TRANSFORMCITY MODULE 5 – SUGGESTED TIMELINE 'SPEEDY LEARNING'

Duration: 3 weeks
Time investment: 1 day per week

You are busy, but you also have a concrete urban transformation project that requires a different approach from what you are used to. Although your project already has targets and deadlines, you also need to bring in new knowledge, insights and practical tips and tools for yourself to be able to realise better results in the project. Carve out one day a week during three weeks and equip yourself while also making direct improvements to your project strategy. Learning by doing.

Week 1: Build your local toolbox

Morning

Content: Chapter 1 (Intro) & 2
Assignments:
1. Make a quick inventory of the different tools you currently use in your urban transformation project. Make a distinction between the three categories from the videos. Be as complete and possible with big and small, digital and analogue, self-built or bought or licensed.
2. Are there initiatives in your organization that would allow you to make smarter use of area data? Can you look for cooperation, for example with GIS, data or innovation departments?
3. Do you have good communication or collaboration tools to allow your growing local community to communicate with you and each other and exchange information and ideas? These can be low-threshold existing solutions, especially in the beginning, such as (closed or open) social media groups or Slack, for example.
4. Do you see any gaps for which you need smarter solutions?
5. Are there tools you are interested in but do not use yet and in which category do they belong?
6. Do you have your own creative ideas for tooling that you would like to get to work with immediately in your area to get your process going? This can be digital but certainly also analogue. For example, think of creative ways to connect with people in the area or facilitate a creative discussion about the area.

Content: Chapter 3
Assignments:
1. What parts of your process can you combine, translate, automate or otherwise support or augment through new tooling? You can use our checklist here to rapidly sketch the outlines for your own locally specific platform or combined toolbox.

Afternoon

Content: Chapter 4 & 5
Assignments:
2. Have a look at your platform or toolbox from last week and sharpen this based on what you learned this week. Can you sketch a functional map for yourself? You can use our functional map as an inspirational reference here if you like.

Week 2: Implement your local toolbox

Morning

Content: Chapter 6 & 7

Assignments:
Make a ten-step implementation plan for successfully implementing your toolbox in your organisation. As a reference you can also use our functional map from last week's download section to give you an idea of the different roles and responsibilities you need to organise. We also provide a checklist in this week's section to help you.

Content: Chapter 8 & 9
Assignments:
Make a ten-step implementation plan for successfully implementing your toolbox in your area. With which existing tools and communication channels can you make a smart combination? As a reference you can also use our functional map from two weeks ago to give you an idea of the different roles and responsibilities you need to organise. We also provide a checklist in this week's section to help you.

Week 3: Optimise your local toolbox

Morning

Content: Chapter 10
Assignments:
Have another look at your toolbox and sharpen and expand it based on what you learned in this chapter.

Content: Chapter 11
Assignments:
Have another look at your toolbox and sharpen and expand it based on what you learned in this chapter. You can use our inspirational brochure here as well.

Afternoon

Content: Review whole course
Assignment: Sharpen your strategy and action plan and get ready to start
1. Have another look at your toolbox and now refine your top five very first tools. Make sure that these are tools that you are able to start with right away, tomorrow morning at nine o'clock so to speak, so that you don't need any additional budget, permit, support, or other permission. Perhaps you already have creative ideas that you can prototype and test in the area, perhaps even made out of cardboard? And can you think of interesting collaborations with (design) schools and academia to build and test new tools in your area as a field lab? Make sure that at least one of these first tests has a strong social component so it gives you the opportunity to meet and talk with stakeholders in a light way and get some first feedback from them.
2. Take a moment to realise you just finished this module and redesigned your complete software strategy while also being busy with your regular work and projects. This is no small achievement in these busy times, and you should definitely celebrate this. Whether you pop open the champagne or plan something nice for yourself, enjoy – and congratulations!