
Climate Change Adaptation in an Arctic City: A Community-Based Perspective in Tasiilaq, Greenland

Maria Risager Nielsen & Marie-Louise Leppert

Cities & Sustainability, Aalborg University, Denmark

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Case Description



- **Climate change** impacts the Arctic & threatens the communities living there¹
- Urban spaces are currently **not adapted** to climate change in Greenland²
- **Locals' voice** has been overseen in Greenlandic urban planning throughout its history²
- **Colonized urban planning** has negative impact on well-being³
- **Tasiilaq**: Remote & disregarded

<https://www.guideoftheworld.net/greenland-map.asp>

Research Objectives

- Bridge climate change adaptation with local expertise to improve sustainability of urban spaces
- Provide benefit for the local community

Climate change & History of urban planning in Greenland



Decolonize Science & urban planning



Community-based planning



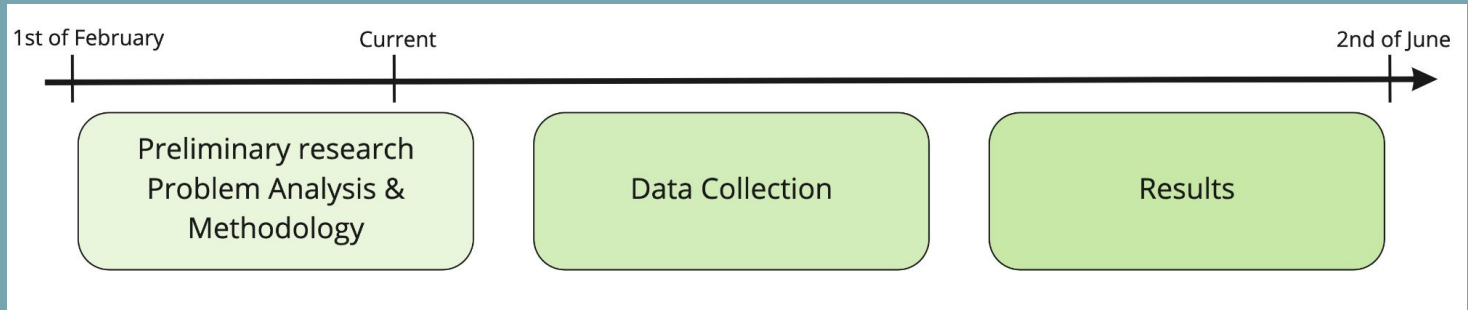
Social & Climate change adaptation

Research Question

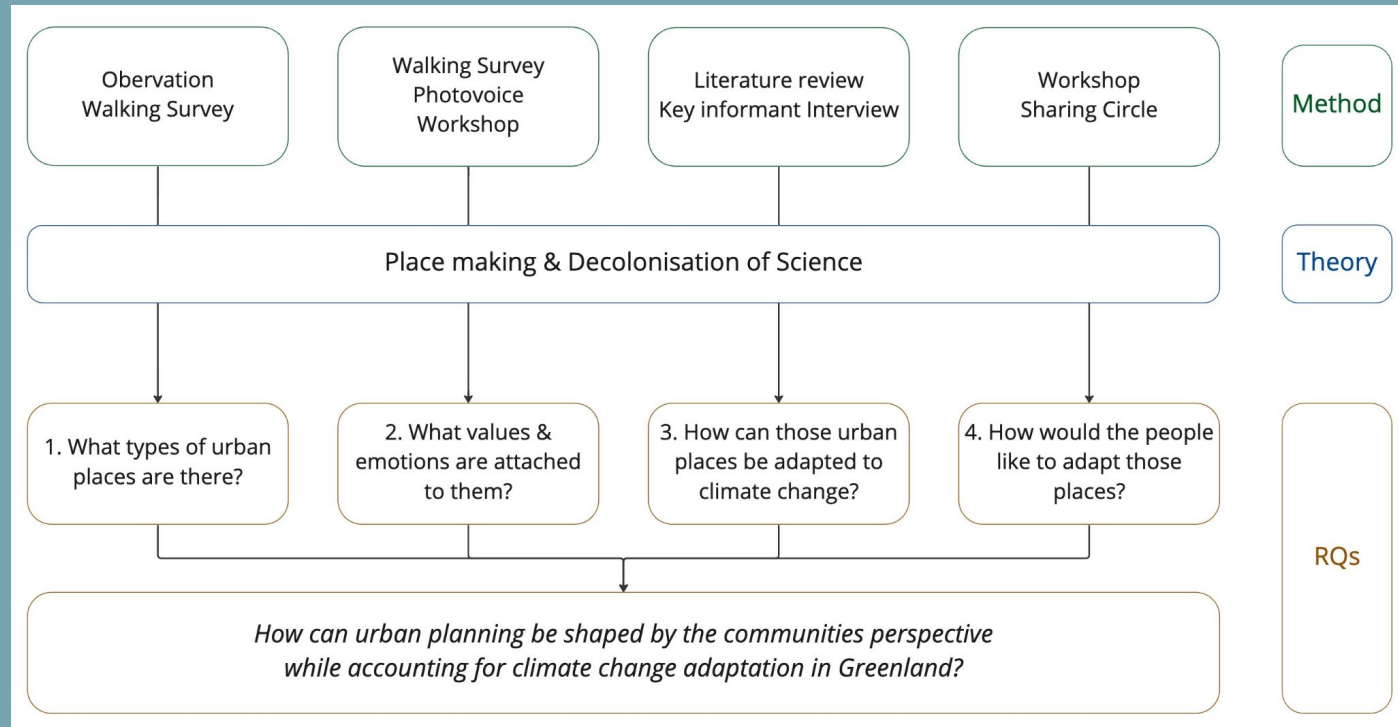
How can urban planning be shaped by the communities perspective while accounting for climate change adaptation in Greenland?

