

Use reflection to approach your future steps

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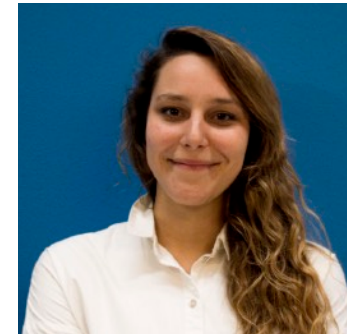
**Alicia Calderón
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Researcher



10:00 **Welcome! Intro of the session and agenda**

10:10 **Why reflection in DEI projects?**

10:30 **Let's reflect on your project** - *Group activity on MIRO*

11:35 **Your thoughts on the activity and webinar**

11:55 **Closing up and Looking forward to the “coffee break”**



Zoom experience/interaction tips:

- *Please if you have any questions type them in the chat, we will keep an eye on them and answer them as soon as possible*
- *Whenever you don't want to speak, please keep your microphone muted for the best experience for all ;)*



Why reflection in DEI projects?

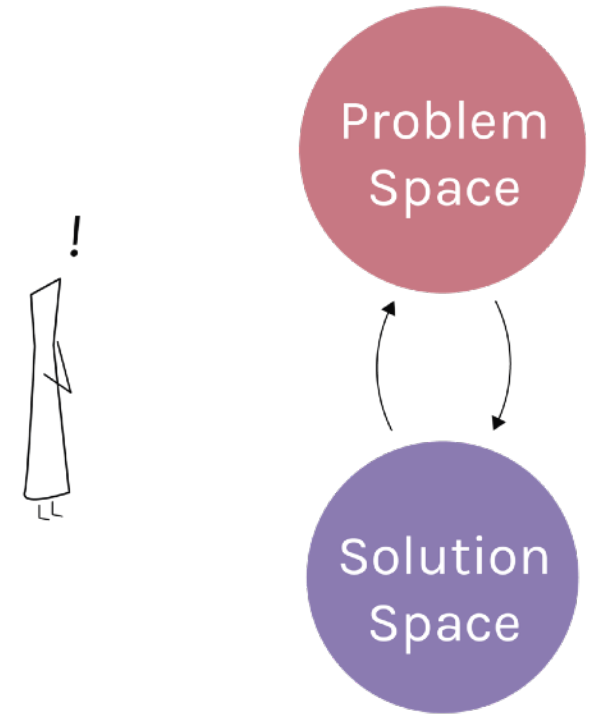
Why this module and why now?

- You are starting off your scaling phase
 - > Opportunity to look 'from distance' at your journey so far and explore what next months will entail
- Reflecting on your project challenges and own your own abilities to tackle them
 - > Way to picture what are the tricky tasks that you may need to focus on to succeed in your next steps, so to be better prepared for them



Why reflection in DEI projects?

- **‘Reflective practice’**: a process, at times even unconscious, that innovators (eg. designers, architects, engineers..) use to better understand a new situation and how to approach it (Schön, 1987)
- Innovators do so exploring the challenge they need to tackle (Problem space) and a series of possible ways to do it (Solution space) in a process that goes back and forth.
- The more ‘loops’ are made, the more refined and defined become both the challenge at stake and its possible solutions

