

Elephant & Walworth neighbourhood mapping

During the last [Elephant & Walworth Neighbourhood Forum \(EWNF\)](#) meeting on July 31st, it was suggested to set up a series of mapping workshops in local festivals to work on the outreach of the Forum and to organise a mapping game dedicated to community assets on **October 14th for the Annual General Meeting (AGM)**.

Scroll down the page to see the ongoing maps, its context and its approach.



August 31st 2017, Walworth Society festival, EWNF had a stall to map community resources with residents.

A map with the data collected will be visible below.

WEBSITE : <http://justplace-london.blogspot.co.uk/p/elephant.html>

After this presentation of justMap focused on the metropolitan scale and how it relates with other civic mapping approaches in London,
I will now present you a case study of how we used the tool at a neighbourhood level.

JustMap had been hired last August by the EWNF to increase the outreach of their Forum and to help them prepare their AGM on October 14th, just a month ago.

SCROLL 1

It was decided to organise a series of workshops in different neighbourhood festivals occurring in September. As a way to capture data but also to be visible and tell people about the Forum, the plan and the important coming meeting.

SCROLL 2

After the workshops the data was uploaded online on 2 visualisations : a geographical one as well as a conceptual one.

Here the ongoing geographical map :



Map created by [justplace](#)

[LINK TO THE FULL SCREEN MAP](#)

GEOGRAPHICAL MAP online

https://justplace.carto.com/viz/39b94702-92db-44cf-80c5-1b0678612066/embed_map

So Walworth in on the South of E&C.

Here you can see the boundary of the NP, Kennington PR on the West, OKR on the East and Burgess Park and Camberwell on the South.

The categories we used reflect the 6 policy topics that the EWNP wishes to work on.

And simultaneously, we focused on community actions and visions that could sustain the NP.

(as I showed you at the begining of my presentation before the break : on one side the local ressources and on the other the local aspirations)

In black a series of activities that already benefit to the community : Alberta Fruit

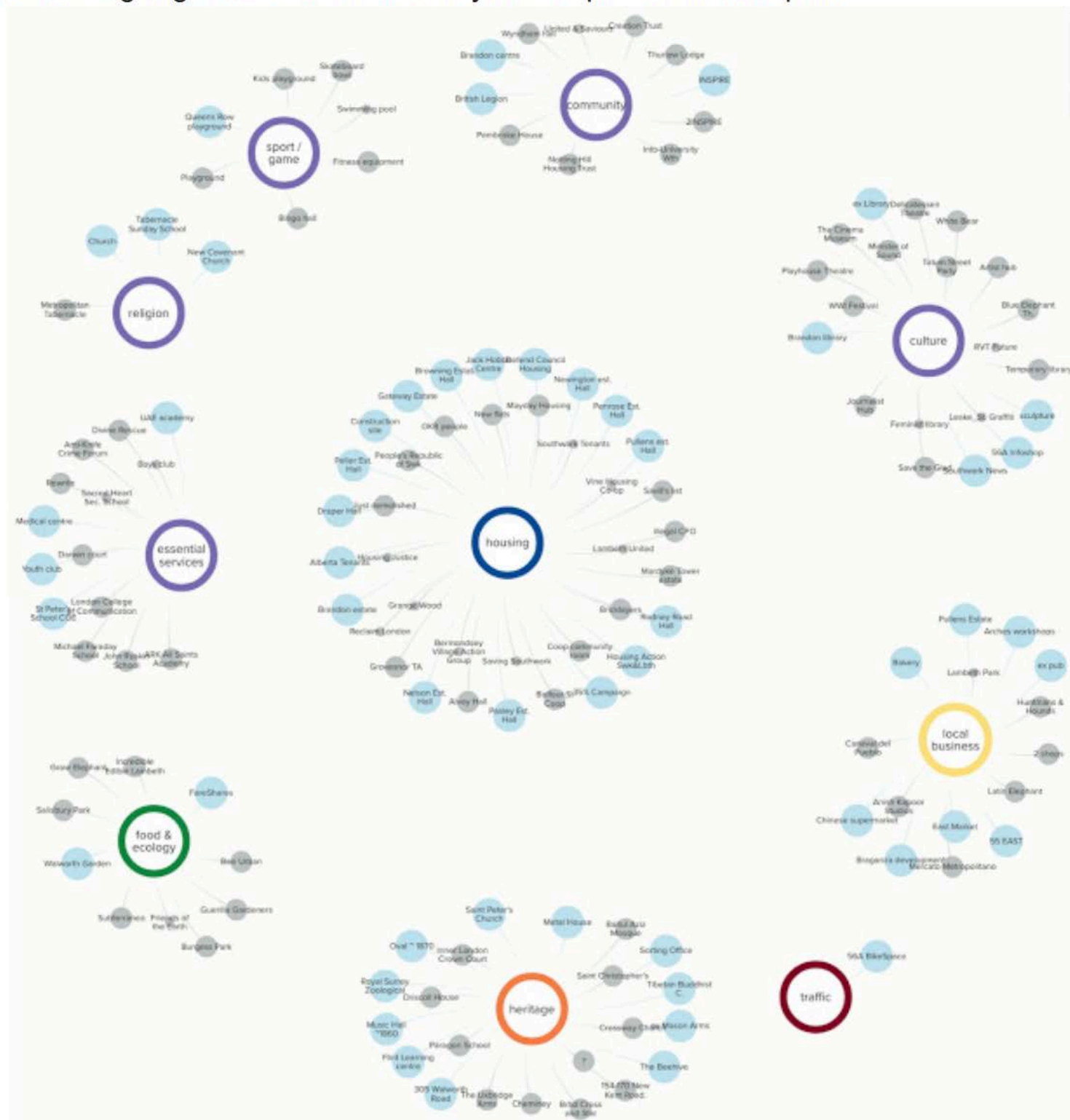
In yellow the campaigns mainly about housing because of Heygate and Aylesbury.