1. What types of urban places are there?
 2. What values & emotions are attached to them?
 3. How can those urban places be adapted to climate change?
 4. How would the people like to adapt those places?
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Timeline



Research Design



Proposed Method

Observation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Overview of the city¹
Walking Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Participation of the community to portray the city¹- Provides a 'feel' for the urban environment¹
Photovoice	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Locals determining their important urban spaces^{1,2}- Pictures can be understood regardless of language^{1,2}
Workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Understanding connections and values of urban spaces³- Future visualisation of their utopian city³
Sharing Circle	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Qualitative data raising the locals' voice⁴- More comfortable setting than interview⁴

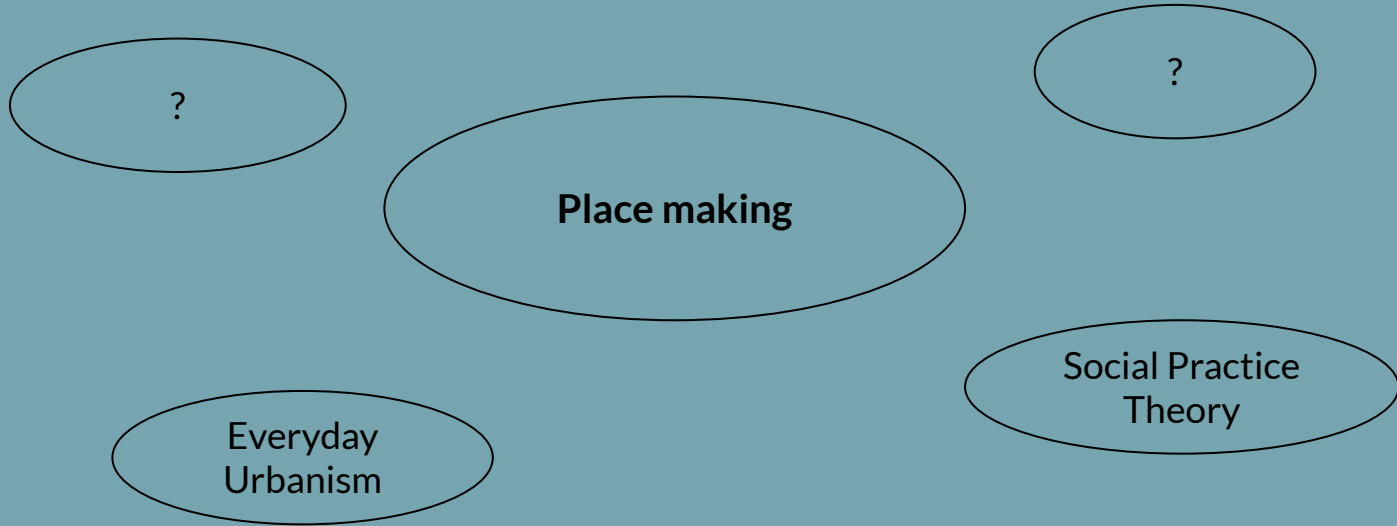
1: Center for Community Health and Development, n.d.

