creating safe and accessible public spaces, and designing cities that support the needs of its inhabitants, as mentioned by Hayden [1980]. As stated by Marshall [2012] planners possess the ability of developing functional complexity; a planning system that includes not just design (master-planning), but also coding and development control (increments of generation and selective feedback) can be identified as a engine of complexity that have the power to produce more 'organic,' intricate, iterative, adaptable urban landscapes, and thus, functional (resembling growth and development, rather than only aesthetics). Recognising the positive benefits of a complex planning system capable of producing functional urban complexity can assist in preventing past mistakes happening again, so that planning is not part of the issue, but part of the solution. Thus, this research aims to contribute to and enhance this body of literature, so that gendered urban planning can be further developed and brought forward as a topic of crucial importance in terms of empowerment and equality between genders.

2.2   Previous research and justification for chosen case study.

Previous research has been concerned with studying the extent to which for instance, other aspects of urban planning contribute to gender equality, in the field of green space analysis [Thierfelder and Kabisch, 2016], sustainable mobility and transport networks [Law, 1999; Hanson, 2010; Gauvin et al., 2020], and gendered housing issues [McDowell, 1983; Flage, 2018; Vásquez-Vera et al., 2022]. However, there is a lack of analysis concerned with policies such as GM, that aim to evaluate these topics together and in a more general way, which give space to view connections between the different aspects of urban life that need to pay more attention to gender imbalances.

This chapter aims to provide structure, demonstrate the continuity of the chosen research design and explain how the proposed research questions will be approached. Moreover, the rationale for studying this specific case study in urban planning will give grounds to the potential gap in the current academic literature, by mentioning previous studies within such topics, and hence, the purpose of investigating the case. By adding a gendered perspective to urban planning research, presented throughout the theoretical and analytical frameworks, this research gap can be approached from a new angle and more just policy measures can be derived from it.

This research aims to investigate how gendered urban planning participation is implemented in Berlin; meaning, how policies approach the gender gap in lived experiences of the city. For instance, through governmental policies in urban planning and design, such as GM policies, but also, other participation strategies such as citizen meetings, that aim for the city to be more inclusive within their decision making process for urban spaces. To do so, it draws on relevant academic literature to give contextual background, mainly on significant concepts and theories such as feminist theories in urban planning, gendered urban planning histories, the RttC from a gender perspective, GM, participation. Later, these strategies are presented classified into categories that aim to achieve social and built environment that promote gender equality; subdivided into tactical and structural/systemic strategies. Therefore, the gender inequality dilemma is explored from a range of perspectives, which serves to critically assess how the urban fabric continues to perpetuate gender injustice, but this also illuminates how theory and practice can improve access, safety and livability for women in Berlin.

To do so, it begins by providing an overview of feminist urban planning theory, to discuss the issues and challenges affecting women's movement around the city, both historically and at present. It also draws from feminist theory to discuss why everyday practices are characterised as 'gendered' and discusses how women's social reproduction needs are different from those of men (i.e. because of safety concerns, socio-cultural norms and differential access to private and public spaces) in relation to the urban planning discipline.

Additionally, this paper examines how access needs may vary among different women due to age, class or race/ethnicity, meaning, it uptakes an intersectional approach. For the sake of clarity and deeper understanding, this concept will be elaborated on throughout chapter 3.2, along with other relevant explanations surrounding the social construction of gender and the importance of deconstructing gender binaries, so that these lived experiences can have their own place in participation and give new views as to what their needs are in relation to urban spaces. Lastly, this paper assesses the extent to which policy and practice in Berlin has responded to women's needs in terms of urban participation (RttC and Right to Participate), by examining GM and citizen participation strategies, which will be followed by outlining some next steps and future directions within this research topic.

Hence, overall the main aims of this research focus on:

1. Analysing the potential of structural approaches to gender-sensitive urban planning in Berlin. These include an analysis of GM policies and citizen participation strategies.

2. Analysing the potential of tactical approaches to gender-sensitive urban planning in Berlin, which focus on non-institutionalised actors and organisations and how these also contribute to the development of equality within the urban landscape.

3. Examining the effects these have in the urban landscape and social reproduction of women, as well as the potential points of criticism in relation to unequal access to resources and urban life.

4. Critically evaluating how participation must be adapted to have a specific focus on an intersectional approach to gender, so that diversity is promoted, and different experiences can be brought forward in urban planning strategies.

5. Making the resulting knowledge and findings visible in a clear and structured way, so these can inform future policies in Berlin, as well as being translated into recommendations for other cities.

2.3 Philosophy of science.

This chapter situates the study within a philosophy of science, accounting for the ontology and epistemology of this scientific perspective and demonstrating how this has informed the research design and methodologies used. The focus on the actions and attitudes, as well as the cultural and social background of the case analyzed, meant social constructivism was chosen as the scientific perspective for the methodology and study design. Therefore, the scientific viewpoint has been derived in a social constructivist approach to research.

2.3.1 Ontology.

Ontology is a key concept in philosophy of science, concerning the idea of existing or being, implying a distinction between 'realism' and 'constructivism'. Ontological constructivism as a scientific position influences the way the world is perceived by the individual and how social phenomena is only studied through the meaning of the attributes the observer assigns to the phenomena [Egholm, 2014]. Ontological constructivism leads to the possibility of observing social phenomena that may not be tangible or visible to the human eye. Examples of social phenomena could be social spheres, virtual networks, global warming etc. and observations of these social phenomena happen through a variety of definitions. This contrasts with ontological realism, where observations concern physical and materialistic phenomena [Egholm, 2014]. In this research, one strength of ontological constructivism is its openness when researching different situations, that demand an interpretation of data in a way that uncovers new connections between previous theoretical research and a new angle in the analysis, that might have not be evident otherwise. In this sense, this study uses expert interviews as a source of data that is not readily and easily accessible for analysis, coupling this with document analysis. These compliment each other, where the gathered interview information data becomes primary data that offers in depth information, and nourishes document analysis data. The coupling of these therefore offers a new approach and findings that can be later critically interpreted and discussed further.

2.3.2 Epistemology.

Epistemology concerns the nature of knowledge, meaning, how it is possible to know something and how this knowledge can be produced. Egholm [2014] defines three overall epistemologies; 'objectivity', 'subjectivity' and 'intersubjectivity', with the last one also known as constructivism. The epistemological position of this research is constructivism due to its scientific position that knowledge is relational and interactive, and that science is not to be considered free of value [Egholm, 2014]. Epistemological constructivism focuses on connections, networks and relations, and states that nothing can be examined outside their contexts [Egholm, 2014]. Therefore, this is well-suited to the nature of the research topic, as gendered urban planning must be studied focusing on the connections and networks that have historically been gender discriminatory (i.e. unpaid labour, unpaid care, pay gap, social and accessibility inequalities). As ascertained by Beebeejaun [2017], gender is continuously being remade at different scales, through national legislation and changing life circumstances. This in turn highlights the different layers of complexity for coherent analysis within gender studies at the urban scale, which is gendered through multiple actions and experiences of its inhabitants.

Constructivist epistemology is founded on the notion that the individual is a representative of the collective as defined by its social interactions; the premise here is that the social environment is critical [Egholm, 2014]. Under social constructivism, the idea that certain types of knowledge are more privileged than others is rejected. It is employed in the construction of the research questions in this paper, since they rely strongly on the context of the city and society being studied and analyzed. For instance, the city context is Berlin and the societal context is layered on capitalist and paternalistic urban planning history, which has given rise to an unequal built and social environment for women.

2.4 Social Constructivism.

The aim of the research question is to analyse how gendered urban planning has developed in Berlin, contextualised within German urban planning laws and structures. Meaning, it also contributes to understanding the social structures formed as a result of urban planning developments and projects. Hence, a social constructivist position has been applied as it mainly focuses on people's opinions and actions, in addition to the social contexts, the culture and the society embedded in it. This is not only reflected in the main research question this study deals with, but also embedded within the sub-research questions, which aim to acquire knowledge of the social contexts of the people in this city specifically. This is also why case study research has been chosen as a methodological approach, as it aids in understanding the mechanisms that helped in the development of this case.

2.5 Methodology.

As previously mentioned, this paper seeks to investigate participation strategies to solve gendered issues within urban planning, specifically exploring empowerment in participation processes for women in the planning process (which then leads to a larger participation in city life/everyday life). Due to the social constructivist nature of this research, a qualitative methodological approach has been chosen in order to evaluate it [Habib et al., 2014]. Theoretical understandings are presented in chapter 3 so that an analytical framework can be constructed, giving contextual focus to the research.

The analytical framework is structured to answer the second research sub-question, regarding how gendered urban planning strategies for participation can be divided into structural and tactical approaches. The discussion goes beyond urban planning theory - the reason for this is mainly to be able to include a renewed approach, including the gendered RttC, gendered urban planning in Berlin, combined with participant responses for an expanded understanding of the significance and impact women participating in urban planning processes has in terms of catering to their needs.

2.5.1 Qualitative Research.

Within field research, there are different ways to gather data. Qualitative and quantitative research have different goals and therefore different qualities. For instance, quantitative research aims to acquire objective facts about and causes of social phenomena with little or no reference to the subjective states of individuals, as it focus on objective facts, and hence has a positivist viewpoint and orientation to research [Gaber, 1993]. As stated in previous studies and academic literature, it is outcome-oriented and hence is potentially prone to missing certain subjective details when conducting it, as it assumes a stable reality.

On the other hand, qualitative research has been argued to have a phenomenological orientation; it seeks to understand human behavior and assumes a subjective perspective towards certain aspects of the research [Gaber, 1993; Stake, 2005]. Additionally, it tends to have a more descriptive and inductive nature, and is instead process-oriented (as opposed to outcome-oriented). This resonates with the kind of research this study aims to conduct, and therefore

why it has been chosen that the approach to research would be qualitative. It is also in line with the chosen epistemology, as explained in section 2.3.2.

Qualitative research is also characterized by being 'close' to the research, and usually applied to case study research. Finally, it assumes a dynamic reality [Gaber, 1993], and as explained in the previous chapter when discussing social constructivism, this research acknowledges social contexts are significantly important and ever-changing and therefore conclusions and analyses have to be made acknowledging this fact.

Within the holistic characteristic of qualitative research, it must also be pointed out that it allows for the researchers to be receptive of viewing social life as a dynamic interdependent series of events. The result of this is that the conducted research is closely related and integrated in everyday life as streams of processes (not outcomes or end-goals) that interconnect various events [Bryman and Burgess, 2002; Bryman, 2017]. Furthermore, up-taking a naturalistic perspective implies the researcher's observations of the specific case study allows to collect information on the social situations and relationships the subject under study is entangled in [Stake, 2005]. Further relating this type of research to the urban planning discipline, the upcoming quote below depicts how it can be useful to make use of a qualitative approach within planning research:

> *"Qualitative methods have been used in various aspects of the planning process, including participation in goal-setting, e.g., nominal groups and in the development and design of alternatives, e.g., brainstorming, creativity facilitation and simulation, and systematic design methods. Qualitative methods have also been used in eliciting participation in assessment, prediction and forecasting, other expert-opinion methods, and scenarios fall into this category."[Dandekar, 1986, p. 45].*

Therefore, with this case study studying urban planning participation strategies through a gender lens, it employs a qualitative research approach in the form of interviews and observations, as it aims to study social environments in relation to gender, with a process-oriented mentality to bring about previously disregarded and unappreciated discussions with urban planning theory and practice (as will be further delineated throughout chapter 3).

2.5.2 Case Study Research.

Yin [2009] presented four applications for using a case study model within academic social sciences research:

- To explain complex causal links in real-life interventions.
- To describe the real-life context in which the intervention has occurred.
- To describe the intervention itself.
- To explore those situations in which the intervention being evaluated has no clear set of outcomes.

Within case study research, it is particularly important to properly interpret the outcomes or findings [Kohlbacher, 2006; Yin, 2009, 2011]. To do so, these are analyzed and compared with what has been provided in published academic literature, which in turn contextually places the new gathered data in relevance with prior knowledge.

Furthermore, Fielding [2020] determines that this research approach provides advantages, as it investigates "placed narratives"[Flick, 2017]. This implies that it is able to identify new tactic knowledge, as well as potentially assumptions, regarding social urban movements or urban politics. For instance, qualitative case study research can bring urban planning and policy concerns to life, by disclosing hidden aspects of the social environment [Kohlbacher, 2006]. Hence, it can be said that this contributes to a well-grounded research approach, as it considers and analyses data that would otherwise be understudied.

Finally, findings derived from case study research can be an opportunity to converge data from a varied range of sources; which in turn illuminates and nourishes the research conclusions. Multiple data sources are thus used as a strategy to investigate the problem from multiple perspectives [Loukaitou-Sideris et al., 2019]. For instance, in this specific research this is done by comparing primary data (consisting of interview responses) and secondary data (documents analysis and archival sources).

2.5.3 Reflexivity.

Reflexivity implies the researcher discloses themselves in their investigation, to be able to understand; *"how their own experiences have shaped their understanding of the research topic"* [Jacobson and Mustafa, 2019, p. 11]. Therefore, a reflexive approach to interview research is conducted in this paper; a reflective approach allows for a non-biased discussion, as well as a critical interpretation of the gathered data. More specifically, the reflexive researcher in the urban planning discipline is important due to the answers it provides in terms of how a planners' action enables dialogue to influence future social expectations.

Hence, reflexivity has an impact on methodologies, results and discussions, and adopting this perspective during data collection and analysis in the form of critical self-consciousness [Davies, 2012] is one technique to produce a more accurate and dependable research. For instance, this study recognises that interview subjects are subject matter experts who had a direct hand in gendered urban planning issues to improve women's experiences in cities and tackling inequalities, but it also notes that their accounts of prior projects may have been impacted by more recent occurrences in the topic under investigation. These elements can have an impact on the recorded responses, and a reflexive method ensures the researcher acknowledging these factors while remaining aware of the setting in which interviews take place. Issues of validity and reliability were addressed by audio recording interviews, creating transcripts of these, and coding these into themes, in turn guaranteeing a higher level of credibility by not missing important details.

2.6   Research question and consequent sub-questions.

As stated by Farthing [2016], research questions provide a plan for the research, meaning these are formulated to apply the chosen analytical framework through data collection, which will be later on evaluated in relation to the academic literature presented in Chapter 3. The main research question aims to explore gendered urban planning in Berlin, and the ways in which this concept has been able to percolate urban planning decisions within the city. Hence, explanations on feminist theory, gendered urban planning, power and gendered RttC will be presented in chapter 3.

- *How do gendered urban planning and urban participation strategies shape inclusive and equitable urban development in Berlin, Germany?*

The following sub-research questions have been formulated to guide the literature review (Chapter 3), analysis (Chapter 5) and discussion (Chapter 6) accordingly:

- *What are the current gender inequalities and participation strategies in urban planning theory?*
- *What are the tactical and structural approaches to in gendered urban planning participation in Berlin?*
- *How can participation of women in urban planning processes be enhanced further with the integration of new methods and tools in Berlin?*

To tackle a specific way of looking at empowerment in planning, this research has as a main objective to identify and analyse how different types of participation strategies influence the way women are included in urban life, and decisions regarding changes in the city of Berlin. This will be related to urban planning concepts, specifically participation policies in a German case study, shedding light on the complex grounds upon which new gender frameworks appear, through representation and participation strategies, bringing women experiences to the centre of urban planning debates.

To explore this topic, the following research questions have been established to guide this research;

> *"What are the current gender inequalities and participation strategies in urban planning theory?"*

This first question relates to the conceptual understandings that this research mainly takes into account, meaning it is to be tackled throughout the literature review (Chapter 3)

The theoretical standpoints underpinning this research are presented to gradually build an understanding of how existing literature has previously analysed gender within urban planning practices. This will be useful in order to build an understanding of how engendering planning, which can be seen as a sub-category of urban planning, is shaped and directed by (em)powering dynamics. To do so, gender concepts are also presented to provide some thoughts on the existing binary thinking that still prevails in society, and how this must be a discussion point too, to be able to improve inclusion in urban planning.

"What are the tactical and structural approaches to in gendered urban planning participation in Berlin?"

The second research question presented above relates to the methods and analysis sections; it is the empirical evidence to be analysed through a case study approach, in this case of Berlin, Germany. This question aims to explore how institutional and non-institutional capacity can be built, and what effects it has in both the processes and outcomes of planning processes, focusing on GM policies as part of the structural approach, as well as non-institutionalised collectives such as the fem*MAP project as part of the tactical approach to participation. The aim is therefore to build a detailed understanding of the case, it's history, and how gendered urban planning is/is not achieved to change gender inequalities. Being an empirical question implies it can be studied through data collection and analysis, and therefore is based on the methods (document analysis and interviews). This will be further explored in Chapter 2.5.

"How can participation of women in urban planning processes be enhanced further with the integration of new methods and tools in Berlin?"

Lastly, the third sub-question emerges as guidance for the analysis and discussion; it aims to critically evaluate the aspects of the process that made this specific case study 'successful', along with an evaluation of whether it was actually successful or not. To do so, a combination of empirical evidence and theoretical understandings are combined in order to identify the links between these, and form a well rounded critical discussion around the topic. Furthermore, interpretations and conclusions are based on critical insights on planning structures at different scales; the German Planning System (national level) and at a smaller scale (city scale) will be discussed. This helps elaborate on the different actions taken towards a more inclusive participation strategy and in order to evaluate to what extent it has been successful so far.

The upcoming Chapter 3, will present the contextual background and academic knowledge that informs this research, with a focus on power within the urban planning discipline, including capacity building as the core concept to build an analytical framework to analyse the case study. The case study was chosen due to its relevance in urban transformations, aiming to provide critical insights through the use of a new angle; studying it years after development has been completed, and using the lens of capacity building at the centre of analysis.

2.7   Illustration of research design.

This research has formulated and adopted the research design illustrated in figure 2.1. The layout of figure 2.1 offers a visual representation about the order in which the sub-questions will be answered, to be able to answer the primary research question and the methods to gather relevant data which are used to do so.

In this diagram, an arrow is used to demonstrate the direction of the report, with the big boxes with a black outline representing the research (sub)questions, and inside the dashed black box (which depicts the frame or lens of this study) the research methods and approaches taken. The blue boxes show how each chapter and section of this paper is structured to answer each

sub-question. Moreover, the green boxes mark the expected data to answer their associated sub-research questions. Finally, this will then lead to the conclusion, which also includes further research avenues.

This research has been guided by the diagram depicted in Figure 2.1. Here, the arrow points downwards to show this is the direction the research takes. The white boxes include the main research question at the top, and the sub-research questions later on. The blue boxes relate to each of the sub-questions to clarify how each one is answered; the first one with the theoretical framework, the second one with the range of methods and the third one with the consequential gathered data and its analysis and discussion. This then leads to a final conclusion, which couples the three answers to the sub-questions to answer the main research question this paper has created. Within the dashed box, the philosophy of science, analytical framework and methodology are included, so the reader understands the perspective and approach this research has up-taken.

Research design diagram, developed to answer the proposed
research questions as a response to the identified problem.

Introduction

How do gendered urban planning and
urban participation strategies
shape inclusive and equitable urban
development in Berlin, Germany?

Qualitative
approach

Social Constructivist
Paradigm

Case study

Methods

Analytical
Framework

Theoretical knowledge and range of
concepts on relevant topics.

What are the current
gender inequalities and
participation strate-
gies in urban planning
theory?

Literature review

Formulation of approaches towards
implementing inclusive & gen-
der-focused participation poli-
cies, to create an analytical
framework.

What are the tactical
and structural
approaches to in
gendered urban planning
participation in
Berlin?

Document analysis

Historical analysis

How was this done in Berlin?

Semi-structured
expert interviews

Critical evaluation of imple-
menting Her City

How can participation
of women in urban
planning processes be
enhanced further with
the integration of new
methods and tools in
Berlin?

