

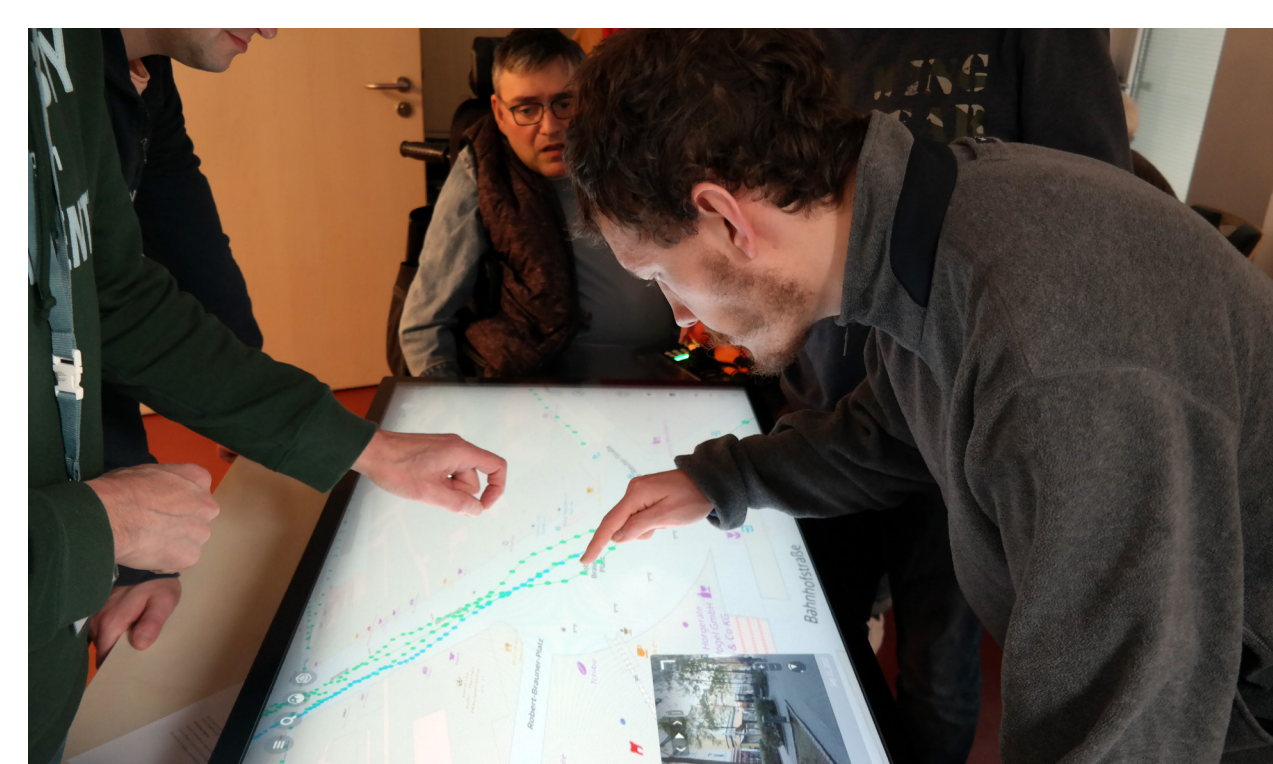
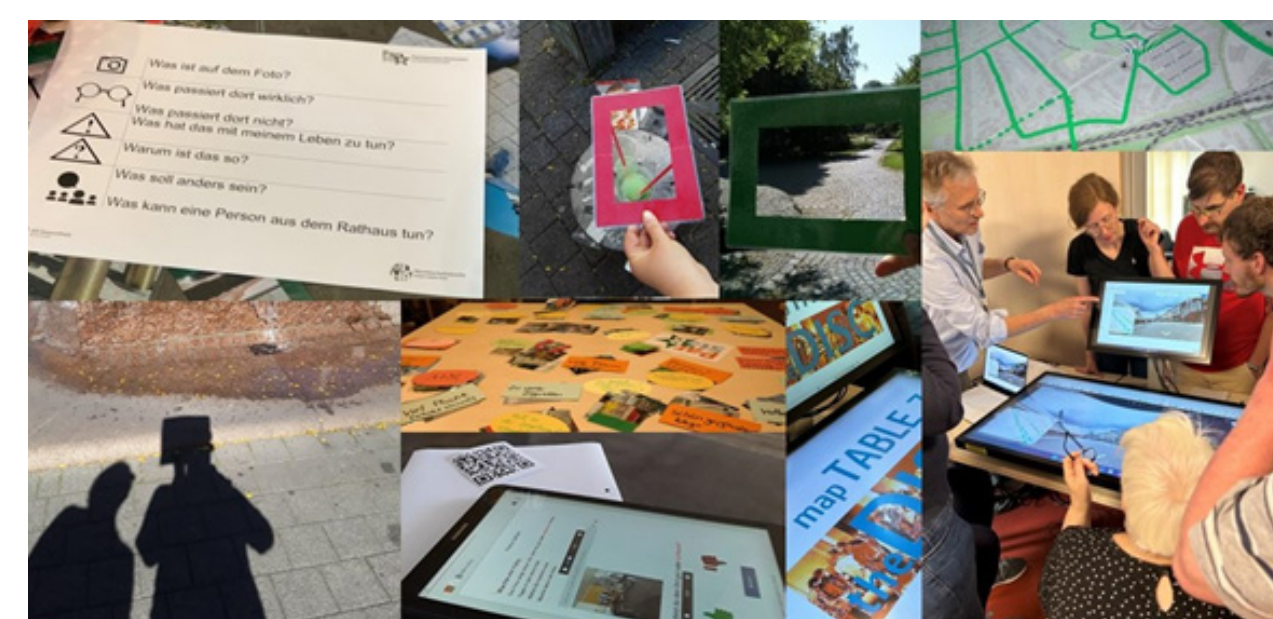
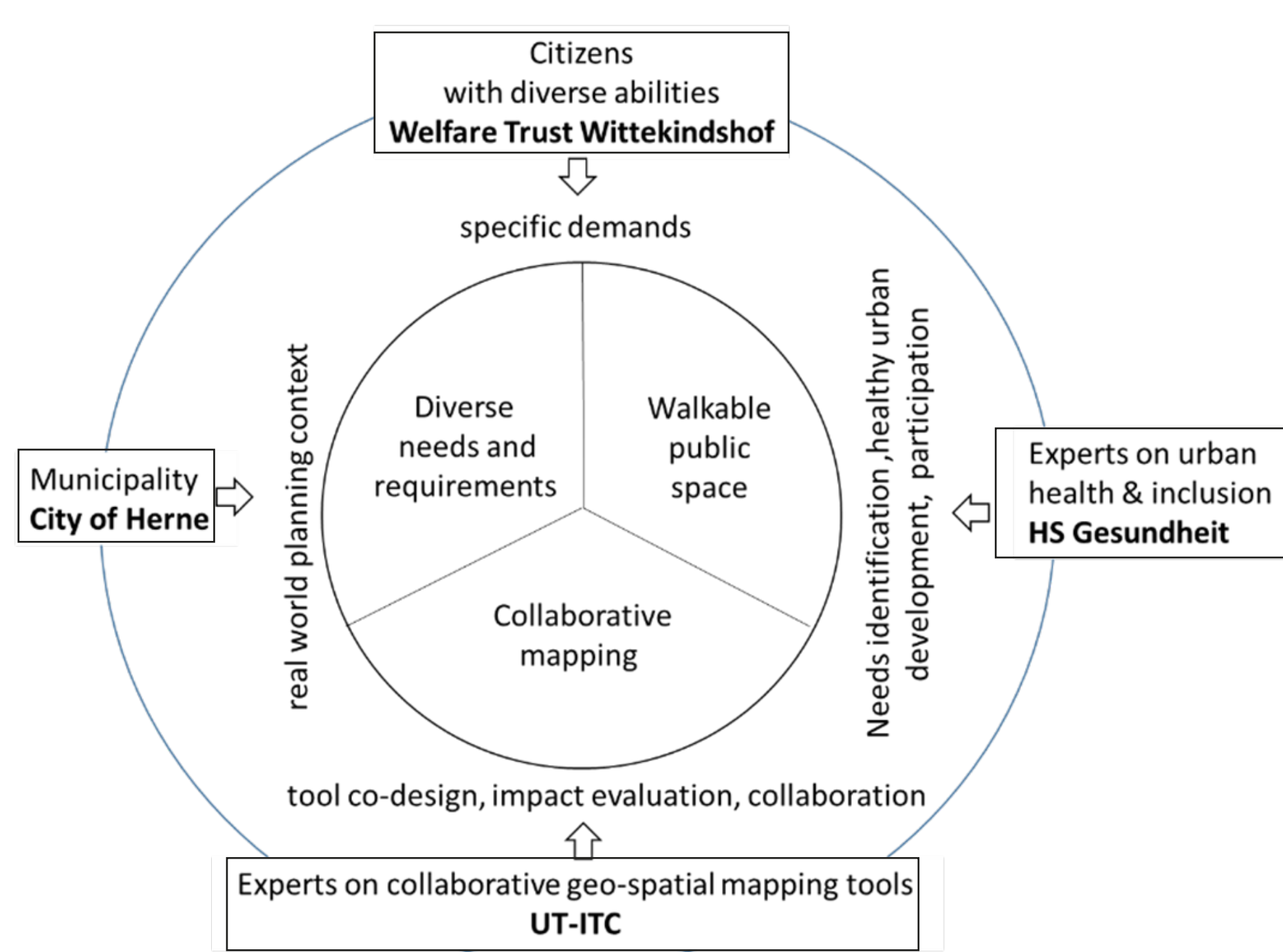
Engaging a group of people with diverse abilities in the co-design of an inclusive digital collaborative mapping tool in Herne, Germany.