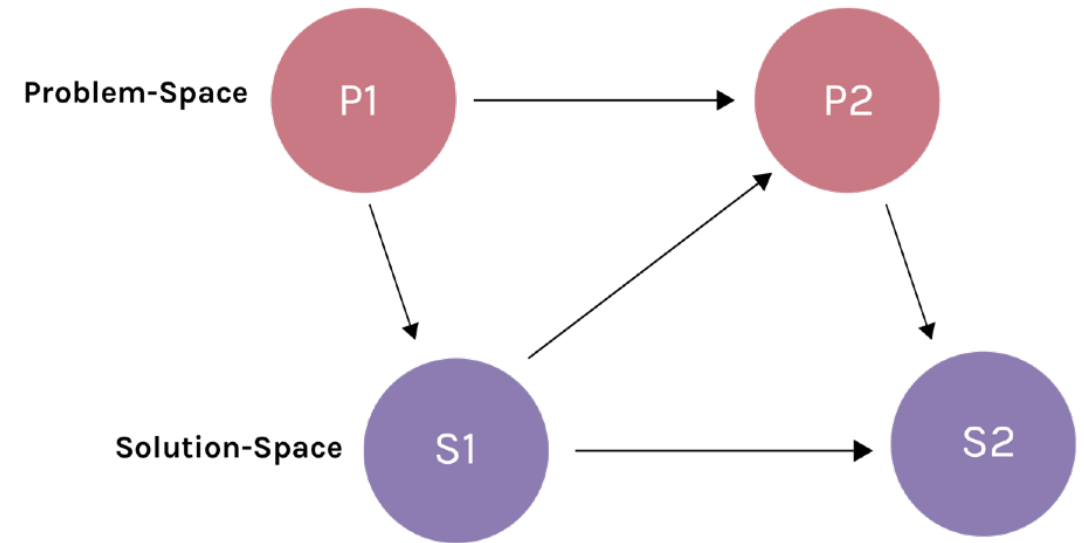


Schon, D. A. (1987). *Educating the reflective practitioner*.

Why reflection in DEI projects?

An example, the prototyping phase of your project:

1. You have a challenge, a problem to solve (Eg.P1), what do you do?
2. You try out something, an initial solution (S1), and what you find out testing that solution is that it probably solves only partially your initial problem, right?
3. Emerges another more specific problem, a challenge within the challenge, that you did not consider before (P2). And this is exactly what can happen also through a reflective activity.
4. Next step? You elaborate a new possible solution (S2) taking into account the new challenge you just found.



Adapted from
Dorst, K., & Cross, N. (2001). *Creativity in the design process: co- evolution of problem-solution.*

Why reflection in DEI projects?

Reflective practice can be seen as

a tool for designers to better understand their coming challenges,

By looking at what they can do, from the past, and identifying the new challenges that are likely to be present in their future (*eg. new activities in scaling phase*)

The goal of a reflecting practice is then to **be prepared to act upon them** (*eg. acquiring new competencies, contacting relevant stakeholders etc.*)



Let's take your project, for example!

We prepared a **Reflective online activity**, co-created with the collaboration of some initiatives from the 2nd call.

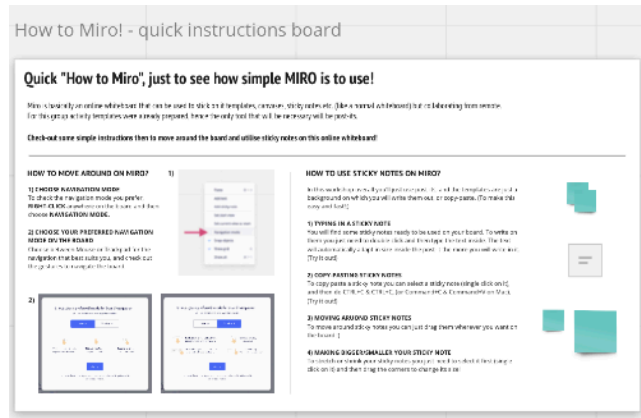
Is meant to be a support when approaching a coming phase of your project (eg. scaling).

It helps to **look at the milestones ahead in your project, better define which can be challenging for you to accomplish and what steps could you take to approach them**



The activity will be held on **MIRO**, a collaborative online whiteboard tool. We prepared **one template for each project**.

- When you are in the board check out the **“How to Miro”** if you need it.



- Choose one template and put your name on it.