Discussion

Evaluating data based on
identified themes, from
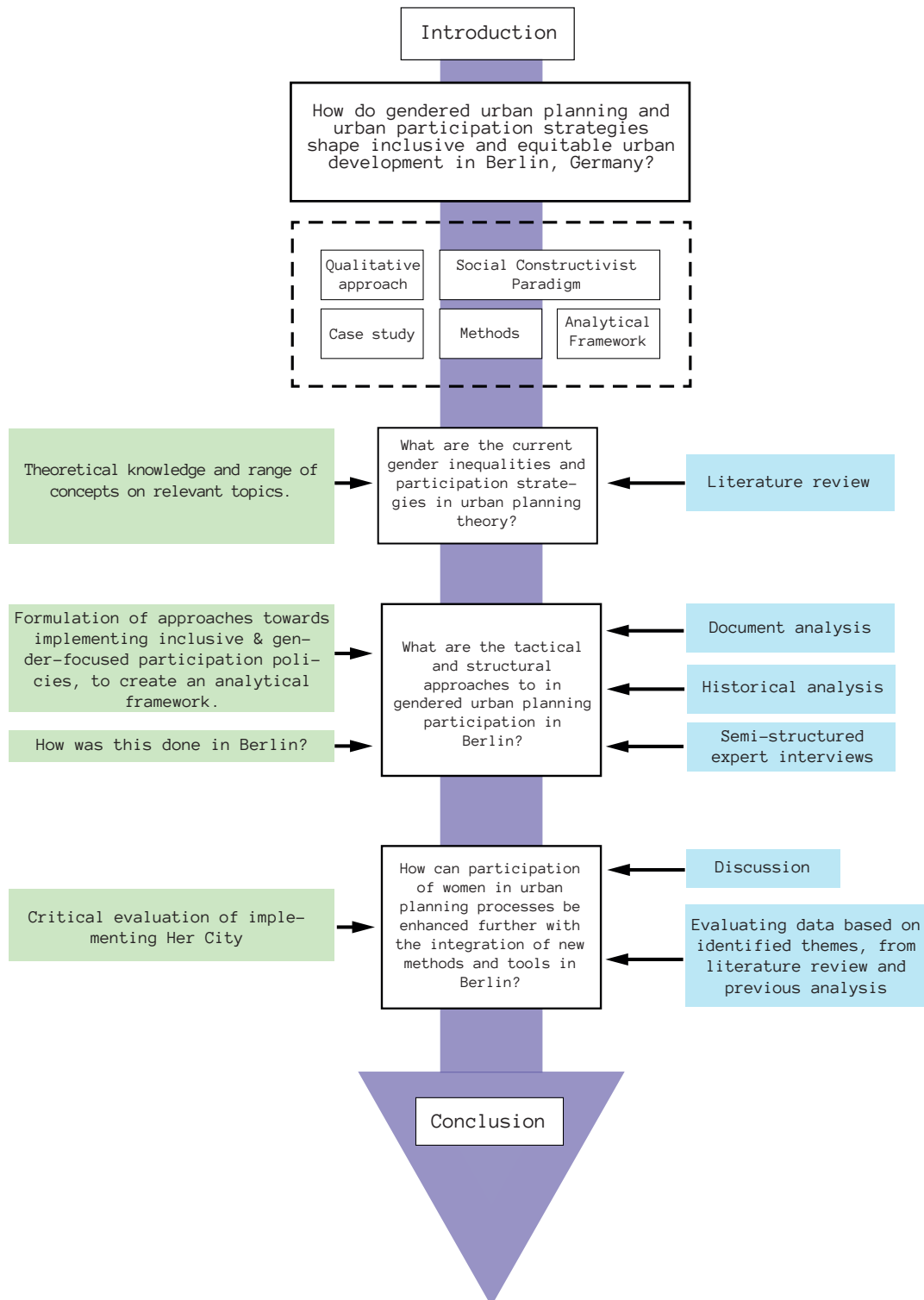literature review and
previous analysis

Conclusion

Figure 2.1. *Diagram illustrating the research design this study follows [Author's own]*

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Theoretical & Analytical framework 3

3.1 Feminist Theory and Urban Planning.

This chapter is guided by the following question:

- *What are the current gender inequalities and participation strategies in urban planning theory?*

This chapter's objective is to put forward the choice of theories deemed relevant to be applied in this thesis, and concepts to be used in the analyses. Therefore, it will set forth an in depth presentation of the chosen theories and concepts. The overarching theoretical topic will refer to gendered urban planning, which is grounded in feminist theory, and demonstrates how this perspective to planning offers explanations to gender inequality as lived by women in cities. It will delve in the importance of understanding how women experience cities and their gendered social reproduction (everyday practices and everyday life). Therefore, it will also shed light on strategies in practice can be adapted to produce more equitable spaces. These themes will be presented in the following section by examining influential theories for urban planning practices, such as feminist theory, critical approaches to urban planning, issues within participation and politics. Engaging in recent studies analyzing urban policies provides an opportunity to specify and deepen the nature of the gender inequalities in cities.

Sandercock and Forsyth [1992] examine those aspects of feminist theory that have the most influencing for planning theory. There is a need to uptake a gender research agenda in urban planning, to bring about a debate around women's needs and experiences within urban life [Peake and Rieker, 2013]. Sandercock and Forsyth [1992] discuss the ways in which planning is inherently gendered, as it is shaped by and reinforces social norms and power structures. Therefore, there is a need for urban planners to be aware of how gender influences their work, and be willing to challenge gender-based assumptions and biases. To do so, the concept of feminist planning theory is developed, which emphasizes the importance of social justice and equality in planning practices. Promoting this view can help address the gendered nature of planning and lead to more inclusive and equitable outcomes. Moreover, gender issues take form in a variety of ways, which can be divided into different themes, namely, the economic status of women, the location and movement of women through the built environment, the connections between capitalist production and patriarchal relationships and between public and domestic life, how women know about the world and about what is good, and the forms of communication with which women are most comfortable or by which they are most threatened by [Sandercock and Forsyth, 1992]. This research therefore aims to contribute to this field of thought.

Additionally, Marcuse [2009] states how a key function of critical theory is to expose the existing

system, with a thorough study of the nature and consequences of its crises. This way, practice can be informed by the learning acquired through the conducted evaluation. Similarly, focusing on power theories that can inform power imbalances in practice within urban scenarios and planning practices, Arts and Tatenhove [2004] disclose that power is:

> "(...) the organisational and discursive capacity of agencies (...) to achieve outcomes in social practices, a capacity which is however co-determined by the structural power of those social institutions in which these agencies are embedded"[Arts and Tatenhove, 2004, p. 347].

This conceptualization helps understand how organisational power is embedded in structural power, and therefore will always be dependent on structural power reform. Applying this to gendered urban planning theories, distinctions can be made between practices, on a tactical level, and on a structural level. This idea will inform the analytical framework of this study, in order to study how the scale of these strategies affects the results achieved, in the upcoming chapter 3.7.

However, there is also a need to rethink planning history, and analyse how women have inhabited cities throughout the years. To do so, theory can also be a powerful source that informs further practices that aim to deliver urban planning initiatives that support how women move around the city. Contributing to this perspective, Hayden [1980, 2014] conceptualized the need for a non-sexist city, arguing cities have historically been planned by men, and there is therefore traces of this type of planning that only took into account the need of men in the social and built environment of urban environments. Exclusion and marginalisation of women and other minority groups has been the result of these practices. However, Hayden examines urban planning and design strategies that have emerged in response to this issue identifying principles of feminist planning. For instance inclusive participation, creating safe and accessible public spaces, and designing cities that support the needs of families. Additionally, the layered intersections of race, class, and gender in feminist planning and design are highlighted by Hayden [1980], aligning with the concept of intersectionality developed by Crenshaw [2017]. She coined it to be the multiple social forces, identities, and ideological instruments through which power and disadvantage are expressed and legitimized, including race, gender, class, sexual orientation, religion or disability.

3.2   Gender Concepts.

For the purpose of clarity within this research, some overarching gender concepts must be presented and addressed. This is helpful in order to understand the difference between gender and sex, and deconstruct the traditional binary ideas between man and woman that follow.

3.2.1   Questioning gender binaries & the social construction of gender.

The notion that gender is socially constructed [Smith and Smith, 2016] refers to the roles, behaviors, and expectations encompassed by the different classifications each gender is socially attributed to the association of being male or female in a particular culture or society. It must be acknowledged that individuals express their gender identity in a variety of ways, including their

appearance, mannerisms, language, and social interactions. Following Smith and Smith [2016], their study draws on interviews with individuals who express their gender identity differently than traditional male or female categories, including genderqueer, genderfluid, and non-binary individuals. Their results explore how these individuals negotiate their gender identity and expression in a gendered world, where traditional gender norms and expectations are often rigid and limiting.

Moreover, the term gender equality refers to the *"equal enjoyment of rights and access to opportunities and outcomes, including control of resources, by women, men, girls and boys"[Libertun de Duren et al., 2020, p. 12]*, whilst gender equity refers to equivalence in life outcomes for women and men, recognizing their different needs and interests, which may require a fair redistribution of power, resources, opportunities and responsibilities. Gender relations make reference to those hierarchical relations of power between women and men, which being tanlged within a neoliberal patriarchal system, have tended to disadvantage women [Libertun de Duren et al., 2020]. Finally, gender roles are those activities, tasks and responsibilities that are traditionally considered by society as 'natural' for women or men. For instance, unpaid labour which has been historically ascribed as natural for women, staying with their children and taking care of the house [Smith and Smith, 2016].

Therefore, gender is socially constructed and has an influence in our everyday lives and the ways in which power imbalances can be seen depending on one's gender, which also demonstrates how powerful this social construct is. Darwin [2017] discusses gender identities, by explaining how gender is usually made up of a larger spectrum rather than just the two traditional categories. Within urban planning, moving away from such binaries is significant, as it nourishes the process of participation by including a range of lived experiences and leads to new solutions that where perhaps previously hidden. This is crucial in opening up spaces that enhance and open new horizons for urban planning practices - by nourishing practices with a wider range of perspectives.

3.2.2 Intersectionality.

Coined by Crenshaw [2017], intersectionality can be understood as a prism to see the interactive effects of various forms of discrimination, and disempowerment looks at the way that racism interacts with patriarchy, heterosexism, classism, xenophobia. Hence, this allows to see and identify that there are overlapping vulnerabilities created by these systems, which can be translated in the urban landscape as creating specific kinds of challenges depending on the patriarchal oppressions each individual is subject to [Hopkins, 2019]. Furthermore, it can be translated into a form of analysis, studying how oppressions shape individual and collective bodily experiences, where all of these factors are intertwined to create imbalances between individuals and their lived experience of urban life.

3.3 Engendering Urban Planning.

For the purpose of this research, academic literature relating to the concept of engendering urban planning is suitable and of significance, to understand its implications and how they can bring awareness both in theory and in practice towards women's needs in urban life. Horelli [2017] highlights the importance of incorporating gender perspectives into urban planning and

provides examples of successes and challenges in different contexts, drawing on the case studies of Barcelona, Helsinki, Athens and Vienna. The article emphasizes the need for a context-specific approach and political will to create more inclusive and equitable cities. By conducting this research, the main finding is how gender has been historically overlooked in urban planning, which has led to the marginalization of women's needs and experiences in the built environment. She emphasizes that gender-sensitive urban planning can result in more inclusive, equitable, and sustainable cities. Similarly, other recent academic articles highlight the previous marginalization of women in decision-making processes regarding the built and social environment. This points out the need to keep evaluating how cities have moved forward, and how their policies and strategies have aimed to generate a gendered view of the field.

There is also a need to acknowledge how the issue of incorporating gender perspectives into urban planning and structures is not exclusive to women, but rather requires the participation of other genders. However, there has been a lack of male involvement in acknowledging the importance of such perspectives in this field [Dymén et al., 2015]. The feminist movement, which strives for gender justice, has encountered fresh challenges as the context in which it operates has shifted from state-organized capitalism to neoliberalism and ultimately to a post-neoliberal society [Fraser, 2012]. This implies that the overarching strategy of mainstreaming gender equality, established in 1995 at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, must be accompanied by other more adaptable approaches and techniques that can "do or undo gender"in diverse circumstances and urban contexts, experiences and perceptions [Francine, 2007]. This calls for a renewed approach to gendered research strategies which encompass not only GM analyses, but also couple other governance or organisation structures, for instance non-institutionalised actors. Hence, this research aims to bridge this gap, by using the case study of Berlin, and couple the evaluation of GM with other tactical strategies towards women participation in decision-making processes in urban planning. This is valuable to analyse, as many take-away points can be translated into valuable insights, and therefore be applied to other cities (taking into account the different contexts, and adapting each strategy accordingly).

Additionally, developing methodological skills to recognize the gender-related impacts of urban planning, includes examining the different building blocks of infrastructure at various levels that cater to the needs of the gender spectrum. Moreover, Horelli [2017] suggests it is paramount to transform top-down planning systems, by encouraging citizen engagement in the form of public participation, self-organization, and even gender-sensitive everyday practices. This research takes this important factor into account, by later analysing how Berlin organizes to do so (citizen engagement website, GM policies), which also provides insight into which of these strategies work best, reach more/less citizens, and how these can be improved for an increased engagement.

Overall, the main objective is for urban planning to have a focus on gender in order to achieve gender equality in its urban strategies, catering to a historically marginalized group (amongst others, as these are also related to other factors, e.g. race, sexual orientation, religion, class...) in terms of the everyday urban life of women, their needs and participation in decision-making processes. Drawing on pragmatic, communicative, and complexity theories, the term 'Expanded Urban Planning' (EP) [Horelli et al., 2015; Staffans and Horelli, 2014] is a visionary concept that operates at multiple scales, expanding from physical planning to community development and co-governance. This expansion is bolstered by ICTs and supported by a wide range of participation

forms, including self-organization around contemporary urban issues. As stated in her research,

> "(...) it seeks to connect the planning process with the content of the context, although it is not particularly gendered. The expansion also covers the participation of different stakeholders in the different stages starting from strategic and statutory planning, to implementation, monitoring and evaluation. In addition, EP seeks to deal with the different types of complexities: simple, disorganized and organized "[Horelli, 2017, p. 1783].

Similarly, studies have proposed a gender and innovation framework that assists in comprehending the present state-of-the-art and generating fresh research inquiries that must be explored for additional theorizing within the field. Moreover, the examination of gender and innovation reveals innovation as a biased phenomenon in terms of gender [Agnete Alsos et al., 2013]. Hence, this provides the need for a renewed approach to be taken by policy makers, with a need to consider this aspect when devising innovation policies. Table 1 provides an overview of the gender and urban planning combined concepts, which in turn, provides a more holistic approach to the field. As depicted in Figure 3.1, to imbue urban planning with a gender perspective, it is necessary to adopt a trans-disciplinary approach that encompasses concepts from gender and planning studies. These concepts are outlined below, in line with the previously discussed concepts and frameworks for gendered urban planning research, which inform the upcoming chapters of this study where these will be applied to the case study of Berlin, Germany.

Planning as	Gender as a variable	Gender as construction and action
Content	Number of differences concerning preferences, interests, structures etc. between and among women & men?	What intersectional gender issues of substance emerge in different contexts?
Process	Number of male and female actors, experts etc.?	How is gender (un)done in the process?
Policy, including co-governance	Number of male and female policy-makers, technical personnel etc.?	What gendered policy issues and strategies emerge and with what consequences?

Figure 3.1. *Framework for conducting gendered planning research, explaining the different approaches depending on whether gender is considered a variable or a construction [Horelli, 2017, p. 1781].*
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Therefore, gendering 'EP' [Horelli, 2017] offers a more comprehensive and integrated standpoint towards gender issues manifested in the urban landscape, and entails a variety of approaches and case study analyses, to be able to find commonalities and differences between experiences, and explore how to empower women in everyday practices through participation processes.

3.4   Gender Issues in Urban Environments.

The main themes within gender issues highlighted by Sandercock and Forsyth [1992] are; spatial, economic, and social relationships, ethics, epistemology and methodology, communication inequalities and the public domain. These are important in this study as they are useful in gaining a holistic knowledge of what gender inequalities look like in different aspects of everyday urban

life. Moreover, these must be known to also understand how they intertwine, perpetuating gender inequalities. Hence, these are crucial to consider when designing and achieving a well-rounded participation strategy to apply the adequate changes to urban policy in cities.

Power imbalances manifest both structurally (within the capitalist system) and in the physical environment. Therefore, when studying spatial phenomena in cities, analyses should identify and discuss the structural inequalities ascribed in these, as these are materialised in the built environment making them visible. However, there is also a need to focus on the everyday imbalances that seem smaller, although they are also part of the structural system inequalities. Therefore, informal or tactical strategies to resolve these inequalities are also significant. For instance, Fox-Rogers and Murphy [2014] suggest informal power can create barriers to participation, particularly for marginalized groups who may not have access to the same social networks and relationships as those in positions of power. However, they also advocate for how informal power can be harnessed to promote community participation and engagement, for example, by working with community leaders or building relationships with community groups.

Sandercock and Forsyth [1992] argue that planning theories and practices have been gender-blind, which has resulted in the marginalization of women's needs and experiences in the built environment and urban planning practices. To tackle this problem, suggestions are made in terms of a feminist approach to planning, meaning one that recognizes the diversity of experiences among different groups of women, and acknowledges the gendered nature of power relations. Emphasis is put on the importance of community participation and engagement in urban planning processes, particularly with regards to marginalized groups such as women, low-income households, and minorities.

Within the issue of gender disparities, gender safety must be mentioned, as women are affected by safety issues disproportionately compared to men. Jarvis et al. [2009] ascertain women's safety in urban spaces is a significant issue, as women are more vulnerable to harassment and violence in public spaces. Some interventions and policies that have been implemented to improve women's safety in cities, such as increased lighting and the creation of women-only spaces are discussed as solutions so that public spaces become more accessible to all genders. In terms of gender and the built environment, urban spaces can be designed to better accommodate women's needs and experiences. Some cities have began focusing on this issue, and have implemented gender-sensitive design principles, such as Barcelona's "superblocks"and Vienna's GM approach to urban planning [Jarvis et al., 2009].

Some of the critical areas of concern, in terms of achieving gender equality, are depicted on the left column of figure 3.2. On the right column, the responsible institutions that aim to tackle each issue are named, having those topics as their main missions (these include national and international institutions), interacting with other civil organizational stakeholders [Staudt, 2018]. This links to the institutional approach to tackle gender issues, in the sense that institutional capability can be enhanced by the notion that participation is generating capabilities to solve gender inequalities.

Even though all of these topics are interconnected and should all be taken into account in order to resolve gender imbalances, out of these presented in this table, this thesis focuses mainly on 'Women's equal participation in transparent and accountable government' and 'Institutional

capability to integrate gender perspectives and data in policies, programmes and laws' (even though it is understood that all of these impact each other). These are the topics that are related to urban planning, and where planning can have a real impact in terms of gender.

Overall, this demonstrates the importance of community participation and engagement in urban planning processes, as well as the need to address issues of power relations in order to create more just and equitable cities that foster an intersectional approach to equality. This can be done by urban planners adopting a more collaborative and participatory approach to create urban spaces that reflect the needs and experiences of diverse communities.

Critical area of concern	Responsible institutions
Poverty reduction	Banks at all levels Economic and planning ministries World Trade Organization (WTO) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Commission on Human Rights (CHR), Bretton Woods institutions
Education and training	Banks at all levels Education, youth, employment ministries Teacher-training institutions United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
Health	Banks at all levels Health ministries and sector institutions World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
Anti-violence against women	Justice and law ministries CHR, United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)
Armed conflict; rape as war crime	Defence, foreign affairs ministries CHR
Economic growth/ opportunity, anti-occupational segregation and work–family harmonization	Employment, justice, cultural ministries Banks at all levels UNDP, WTO, Food and Agriculture Organization, International Fund for Agricultural Development, International Labour Organization United Nations Industrial Development Organization
Women's equal participation in transparent and accountable government	Interior, justice ministries UNDP, CHR Public administration/personnel training
Institutional capability to integrate gender perspectives and data in policies, programmes and laws	Planning, education, and justice ministries UNDP Public administration/personnel training
Promotion and protection of women's human rights	Justice and law ministries CHR, UNIFEM
Balanced, not degraded images of women in the media	Cultural, communication ministries UNESCO
Environmental sustainability	Banks at all levels Environment, planning ministries United Nations Environment Programme, WHO, UNICEF
Enhancing the potential of girls	Education, health, justice ministries UNICEF, WHO Banks at all levels

Figure 3.2. *Gender issues and their corresponding responsible institutions [Staudt, 2018, p. 44].*
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3.5   Participation processes and women's empowerment.

