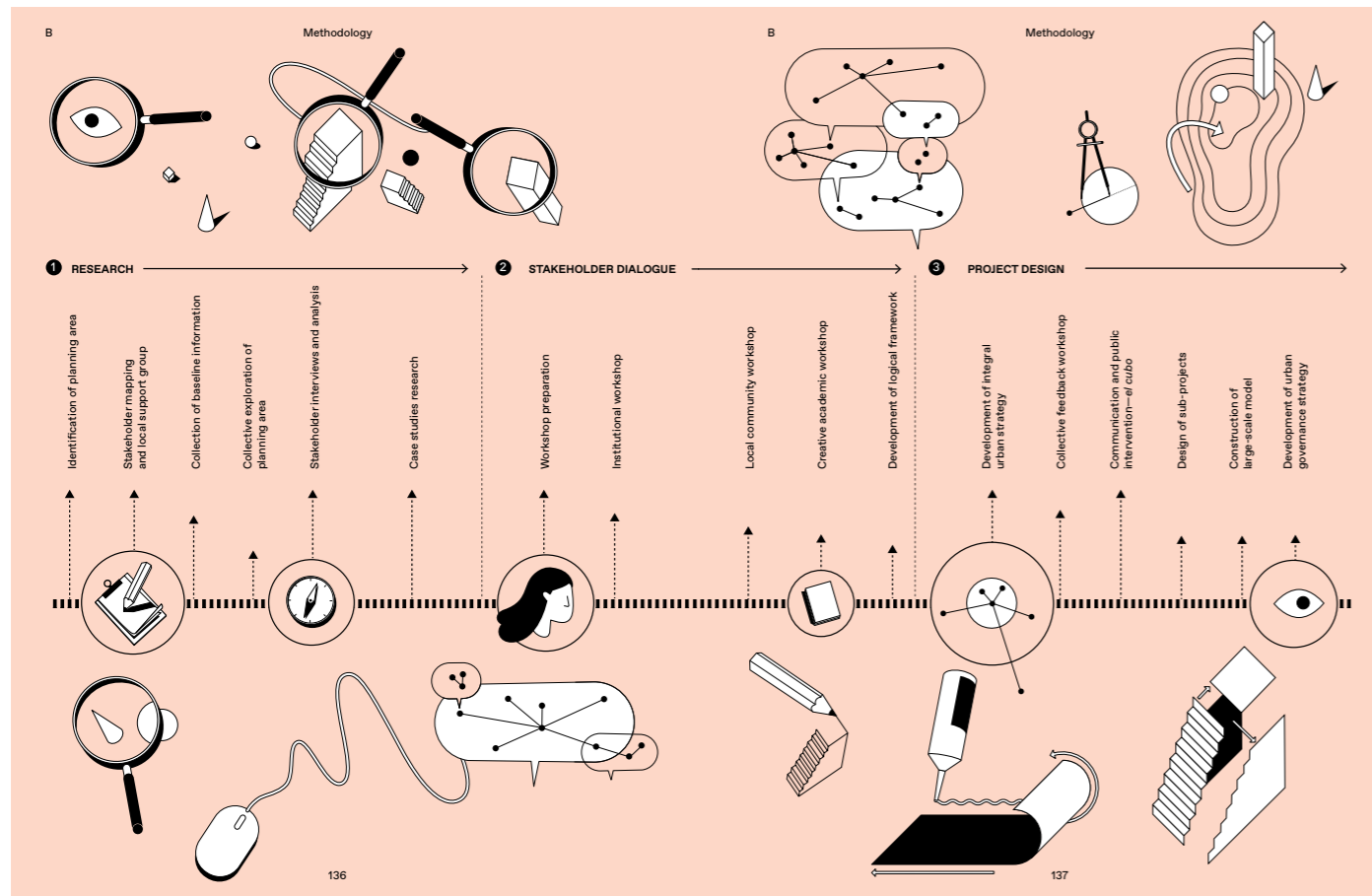




Urban Design Lab Handbook



Latin America and the Caribbean is one of the most urbanised regions in the world, and cities continue to grow enormously. In order to respond to the challenges this poses, long-term strategies must be developed. How do you expand a growing city without losing its urbanity? How can urban growth be linked to social, environmental, cultural and economic issues?

The Urban Design Lab (UDL) has acted in more than twenty emerging cities in Latin America and the Caribbean as moderators of dialogue-oriented urban planning, exploring urban imaginaries and collecting creative ideas in order to translate them into design solutions. Each of these processes was unique and unpredictable—enriched by the participation of a diverse group of actors coming together as co-designers within highly complex urban contexts.

The UDL takes a proactive approach to investigating and testing urban planning and design tools. This is achieved by deploying design-based solutions in emerging cities and developing real cases with real people. The most important lesson that the UDL has taught us is the need for adaptable, flexible, non-static planning tools that can catalyze transformative urban processes.

The Urban Design Lab Handbook explains the context and challenges of twenty emerging cities in Latin America and the Caribbean and offers solutions to the problems of urban agglomerations. The handbook encourages readers to make use of the toolbox, tailor it to their needs and start similar processes in their own cities. Thanks to their high degree of flexibility, the tools may be combined in various ways and adjusted to local conditions—thus generating tailor-made planning processes.

Year
2018

Status
completed

Location
more than 20 cities in Latin America

Client
Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo (BID)

Collaboration
Vienna University of Technology

"El Cubo": Activation of Borja Yerovi Plaza, Quito, Ecuador

Green El Cubo serves as a transformation hub, communicator, cinema and workshop space in Quito. These are detailed plans for el cubo, which was presented during the Habitat III Conference in 2016.