INDIVIDUAL PROJECT TEMPLATES

Part 1: Pin down your project milestones

On a timeline list what you've been busy with and what will need to achieve in the coming phase

Part 2: Reflect on one of your milestones

Choose a milestone to reflect on (eg. a complex one to achieve) and follow up describing it, exploring what it will take to achieve it and what challenges arise

Part 3: Find what's new to achieve now

Find Think of how you achieved this in the past and what is new tasks necessary now

Name Project 1

PIN DOWN THE MILESTONES COMPLETED SO FAR IN YOUR PROJECT AND THE ONES AHEAD OF YOU (10 min)

1) What have you done in the past months and what will you be busy with in the months to come? Write down these project milestones on the timeline below.



2) How do you consider these milestones? Are they easy or challenging? Pick an emoji to label them. Choose the emoji that best represents each of them, and copy paste it (as in the examples) to label the different milestones as in the example.



REFLECT ON ONE OF YOUR MILESTONES (10-15 min)

1) Pick a FUTURE MILESTONE of your project that you would like to reflect on. Copy it from the previous timeline, to this white box.

2) Think of the milestone and what it entails trying to picture it more concretely. The following questions might help you doing that: What is this about? Who will be involved in this milestone? In which situation will it take place (eg. location)? What (administrational) resources are needed? How challenging?

3) Define what is most important for you to obtain and why. This milestone will be successful if we...

4) What will be key aspects to take into account to be successful in this?

5) What can you do to obtain what you need? We can...

6) Considering these aspects, what must your team be good at to achieve this? We must be good at...

BEFORE YOU GO TO THE NEXT TEMPLATE, LET'S SHARE SOME THOUGHTS!

Have you succeed you just? Share this quote, at with the group and see what the others think of it.

FIND WHAT'S NEW TO ACHIEVE NOW (15 min)

1) Pick one of the milestones tasks necessary for your milestone. Copy it from the previous timeline, to this box.

2) In what circumstances have you done it before? Try to recall experiences and situations, in this or other projects, in which you had to achieve something similar (as individual or as a team).

3) What was easy and what, instead, was more complex for you in these situations? Why?

4) How is the current task you need to tackle different, as compared to your previous experiences? Think of all the aspects that may have changed, for example:

- stakeholders involved
- resources
- contextual situation (eg. location, time)
- knowledge required/possessed
- paths...

5) What do you need to take into account in order to succeed now?

6) Reflecting on your answers, what would if you say are challenges your team must overcome? We must...

NOW THAT YOU HAVE FOUND CHALLENGES FOR YOUR UPCOMING MONTHS, LET'S SHARE THEM WITH THE OTHER PROJECTS.

LET'S FIND OUT WAYS TACKLE THEM!

Sum up what you think are the 0-3 challenges you faced through this reflective activity that will keep you busy in the next months.

Copy them (or write them) on a post-it on the equated board in red in the section "SHARED CHALLENGES FOR THE DESIGNSCAPES COMMUNITY".

PLEASE WRITE ON THE POST-IT THE NAME OF YOUR PROJECT, EG.

Alicia

SHARED CHALLENGES TEMPLATE

Share the challenges you found through the activity with the DESIGNSCAPES Community

- Clustering of shared challenges
- Discussion/reflection on what concrete steps to take to tackle them

SHARED CHALLENGES FOR THE DESIGNSCAPES COMMUNITY.

Copy (or write) here what are the challenges you will likely face in the next months found through that you found through the activity. (PLEASE WRITE DOWN THE NAME OF THE PROJECT ON THE POST-IT)

1) Look at each other challenges and try to make CLUSTERS that summarise what are SHARED CHALLENGES IN THE COMMUNITY of Designscapes!



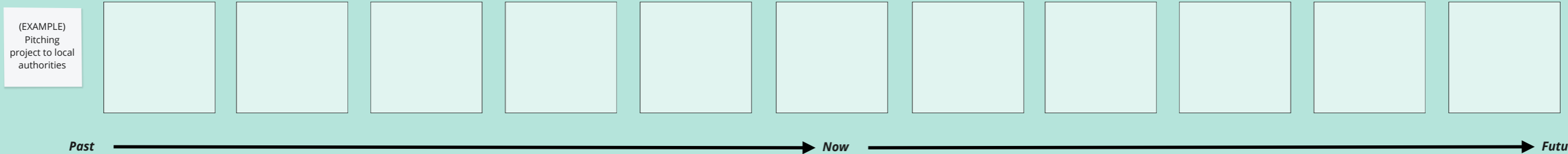
2) Let's discuss how we could tackle these challenges.