This research understands women's empowerment as a process that involves recognizing and asserting their abilities, in terms of their ability to access the crucial and essential elements of development, these including education, wages, healthcare and political participation, coupled with accessing and appropriating spaces where these abilities can be put into action and realize their full potential [Duflo, 2012; Ortiz Escalante and Gutiérrez Valdivia, 2015]. This process entails being conscious of women's collective and individual power, and affording them the opportunity to participate in decision-making processes that will affect their everyday lives. Empowerment does not mean conferring power upon others, but rather acknowledging the power that historically marginalized individuals and groups already possess and developing mechanisms to facilitate the exercise of this power. By promoting collective empowerment, women's knowledge and experiences can be brought to the forefront, especially those of women who have been historically sidelined. Additionally, as Casanovas Marfà et al. [2013] remark, participation will also identify venues where women can speak up for themselves with support for their voices.

Incorporating a gender perspective in participatory processes is therefore crucial for acknowledging the diversity of individuals and practices, and dismantling hierarchies. Participatory planning processes must be gender-transformative in order to address women's requirements based on their actual circumstances, while avoiding pigeonholing them into solely care-giving roles, which can in turn perpetuate gender stereotypes [Kabeer, 2005]. This transformative approach aims to empower women to challenge and overcome traditional gender roles and stereotypes.

Methods and tools within the Spanish case study of Barcelona are highlighted by Ortiz Escalante and Gutiérrez Valdivia [2015]. These include:

- Focus groups: small group discussions that allow for in-depth exploration of specific topics. They can be used to gather information about women's experiences and perspectives on urban planning.

- Participatory mapping: this involves creating maps of the local area, gathering the input from local community members. It can be used to identify potential solutions to the issues they previously highlighted.

- Community workshops: they involve larger group discussions which allow for the exchange of ideas and the development of recommendations for improving women's access to urban services and resources, as well as enhancing feelings of safety in these.

Similarly, Reason and Bradbury [2001] express the need for further investigation in the topic of gendered participation. They discuss the need to carefully examine how these participation strategies must carefully consider certain barriers; how meetings are organised, but also, how the gathered information from these are then analysed. For instance, participatory approaches *"can impose rather than alleviate entrenched power relations"* [Reason and Bradbury, 2001, p. 98]. They articulate the multiple dimensions of Feminist Participatory Action Research (FPAR). In doing so, they highlight how social relations are embedded and embodied in women's everyday activities. This is a starting point for political action, as making these oppressions visible can help articulate everyday issues they face in cities [Reason and Bradbury, 2001]. To be able to conduct such analyses, there is a need to defy the commonly asserted 'patriarchal truths' that women are

"naturally inferior to men and considering how women generally live in different material and social circumstances due to gendered power relations and globalization" [Reason and Bradbury, 2001, p. 98]. Yet, an appropriate participation can foster open dialogues that aim to understand the nature of privilege and exploitation and their intersections with gender, religion, race and class, in order to deconstruct the roots of (dis)advantage that affect people's everyday life.

Participatory strategies should hence involve participants in all the stages of the participation process; the design, implementation, and analysis of the research. However, it is also important to outline how this knowledge collected in participatory methods is then interpreted, questioning who has the control over the knowledge dissemination [Maguire, 2004]. For instance, who then represents this knowledge to institutions, to what end it is used for and what forms of representation are appropriate to suitably capture the dynamics of such meetings [Reason and Bradbury, 2001]. This calls for the importance of new ways of knowing and collectively creating new knowledge, that assert the need for more creative ways of interpreting feminist research data.

Considering the academic arguments discussed in this chapter, it is necessary to engage in gender-inclusive urban planning that involves active participation from minority groups, in a reflexive way that promotes listening and deliberating in an inclusive manner. This can be achieved through a comprehensive and integrated approach that fosters a strong relationship between citizens and the city, as well as with the use of FPAR. Additionally, it should be inclusive of all minorities regardless of their age and ability, and be educational by providing data and studies on gender equality. Finally, it should be financed adequately (which will depend on the contextual needs of the place and group it is implemented for) to ensure that the necessary urban strategies can be carried out. Therefore implying that the unevenness of local organisational responses, norms and practices points to need to balance politics and recognise the plurality of local urban spaces.

3.5.1   Her City Toolbox as a method for enhanced participation.

The "Her City Toolbox for Participatory Public Space Planning and Design"is an innovative resource developed by UN-Habitat, the United Nations agency for sustainable urban development [Andersdotter Fabre et al., 2021]. It aims to promote gender-responsive urban planning and design by providing guidance, tools, and methodologies for creating inclusive and safe public spaces for women and girls. The Her City Toolbox aims to achieve several objectives, the most significant being it seeks to promote gender equality and social inclusion by recognizing the different experiences and needs of women and girls in urban environments. By incorporating their perspectives into urban planning and design processes, the toolbox strives to create public spaces that are safe, accessible, and welcoming for all.

The process of the Her City Toolbox involves several steps. First, it emphasizes the importance of engaging women and girls in the planning and design process, ensuring their voices and perspectives are heard [Andersdotter Fabre et al., 2021]. It encourages the establishment of diverse and inclusive participatory processes, involving stakeholders such as community members, local authorities, urban planners, architects, and gender experts. The toolbox offers a range of practical tools and techniques to support participatory planning and design. These tools help identify the needs, preferences, and concerns of women and girls, ensuring that public spaces

are designed to address their specific requirements. The toolkit includes methods for conducting gender audits, spatial analysis, safety assessments, and participatory mapping exercises.

To illustrate the impact of the toolbox, some previous projects can be highlighted. For instance, the toolbox was previously used in the city of Kampala, Uganda, where a participatory approach was adopted to redesign a public park. Through community engagement and the application of the toolbox's steps, women and girls were able to voice their concerns regarding safety, lighting, and accessibility in the park. As a result, the park was transformed with improved lighting, enhanced pathways, and inclusive seating areas, creating a more secure and inviting environment for all community members, and improving women users of the space.

Statistical data can provide additional context and support for the importance of the Her City Toolbox. For instance, since women often face specific challenges and safety concerns in public spaces, which can restrict their mobility and limit their access to essential services [Sandercock and Forsyth, 1992; Horelli et al., 2015], the toolbox aims to tackle this issue by promoting their participation in the redesign or planning of these spaces. By integrating gender-responsive planning and design principles and measures, cities have the opportunity to address these issues and create more inclusive urban environments.

According to a survey conducted by UN Women, 81 percent of women and girls in urban areas in over 100 countries reported experiencing some form of sexual harassment in public spaces during their lifetime [Andersdotter Fabre et al., 2021]. Furthermore, the World Health Organization estimates that globally, approximately one in three women will experience physical or sexual violence in their lifetime, much of which occurs in public spaces. These statistics underline the urgency and significance of initiatives like the Her City Toolbox to address the challenges faced by women and girls in urban areas.

In summary, the Her City Toolbox for Participatory Public Space Planning and Design is a valuable resource that aims to promote gender-responsive urban planning and design. By involving women and girls in the planning process and incorporating their perspectives, it strives to create safer, more inclusive public spaces and cities [Andersdotter Fabre et al., 2021]. It is a tool that can be used by planners, architects, designers and city officials, as it offers practical tools and methodologies. The toolbox has already been successfully applied in various projects worldwide, leading to tangible improvements in urban environments which have improved the quality of these spaces. Statistical data reinforces the need for such initiatives and highlights the importance of addressing gender-based challenges in urban planning.

3.6   Gendered Right to the City (RttC).

The concept of RttC, as articulated by French philosopher Henri Lefebvre [Merrifield, 2011], consists of two main rights [Purcell, 2003]:

- The right to appropriate urban space, which refers to the right of inhabitants to use and enjoy urban space in their everyday lives. This includes the right to live, work, play, and participate in the cultural and social life of the city. Lefebvre sees the city as a work of art, created by the collective daily routines and activities of its inhabitants [Fenster, 2005].

- The right to participate involves the production and management of urban space, which involves the right of citizens to take an active role in decision-making processes that shape the urban environment. This includes participation at different scales; participation in political and institutional processes, as well as involvement in the management and administration of the city [Dikeç, 2001].

These two components of the RttC are closely interrelated and mutually reinforcing. Together, they form the basis for a more democratic and inclusive approach to urban planning and governance.

As ascertained by Fenster [2005], Lefebvre's definition of the RttC does not relate to the notion of power and control (these being identity and gender related). Meaning, it fails to challenge RttC power relations (ethnic, national, cultural) as factors that deeply affect the different possibilities to realize the RttC depending on individual gender, ethnic, religious or cultural identities. This therefore has direct consequences on the possibilities to realize both the right to use and the right to participate in urban life.

Beebeejaun [2017] explores how the RttC is often denied to women due to the gendered nature of urban spaces. This right to access and use urban spaces in ways that promote women's safety, mobility, and well-being is usually not taken into account, hence overlooking the specific needs of women in urban spaces. Moreover, women's everyday experiences in the city are often characterized by a lack of safety and access to public spaces, limited mobility, and restricted access to services and resources.

Overall, following Fenster [2005]'s arguments argues that the RttC is not gender-neutral and that women's experiences of urban space are shaped by their gender, class, and ethnicity. Fenster emphasizes the importance of acknowledging these differences and incorporating diverse perspectives in urban planning to create more inclusive and equitable cities. Similarly, Beebeejaun [2017] also concludes gender is a crucial factor to consider in urban planning and design. Urban spaces must be designed in ways that promote the RttC for all residents, including women. This will require a shift in urban planning practices, which have been historically dominated and planned by men, as well as greater recognition of the importance of gender in shaping urban space and everyday lives. Fenster [2005] suggests that gender-sensitive urban planning is essential for creating a more inclusive and equitable city. Meaning, urban planners should engage with diverse communities and stakeholders to create urban spaces that reflect their needs and experiences, bringing their experiences forward in participation meetings. Special emphasis is also put in the importance of promoting public participation in decision-making processes, to ensure that a range of voices from varying backgrounds are heard and represented in urban planning practices.

3.6.1 Women's unequal access to city life.

In order to assess the multilayered gender inequalities in cities, a distinction has been made between practical and strategic/structural planning. This further division of potential everyday struggles has been noticeable in previous studies [Butcher and Maclean, 2018], and emphasises the importance of understanding how these factors interact and influence the experiences of marginalised communities in the city. By centering the needs of marginalised communities, in this case women, and adopting inclusive and participatory planning processes, city life can be

improved in a way that promoted their liveability for all residents. For instance, Butcher and Maclean [2018] argue that the city scale remains a significant analytical and concrete framework for understanding governance, dissent, subjectivity, and everyday practice within urban planning theory and practice. Furthermore, [Anjaria and McFarlane, 2011,p. 6] discuss how it is 'diverse agents and practices that produce the city', and change must therefore be understood 'through grounded research on the politics of urban space'.

Overall, this chapter has served as a brief introduction to the main academic theories and concepts that inform this research and give base to understand gender issues in urban environments. This is important as it is central to grasp in order to understand the upcoming chapters, where a further analysis specific to the chosen case study is presented around the city of Berlin. Furthermore, this theoretical knowledge has underpinned the development of a specific analytical framework, used to analyse the collected data.

3.7 Developing an analytical framework.

This chapter presents the angle taken by this research, including strategies for increasing women participation in urban projects and how these strategies and toolboxes can be a resource to enact change, by gathering women's lived experiences and needs. These can then be brought forward, towards the centre of urban planning policy debates.

In order to develop a critical network to study gender in Berlin, a thorough review of the official GM report in Berlin's context [Chestnutt and für Stadtentwicklung Berlin, 2011] was conducted. Taking different concepts of the literature review framework presented throughout chapter 3, the following diagram compiles the theories that inform this research in terms of gendered urban planning approaches, which have been divided for clarity purposes (Figure 3.3). In the second diagram (Figure 3.4) a further zoom in is made, to subdivide the theories into these approaches (bottom-up and top-down) accordingly with the contextual institutions under study, for instance, empowerment, feminist theories, and participation strategies relating to GM and fem*Map Berlin.
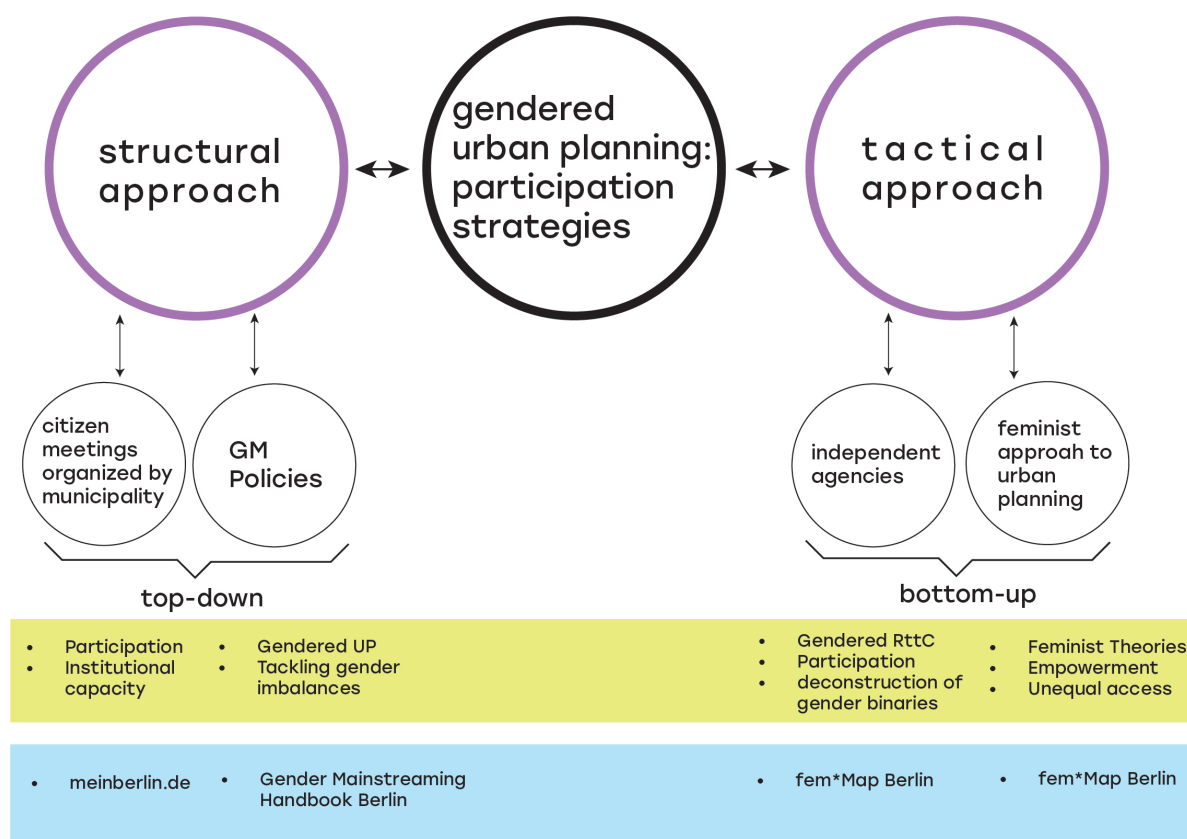
Figure 3.3. *Diagram depicting the analytical framework created for this research, dividing participation strategies into tactical and structural, and their relevant literature concepts and the agencies by which these concepts are articulated [Author's Own].*

After revising the relevant literature that informs the following chapters and this research as a whole, this study utilises the lens of presented in Figure 3.3. In the upcoming chapters, how this research understands the differences between the approaches will be explained, as well as the types of initiatives that are included in these (in the scope and context of this research). Within this diagram, a further detailed illustration of what each 'bubble' entails can be elaborated on. In this case, it has been chosen to be relevant to subdivide strategies into structural and tactical approaches for the sake of clarity. Structural approaches for participation refer to GM policies and citizen participation that stem from the local and national German governments. Tactical approaches for participation refer to practices and strategies that are usually non-institutionalised and decentralised, and that comprise the organisation of a group of stakeholders that do not work in the local government framework.
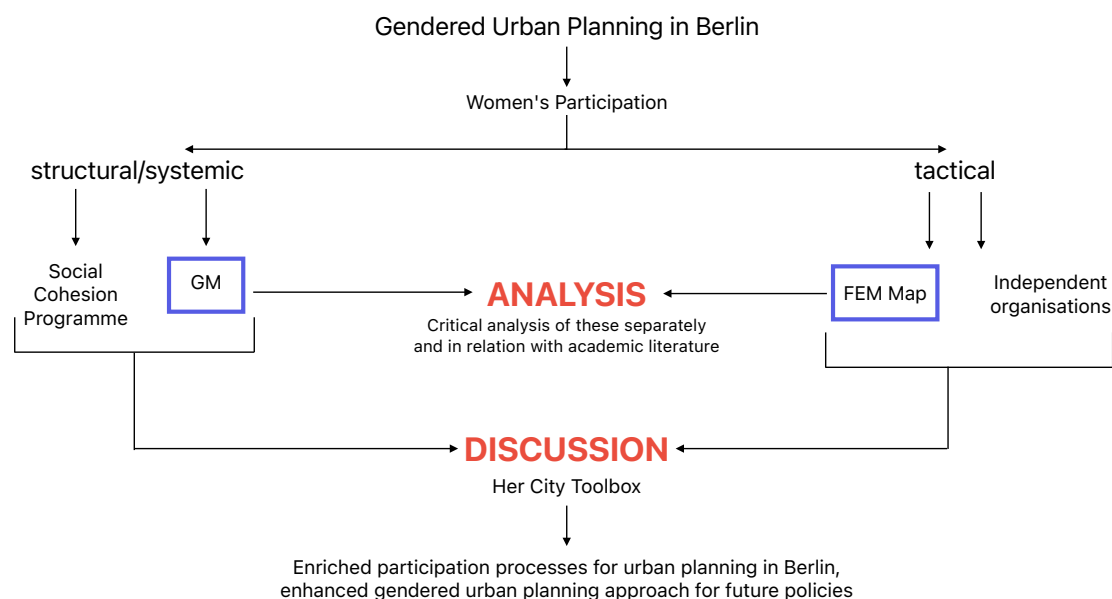
Figure 3.4. *Diagram further deconstructing the analytical framework created for this research, showing the flow the analysis will take, and how it then leads to the discussion chapter [Author's Own].*

Furthermore, in order to provide a clearer understanding of how this research categorizes the different approaches to participation, figure 3.4 presents a further development of the bubble named 'gendered urban planning' at the centre of figure 3.3. It aims to explain how this research organizes the analysis and discussion, talking about the different agencies (the chosen ones are shown with a purple square around them). This diagram is also closely linked to figure 2.1 which shows the research design created to analyse gendered urban planning in Berlin.

A structural or systemic approach to urban planning involves taking a holistic view of the urban system, considering the interconnections and interactions between different aspects of the city, such as the built environment, transportation, social and economic systems, and natural environment. This approach aims to address complex urban problems by analyzing the root causes of issues and developing solutions that consider the broader systemic context. It involves collaboration between different stakeholders and disciplines, such as urban planners, architects, engineers, social scientists, and community members, to develop comprehensive and integrated plans for the city.

On the other hand, a tactical approach to urban planning involves smaller-scale, temporary interventions or actions that seek to address specific urban problems or opportunities. This approach is often bottom-up and community-led, with initiatives being developed and implemented by local residents or organizations, rather than by government or professionals. Examples of tactical initiatives include pop-up parks, street art, and temporary street closures or events for community events. These interventions are often low-cost and low-risk, and in the case of Berlin, a city analysis of these tactical approaches are recorded in the fem*MAP project. What is interesting to study about this project, is not only the individual analyses made about the different topics (housing, street safety, mobility...), but the participatory approach taken to

study these. These findings can be used to experiment with new urban ideas or to respond quickly to emerging issues or opportunities.

Both systemic and tactical approaches have their strengths and weaknesses, and they can be used in combination to develop more effective and sustainable urban planning solutions. A systemic approach provides a long-term vision and strategic direction for the city, while a tactical approach can provide a more flexible and adaptable approach to addressing emerging issues or opportunities. By combining these approaches, urban planners and communities can work together to create more inclusive, sustainable, and resilient cities.

