

RP3017

ADELAIDE LIVING LABORATORY: CO-CREATION METHODOLOGY

Research Question

Can the co-creation methodology developed for ICT and service design be translated into the built environment? How can this best be facilitated? And how does this process change project outcomes?



Figure 1: A co-creation workshop at Bowden, one of the sites of the Adelaide Living Laboratory.

What is co-creation?

Co-creation is an evolving methodology that aims to facilitate meaningful cooperation between research, industry and end-users at all stages of a design and development process. The tools of co-creation abstract discussions so that all participants, regardless of their background, can contribute meaningfully to the development of innovative products and services.

Project Methodology

This project will be run in three phases, using a blended methodology that combines aspects of ethnography, phenomenology, and grounded theory.

The blended methodological approach is being used to collect data that will

support a Value Network Analysis, a form of social network analysis that will allow the documentation and quantification of the complex network of interactions that take place as a part of a co-creative process.

These interactions and value exchanges will be contrasted with those of a typical development process to highlight differences in these two processes.

Project Phases

Phase 1: Tools

Phase 1 is largely complete and began in February 2015. It involves the collection & analysis of existing co-creation tools and the development of an urban co-creation toolkit together with a post-use survey that will be tested in both the case studies facilitated as a part of this PhD, and through other projects within the Adelaide Living Laboratory, the CRC for Low Carbon Living, and the European Network of Living Laboratories.

Phase 2: Co-creation workshops

This phase will involve the facilitation of a workshop or series of workshops to inform the design of a building, product or service as appropriate to the research goals of the CRC and the Adelaide Living Laboratories project.

It is essential that there is an opportunity to involve stakeholders that would not normally be asked to contribute to the various stages of the development process, including interested community members, organisations, and partners.

Phase 3: Analysis of co-creation

process

The final phase of research will involve semi-structured interviews with workshop participants to gain insights on the co-creation process. These interviews will explore the perceived differences between the co-creative process and a typical development project.

Outcomes

The draft urban co-creation toolkit will be available for download from late 2015.

The creation of a draft version of an urban co-creation toolkit has highlighted the universality of existing facilitation toolkits and the lack of tools developed specifically for engaging in discussions surrounding the built environment.



Figure 2: Excerpt from draft urban co-creation toolkit document.

Anticipated impacts

It is anticipated that this project will result in the creation of knowledge about the value of co-creation in urban scale projects and highlight the ways in which this methodology can engage project teams in a more

collaborative manner.

It is anticipated that specific challenges associated with applying co-creation to an urban-scale project will lead to the adaptation of many of the tools in the draft urban co-creation toolkit and / or the creation of new facilitation tools.

Co-creation can facilitate the interaction of complex groups of stakeholders to develop innovative solutions to wicked problems.

It is also anticipated that the insights gained into the development process through the Value Network Analysis process will allow conclusions to be drawn about the value of co-creation in urban scale projects, and to identify any structural elements of the development industry that may be precluding projects from achieving innovative solutions to lowering their carbon impact.

Further information

Further information about this project can be found via the CRC for low carbon living website or by contacting the research team via the details below.

Aaron Davis
University of South Australia
E aaron.davis@mymail.unisa.edu.au
Twitter: aarondavis1986