

Citizen Scenario Cycle

When, why and how
to engage citizens in
scenario planning for
grey to green urban
transitions



Find out more

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How can citizens strengthen scenario planning stage by stage?

0

Initiation

Citizens may initiate the scenario process individually or collectively from within their communities

1

Scope

This stage defines the boundaries and core questions for the scenario exercise

Citizens contribute local knowledge to redefine system boundaries, ensuring local fit and relevance and local applicability

2

Co-Design

This is the main scenario-building stage where alternative futures are developed collaboratively

Citizens may participate directly in co-design workshops contributing (1) socio-cultural, behaviour and other informal drivers, (2) co-selecting scenario axes and underlying value tensions and visions and (3) social-cultural assumptions for enabling scenario conditions

3

Validation

This stage evaluates whether the scenarios are plausible, fair, and useful

Citizens assess plausibility and desirability of scenarios through preference ranking, narrative refinement, and contextual correction

They also help evaluate distributional impacts, identify unintended social inequities, and sense check for local context

4

Implementation

This stage turns scenarios into action and ensures they help guide change

Citizens contribute to uptake pathway development, behavioural commitments, and local implementation partnerships. They can also provide monitoring data and take ownership of the scenarios monitoring on the ground change

5

Impact

This final stage reflects on outcomes and sustains future action and move beyond just scenarios

Scenarios better reflect local priorities and social-ecological context, this increases chances of positive impact

Meaningful and engaged citizen participation leads to community ownership and improved public-citizen relations to drive change