In the following analysis chapter, this analytical framework will be applied and used as a lens to study gendered participation. These compile the approach taken to empower women through participation; from an institutionalised GM approach and a non-institutionalised research analysis in the fem*MAP.

Methods 4

4.1 Selected methods for this research.

This paper's scope is an investigation of gendered urban planning in the context of Berlin (Germany), and how participation strategies with the aim to achieve gender equality have/have not been implemented to achieve this goal. This section will specify an outline of the research methods used to conduct this investigation. Each of these will be evaluated individually and in relation to each other, to provide a good understanding regarding why they were selected over other techniques, followed by a critical examination of these and the considerations that must be taken into account when using them for research purposes. Since the analysis is based on the evaluation of the processes and tools of women participating in decision-making processes in urban planning, the following methods were selected as the most suitable.

As previously mentioned in Section 2.5.1, this research has taken a qualitative approach in order to answer the research question and sub-questions. Desk-based research has been made possible due to a significant body of academic literature being available to study, in terms of general approaches to gendered participation in urban planning, but also due to the availability of documented specific approaches Berlin has had to this day. However, in addition to this, primary research collection adds to the discussion by providing a more specific angle, and being connected to the social contexts and interactions of women in Berlin, rather than quantitative numerical data or objective research reports. Desk-based research was conducted mostly in the initial phase of the research, whereas the methods mentioned in the upcoming sections were conducted later on to collect more specific data.

4.1.1 Semi-structured expert interviews.

Semi-structured interviews consist on some planned questions. This provides a script that helps in having a structure during the interviews; however, the questions are also meant to be guiding points being open-ended, so that the interviewee can expand their answers in the way they feel is most relevant. Therefore, this provides an opportunity so that answers are given elaborating on what feels most important for the interviewee. This type of research method has been prominent in social sciences research throughout past years, due to the insights it yields in terms of landscape perception [Carlsson et al., 2017], social movements [Pickering et al., 2012, p. 93], geography [Longhurst, 2003; Cobbinah and Korah, 2016], place and well-being [Carpiano, 2009; Muro et al., 2020] and various other branches of critical urban studies. Hence, this type of data collection method is used in order to acquire detailed information on Berlin's gendered urban planning. As presented in the following quote, this method utilises a relatively detailed interview schedule, and may be used when there is sufficient objective knowledge about the experience or phenomenon being analysed, but where the subjective knowledge is lacking [McIntosh and Morse, 2015].

> "[...] the questions are semi-structured in that the interviewers are allowed freedom to diverge slightly from the script" [McIntosh and Morse, 2015, p. 4].

The quote above presents how interviewees are given certain freedom in their answers. This research resonates with this idea, as a semi-structured interviewing approach has been taken to provide more detailed and in-depth explanations on the events at the centre of discussion [Rapley, 2001].

However, potential limitations of such approach include the fact that interview topics might be unrelated to the crucial issues that the research wants to approach, although this might also enlighten hidden issues that are not accounted for in academic research papers. To overcome such problem, this research has created a structure for the interview in which the questions to be asked contain key words, as seen in Appendix A. In turn, this provides both freedom of responses to the participants, whilst ensuring key topics are touched upon in the open-ended answers provided.

The semi-structured nature of interviews is therefore deemed appropriate to in this research to study gendered urban planning as the social aspect of analysis, as it provides in-depth insights in this topic. Resonating to the nature of qualitative research (chapter 2.5.1), Maxwell and Reybold [2015] ascertains qualitative research methods are based on four core principles: understanding the meaning of participant responses, contextual influences, the processes that lead to resulting data, and being aware of the subjectivity of the researcher him/herself. The concept of validity in qualitative research is discussed by Maxwell [1992], with types of validity emerging in the research process of describing, interpreting and explaining phenomena of interest. This must be acknowledged and be present when conducting expert interviews in order to be able to conduct a clear analysis. This also resonated with the fact that qualitative research assumes a dynamic reality [Gaber, 1993], as social contexts are significantly important and ever-changing. Finally, this method is coupled with document analysis (as presented in section 4.1.2), to enrich the analysis of the issue at heart.

4.1.2   Document Analysis.

Bowen [2009] evaluates the significance, process, and considerations of using document analysis in qualitative research methodologies; document analysis involves the systematic examination and interpretation of various types of documents such as texts, reports, archival records, and media sources. It provides researchers with valuable insights into social, cultural, and historical contexts, as well as the perspectives and experiences of individuals and groups [Bowen, 2009]. Hence, this method is useful as it uncovers meanings, themes, and patterns within documents. As this research focuses on the social aspect of gender and its implications in planning research, this method is considered suitable to understand the resulting experiences of women from the policies introduced in the city throughout the years.

Furthermore, this method's purpose is to uncover and interpret underlying meanings, themes, and patterns within documents, allowing for the exploration of social phenomena, the examination of discourse and power relations, and the identification of social and cultural influences [Bowen, 2009]. Meaning, this goes in line with empowerment and power imbalances for women in a gendered system, as well as the social and cultural differences between genders, which is something that will be further explored throughout the analysis and discussion sections. This method also compliments other qualitative research methods, as it can enhance the depth of the topics under investigation, and consequently, research findings.

For this method, relevant documents were selected; in this case, GM policies in Berlin involved the careful evaluation of the official document report [Chestnutt and für Stadtentwicklung Berlin, 2011]. Additionally, the fem*Map analysis of documents, flyers and its associated diagrams. Examining their content, context, and structure, identifying key themes and patterns, and interpreting the findings has been the core part of this research in terms of analysis. In order to identify and ensure a comprehensive understanding of the documents, various perspectives towards the key topics and readings were conducted, which also involved the reading of other academic literature which related to gendered urban planning. Furthermore, the 'Her City' was also examined, and a complementary semi-structured interview conducted with one of the main actors behind the initiative. Finally, these official documents represent reliable sources of factual information about policy processes [Karppinen and Moe, 2012].

Some of the considerations and challenges acknowledged in this research in terms of this specific method include issues of document availability, reliability, and validity [Bowen, 2009]. To overcome these, an evaluation of the authenticity, representativeness, and bias of documents has been conducted; for instance, the GM report is the official as posted by the Berlin city document, sourced directly from the city's website.

Analysis 5

5.1 Gendered participation strategies: Analysis Introduction.

This chapter aims to present the results gathered from the chosen methods this research has conducted. This data will be explained and analysed, which will then lead to Chapter 6, where a discussion of this data in relation to the relevant academic literature coupled with interview and observations results will be evaluated. The following chapters are structured following the order shown in figure 3.3, which has been developed as a result of the following research sub-question:

- *What are the tactical and structural approaches to participation in gendered urban planning in Berlin?*

Since a systemic approach to urban planning involves taking a holistic view of the urban system which considers interconnections and interactions between different aspects of the city, in the context of this research these refer to either German planning policies or municipal planning policies that come from the city of Berlin. The objective of this method is to tackle intricate urban challenges by examining the fundamental reasons for problems and crafting solutions that take into account the wider systemic framework. Hence, GM policies and the broader system of participation in decision-making processes Berlin has set up, is included in this section, as different stakeholders collaborate to find solutions to urban planning issues. For a visually comprehensive understanding of Berlin's location and coverage, figure 5.1 has been included, from the official Senate Department of Berlin for Urban Development, Building and Housing. In it, the purple line outlines the city's border, and the total area of 892 square meters is included inside this line.

Berlin map; the purple line depicts boundary

Maßstab: 1:250000

Erstellt am:31.05.2023
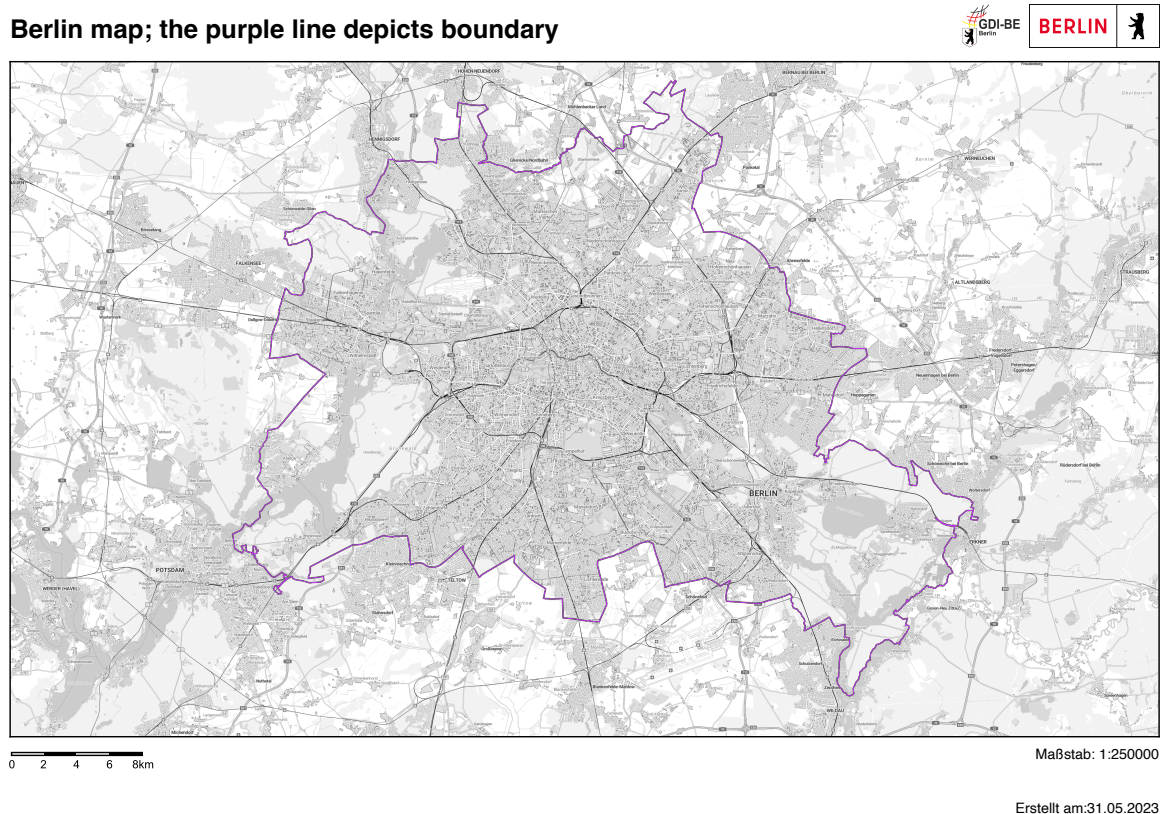
Figure 5.1. *Berlin's total area, sourced from Berlin's Geoportal official website [Umweltatlas, 2021].*

5.2 Structural/systemic strategies in Berlin.

5.2.1 German political frameworks within gendered urban planning.

An analysis of how urban planning happens in Germany is relevant in order to understand its decentralized approach [Schmidt and Buehler, 2007] with a strong decision-making structure. Actors within this structure include the federal government, state governments, the planning regions, the municipalities, and the EU in more recent years [Schmidt and Buehler, 2007], as is depicted in figure 5.2. Overall, at the top of the triangle lies the federal government which lays out the general legal framework in order to assure consistency amongst plans [Newman and Thornley, 2002], so it does not have such a detailed implication in terms of specific plans in individual municipalities, and instead advises planning departments in terms of interpreting the framework they initially provided. As one sees the diagram from top to bottom, the scale becomes smaller (i.e. from federal government to states to municipalities). The regional planning systems have certain freedom to act on their own, as long as it is within the planning framework (developed by the general government). Additionally, states, regions and communities (as labelled in diagram 5.2) must consider the goals laid out in the Federal Building Code (Baugesetzbuch) and the Federal Spatial Planning Act (Bundes-Raumordnungsgesetz).

As argued by Sonne [2004], the dynamic relationship between political ambitions and the physical structure of Berlin has resulted in a variety of urban landscapes. Emphasis is centred on the impact of political shifts and ideologies on urban planning choices, resulting in a lasting

imprint on the city's physical environment. It emphasizes the importance of taking into account the historical backdrop and political motivations behind urban forms in order to grasp their true significance. To depict his arguments further, he draws upon the idea that each political era brought its own set of priorities to Berlin, which influenced urban planning decisions, land use patterns, and the allocation of resources. Additionally, it can be highlighted that there is certain tension between political aspirations and practical realities of implementing urban planning projects [Sonne, 2004]. While political intentions and visions may shape the initial plans for urban development, factors such as budget constraints, technological limitations, and social dynamics can impose constraints and necessitate compromises in the realization of these aspirations. This resonates with this research's focus, as in terms of social dynamics which is where gender issues are placed, priority to men's needs has been given historically, in turn, marginalizing women from both the planning process and planning resulting environments.
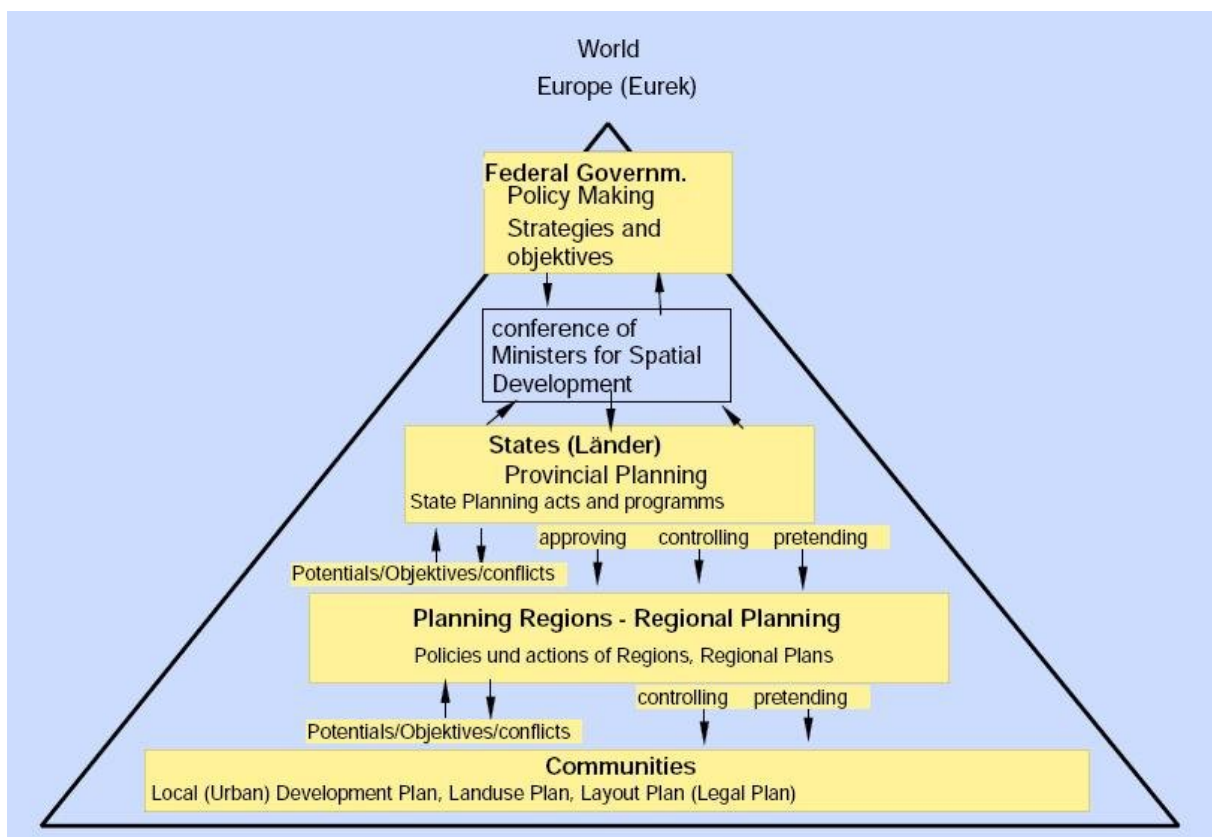

Figure 5.2. *Diagram depicting the German Planning System structure. [Gourbesville and Batica, 2014]*

Territorial unit	Instrument	Contents	Reference surface	Scale
Federal Government	Federal Regional Planning Act Federal Planning Programme	Text of the law Publication (text) on the main spatial development of the federal territory	nation-wide nation-wide	- -
Country/Federal State/Land	Regional Development Plan adopted by a Land	Map(s) and explanations (text) concerning the main settlement structure, infrastructure and other important land use types	Land (area-wide)	1:200.000
Region	Regional Plan	Map(s) and explanations (text) with detailed statements on development axes, urban development etc.	Region (area-wide)	from 1:100.000 to 1:50.000 (depends on the size of the unit)
Municipality	Land development Plan legally-binding Land use Plan	Map(s) and explanations (text) on main land use categories Map (s) and explanations (text) on detailed building regulations	Municipality (area-wide) Parts of the municipality	1:10.000 from 1:1.000 to 1:500

Figure 5.3. *Table categorizing the urban planning scales in the German context. [Gourbesville and Batica, 2014]*

Figure 5.3 classifies the different scales at which the planning system in Germany works at. This is useful to keep in mind, to understand the order it follows, and therefore understand that Berlin works in the municipal scale. This implies that gendered urban planning approaches at the municipal level will be able to influence land use and development plans.

5.2.2   Historical urban planning analysis of Berlin.

Results of the collected historical data from Berlin's urban planning approach have enlightened the research [Chestnutt and für Stadtentwicklung Berlin, 2011], due to the contextual importance it plays in terms of citizen participation. Hence, this section presents the analysis of how urban planning approaches tackle gender disparities in the last decades. Since the 1990s, key changes can be identified within urban planning policies, which aim to achieve gender equality in Berlin. Several phases can be highlighted, covering the development and also the implementation of these at a neighbourhood and city scale. For historical context, it must also be noted large political and scale changes took place; for instance, the fall of the Berlin wall in 1989 and as a result of German reunification in 1991, the change of Germany's capital from Bonn to Berlin.

After the reunification of Germany, there was a growing recognition of the need for gender-sensitive urban planning in Berlin [Horelli et al., 2015; Horelli, 2017]. The historical political ideologies hindered upon the advancement of gender-sensitive policies, and meant that the urban planning discipline was not moving forward in this topic. Consequently, the establishment of the first Women's Office in Berlin in 1991 occurred, being responsible for coordinating gender-sensitive policies in the city [Chestnutt and für Stadtentwicklung Berlin, 2011]. The Women's Office worked closely with other government agencies and non-governmental organizations to promote gender equality in urban planning, fostering an equality-approach to urban development. One of the key initiatives of the Women's Office was the development of gender-sensitive urban planning guidelines, which were adopted by the Berlin Senate in 1993. These guidelines are known as GM policies, and have the objective of promoting gender equality in urban planning policies. As such, they address issues such as access to public spaces, safety and security, transportation, and child care.

In the late 1990s and early 2000s, there was a shift towards more participatory and community-based approaches to urban planning in Berlin. This follows the general trend in urban planning at the time, as during this period there was a shift in focus within the discipline to enhance the definition of citizenship, urban rights and governance structures. Furthermore, the emergence of the 'strategic turn', characterizing spatial planning as an innovative place-making activity and a decision-making process [Hyslop et al., 2004; Healey, 1998, 2020].

Thus, the re-definition of citizenship sought to challenge structural inequalities in cities and promote new forms of governance that allowed for a more porous city in terms of participation in decision-making. In Berlin, this was reflected in the establishment of local women's councils and other community-based organizations, with a focus on involving women in decision-making processes and therefore the idea of gender-sensitive policies at the local level was implemented. An example of this approach was the establishment of the "Women's Future Fund"in 2001, which provided funding for projects that promoted gender equality in urban planning and development. The Women's Future Fund supported a range of initiatives, including the development of women-friendly public spaces, the promotion of women's participation in decision-making processes, and the provision of child care services in public spaces.

In recent years, there has been a renewed focus on gender-sensitive urban planning in Berlin, with a particular emphasis on addressing issues such as gender-based violence and harassment in public spaces. This falls in line with the previous approaches to tackle gender disparities within

urban planning taken in Vienna and Barcelona [Horelli, 2017]. Berlin has implemented a range of measures to address these issues, including the establishment of a dedicated task force on gender-based violence, the development of a gender-sensitive city map, and the provision of training for urban planners and other professionals on gender-sensitive approaches to urban planning.