CO-RESEARCHERS ARE

Heike Köckler, urban planner by profession, professor at the Department of Community Health (Hochschule für Gesundheit)
Christian Walter-Klose, psychologist, professor on disability at the Department of Community Health (Hochschule für Gesundheit)
Julia Brüggemann, social scientist at the Department of Community Health (Hochschule für Gesundheit), **Myriam Vittinghoff**, health scientist at the Department of Community Health (Hochschule für Gesundheit)
Johannes Flacke, associate professor Spatial planning and Decision Support Systems at the University of Twente

Karin Pfeffer, professor at the University of Twente, Chair in Infrastructuring Urban Futures
Marie Meinhardt, head of the Citizen Self-Help Center and the Department of Health Promotion and Planning in the City of Herne
Tobias Rahe, business unit manager at Wittekindshof Herne
 and the actively engaged co-researchers **Daniel Beisbart**, **David Zimmer**, **Stefan Zinta**, **Pia Bruchhage**, **Markus Tunkel**, **Maria Jeschonnek**, **Iwona Stawinogo**, **Muhammed Saygün**, **Ute Röseler**, **Sven Kämper**, **Ralf Liedtke**
 Within our team, we all view ourselves as co-researchers, with each individual contributing unique strengths and skills to the study.



FIELDWORK

Herne, focusing on **Wanne-Eickel** and city center. Study of activities in semi-public spaces at Wittekindshof.
 A software application called **OGITO** (Open Geospatial Interactive Tool)



RESULTS

The methods resulted in various findings provides valuable insights into daily experiences and interactions within the community:

- Public cleanliness issues (litter, broken glass)
- Dirty green spaces
- Call for more **pet-friendly** and well-maintained parks
- Demand for **seating areas in parks**
- **Safety concerns** (poor lighting, intimidating groups)
- **Obstacles on sidewalks** (e-scooters, bicycles, motorcycles)
- **Noise pollution** from busy streets



OUTPUTS

- Established foundational **principles of transparency, openness, trust and equality** for project success
- Fostered a **relaxed and joyful atmosphere**, enhancing teamwork and engagement
- **Prioritized inclusion of diverse individuals** in all research steps of citizen science projects
- Demonstrated potential for integration into **participatory planning processes**
- Observed **empowerment process, acknowledging the expertise of people** with diverse abilities in their own life, journeys, resulting in positive shifts in self-efficacy and perception



METHODS

Participatory Methods employed to identify walkability and accessibility aspects and challenges.

- **Potovoice**
- Digital mapping with **maptables**
- **Focus group**, and **mental maps**, **user story writing**, **group tool testing**
- **Observation and documentations** during the workshops
- **Evaluation process** with input from people with diverse abilities and city health department staff



CHALLENGES

- Ensuring **inclusive moderation** sensitive to individual strengths and needs
- Designing **organizational conditions for accessibility** and tailored communication
- Balancing **participant autonomy and group dynamics in the participatory process**
- Effectively **utilizing visual aids and feedback mechanisms** for comprehension
- Structuring meetings, providing adequate breaks, and **adapting research sessions to participant needs**
- Allowing **time for informal conversations** and fostering a trusting atmosphere
- Organizing numerous meetings for **coordination**, which would have been scarcely possible without synergies with other projects

Research blog (in English)
dimdici.hypotheses.org >