Es.

- Possible strategies to approach these tasks?
- Who are actors/stakeholders that could have experience with a similar challenge?
- What are concrete actions your team could take, in your own context, to tackle these challenges?

PIN DOWN THE MILESTONES COMPLETED SO FAR IN YOUR PROJECT AND THE ONES AHEAD OF YOU (5-10 min)

1) What have you done in the past months and what will you be busy with in the months to come? Write down these project milestones on the timeline below.




2) How do you consider these milestones?

Are they easy or challenging?



















Pick an emoji to label them.

Choose the emoji that best represents each of them, and copy paste it (as in the example) to label the different milestones as in the example.

Example

Pitching
project to
local
authorities


EMOJIS

Comfortable						
Challenging						
Really challenging						

REFLECT ON ONE OF YOUR MILESTONES (20 min)

1) Pick a **FUTURE MILESTONE** of your project that you would like to reflect on.

Copy it from the previous timeline, to this white box.

place here the milestone you picked

2) Think of the milestone and what it entails trying to picture it more concretely.

The following questions might help you doing that:

What is this about?

Who will you need to involve/address?

In which situation will it take place (eg. location/time)?

What (internal/external) resources are involved?

3) Define what is most important for you to obtain and why.

'This milestone will be successful if we...'

4) What will be key aspects to take into account to be successful in this?

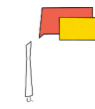
5) What approach/strategy can you follow to achieve this?

'We can...'

6) Considering the aspects mentioned, what must your team be good at to succeed in this strategy(ies)?

'We must be good at...'

BEFORE YOU GO TO THE NEXT TEMPLATE, LET'S SHARE SOME THOUGHTS!



FIND WHAT'S NEW TO ACHIEVE NOW (15 min)

1) Pick one of the tasks you must be good at, to succeed in your milestone.

Copy it from the previous question, to this box.

place here the task you picked

2) In what circumstances have you done it before?

Try to recall experiences and situations, in this or other projects, in which you had to achieve something similar (as individuals or as a team).

3) What **was easy** and what, instead, was **more complex** for you in those situations?

Why?

4) How is the current task you need to tackle different, as compared to your previous experiences?

Think of all the aspects that may have changed, for example:

- *stakeholders involved*
- *resources*
- *contextual situation (eg.location, time..)*
- *knowledge required/possessed*
- *goals*
- *(other)...*

5) What do you need to take into account in order to succeed now?

6) Reflecting on your answers, what would you say are challenges your team must overcome?

'We must...'

NOW THAT YOU HAVE FOUND CHALLENGES FOR YOUR UPCOMING MONTHS, LET'S SHARE THEM WITH THE OTHER PROJECTS TO FIND OUT WAYS TO TACKLE THEM

Sum up what you think are the challenges you found through this reflective activity that will keep you busy in the next months.



Copy them (or write them) on a post-it on the squared board in red in the section "SHARED CHALLENGES FOR THE DESIGNSCAPES COMMUNITY"

PLEASE WRITE ON THE POST-ITS THE NAME OF YOUR PROJECT, eg.

(PROJECT)
We
must...

SHARED CHALLENGES FOR THE DESIGNSCAPES COMMUNITY.

Copy (or write) here what are the challenges you will likely face in the next months found through that you found through the activity. (PLEASE WRITE DOWN THE NAME OF THE PROJECT ON THE POST-IT)

1) Look at each other challenges and try to make CLUSTERS that summarise what are SHARED CHALLENGES IN THE COMMUNITY of Designscapes!

2) Let's discuss how we could tackle these challenges.

Es.

- Possible strategies to approach these tasks?
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