In recent years, Berlin has been subject to a public policy shift, mainly after the fall of the Berlin wall. Scholars such as Colomb [2012] discuss Berlin as a 'creative city' and evaluate the cultural changes that the city has seen, mostly from the 2000s onwards. For instance, the classification of empty spaces as urban voids, that were usually filled by alternative cultures and hidden from the public eye. This in turn led to the development of formal and informal activities in such spaces scattered around the city, as a result of the movements happening in former West Berlin in the 1970s and 1980s. An example is the district of Kreuzberg, where radical social movements (e.g., queer, student, punk, and squatting movements) [Colomb, 2012] grew popular as counter-cultural initiatives. By the 2000s, these spaces captured the attention of local politicians, planners, economic development officials, and city marketers, interested in the development of Berlin as a cultural and creative market, integrating this in the political agendas at the time. In terms of gendered urban planning, the focus has shifted from 2010 onwards, where urban planning has adopted a more social stand towards urban development. This meaning, certain policies focus specifically on marginalized communities i.e. sozialestadt initiative (Socially Integrative City), introduced in 1999 (and still an active and ongoing initiative) to develop Berlin neighbourhoods facing social discrimination [Communication, 2010].

Overall, the history of urban planning policies towards achieving gender equality in Berlin since the 1990s has been characterized by a gradual shift that aims for a more gender-sensitive approaches, giving importance to the issues women face at a urban scale, for instance in terms of access and safety. In turn, this saw an increased recognition being given to the importance of community-based and participatory approaches in urban planning, and reflected in the gender-sensitive approach underpinning government policies being implemented to achieve these, for instance GM in urban planning.

5.2.3   GM policies in Berlin.

As a part of the chosen methods, current documents outlining GM policies in Berlin has been studied in depth and analysed as a type of literature study, that provides insight into specific regulations at the local level. There are two main reports that assess GM in Berlin, sourced from the Senate Department for Urban Development. These provide insights into how GM is understood in Berlin, examples of workshops and projects to enhance equal participation, and the gendered urban planning approach Berlin has been adopting since 2008. These two documents compile what the Office of the Women's Advisory Committee focused on (what the process and results of workshops were), as highlighted by Droste [2011], and a more general handbook on GM, which serves as an overview of criteria for GM [Chestnutt and für Stadtentwicklung Berlin, 2011]. Both documents are dated to 2011, implying a further analysis of these 10 years later can be useful, when analysing the new concepts and cultural changes that influence GM in order to adapt these to today's society and hence, women struggles at this time in Berlin.
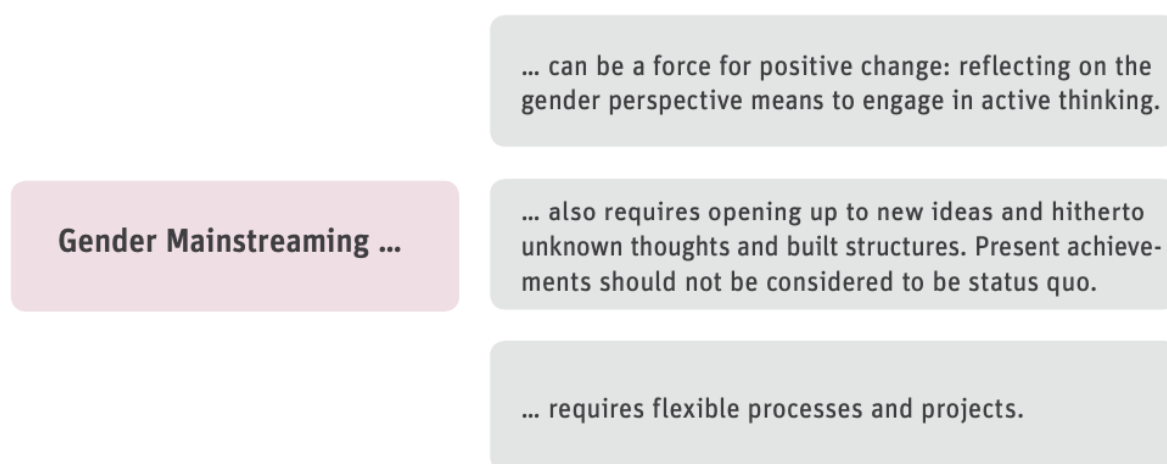
Figure 5.4. *Goals and Objectives of Gender-Oriented Approaches to Regional and Urban Planning [Chestnutt and für Stadtentwicklung Berlin, 2011, p. 11].*
.

GM is an approach to policy-making that involves considering the different impacts that policies and programs may have on varying genders, and taking steps to ensure that these impacts are addressed in a fair and equitable manner. As explained by Huning [2020], GM emerged in the 1990s as a response to the limitations of feminist critique, seeking to integrate gender perspectives into all policy areas, including urban planning, by focusing on the differential impacts of planning policies on different genders. GM was intended to go beyond the inclusion of women and promote substantive change in policy and practice, as seen in the objectives laid out in the report (figure 5.4). In Berlin, gender mainstreaming has been an important part of urban planning and development policies for several years, and there are a range of policies and programs that have been developed with this approach in mind [Droste, 2011]. Some examples of this approach include the Women's Office of the City of Vienna and the Gender Budgeting Initiative of the City of Berlin Huning [2020].

As stated in Berlin's GM report [Chestnutt and für Stadtentwicklung Berlin, 2011], the EU created the term 'Gender Integration' to describe the practice of incorporating gender awareness into all levels of governance. This policy tool is designed to promote equal opportunities for individuals of all genders, regardless of their background or age. In contrast to gender planning practices, the Berlin Handbook highlights a range of tools that can be used to design planning processes that take into account the interests of all potential users, from the initial concept stage to participation, decision-making, bidding, and implementation. The objective of planning with gender integration principles is to create cities that are adaptable and inclusive for diverse lifestyles, income levels, and various ethnic and social affiliations, providing a home not only for current but also future generations, as described in the quote below;

> "(...) encourage all of those involved in planning processes to creatively assess each new project with in regard to gender mainstreaming."[Chestnutt and für Stadtentwicklung Berlin, 2011, p. 69].

Examples of GM policies in Berlin, as collected from government reports and academic publications include:

- Gender-sensitive urban planning guidelines: As mentioned earlier, the Berlin Senate adopted gender-sensitive urban planning guidelines in 1993 [Chestnutt and für Stadtentwicklung Berlin, 2011], which were developed with input from the Women's Office and other stakeholders. These guidelines provide a framework for ensuring that urban planning and development takes into account the different needs and experiences of women and men, and includes guidance on topics such as safety, mobility, child care, and accessibility. These areas of urban planning include, as stated in the handbook, prioritizing mixed-use, participation, urban development, housing, commercial Space Planning, local supply and public facilities, mobility, outdoor space and environment [Chestnutt and für Stadtentwicklung Berlin, 2011].

- Gender-sensitive training and capacity building: The Berlin administration has developed a range of training programs and capacity-building initiatives to support gender mainstreaming across different departments and agencies. This includes training for urban planners and architects on gender-sensitive design, as well as training for staff in the Women's Office and other agencies on gender mainstreaming principles and approaches.

- Gender budgeting: Berlin has implemented a gender budgeting process, which involves analyzing the budget and expenditures of various departments and agencies to ensure that they are gender-sensitive. This involves identifying areas where gender gaps exist and taking steps to address them through budget allocation and policy development.

- Gender-sensitive public services: Berlin has developed a range of gender-sensitive public services, such as women-only subway cars and women's night buses, to address safety concerns and make public transportation more accessible for women. The city has also implemented a number of programs to address gender-based violence and harassment, such as the establishment of a task force on gender-based violence and the development of a gender-sensitive city map.

- Women's councils and participation initiatives: Berlin has established a number of women's councils and participation initiatives, which aim to give women a voice in decision-making processes related to urban planning and development. These councils and initiatives work to ensure that the different perspectives and experiences of women are taken into account when making policy and planning decisions.

As seen in the following figure 5.5 below, current GM strategies up to this date include a number of 25 approaches to gendered urban planning. Overall, these policies and programs reflect Berlin's commitment to GM and to ensuring that urban planning and development is inclusive and equitable for all residents, regardless of gender, as stated at the beginning of the report;

> "(...) GM seeks to avoid the reinforcement of so-called gender stereo- types and to develop spatial options for people of differing lifestyles, social structures, abilities and resources."[Chestnutt and für Stadtentwicklung Berlin, 2011, p. 10].

> "GM is an instrument of equality policy (...) and should be considered in all areas and levels of policy."[Chestnutt and für Stadtentwicklung Berlin, 2011, p. 10].

Additionally, GM seeks an enhanced approach to urban planning, where gender is taken into account from a broader point of view; this meaning, it does not solely focus on the traditionally binary differentiation between men and women [Smith and Smith, 2016; Darwin, 2017], but considering other genders such as non-binary, trans women or trans men. Also contributing to the intersectional approach [Crenshaw, 2017] to gendered urban planning, as seen in the following quote, where gender understood as a social construction;

> "(...) the term gender contains a social construction, i.e. women and men are socially made. Roles, behaviour, views and much more are attributed to individuals on the basis of their apparently obvious biological gender. All genders takes into account the diversity of our social conditioning, and in addition to gender, dimensions such as age, ethnic and cultural origin, religion or outlook, a disability or sexual orientation."[Chestnutt and für Stadtentwicklung Berlin, 2011, p. 9].

This approach to social urban studies reflects the forward-thinking of the city, and leads to a rejection of traditional gender stereotypes. This is significant, as once acknowledged and embodied, these previously hidden issues can be brought forward in urban planning policies, and specific needs can be taken into account;

> "(...) GM seeks to avoid the reinforcement of so-called gender stereotypes and to develop spatial options for people of differing lifestyles, social structures, abilities and resources."[Chestnutt and für Stadtentwicklung Berlin, 2011, p. 9].
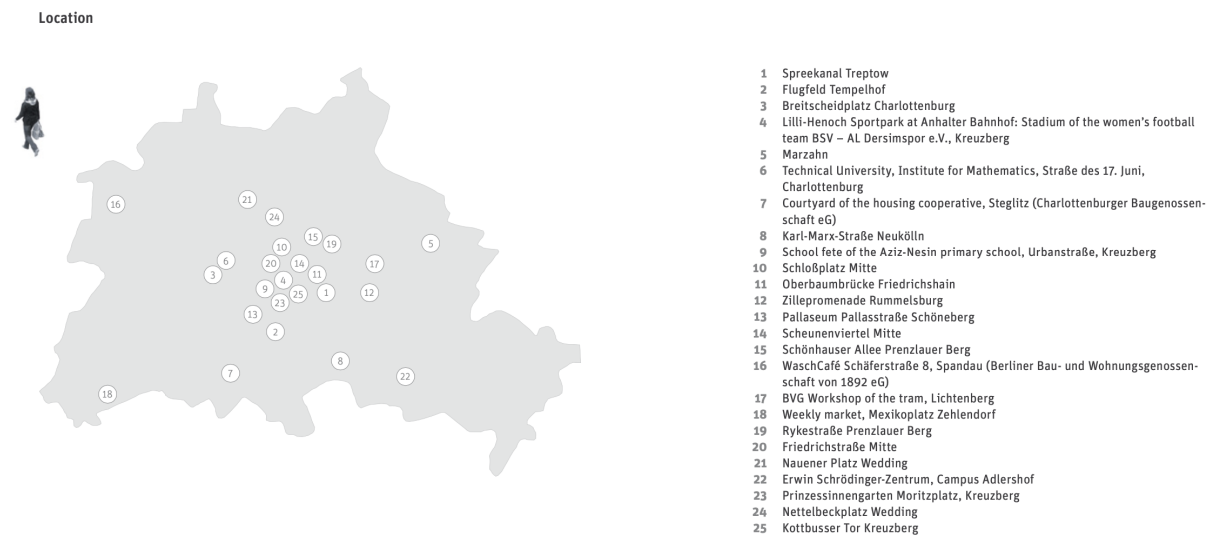

Location

1 Spreekanal Treptow
2 Flugfeld Tempelhof
3 Breitscheidplatz Charlottenburg
4 Lilli-Henoch Sportpark at Anhalter Bahnhof: Stadium of the women's football team BSV – AL Dersimspor e.V., Kreuzberg
5 Marzahn
6 Technical University, Institute for Mathematics, Straße des 17. Juni, Charlottenburg
7 Courtyard of the housing cooperative, Steglitz (Charlottenburger Baugenossenschaft eG)
8 Karl-Marx-Straße Neukölln
9 School fete of the Aziz-Nesin primary school, Urbanstraße, Kreuzberg
10 Schloßplatz Mitte
11 Oberbaumbrücke Friedrichshain
12 Zillepromenade Rummelsburg
13 Pallaseum Pallasstraße Schöneberg
14 Scheunenviertel Mitte
15 Schönhauser Allee Prenzlauer Berg
16 WaschCafé Schäferstraße 8, Spandau (Berliner Bau- und Wohnungsgenossenschaft von 1892 eG)
17 BVG Workshop of the tram, Lichtenberg
18 Weekly market, Mexikoplatz Zehlendorf
19 Rykestraße Prenzlauer Berg
20 Friedrichstraße Mitte
21 Nauener Platz Wedding
22 Erwin Schrödinger-Zentrum, Campus Adlershof
23 Prinzessinnengarten Moritzplatz, Kreuzberg
24 Nettelbeckplatz Wedding
25 Kottbusser Tor Kreuzberg

Figure 5.5. GM map and policies in Berlin as seen in the report analysis [Chestnutt and für Stadtentwicklung Berlin, 2011].

Further analysis leads to connections between GM and the previously presented academic literature in chapter 3. For instance, within the participation chapter in the report [Chestnutt and für Stadtentwicklung Berlin, 2011, p. 27], special focus is given to communication strategies,

a factor that is argued as key towards an improved participation process by Sandercock and Forsyth [1992]. This implies that making additional distinctions in participation meetings is indeed important. The following quote in the report entails a need to move to small scale participation projects in order for more women to participate:

> "(...) the smaller scale the project, the more women are involved in the processes and the larger scale the project the more men are involved"[Chestnutt and für Stadtentwicklung Berlin, 2011, p. 27].

This can reflect the need for more tactical approaches, and consequently, the need for projects such as fem*MAP, where women are more likely to participate and create trust, sharing more about their struggles and needs in the city.

Moreover, the report mentions social, cultural and financial capital, as being one of the factors influencing meeting participation;

> "(...) groups with high levels of social, financial and cultural capital also enjoy greater opportunities to assert their interests in the participatory process."[Chestnutt and für Stadtentwicklung Berlin, 2011, p. 27].

This resonates with Sandercock and Forsyth [1992], who address the importance of understanding and addressing communication inequalities in planning, particularly regarding gender, and emphasizes the need for inclusive and empowering communication strategies. In their discussion of this topic, they include much more detailed information as to how to address these inequalities, whereas the GM report provides a much broader explanation as to how to approach these, as seen in the following quote;

> "As part of gender-sensitive participation, specific methods of dialogue should be developed that guarantee that the various issues of future users are taken into account.."[Chestnutt and für Stadtentwicklung Berlin, 2011, p. 27].

Therefore, this could be enriched by Sandercock and Forsyth [1992]'s guidelines to inclusive participation, which highlight:

- Language as empowerment and limitation: Language shapes one's sense of reality and place in the community. It can be both empowering and limiting. Feminists highlight inequalities in language use, such as men interrupting women more often and men listening less intently to women.

- Different experiences of language: Women, including minority women, have distinct experiences of language. Empirical studies explore how language shapes women's understanding of the world differently from men. Formal education plays a role in acquiring empowering language, and unequal distribution of education exacerbates communication inequalities.

- Women's hesitancy to speak out: Socialization and life experiences discourage many women from speaking out or asserting their needs. Women often feel ambivalent about speaking assertively and may be less comfortable with dominant modes of thought.

- Communication inequalities in citizen participation: In areas like citizen participation, professional jargon and argumentative speaking styles can alienate or silence women. The theory should address the need for appropriate communication styles.

- Challenging assumptions of pluralist political theory: Pluralist political theory assumes that all interest groups will articulate their demands equally if given the chance. However, women's socialization, particularly those facing multiple disadvantages, challenges this assumption.

- Strategies for overcoming silence: Feminist planners emphasize the need to develop theories of professional communication and citizen representation that address inequalities in planning. Creating inclusive spaces, such as using storytelling formats, can encourage previously silent or hesitant participants, including women, to contribute their knowledge.

Some of the limitations of GM in urban planning include the co-optation of GM by neoliberal governance and the failure to address power relations in urban planning Huning [2020]. Gender mainstreaming has become a bureaucratic exercise that focuses on procedural issues rather than substantive change. The author contends that gender mainstreaming has ignored the intersections of gender with other power relations, such as race, class, and sexuality. The author provides examples of the limitations of gender mainstreaming in urban planning, such as the gentrification of urban neighborhoods and the marginalization of women's and queer perspectives in planning processes. The proposal of a return to feminist critique in urban planning to promote a more critical and intersectional approach to gender in urban planning is presented as a potential solution. [Huning, 2020] contends that feminist critique can be useful to challenge power relations in urban planning and promote more inclusive and participatory planning processes, where the experiences and needs of marginalized communities are at its centre. Examples of feminist critique in contemporary urban planning, such as the work of the Women's Planning Forum in Berlin and the Global Platform for the RttC. Overall, this suggests that GM has become a bureaucratic exercise that focuses on procedural issues rather than substantive change Huning [2020], and that it has ignored the intersections of gender with other power relations, such as race, class, and sexuality, in turn, perpetuating other inequalities and not adopting an intersectional approach to planning policies.

This resonates with the idea that urban planners should adopt a more collaborative and participatory approach Sandercock and Forsyth [1992], engaging with diverse communities and stakeholders to create urban spaces that reflect their needs and experiences. The article also emphasizes the need for urban planning to address issues of power relations and to challenge the status quo in order to create more equitable and just cities. As voiced by Sandercock and Forsyth [1992] incorporating a feminist perspective into urban planning is essential for creating more inclusive and equitable cities. For instance, some of the approaches taken in Vancouver (Canada) include the city implementing a Women's Advisory Committee to provide input on policies and programs that affect women's lives. Additionally, in Melbourne (Australia) the city created a Women's Planning Network to advocate for gender-sensitive urban planning practices. In the same line, Berlin, has adopted GM policies as well as Frauen Centres, to provide spaces

where women can share their experiences and bring forward their lived experiences within the city. This provides insights on the specific needs of women, and contributes to tackling gender disparities in urban planning developments.

Therefore, the main identified advantages of GM being integrated into the city's political agenda include the raising of awareness and attention towards gender disparities and specific user needs. This in turn brings them to the centre of urban planning debates, where more resources are devoted to these issues and solutions can be found with a participatory approach. GM is also analysed as a tool of education and empowerment, where women are invited to share their experiences and these being considered in political and planning agendas directly, meaning time and budgetary resources are used efficiently at the same time as they prioritise gender issues.

However, some of the fall backs of GM can also be concluded from the GM analysis, including how some of the proposed layout is sometimes too abstract, not being specific enough for issues to be tackled properly. Moreover, there is no empirical data demonstrating if these are effective (results and feedback from women who participated in the processes, or those impacted by the GM policies implemented, as well as the general feedback of citizens about this approach to planning). There is also the argument that these issues should already be incorporated into urban planning documents (land-use plans, strategic plans...) and hence, should not require a different report. This is due to the fact that this can lead to a further isolation, as bigger plans not incorporating these issues directly implies gender issues are not taken into account from the first planning drafts, and might be more difficult to integrate later in the planning process. There is a need to couple GM with other informal practices within the city, from collaborations with local organisations that also have gender equality as their main focus. This theme will be further developed and critically evaluated during the upcoming discussion (chapter 6), where GM will be critically discussed in relation to the 'Her City' Toolbox. For instance, in terms of the results, advantages, shortcomings, and the future of GM policies, and how the toolbox can be an instrumental structure to develop these further in upcoming urban development projects in Berlin.

