

Spatial Justice Benchmarking Tool



About:

The Spatial Justice Benchmarking Tool (SJB-T) is a qualitative evaluation tool designed to measure the application of justice considerations in urban governance and planning of a city or region, assisting evaluation and reflection. It defines "levels of justice", from "Low" to "Embedded", by assigning a score of the attainment of what is being assessed against the highlighted components of the Spatial Justice Conceptual Model.

The tool serves to spark discussion and reflection based on Spatial Justice considerations. Using this lens, it is possible to pay greater attention to aspects that redistribute benefits and burdens, engage people and be more responsive in policy and decision-making processes, and recognise the needs and aspirations of disadvantaged individuals, groups, and communities.

How to use this tool:

- 1) Start by clarifying what you're assessing. Review the vision statement provided above to keep it in mind throughout the process.
- 2) Go through each column on the right. Each column represents a component of the Spatial Justice Conceptual Model (SJC-M).
- 3) Discuss how well the vision statement aligns with each component and assign it a rating from "LOW" to "HIGH".
- 4) Use post-its to write down any ideas or recommendations discussed by the group. Place these directly onto the relevant component for easy reference.

Contact and more information:

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	DISTRIBUTIVE DIMENSION			PROCEDURAL DIMENSION			RECOGNITION DIMENSION		
HIGH (5)	HIGH CONSIDERATION	HIGH CONSIDERATION	HIGH CONSIDERATION	HIGH CONSIDERATION	HIGH CONSIDERATION	HIGH CONSIDERATION	HIGH CONSIDERATION	HIGH CONSIDERATION	HIGH CONSIDERATION
MEDIUM TO HIGH (4)	MEDIUM-HIGH CONSIDERATION	MEDIUM-HIGH CONSIDERATION	MEDIUM-HIGH CONSIDERATION	MEDIUM-HIGH CONSIDERATION	MEDIUM-HIGH CONSIDERATION	MEDIUM-HIGH CONSIDERATION	MEDIUM-HIGH CONSIDERATION	MEDIUM-HIGH CONSIDERATION	MEDIUM-HIGH CONSIDERATION
MEDIUM (3)	MEDIUM CONSIDERATION	MEDIUM CONSIDERATION	MEDIUM CONSIDERATION	MEDIUM CONSIDERATION	MEDIUM CONSIDERATION	MEDIUM CONSIDERATION	MEDIUM CONSIDERATION	MEDIUM CONSIDERATION	MEDIUM CONSIDERATION
MEDIUM TO LOW (2)	MEDIUM-LOW CONSIDERATION	MEDIUM-LOW CONSIDERATION	MEDIUM-LOW CONSIDERATION	MEDIUM-LOW CONSIDERATION	MEDIUM-LOW CONSIDERATION	MEDIUM-LOW CONSIDERATION	MEDIUM-LOW CONSIDERATION	MEDIUM-LOW CONSIDERATION	MEDIUM-LOW CONSIDERATION
LOW (1)	LOW CONSIDERATION	LOW CONSIDERATION	LOW CONSIDERATION	LOW CONSIDERATION	LOW CONSIDERATION	LOW CONSIDERATION	LOW CONSIDERATION	LOW CONSIDERATION	LOW CONSIDERATION
	COMPONENT 1	COMPONENT 2	COMPONENT 3	COMPONENT 1	COMPONENT 2	COMPONENT 3	COMPONENT 1	COMPONENT 2	COMPONENT 3
	FAIR SHARE Make sure basic things like parks, good streets, clean air, services, and public facilities are shared fairly across all neighbourhoods, not concentrated in a few lucky areas.	FAIR ACCESS Everyone should be able to reach jobs, schools, health care, public transport, and other opportunities easily and affordably, no matter where they live.	FAIR ABILITY TO SHAPE SERVICES & SPACES People should be able to use and shape the services and spaces around them. The city should create conditions that allow residents to participate, organise, improve, and take ownership of what happens in their area.	FAIR VOICE People must have real chances to take part in decisions about their neighbourhood. Participation should be easy, welcoming, and meaningful, not just a box-ticking exercise.	FAIR INSTITUTIONS City institutions should be able to learn, adapt, and change when something is not working. They must update rules, tools, and ways of working so they can respond better to people's needs.	FAIR PROCESSES Public institutions must treat residents fairly, act transparently, explain decisions clearly, and respond openly to concerns. People should feel that government is accountable and trustworthy.	FAIR RIGHTS The laws of the city should protect everyone equally and recognise the rights and dignity of groups who often face discrimination or exclusion.	FAIR SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITIES The city should support community-led efforts like mutual aid, neighbourhood groups, shared spaces, and collective projects that help people look after one another and manage common resources.	FAIR RESPECT FOR DIVERSITY The city should value different cultures, lifestyles, and ways of living in and using space. No single group's way of life should dominate; diversity should be respected and included in planning decisions.

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Low (-3) No consideration for the component.

Starting (-1) General considerations: it touches an aspect.

Basic (0) Explicit concerns: the component is mentioned.

Growing (+1) In-depth concern: connect the component with other dimension.

Embedded (+3) Integrated concern: it connects the component with all dimensions.

- 1) Use post-its to write down any ideas or recommendations discussed by the group. Place these directly onto the relevant component for easy reference.
- 2) Take a quick median of each dimension's component scores. Use a thicker pen to mark this median score along the dimension axis. Connect these points to form a triangle, which will help you visualise the strength and balance of each dimension.