2: Mahbubur R. Meenar, Lynn A. Mandarano 2021

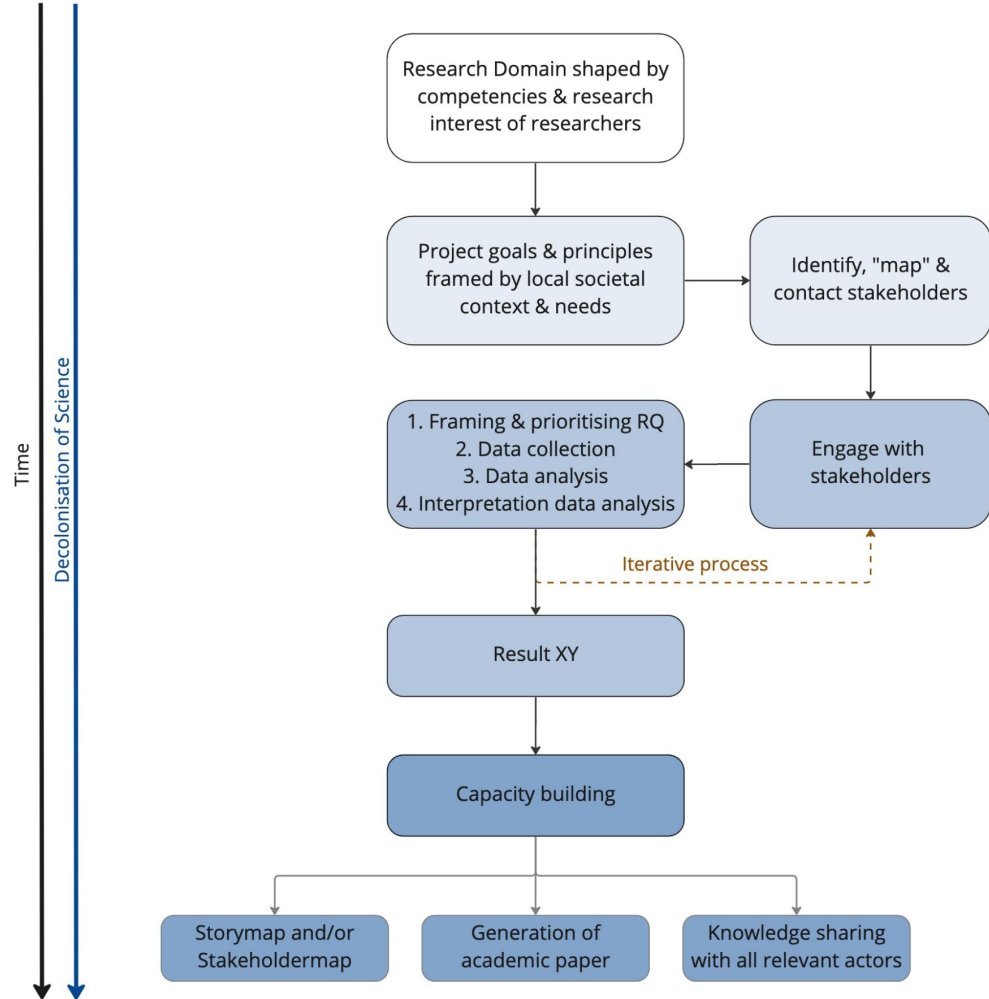
3: World Bank Group 2015

4: Hunt & Young 2021

Proposed Theory



Decolonisation of Science



Involved Stakeholders

Collaboration with

- Sustainable Now, NGO
- Municipality of Sermersooq, Greenland
- Greenland Institute of Natural Resources

Supervision

- Rikke Becker Jacobsen from Aalborg University
 - Caroline Bouchard from Greenland Institute of Natural Resources
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**Thank you for your
attention.**

Any questions?