The document analysis of GM reports underline examples of workshops, projects, and the gendered urban planning approach adopted by the city. For instance, exploring various GM policies and programs implemented in Berlin, such as gender-sensitive urban planning guidelines, gender-sensitive training, gender budgeting and gender-sensitive public services. This emphasizes the inclusive and intersectional approach to gender in urban planning.

Overall, this chapter has provided an analysis of GM policies in Berlin, highlighting the city's commitment to promoting gender equality and inclusive urban planning. GM policies raise awareness of gender disparities, prioritize specific user needs, and provide opportunities for education and empowerment. However, some limitations are identified, including the abstract nature of proposed layouts, the lack of empirical data to evaluate effectiveness, co-optation by neoliberal governance and the failure to address some power relations i.e. in terms of communication in meetings. Hence, this suggests that GM strategies should be integrated into broader urban planning documents and practices to avoid isolation and ensure early consideration of gender issues, as well as coupled with other techniques towards gendered participation; for instance, emphasis on the need for collaboration with local organizations. The upcoming discussion will explore the relationship between GM and the "Her City"Toolbox, addressing the

advantages, shortcomings, and future of GM policies in Berlin's urban planning and development projects.

5.3 Tactical strategies in Berlin.

An approach to urban planning that is tactical in nature involves temporary and smaller-scale interventions or actions that are intended to target particular urban issues or opportunities. This approach is typically led by the community and operates from the bottom-up, with local residents or organizations spearheading initiatives instead of government or professional urban planners. These can potentially allow for knowledge co-creation in an informal environment. For instance, pop-up markets, installations, urban gardening initiatives, and other community-led projects. As previously examined by Fox-Rogers and Murphy [2014], who ascertain informal power can create barriers to participation, particularly for marginalized groups who may not have access to the same social networks and relationships as those in positions of power, well planned and inclusive non-institutional approaches to participation can be a solution in terms of participation meetings, which can render participants with a more relaxed environment where they feel safe to share their experiences and opinions.

5.3.1 fem*Map Berlin as a tool for empowerment: spaces for empowerment and knowledge co-creation.

Following the way of understanding empowerment this research has adopted as explained in section 3.5, fem*Map Berlin has been relevant to articulate this concept. As previously mentioned, empowerment implies being conscious of women's collective and individual power, and affording them the opportunity to participate in decision-making processes that will affect their everyday lives. It is therefore the process of acknowledging the power that historically marginalized individuals and groups already possess, but has been overlooked, and developing mechanisms to facilitate the exercise of this (already existing) power. Participation strategies are one of these mechanisms, as these strategies should focus on creating spaces where women can speak up and be supported in doing so [Casanovas Marfà et al., 2013].

The fem*MAP Berlin project emerged from a seminar on research and mapping conducted at the Chair for Urban Design and Urbanization, TU Berlin in 2020. Its primary objective is to shed to light the disparities embedded within the spatial fabric of our cities resulting from social gender relationships, in relation to academic knowledge presented by Hayden [1980, 2014], examining what a non-sexist city would look like nowadays. Additionally, it seeks to showcase the presence of feminist spatial systems and resistance practices through the use of critical mapping as a research methodology. The initiative sought to create a comprehensive map of the city (figure 5.6) that highlights the experiences and perspectives of women and marginalized groups in different urban spaces [Koepper et al., 2022]. It can be considered a participatory method that results in a participatory mapping and guide for future urban planning developments. Within the map, various aspects of city life are analysed in terms of gender, including information on locations in relation to public transportation, public restrooms, and other places that may have different implications for women and other marginalized groups.

The project is relevant to this research as it makes use of a participatory approach, with

community members and stakeholders being invited to share their experiences and insights. The data collected was used to create a graphic representation of the city, mapping out unsafe spaces for women, housing struggles and mobility issues. To do so, it made use of workshops and events that had the objective of facilitating discussions, in turn, raising awareness about issues related to gender and diversity in urban spaces [Koepper et al., 2022]. This is related to theoretical ideas such as the Right to Participate, meaning, who produces and manages of urban space, and makes reference to the right of citizens to take an active role in decision-making processes that shape the urban environment [Dikeç, 2001; Beebeejaun, 2017]. However, as discussed by Fenster [2005], the RttC and its interrelated power relations (ethnic, national, cultural) are factors that affect the possibilities of realizing this right. The project fem*map successfully challenges this notion, by prioritizing marginalized groups in the participative research methods utilized, as the RttC is not gender-neutral and that women's experiences of urban space are shaped by their gender [Fenster, 2005] which must be incorporated in urban planning to create more inclusive and equitable cities. Additionally, a clear focus on creating a feminist city, based on Hayden [1980]'s arguments, with the aim of bringing women's issues to the centre of the urban planning debate. Therefore, fem*Map Berlin is a response to the need for more inclusive and equitable urban planning practices that take into account the experiences and needs of all members of society. It serves as a platform for advocacy, education, and community building, with the goal of creating a more inclusive and equitable city for all.

Since gendered urban planning recognizes that cities are not gender-neutral spaces and that urban environments can reinforce or challenge existing gender inequalities, the fem*MAP approach to participation invited marginalized communities to the community mapping meetings. This approach acknowledges that women, transgender individuals, and other marginalized genders may have different needs, experiences, and mobility patterns within the city. Fem*map Berlin contributes to this perspective by documenting and visualizing gendered experiences, such as the presence of safe public spaces, accessibility of amenities, or instances of harassment, in order to inform urban planning processes.

As seen in Figure 5.6, a visual map was created in the process with the data from participants, successfully being able to map women's safety issues around the city. Visually, it highlights the experiences and perspectives of women and marginalized groups in the city of Berlin, which in turn is useful to urban planners in terms of being able to pinpoint the issues that need to be solved. The map includes various layers that show different aspects of the city, such as transportation, public spaces, and amenities. Each layer is color-coded to indicate the level of accessibility and safety for women and marginalized groups. For example, green indicates high accessibility and safety, while red indicates low accessibility and safety. fem*Map Berlin 2049 also includes a timeline that projects the city's future development and how it might impact the experiences of women; considering significant factors that shall be considered in future policies to improve woman's everyday life in Berlin, such as population growth, climate change, and technological advancements.
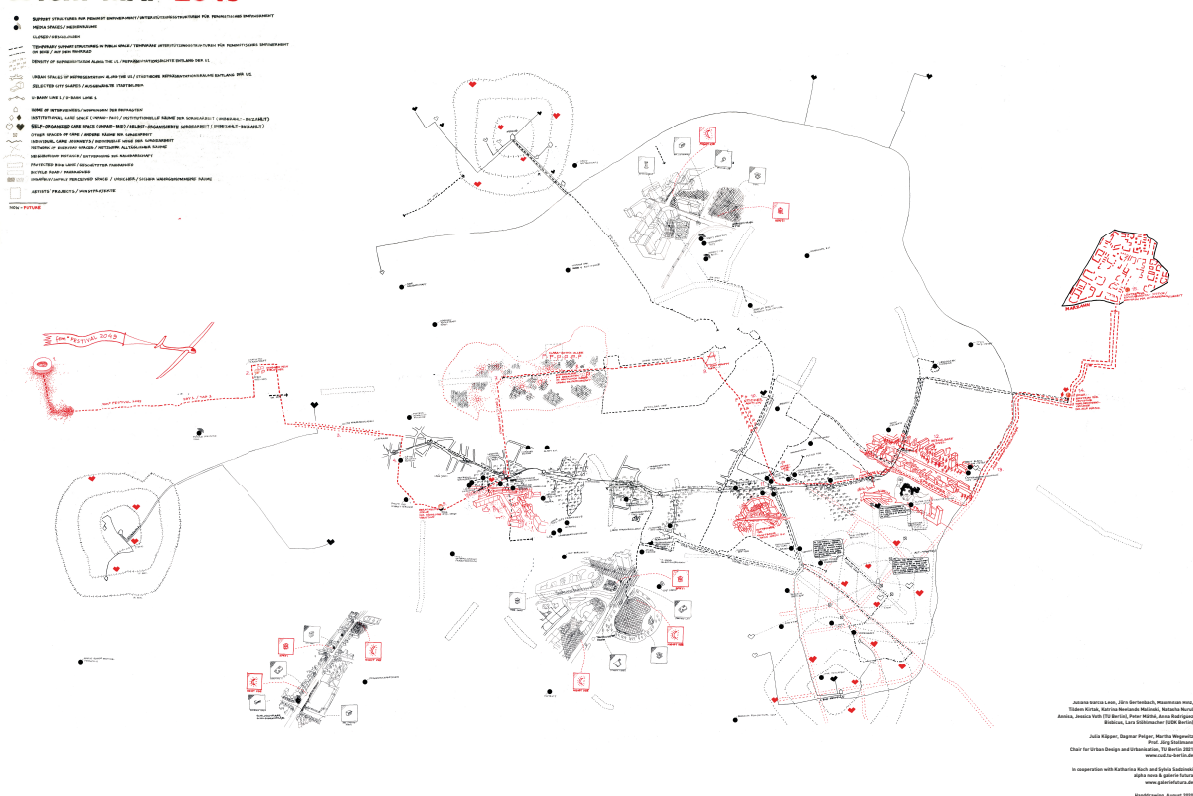
Figure 5.6. *Project overview, summarising the categories of city life that represent gender imbalances in relation to locations in Berlin [Koepper et al., 2022].*

Overall, the fem*Map Berlin 2049 analysis has resulted in finding it serves as a tool for creating more inclusive and equitable urban planning practices in Berlin. It provides a platform for advocacy, education and community building, with the goal of creating a more inclusive and equitable city for all [Koepper et al., 2022]. It is categorized in this research as a 'tactical' approach to planning, as the idea and development of this tool for assessment of the urban landscape was created not by governmental institutions, but by research from the planning department at a local university, aiming to contribute to the topic of gendered urban planning. This therefore contributes to the argument that combining approaches and knowledge resources is important in the development of an equitable city, that considers a range of approaches to be more inclusive for all genders and create non-sexist cities. Another issue that must also be addressed is the lack of media information about tactical approaches such as the fem*Map; there are no newspaper articles about this project, which suggests it is not as well known as it could be by local citizens. This lack of information leads to this gender approach not being as widespread as it could be.
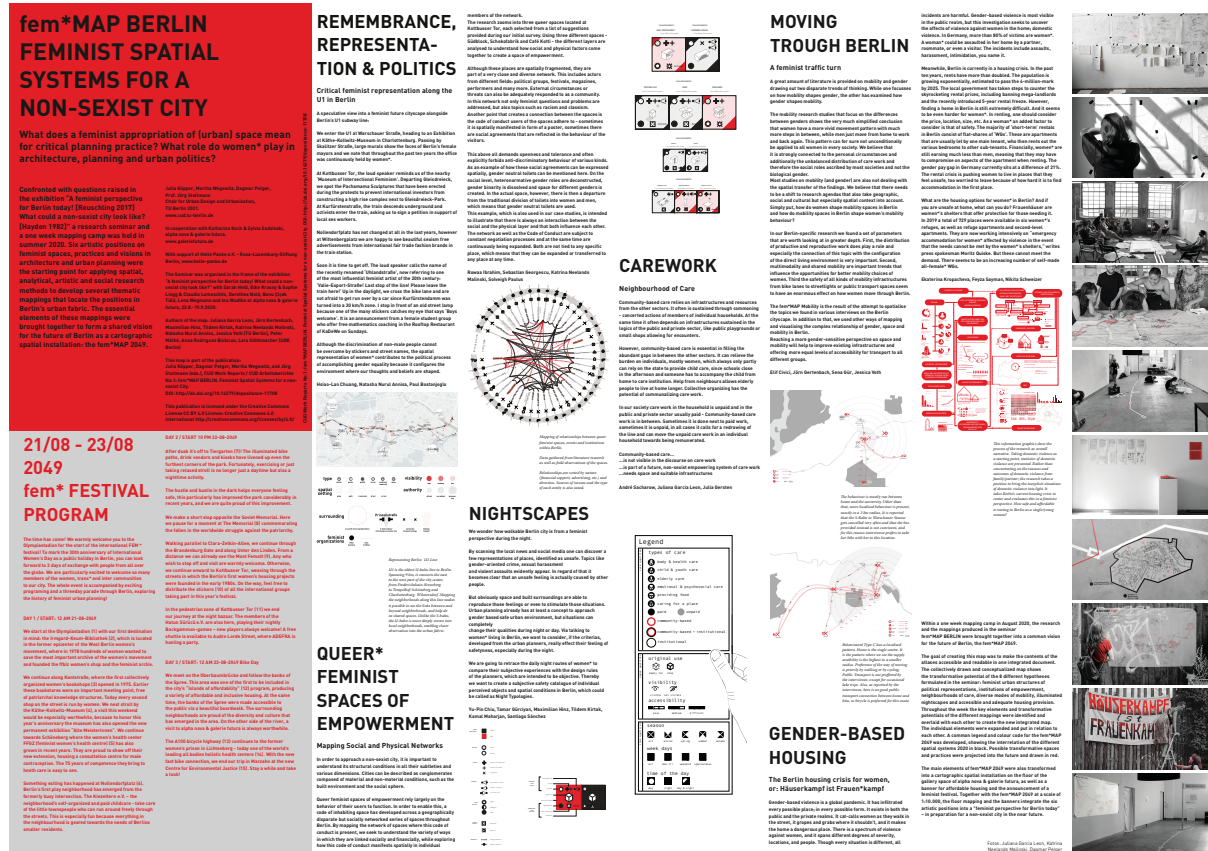
Figure 5.7. *Nightscapes, housing, representation, and mobility analysis based on women's experiences in Berlin [Koepper et al., 2022].*

5.3.2   New types of knowledge production for urban planning.

For further analysis, the theme of knowledge production in the Berlin context must also be examined. As highlighted by Huning et al. [2021], knowledge production plays an important role in planning processes. For an enriched planning process, there is a need to leave individual 'comfort zones' and accept different types of knowledge, which can be a challenge during urban participation events. Even though they focus on interculturality within their research, this can also be applied to gender topics, as women are often marginalised in the participation processes. Huning et al. [2021] stress how target-group oriented participation processes are based on definitions by planners or other administrative staff. Hence, a lack of sensitivity in terms of gender or who may use their everyday understanding without reflecting that target group definitions themselves are expressions of power from a top-down perspective of those who define them. This implies a reflective approach from planners, when collaborating with citizens or smaller local organisations; there is a need to be aware of the importance of listening to participant definitions and needs, in order to fully grasp the problems these groups are facing.

Other tactical urban participation strategies, meaning those that engage in temporary or smaller-scale interventions in the urban environment to engage citizens and address specific urban issues in Berlin, include pop-up markets, community led renovations, temporary installations and participatory workshops from local institutions. This supports the idea of enriching knowledge production by providing a range of views about urban planning issues.

- Pop-up Markets: Pop-up markets are temporary markets that appear for a short duration, usually in vacant lots or unused buildings. Berlin has witnessed a range of pop-up markets, such as flea markets, artisanal markets, and food markets. These events provide opportunities for local entrepreneurs, artists, and residents to showcase their products and promote community interaction.

- Temporary Installations: Temporary installations, such as art installations, interactive displays, or urban furniture, are often used to transform public spaces and stimulate citizen engagement. Berlin has seen various temporary installations, including sculptures, murals, light installations, and temporary seating areas, which enhance the aesthetics of the city and encourage public participation.

- Community-Led Renovations: In some neighborhoods, citizens have come together to revitalize neglected or deteriorating public spaces. Through community-led initiatives, residents organize clean-up campaigns, graffiti removal projects, and minor renovations to improve the appearance and functionality of their local parks, plazas, or playgrounds.

- Participatory Workshops: Berlin hosts participatory workshops that allow citizens to actively contribute their ideas and opinions to urban planning and development processes. These workshops involve interactive sessions, brainstorming exercises, and collaborative decision-making to address specific urban challenges or shape future projects.

These examples demonstrate how tactical urban participation approaches in Berlin engage citizens, promote community involvement, and contribute to the livability and creativity of the city. They also make reference to the vital need for city officials to take these into consideration in order to promote more inclusive urban environments that support the different population groups they host. Meaning, both GM policies and fem*MAP can be coupled together so that knowledge production can be shared and further analysed, as well as incorporating other participation approaches such as those mentioned in this section in Berlin. To do so, in the next chapter, a critical discussion of the introduction of Her City toolbox in Berlin is examined, to contribute to this theme of an enriched urban planning participation that focuses on gender equality.

Discussion 6

The main purpose of this chapter is to discuss the potential of introducing the Her City toolbox in Berlin, Germany. As explained in section 3.5.1 The Her City Toolbox seeks to promote gender equality and social inclusion by recognizing the different experiences and needs of women and girls in urban environments [Andersdotter Fabre et al., 2021]. It aims to promote gender-responsive urban planning and design by providing guidance, tools, and methodologies for creating inclusive urban spaces for women and girls.

This fits according to this thesis' research questions and objectives, and specifically, aims to answer the following research question:

- *How can participation of women in urban planning processes be enhanced further with the integration of new methods and tools in Berlin?*

As identified in the broader literature review presented in chapter 3 and the resulting findings analyzed during chapter 5, there are several factors that influence towards women participation in urban planning processes. These barriers include time constraints (mostly due to care-taking roles and the amount of time these take), lack of information about participation meetings, monetary constraints and mobility constraints (availability and accessibility of public transport, cycling or private cars) [Koepper et al., 2022].

This chapter will focus on how Her City can solve these barriers to participation, and is structured as follows; first, it introduces how to combine the approaches previously discussed in the analysis with Her City. After, an overview of the implementation process, including a timeline and the participation approach for Berlin. Following this, the advantages and disadvantages of Her City being an online open access tool. Finally, a a sub-conclusion, which will then lead to the final conclusion chapter.

6.1 'Her City' toolbox.

6.1.1 Combining previous approaches with Her City.

After analysing GM policies as implemented by Berlin's government, these policies and programs reflect Berlin's commitment to gender mainstreaming and to ensuring that urban planning and development is inclusive and just for all residents, regardless of gender. This section focuses on evaluating the significance of introducing the Her City toolbox in Berlin; through interview findings and thematic analysis linked to academic literature, to emphasize the need for gendered urban planning participation, and address the practical considerations of implementing the toolbox within the existing urban planning regulations in Berlin.

As one of the key themes identified throughout the analysis is the lack of specific participation guidelines, an approach to make these more specific could be the use of the 'Her City Toolbox' as a structural approach to gendered urban planning in Berlin. Since Berlin's Urban Development Office has already laid ground to a gender-sensitive approaches to urban planning through GM, it allows for openings towards an even more developed participation process in the city. Additionally, 'Her City' has already been implemented in the German context in the city of Weimar, which has the potential to facilitate its implementation in Berlin. This discussion section is therefore dedicated to exploring the potential implementation of the 'Her City' toolbox in Berlin.

The resulting themes from the interview conducted with Elin Andersdotter Fabre combined with desk-based research (as seen in diagram 6.1) are presented here. She has been one of the key expert actors in the development of this platform, that promotes women participation in urban planning, and sets the laying grounds of the steps to be taken so that girls and women's voices are heard, at the different scales (neighbourhood scale, city scale). The previously presented gender inclusive approach to urban planning 'Her City Toolbox' can be adopted by local governments and collectives as a tool to include women's lived experiences, and therefore be able to include their perspectives into the planning process.

One of the steps the 'Her City Toolbox' includes in their city-wide assessment for gender inclusive planning is depicted in the following page [Andersdotter Fabre et al., 2021, p. 21]. This desk review is similar to a theoretically framework within academic research, and hence is similar to a literature review, as can be seen in figure 6.1. However, it also includes the importance of a policy review and the review of spatial and statistical data. It is useful to this research in terms of the discussion chapter (chapter 6), as it is part of the process of analysis when implementing participation strategies in urban planning, but also, since it will be evaluated in relation to Berlin after the analysis. Moreover, it has the potential it has to improve urban planning participation processes in terms of gender equality, by taking into account women's needs, prioritising their experiences in the planning process.

Activity 1

Desk review

This activity will provide the necessary background knowledge of international principles on planning, gender and youth. It will help you to review the existing planning frameworks and urban policies in place. It will finally guide you through the gathering of basic spatial and statistical data about the context and the place.