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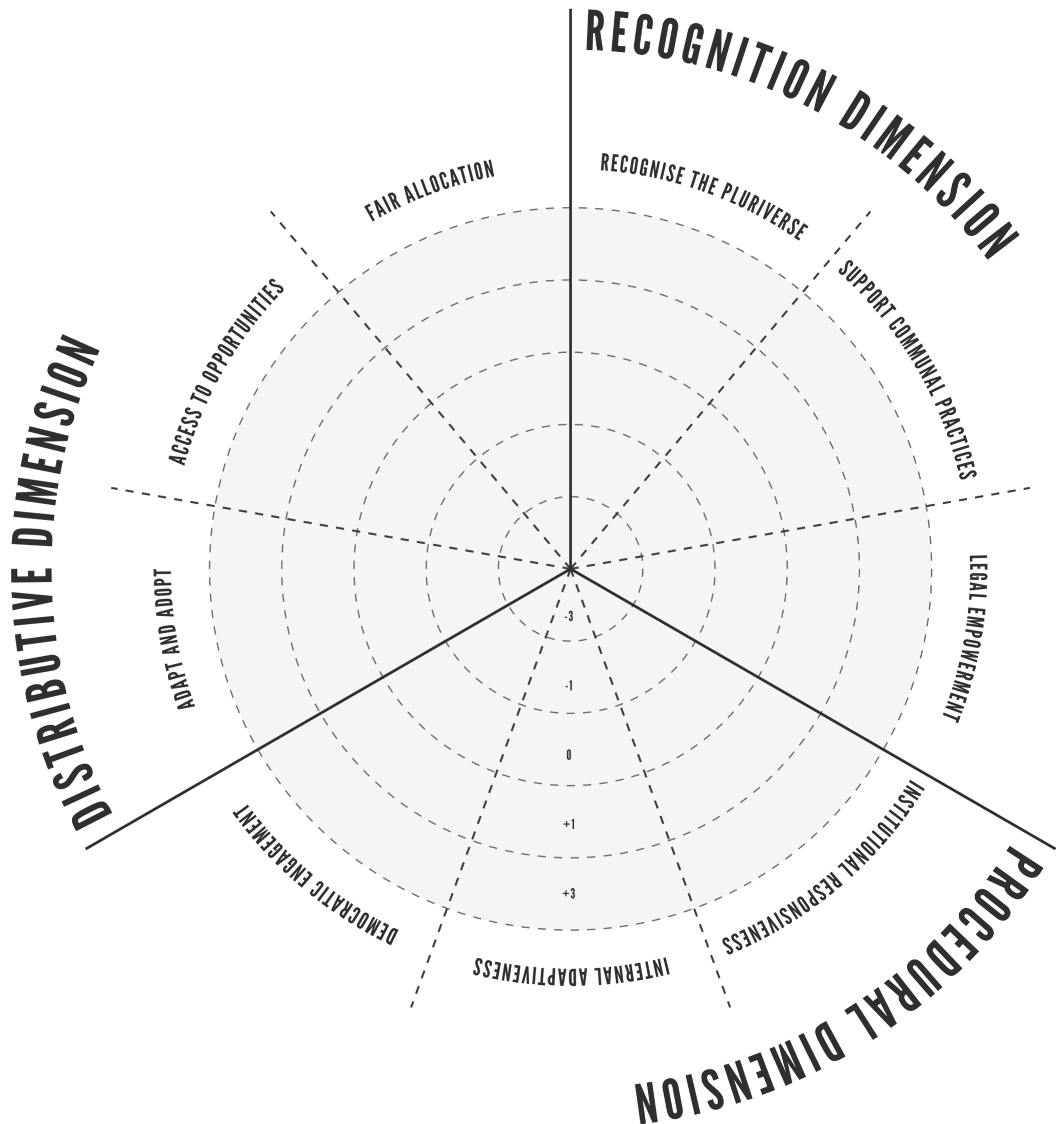
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COMPONENT 1	COMPONENT 2	COMPONENT 3	COMPONENT 1	COMPONENT 2	COMPONENT 3	COMPONENT 1	COMPONENT 2	COMPONENT 3
FAIR ALLOCATION This component focuses on ensuring that resources are fairly distributed to address inequality. It concerns the material or service provision of public goods, basic services, cultural goods, economic opportunities, and healthy environments.	IMPROVE ACCESS TO OPPORTUNITIES This component highlights efforts to enhance people's ability to reach and benefit from key opportunities. It concerns affordability, availability, connectivity, etc.	EMPOWER PEOPLE TO ADAPT AND ADOPT This component emphasizes empowering individuals and groups to actively shape and utilise available resources. It concerns the design, programming, and openness to people's agency.	DEMOCRATIC ENGAGEMENT This component focuses on the ongoing involvement of citizens in decision-making processes. The easiness of people to approach the institution.	FOSTER INTERNAL ADAPTIVENESS This component focuses on the institution's internal flexibility and adaptability to evolving circumstances, incorporating feedback, and adjusting policies, practices, and programs to better reflect justice considerations.	INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIVENESS This component focuses on how the institution address external stakeholders. It concerns ensuring that processes are fair, transparent, and sustainable, in views to uphold justice and that it legitimatises social sustainability.	LEGAL EMPOWERMENT This component emphasises the importance of legal frameworks in recognising and protecting the intrinsic value and dignity of individuals and groups as moral agents.	SUPPORT FOR COLLECTIVE CARE PRACTICES This component highlights actions to sustain and uplift collective efforts and everyday practices in disadvantaged communities, such as solidarity networks and the management of communal resources.	RECOGNISE AND FOSTER THE PLURIVERSE This component calls for a profound transformation of values to enable novel socioeconomic and institutional arrangements, advocating for considering the values, qualities, and unique socio-spatial dynamics of non-hegemonic cultures and communities.