Step 1 | Literature review

Conduct a literature review to get the basic knowledge on public space planning, youth and gender. Here is a list of publications to start with:

- Urban Girls Catalogue - How cities planned for an by girls work for everyone
- Urban Girls Handbook - A global guide to participartory public space planning & design
- Women Leaders - Empowering future generations
- Gender Responsive Urban Planning and Design
- Gender and Urban Planning
- Policy and Plan for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women in Urban Development
- Gender Equality Action Plan
- Gender equality and urbanisation
- Build Safe and Inclusive Cities for Women: A Practical Guide
- Adolescent Girls's Views on Safety in Cities
- State of the world girls 2020
- State of the worlds girls 2015
- The City at Eye Level For Kids
- Gender - Inclusive Urban Planning and Design
- Diverse and Empowered Girls: A Practical Guide For Girl Activists
- Researching Violence Against Women
- Voices on Urban Girls Movement
- Meet a Minecrafter: Urban Girls Movement
- Cities imagined by women

Step 2 | Policy review

Review urban policies and the planning frameworks currently in place. Learn how the planning system is structured, which level of government is responsible for planning and the existing participatory mechanisms in place. List the key laws, regulations and policies to take into consideration throughout the project. In particular, research and summarise the currently place and role of women and youth within these practices. This information could be found through the official public channels (municipality website, city hall, city administration, etc.).

Step 3 | Spatial and statistical data

Gather any available open data related to spatial and statistical information about the place. Make sure to use disaggregated data where this applies.

- **Maps** - Historical and updated maps at city and neighbourhood scale (PDF, jpeg, etc).
- **Data** - Geo-referenced data of public space networks, road networks and green-blue infrastructure (Shapefiles, KMZ, etc.).
- **Census** - Recent census or household surveys (PDF, csv, etc).
- Urban studies - Recent studies about specific urban issues (flooding, traffic congestion, crime, etc.).
- **Social studies** - Recent studies about social issues such as the culture and the role of young women in society (newspapers, articles, media, etc).

Figure 6.1. *Summary of desk review activity for city-wide analysis for participation of women in urban development decisions [Andersdotter Fabre et al., 2021, p. 21]*

6.1.2 Her City Implementation process.

The findings of this study highlight the topic of gendered urban planning is an ongoing issue that still needs to be addressed in innovative ways [Horelli et al., 2015; Huning, 2020]. Eventhough since the 1990s feminist movements in Berlin began influencing the city's social fabric creating an intercultural and forward-thinking environment, there are still urban planning issues to be addressed in terms of social disparities [Sandercock and Forsyth, 1992; Casanovas Marfà et al., 2013; Fenster, 2005; Hayden, 2014]. Hence, the need for the introduction of urban planning tools that tackle these is ongoing, and the Her City toolbox [Andersdotter Fabre et al., 2021] is relevant in Berlin to enhance gendered urban planning participation processes, and foster a more inclusive and balanced approach to urban development. The current urban planning practices in Berlin often lack adequate representation and involvement of women in decision-making processes, leading to a skewed understanding of the diverse needs and perspectives of the population. By adopting the Her City toolbox, which provides a framework for participatory public space planning and design, Berlin can address these gender disparities and create a more equitable urban environment. The toolbox offers a range of innovative tools, such as gender-responsive mapping, participatory workshops, and inclusive design guidelines, that can enable a more inclusive and collaborative approach to urban planning. By incorporating these tools into existing urban planning regulations, Berlin can facilitate meaningful participation from women and ensure that their voices are heard and their specific needs are considered in the development of public spaces.

Implementing the Her City toolbox in Berlin requires careful consideration of the existing urban planning regulations and their compatibility with the proposed participatory approaches. The city's regulatory framework, including zoning codes, development guidelines, and public consultation processes, should be reviewed and adapted to accommodate the principles of the Her City toolbox. This may involve revisiting the criteria for public participation, redefining the scope of stakeholders involved, and integrating gender-responsive indicators into the assessment and evaluation of urban development projects. In addition, it is crucial to provide training and capacity-building programs for urban planners and decision-makers to familiarize them with the concepts and methodologies introduced by the toolbox. To support this argument, interview responses suggest the importance of partnerships with local entities and stakeholders, as well as larger organizations such as the UN, in order to organise an inclusive and efficient participation process;

> "(...) our main partners here are either like municipalities that also obviously partner with civil society. Organizations or small design firms too, implement partners on the ground, but it could also be UN agencies we work with UN women"[Fabre, 2023].

By aligning the implementation of the Her City toolbox with the existing urban planning regulations and ensuring that it becomes an integral part of the city's governance framework, Berlin can create a more inclusive and gender-responsive urban planning process, leading to the development of public spaces that better serve the needs and aspirations of all residents, regardless of gender.

6.1.3 Her City timeline for Berlin.

Implementing the Her City toolbox on a city-wide scale in Berlin requires a well-structured timeline for analysis and action, which will then lead to its implementation. Meaning, the process of gathering a city-wide or neighbourhood-level data for analysis, which would then lead to the participation meetings takes longer than the later implementation of measures in the urban landscape;

> "(...) it's like half a year maybe for the whole Her City process. But I mean it's supposed to be flexible and and and as I said there are different blocks, depending on your focus of where you are in the process you you might skip or you want to might do them in a slightly different order."[Fabre, 2023].

Scale was a recurring theme in the interview, a topic that matches previous case studies in other cities, such as Barcelona [Casanovas Marfà et al., 2013], as it is important to understand the stages to be taken for the assessment to be made. As the following quote from the interview states, Her City

> "(...) is multi-scaled, we always zoom down to to the neighborhood or to the site level. We usually work with the kind of 400 meter radios. So around the five minutes walking radius."[Fabre, 2023].

> "(...) after doing the city wide assessment, you know which spaces are the most urgent ones to to deal with or where to start. You do one site or a couple of them, but then the idea is to scale. You know that that informed strategies to scale up, to the wider level so eventually having a kind of a citywide strategy for for this kind of inclusive approach."[Fabre, 2023].

A phased approach can be adopted and might be convenient for Berlin as it is a large city, starting with a comprehensive city-wide analysis to identify the current gaps and challenges in gendered urban planning participation. This analysis would involve conducting surveys, community workshops, and interviews to gather data on women's experiences, needs, and suggestions regarding public spaces. Building on the insights gained, the subsequent phase would focus on developing tailored interventions and guidelines in line with the Her City toolbox. This aligns with interview responses stating that

> "(...) first of all, that's the point where the toolbox to really make that speed up, that process be by being extremely systematic and having all the tools (...) it's more or less four months depending on if you do what we call the Block 2, where you actually do a city wide public space assessment"[Fabre, 2023].

This would include revising urban planning regulations, conducting training sessions for urban planners and decision-makers, and collaborating with relevant stakeholders. The timeline should consider the iterative nature of the process, allowing for periodic evaluations, adjustments, and

ongoing engagement with communities. Drawing insights from successful experiences such as the Her City project in Weimar, which demonstrated positive outcomes in terms of women's participation and transformed public spaces, can provide valuable guidance for adapting the toolbox to the specific context of Berlin.

6.1.4   Her City participation approach in Berlin.

The participation process in implementing the Her City toolbox in Berlin should emphasize collaboration with women neighbors and local entities. This aligns with the previously presented findings from the analysis which state engaging with women residents and involving them in decision-making processes can be facilitated through various mechanisms. One approach could be establishing women-led neighborhood committees, comprising representatives from diverse backgrounds and age groups, to actively engage in discussions, provide input, and advocate for their communities' needs. Collaborating with local women's organizations, community centers, and grassroots initiatives can further strengthen the participation process, ensuring that the voices and concerns of women are effectively addressed. Workshops and co-creation sessions can be organized to encourage collaboration between urban planners, designers, and women residents, fostering a sense of ownership and empowerment. This resonates with the previous cases realized in Barcelona and their participative sessions [Casanovas Marfà et al., 2013]. By integrating these participatory mechanisms into the implementation of the Her City toolbox, Berlin can create a robust framework for inclusive urban planning that reflects the aspirations and desires of its diverse female population.

To measure the effectiveness of implementing the Her City toolbox in Berlin, it is crucial to establish appropriate evaluation mechanisms. Key indicators can be identified to assess the impact of the toolbox on gendered urban planning participation processes and the resulting changes in public space design. These indicators may include the number of women involved in decision-making forums, the incorporation of gender-responsive design elements in public spaces, and the satisfaction levels of women residents regarding the inclusivity and usability of the transformed spaces. Surveys, interviews, and focus groups can be conducted to collect data, allowing for a quantitative and qualitative analysis of the outcomes. By regularly evaluating these indicators, Berlin can track progress, identify areas for improvement, and ensure that the implementation of the Her City toolbox leads to tangible and positive changes in gendered urban planning participation.

6.1.5   Her City online open access tool.

One of the advantages of this toolbox is the fact that it is freely available online. The importance of digitalising such tools is related to expanding the Right to Participate; it promotes the the right of citizens to take an active role in decision-making processes that create the urban environment, as they can contribute to pinpointing the issues they experience by following the different steps presented in this online methodology. It supports participation at different scales; participation in political and institutional processes, as well as involvement in the management and administration of the city [Dikeç, 2001]. Being available as an open access tool for planners and local entities promotes the opportunity to collaborate remotely. This contributes to a range of perspectives being able to create new analyses and knowledge creation, and the resulting

variety of assessments from it serves as inspiration for gendered urban planning developments to move forward. Following Casanovas Marfà et al. [2013] ideas around empowerment, it can then be argued that this will have an influence on the project being realised, as how it is approached is made easier for contributors. Additionally, it supports the creation of new social relations or networks between the community involved; in this case, for instance, women and girls in Berlin. Furthermore, following O'Brien [2018], this urban participation strategy involves more than behaviours, to also involve technological advancements in the form of remote collaboration. This supports the upcoming urban developments in the form reorganisation of political and economic institutions, which could imply a shift in societal systems as well.

However, it must also be noted that a disadvantage is the hindering for those who cannot access the internet. It is also open to misinterpretation as people will have different views on the written statements so it is important that a detailed introduction to the use of this tool is clearly stated beforehand. Nevertheless, these explanations must still be understood by everyone, without over-complicated statements, as this is one of the key advantages and objectives of the toolbox.

Overall, Her City facilitates collaboration among planners and stakeholders. Planners can share documents, maps, and designs with team members and engage in real-time discussions. This enhances coordination, enables faster feedback loops, and ensures that all relevant parties are involved in the planning process. Moreover, another advantage is it empowers local citizens by providing them with opportunities to participate in the planning process. They can contribute ideas, provide feedback on proposals, and engage in discussions with planners and other community members. This involvement helps ensure that plans reflect the needs and aspirations of the local population. It also facilitates remote collaboration to additional resources such as educational materials, best practices, and city assessments, in this case of gendered urban planning. These resources help citizens build their capacity in urban planning and contribute to the overall improvement of their communities.

6.2   Discussion conclusion

Overall, this section has focused on the potential of enhancing participation strategies to be more inclusive, placing gender at the core of participation in urban planning in Berlin with the addition of Her City as an assessment tool that can create urban planning projects considering gender disparities in participation and decision-making processes. As developed in the beginning of this chapter, time resources could potentially be a barrier to participatory planning. Therefore, Her City promotes the use of online resources as a way to conduct a neighbourhood wide or city wide assessment through a detailed and well structured plan to follow. This chapter has argued some of the considerations to take when implementing Her City in Berlin, which seems appropriate due to the city's open-minded nature and forward-thinking urban planning policies (as seen through their previous GM policies). It takes gendered participation to the next step, and even though it shares similarities with fem*MAP, it provides the opportunity of remote collaboration as well as a more specific timeline for the assessment to be conducted. Additionally, combining Her city with fem*MAP findings serves as an advantage for further development of the participation meetings conducted in fem*MAP Berlin, which could be now enhanced, since the social networks developed during these imply participants are more likely to know what this process looks like, and more likely to participate in similar sessions.

Conclusion 7

7.1 Concluding remarks.

Noting the existing academic material around the topic of gendered urban planning, this thesis aimed to distil the evolution of some participation strategies in Berlin, which aim to promote gender equality and empowerment in the city. The historical legacies of the German planning frameworks examined throughout section 5.2.2 suggest opportunities, due to municipalities being reasonably free to implement local urban planning schemes. Moreover, specifically in Berlin, the residual political landscape has created a vibrant social movement ideology amongst its citizens, which opens spaces for participation and collaboration in terms of urban planning. However, in terms of gender, disparities still exist, inscribed in the social and urban landscape, and therefore, this suggests there are opportunities for improvement of gendered participation, which would bring about a more inclusive approach to planning.

This research has aimed to answer the main research question:

- *How do gendered urban planning and urban participation strategies shape inclusive and equitable urban development in Berlin, Germany?*

The following sub-research questions have been formulated to guide the literature review (Chapter 3), methods (Chapter 2.5), analysis (Chapter 5) and discussion (Chapter 6) accordingly:

- *What does gendered urban planning imply for gender equality and the gendered Right to Participate?*
- *What are the tactical and structural approaches to participation in gendered urban planning in Berlin?*
- *How can participation of women in urban planning processes be enhanced further with the integration of new methods and tools in Berlin?*

Through the theoretical framework, gendered urban planning was developed as a concept for creating and sustaining improved urban environments that aim towards gender equality. This concept, which stems from Healey [1998], decodes the power-related dynamics typically found in urban planning projects and together with other theories related to capacity resources, it laid the foundation for the analysis. To do so, this thesis also draws on other relevant theories such as the gendered RttC, intersectionality, feminist theory, empowerment and urban participation.

The analysis is based on a case study of Berlin, a lively, international city that in the past 40 years has successfully implemented a range of policies in order to include women's voices in the planning processes that shape the city. The degree of success is not endorsed nor rejected in this research - instead, this research has been concerned with identifying and analysing the

gendered strategies for urban planning participation processes, to in turn have a more inclusive consideration of the experiences and needs of these in city life.

From document analysis, the gendered urban planning participation strategies can be explained divided into two main categories:

Structural approaches: GM is placed in this section due to its institutionalised nature to gender equality. This is seen as a reflection of the city's dedication to promoting gender equality and inclusive urban planning. GM policies aim to raise awareness about gender disparities, prioritize the specific needs of diverse users, and offer opportunities for education and empowerment. However, several limitations are identified, including the abstract nature of proposed plans, the lack of empirical data to evaluate effectiveness, the potential co-optation by neoliberal governance, and the failure to address power dynamics, particularly in terms of communication during meetings. As a result, it is suggested that GM strategies should be integrated into broader urban planning frameworks and practices to avoid isolation and ensure early consideration of gender issues, as well as an updated assessment of the policies implemented in 2011. Additionally, they should be complemented by other approaches to gendered participation, such as fostering collaboration with local organizations. The upcoming discussion will further explore the connection between GM and the "Her City"Toolbox, examining the strengths, weaknesses, and future prospects of GM policies in Berlin's urban planning and development endeavors.

Tactical approaches: fem*MAP Berlin has yielded significant results, demonstrating its role as a valuable tool for fostering more inclusive and equitable urban planning practices in Berlin. It serves as a platform for advocacy, education, and community building, with the overarching aim of gender equality [Koepper et al., 2022], in line with gendered urban planning literature [Hayden, 2014; Fenster, 2005; Horelli, 2017]. This research categorizes the fem*MAP as a 'tactical' approach to planning, as it originated from the planning students rather than governmental institutions. Its purpose is to contribute to the field of gendered urban planning. This highlights the importance of combining different approaches and knowledge resources in the pursuit of developing an equitable city that takes into account a diverse range of perspectives and creates non-sexist urban spaces. However, an additional challenge lies in the lack of media coverage surrounding tactical approaches like the fem*MAP. The absence of newspaper articles and limited awareness among local citizens suggests that the project may not be as widely recognized as it could be. This information gap impedes the broader dissemination and adoption of the gender-focused approach, underscoring the need for increased awareness and information-sharing to maximize its impact and reach within the community.

The resulting data from the semi-structured expert interview with a key actor involved in the project 'Her City' demonstrates how this tool work, and how it is suitable and relevant in the German context; it has been previously utilized in Weimar, and Berlin possesses the resources to carry out such collaborations with local partners and city officials. A recurring theme through the interview was the need for both a city-wide and a neighbourhood scale assessment. Furthermore, the need for collaboration with local representatives and organizations in order to organize successful meetings. Finally, the need to create safe spaces and trust between organizers and participants. It can be deduced that without resources, achieving a goal in the city or area can be a challenge. The planner can then align the community interests with those in the municipality

or planning structure, so that the projects put forward can have backing from officials and politicians, as demonstrated with GM. However, from the analysis, fem*Map was not taken then forward to city officials and therefore the gathered information and mapping that was realized could be combined with Her City, as they would compliment each other and in turn, would lead to an enhanced assessment of Berlin's gender issues.

In this light, this thesis finds that collaboration between the city and the citizens is also a crucial point for the success of a project. As the citizens will be the end users of the developments, their needs and expectations should be accounted for in all phases of a project in order for it to be successful. Planners must ensure the opportunities and access for citizens to be heard and expose the inputs they have in regards of the case. In addition to this, planners mostly bring forward strategies to promote idea creation between the stakeholders and that these ideas can be passed and translated to an official plan for a development project.

7.2   Recommendations & potential further research avenues.

Drawing on the discussion points and conclusions made throughout Chapter 6, this section aims to provide some guidance on a new best practice framework from Berlin's urban participation strategies that aim to collect more lived experiences from women in the city and therefore tackle gender inequalities. Due to the main aim of this research being to study this case in depth and understand how empowerment and increased gender participation is achieved in Berlin, the proposed recommendations are meant to guide future planning projects, which should take the issues discussed in this thesis into consideration. However, it must be noted, no specific examples are given; instead, these focus on the coupling of participation strategies which would have the potential to be converged and create more inclusive planning processes, based on the lessons learnt from Berlin's approach to gendered urban planning.

Implications towards future research focusing on gendered urban planning as a core component for successful urban development that supports gender equality are briefly explored in this chapter. However, only guiding points are presented, which future research might follow, due to the scope of this research not being to provide detailed future research avenues. Meaning, these are not detailed, and might only be taken as considerations which could contribute to developing this investigation even further.

Recommendations for Berlin have been previously discussed, however, this section aims to shed light on broader further research topics within the field. After conducting this study, further research could be informed by the ways in which Frauennetzwerk Berlin (FNB) work to improve women's lives in Berlin. This initiative comprises a network of women's organisations in Berlin, that work together in order to promote women's rights and equality. The FNB's website (frauennetzwerk-berlin.de) provides information about its member organizations, projects, and events. It also features a directory of women's services and resources in Berlin, such as counseling centers, shelters, and legal aid. Moreover, the findings and discussions could be translated to contextually similar cities, or combined with other existing strategies within that city. For instance, in Barcelona, which is also considered to be a culturally rich and international city that has seen a major growth in population in recent years.

Exploring the politics and urban rights of such transformations could also shed light on

contemporary planning practices, and how planners manage resources depending on the population they are working with, and the urban policies that are to be implemented. This could expand understandings of how planning is influenced by the types of groups it is planning for, and how resources might be adapted to these in order to be effective and convenient for such transformations. Finally, coupling gender with other inequalities minorities face should be at the centre of developing further research in this area of social urban planning; for instance, race, sexual orientation, religion and disability.

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Sample of interview transcript. A

Full interview transcript: Interview with Elin Andersdotter Fabre.

In the following pages, a transcript of the semi-structured interview conducted with Elin Andersdotter Fabre has been included, as it provides detailed information of the collected date through out the interview. Each paragraph is labelled with the speaker's name, 'Eva' being the researcher (meaning, the interviewer), and 'Elin' being the interviewee that provides longer responses as seen in the texts. This interview was about 25 minutes long in total.

0:0:26.720 --> 0:0:36.510
Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)
Can can we just before we start, can you give an introduction because I get quite a lot of these requests, so just give an introduction to to you and what you doing and.
0:0:37.320 --> 0:0:38.140
Eva Sanchez Alvarez
Yeah, of course.
0:0:40.770 --> 0:0:52.360
Eva Sanchez Alvarez
OK, so my name is Eva Sanchez Alvarez. I'm a student at a master student that I work university currently in my second year of my Masters in Urban Planning and Management.
0:0:59.310 --> 0:1:9.580
Eva Sanchez Alvarez
So the project is based in Berlin for now and it will be about or is about a women's participation in urban life. Like the institutional or more like governmental policies, for example, gender mainstream thing, but then also focusing on like noninstitutionalized actors and like how they organize. So this is kind of like the structure for now. But yeah, in general I just want to focus on how like women have historically historically been like marginalized from the city life and being being able to like participate fully in everyday life. And so how urban planning has to.
0:2:4.320 --> 0:2:6.580
Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)
So which department is it?
0:2:9.550 --> 0:2:11.730
Eva Sanchez Alvarez
Department. You mean the the masters?
0:2:18.180 --> 0:2:20.990
Eva Sanchez Alvarez
Ot's urban planning and management.
0:2:21.470 --> 0:2:23.360
Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)
OK, great. Now. But then I know.
0:2:29.900 --> 0:2:38.690
Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)
OK. Yeah, yeah. Now I remember. Yeah, exactly. Yeah. Now I remember. Great. No. OK then. Then I then I place you on my map.
0:2:40.780 --> 0:2:42.60
Eva Sanchez Alvarez

Figure A.1. Interview transcript developed after the interview with Elin Andersdotter Fabre.

It's kind of like a better hard to find a a focus point because of course like within women. Also there's intersectionality. And I mean, there's a lot of qualities going on. So like housing, public transport, public space, digitalizing processes.

0:3:5.910 --> 0:3:13.150

Eva Sanchez Alvarez

So I mean, I'm kind of exploring a bit of not everything, but you're kind of trying to understand like how different places and different associations by doing differently.

0:3:24.340 --> 0:3:29.450

Eva Sanchez Alvarez

And so now, since I also did a bit of an introduction, maybe I wanna ask you to maybe have a little introduction about like your what you doing, like what motivated the her city toolkit.

0:3:39.320 --> 0:3:44.490

Eva Sanchez Alvarez

Umm. For contributing to equal participation or like women and girls.

0:3:47.100 --> 0:3:55.210

Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)

And I mean the the basic or the fundamental idea with her city toolbox was really to.

0:3:57.270 --> 0:4:13.860

Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)

You know, gather all good tools out there and make them available for any urban actor to to make sure that these participatory processes are are easier and that we don't use that as an excuse that we don't have the tools. It takes too much time. We don't know how to do it.

0:4:18.290 --> 0:4:33.820

Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)

Need also came from a growing like political will among local governments to to adding like a gender perspectives to to urban life or the responsibilities of of the municipality, so to say.

0:4:34.180 --> 0:4:46.570

Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)

Uh, so. So there was at that point a little bit of a mismatch between the political will growing stronger and actually the knowledge among urban planners were were local.

0:4:47.850 --> 0:4:52.240

Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)

Civil, I mean civil service and local government to to really.

0:4:52.400 --> 0:5:7.30

Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)

Yeah, do this through mainstreaming work on on a daily basis. So that's really how how it started

Figure A.2. Interview transcript developed after the interview with Elin Andersdotter Fabre.

for, for us, I can talk forever on things. So I try to keep it brief as we don't have much time and then we can develop if there's anything.
0:5:8.840 --> 0:5:10.660
Eva Sanchez Alvarez
OK, perfect. No problem, no problem.
0:5:16.190 --> 0:5:16.530
Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)
Mm-hmm.
0:5:11.60 --> 0:5:17.850
Eva Sanchez Alvarez
Umm, yes. So I've seen like you, you you have a map actually in the her city.
0:5:21.860 --> 0:5:29.120
Eva Sanchez Alvarez
Uh, let me see if I can put it up, but it has said three different categorizations. If I'm not wrong, like collaborations.
0:5:59.220 --> 0:6:9.190
Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)
We I mean we kind of also became a little bit of an actor in the field because we had previously done a global mapping of good practices.
0:6:10.790 --> 0:6:40.340
Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)
And that is the very like kind of beige color you see on the map. So we knew that there were lots of goods, tools and methods and and practices globally going on. But we also knew that at the same time, as I, as I just said that, that the other municipalities were were architectural firms were were, I mean, could be both public and private sector actors were, like, constantly reinventing the wheel. These tools had already been been been developed elsewhere, so those like very kind of beige with the little talking, you know, what do you call it, even in English? The little speak speaking loud.
0:6:56.290 --> 0:6:58.690
Eva Sanchez Alvarez
Yeah, yeah. The speaking bubbles.
0:6:58.560 --> 0:7:18.210
Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)
Yeah, exactly. Those are the part of the initial mapping or good practices that would, you know, just a little bit representative geographically of good things going on. And that really informed like the the the toolbox that later and where we added you know where where we found the gaps throughout the entire process.

Figure A.3. Interview transcript developed after the interview with Elin Andersdotter Fabre.

0:7:20.740 --> 0:7:51.580
Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)
If we take this in kind of order of engagement, so to say, then the blue ones are all the her city individual users. So those are every you know person individual that register on the her city platform and they kind of equally represent like 1/4 public sector quarter private quarter academia and quarter civil society. So these are people that have registered and somehow.
0:7:51.810 --> 0:7:59.870
Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)
You saw her city in in their capacity, professional capacity in, you know, but on different levels.
0:8:0.330 --> 0:8:12.140
Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)
Umm. Then the yellow one are the hercity independent initiatives. So those are the users registered in the toolbox as facilitators for a specific project.
0:8:17.600 --> 0:8:23.710
Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)
Yeah, you could have like blue individuals. You know, that actually registered for that project.
0:8:23.970 --> 0:8:25.660
Eva Sanchez Alvarez
Oh, I see. OK.
0:8:24.170 --> 0:8:30.560
Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)
Uh, so those are like, but they're still very independent initiatives, so.
0:8:31.940 --> 0:9:0.590
Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)
I mean, we just know what they're doing when they're actually telling us. So those are project where you unhabitat, for example, aren't you know or or global utmaning, which is our think tank partner in Sweden where we're not like involved or we haven't got a formal partnership, but it could also be like you and had with that country offices or you know actors that we work with. But on a more you know informal level.
0:9:0.950 --> 0:9:24.80
Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)
And then last year have their pink ones, which are our kind of partnership projects where we are have been involved in, in, in the you know project team and kind of piloted and tested the toolbox in various locations. So you see they kind of have a spare, you know, geographical representation at least.
0:9:25.300 --> 0:9:55.730
Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)

Figure A.4. Interview transcript developed after the interview with Elin Andersdotter Fabre.

So we've done these projects in Latin America, in Europe, in, in Asia and in Africa. Ohh now I got into some weird zooming here. So those are the, those are also the ones that we kind of showcase particularly on our social media and then our reports and their projects that we follow and our main partners here are either like municipalities that also obviously partner with civil society. Organizations or small design firms to to, you know, implement like the implementing partners on the ground, but it could also be UN agencies we work with you and women with UNFPA or with you and habitat in you know, country will regional offices. So that is the overview of.

0:10:18.230 --> 0:10:30.260

Eva Sanchez Alvarez

OK. Yeah, yeah. No, I understand because it it's really nice to have it mapped. And I know that mapping is such a like kind of important tool these days. So identify the problems. But I was just curious to know more about it.

0:10:30.920 --> 0:10:45.390

Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)

And if you read the sorry if you have a, if you go on the website on the about page you have this her city report. So all this is explained there as well. So that's probably a good source for you. If you have seen it.

0:10:51.240 --> 0:10:54.570

Eva Sanchez Alvarez

It's also nice to hear from you since you're involved, you know.

0:10:55.170 --> 0:10:55.690

Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)

Of course.

0:10:57.170 --> 0:11:2.280

Eva Sanchez Alvarez

I was also going to ask because I've seen that one of the big projects was in Weimar.

0:11:3.50 --> 0:11:3.720

Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)

Yes.

0:11:3.480 --> 0:11:4.510

Eva Sanchez Alvarez

In Germany.

0:11:6.20 --> 0:11:19.180

Eva Sanchez Alvarez

I was wondering because since I'm in Berlin right now, but I'm kind of, I've I've chosen kind of

Figure A.5. Interview transcript developed after the interview with Elin Andersdotter Fabre.

Berlin for my case study for now at least. So kind of like the German urban planning and a bit like brilliant as a city.

0:11:20.270 --> 0:11:28.900

Eva Sanchez Alvarez

I was wondering if there is any like in the if there's anything in the, how do you say like in the?

0:11:29.820 --> 0:11:38.990

Eva Sanchez Alvarez

There's anything cooking right now in Berlin or anything specifically, or if you have any, if you've had any like particular partners with Berlin or with the municipality?

0:11:40.950 --> 0:11:43.680

Eva Sanchez Alvarez

Or any individuals may be include.

0:11:40.430 --> 0:12:11.420

Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)

Yeah. So yeah, so the very our project is very, it's a very it was a very independent partnership project and it was actually the first kind of academic project that was done. So it was run mainly by two students at the Bauhaus university that actually. So it started off as a as a kind of a thesis. But you know following the same process you know testing some of the tools.

0:12:11.540 --> 0:12:29.980

Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)

Umm and and then it eventually also evolved into kind of a little small movement in Weimar, and they also did quite a lot of advocacy work with the municipality and actually also made a proposal for a shorter, you know, I mean, academic course.

0:12:30.60 --> 0:12:38.180

Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)

Yeah. So I think the best thing is to actually contact that Callie and Lisa.

0:12:38.540 --> 0:12:51.650

Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)

Uh, so I could put you in. I mean, I could definitely those partnerships projects where we've been involved. I could definitely put you in contact with them. So I can share their. I could write an e-mail to put you in contact.

0:12:52.710 --> 0:12:58.730

Eva Sanchez Alvarez

Uh, that would be great. Thank you. Yeah. No, because I can. I can contact them as well. But I would.

Figure A.6. Interview transcript developed after the interview with Elin Andersdotter Fabre.

0:13:2.950 --> 0:13:3.440
Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)
Yeah.
0:13:8.440 --> 0:13:8.870
Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)
Yeah.
0:12:59.360 --> 0:13:8.930
Eva Sanchez Alvarez
Yeah, if you could help me out with this it would be really really useful. I know it's it's not Verlaine. Like, of course it's a different context, but it's still like the German context, which is.
0:13:9.670 --> 0:13:22.370
Eva Sanchez Alvarez
Interesting to see how this project developed more in detail, like of course I know like I've heard that like a bit of like the challenges solutions like you know a bit the story behind it, but also like more detailed maybe technical.
0:13:23.900 --> 0:13:28.650
Eva Sanchez Alvarez
Like technical problems or technical benefits of being in Germany.
0:13:29.450 --> 0:13:33.790
Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)
Yeah. And you go also discovered they also have a really nice Instagram account.
0:13:34.910 --> 0:13:37.990
Eva Sanchez Alvarez
OK, I will. I will definitely check that out as well.
0:13:39.690 --> 0:13:48.990
Eva Sanchez Alvarez
I was wondering, I don't know if it does like for example this project in Weimar. It was from October to January, I think.
0:13:51.780 --> 0:13:56.350
Eva Sanchez Alvarez
So, October, November just so it was four months for this project.
0:14:0.720 --> 0:14:2.610
Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)
Yes, more. Yes, semester kind of thing.
0:14:3.30 --> 0:14:12.890
Eva Sanchez Alvarez
Yeah, yeah, yeah. So I was wondering, is this like the normal time? Is it usually the amount of

Figure A.7. Interview transcript developed after the interview with Elin Andersdotter Fabre.

time it takes or of course, some are gonna be longer and shorter, but is it like a minimum time for this?

0:14:13.710 --> 0:14:23.350

Eva Sanchez Alvarez

Development of strategies and involvement and participation from local actors and stakeholders because it usually takes quite a while for it to like.

0:14:27.880 --> 0:14:28.400

Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)

Yeah, sure.

0:14:24.660 --> 0:14:32.400

Eva Sanchez Alvarez

Get some, you know, like to to get going and get some involvement. So I was wondering if you have any comments on this.

0:14:34.10 --> 0:14:49.660

Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)

Number first of all, that's the point where the toolbox to really make that speed up, that process be by being extremely systematic and having all the tools. Just you know, at hand. This one is obviously a little bit particular as it's academic project from the beginning.

0:14:51.140 --> 0:15:3.60

Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)

But but I mean, I would say it's more or less the same, it's more or less four months depending on if you do what we call the Block 2, where you actually do a city wide public space assessment.

0:15:4.400 --> 0:15:10.700

Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)

Or if you actually have a specific site in mind that you're kind of attacking straight ahead, you see what I mean.

0:15:11.980 --> 0:15:29.70

Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)

So if you do that, they had kind of a city wider scope though. So but, but I mean as I said, it was more more academic and and with the you know no intention to you know during that project cycle implement anything.

0:15:30.780 --> 0:16:0.570

Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)

And do more like advocacy work and then kind of hand it over to to the university and to the city for them to to take kind of this kind of ways of working forward. But otherwise if you if you do a hercity process and you do all of it, it's like half a year. But I mean it's supposed to be flexible and and and as I said there is a block, there are blocks that you are you know depending on your

Figure A.8. Interview transcript developed after the interview with Elin Andersdotter Fabre.

focus of where you are in the process you you might skip or you want to might do them in a slightly different order.
0:16:1.140 --> 0:16:2.120
Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)
But half a year.
0:16:3.760 --> 0:16:10.640
Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)
You know implementation and construction not not considered because that could take could be super quick or it could take yes.
0:16:12.600 --> 0:16:24.590
Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)
But, but that's kind of so I would say if you don't do the sitewide, if you, if you have more of a kind of public space where a site perspective and you don't do the city wide assessment, then you know four months is definitely.
0:16:26.190 --> 0:16:27.100
Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)
A good time frame.
0:16:28.130 --> 0:16:28.760
Eva Sanchez Alvarez
eah, I was gonna ask you just about now, like, about the kind of the different scales the her city toolbox can be used at. So yeah. So like citywide or neighborhood or is it more a park or kind of be?
0:16:45.350 --> 0:16:52.810
Eva Sanchez Alvarez
Like kind of be adopted for everything, you know? Like what? What kind of a skill can it be scaled up and down?
0:16:51.130 --> 0:17:11.20
Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)
Yeah. So, so I mean it's multi scale. Yeah, exactly. It's multi scaled. What we really do with her city is that we always zoom down to to the neighborhood or to the site level. We usually work with the kind of 400 meter radios. So like the five minutes walking radius.
0:17:12.820 --> 0:17:42.710
Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)
So. So the space is like accessible within, you know, walking distance and have that kind of, you know, scale. But the idea with her city is like, well, I mean, if you have done the city wide assessment, you know which spaces are the most urgent ones to to deal with or where to start. You do one site or if a couple of site. But then the idea is to scale. You know that that informed

Figure A.9. Interview transcript developed after the interview with Elin Andersdotter Fabre.

strategies to scale up. To to the wider level to so eventually having a kind of like a city citywide strategy for for this kind of inclusive.

0:17:54.80 --> 0:18:8.550

Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)

Um participatory planning and design at the at the city level, where then at the national level, potentially we see the programs in, in, in, in Gaza and the West Bank.

0:18:10.250 --> 0:18:33.680

Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)

Where you know, starting with the several citywide strategies in eight cities, then doing a few sites, doing the lessons from that and then scaling it it actually to the national level. So, so Palestine having or adopting as we speak, kind of.

0:18:35.260 --> 0:18:45.30

Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)

You know nationwide inclusive public space strategy. The same is a little bit happening in, in, in Peru.

0:18:45.180 --> 0:18:57.220

Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)

And somehow linked to the sites and the initiatives in three different locations in in Lima, now they're working on a kind of countrywide.

0:19:0.150 --> 0:19:11.90

Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)

I said first the city wide or and then a countrywide don't cite me. Quote me on that, but at least zooming out to to to a strategy or low or local national level.

0:19:11.190 --> 0:19:38.180

Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)

Uh, for, for, for this, for live and the and the country on with a certain focus on accessibility. So these are, you know, examples how you, you know, you you look at the city, you focus on the neighborhood or the sites scale, you zoom out again, you know, bringing the lessons from from that implementation. Did that answer your question?

0:19:38.660 --> 0:19:45.850

Eva Sanchez Alvarez

Yeah, yeah, no, it it makes sense. And it's really interesting to see how it can be like it. I think it's really important that it's like multi scalar and.

0:19:47.710 --> 0:19:55.200

Eva Sanchez Alvarez

Because this can be also an issue, so it's it's good that it can be neighborhood then take into a like larger city strategy.

Figure A.10. Interview transcript developed after the interview with Elin Andersdotter Fabre.

0:19:56.80 --> 0:20:10.920

Eva Sanchez Alvarez

But I was gonna ask now, since you mentioned Peru also like like is there a specific way in which her city can be adopted and implemented like in the different cultural, social, economic contexts. So talking about different countries.

0:20:11.570 --> 0:20:24.10

Eva Sanchez Alvarez

Like, how is this taking into account in the process or is it just because since different so since the toolbox is used by actors in that country, they know how to adapt it? Or is is that how it works or?

0:20:24.530 --> 0:20:26.660

Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)

Yeah, I would say rather works like that.

0:20:28.200 --> 0:20:57.430

Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)

But I think, I mean, I really wanna underline the importance of the doing this block one and that is kind of you know the the trick for the entire toolbox during your even if you feel that you're close to the actors on the ground, then you have the network, you know, thoroughly doing that stakeholder mapping and then thinking through kind of the project cycle, making sure that all the actors are not only saying like young women and girls on, you know, living in clothes.

0:20:57.530 --> 0:21:27.420

Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)

The connection to the site, but also all the other multi stakeholders being you know, political decision makers, you know urban professionals, private sector companies that might need to be abled in the in the implementation obviously strong civil society actors that have, you know work with the Community on the ground, researchers if if that is also needed in this specific context. So really make sure that you have everyone on board in your team and if you have that obviously there are slight differences.

0:21:28.20 --> 0:21:31.560

Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)

You know, in different cultures in different geographical locations.

0:21:33.320 --> 0:22:3.700

Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)

Particularly in terms of, I would say responsibility and mandates so, but that's also often where we come in and we we can kind of support where you know in some context you need to work a little bit more on the evolvement of the private sector or the civil society aspect. In other parts you have a really strong perhaps civil society actor but and they they know what they want and

Figure A.11. Interview transcript developed after the interview with Elin Andersdotter Fabre.

they actually have a mandate to or they have a have a like bearing on the ground but they don't have.
0:22:18.390 --> 0:22:18.760
Eva Sanchez Alvarez
Yeah.
0:22:4.540 --> 0:22:19.310
Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)
Like the formal mandate, because they're not working very closely with the local government. And so that will differ a little bit. So it's more like, but the recipe here is we involve everyone. So if you're mapping is, you know balanced, then it will work. And then being more inclusive in the beginning and then kind of have more of a natural or you know organic way of of working with this kind of project team that it becomes and and you know depending on the priorities that comes out of the process, you mean some actors will obviously become more important than others and some might drop off. But at least they were invited from the beginning you know then if they don't feel their participation is relevant, I mean that's for them.
0:22:49.230 --> 0:23:8.140
Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)
You, I mean your role was acknowledged and you were invited to the process. So I would say that that is a that is very relevant and and perhaps also related to to the previous question I I am, I also wanted to kind of highlight that depending on the.
0:23:8.960 --> 0:23:27.770
Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)
No governance structure in a specific country. Uh. You know, when you start running the process, you might see, for example, we had this project in in Sweden that it was working on kind of three sites at the same time and where we're neighbourhood scale and and the the one of the main partner was the municipality but.
0:23:28.590 --> 0:23:28.920
Eva Sanchez Alvarez
Yes.
0:23:29.190 --> 0:23:59.960
Elin Andersdotter Fabre (Affiliate)
The the political, I mean the governance structure in Sweden is that everything that's public transport, it's the responsibility of the region and the girls and the stakeholders. They actually had a lot of things to do to say about the bus and underground transport. So that was where we were forced to, which was good in the end, obviously to involve the region much more than we had planned to and in the end it kind of obliged the region and the municipality.

Figure A.12. Interview transcript developed after the interview with Elin Andersdotter Fabre.