In red project ideas that were mentioned during the workshops : empty space, pub

In white inspiring stories about the past ... or about what is happening now.

So you can choose to explore one of these layers, or you can zoom on a specific area of your interest, like Brandon estate here.

Here the ongoing same data clustered by the 6 topics of the draft plan :



[LINK TO THE FULL SCREEN MAP](#)

CONCEPTUAL MAP online

<https://kumu.io/nicolas/elephant-walworth#elephant-walworth-neighbourhood-plan/with-projects>

I never really know how to call this kind of map ; we could also call it topics map or content map. Some others call it a semantic map.

So information is clustered around the 6 topics of the plan : community assets below and the other ones around.

There are also 2 degrees of hierarchy : core / wider area (if the information is well inside the plan boundary or in the outskirts) ... and more strategic places or groups have a bigger bubble.

Finally, the same focus as for the geographical map is used regarding community actions and visions or aspirations. **For example if I stay around data concerning community assets**

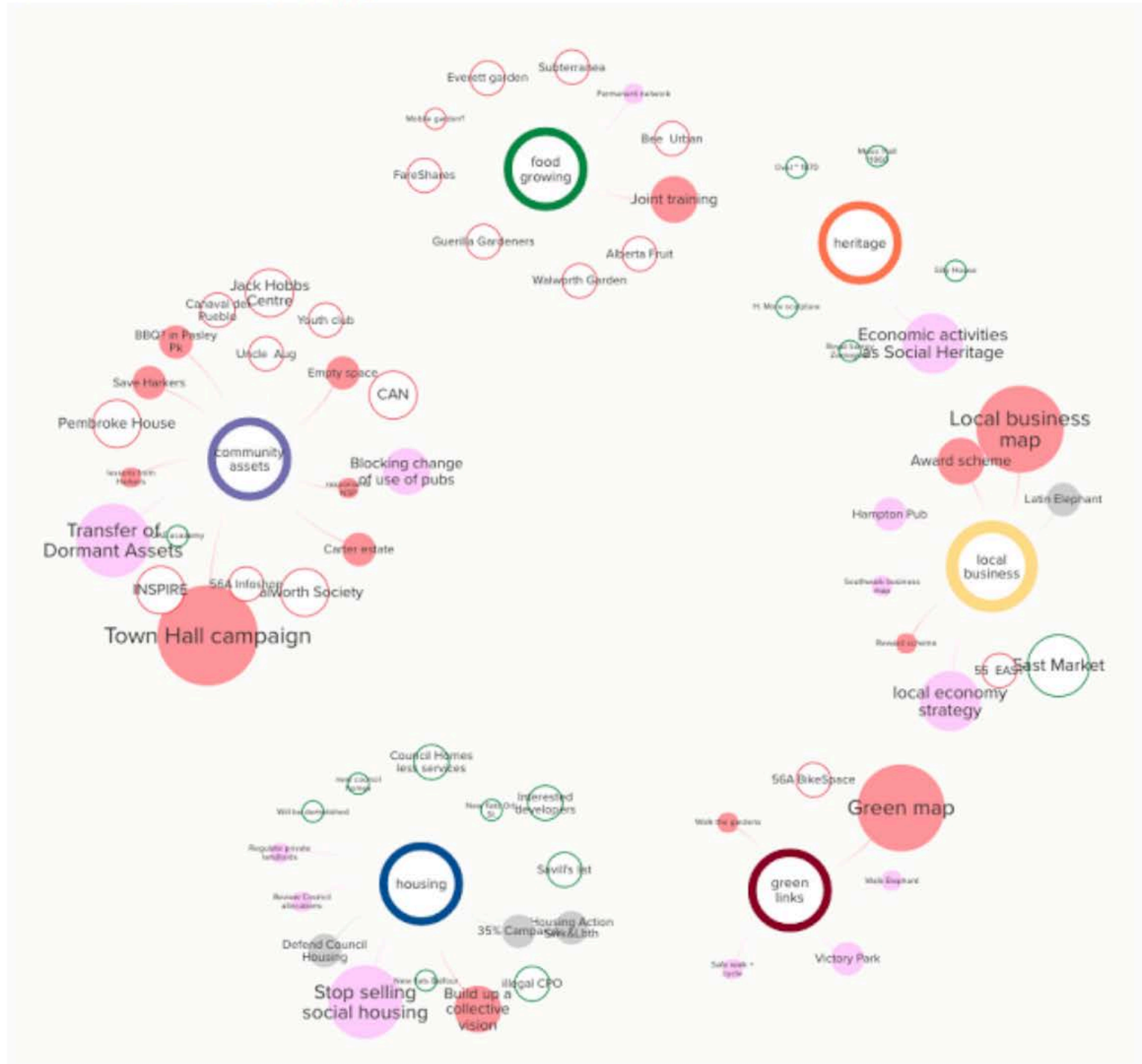
Community agents or actions : CdP, PH

Community projects : informal ideas as empty space / or already more defined projects Save Harkers

And also stories because they participate to a shared analysis or vision : UAE academy

At the end of the session members voted for their favourite projects.

The map below show the proposed projects, their bubble size being proportionate to the number of votes they got :



S&L TERM PROPOSALS MAP

<https://kumu.io/nicolas/ewn#projects-actions-stories>

So you see that the 2 visualisations are quite complementary.

At each new festival we brought printed editions of the 2 maps so people could add more data but also discuss the data mentioned during the previous workshops.

Then the maps begin to be an interesting tool to make common sense of the neighbourhood and to build up a collective vision.

For example, during the AGM the maps were shown and 6 workshops were simultaneously organised for each topic of the plan.

Each groups had to suggest 3 ST and 3 LT projects for each of the 6 topic and then the Forum collectively voted for the best proposals.

ST in red and LT in pink, and the size of the bubbles represents the number of votes

- ST : It is interesting to see that maps projects received a great attention.

- on the LT there was an interesting proposal to consider EA as Social Heritage, especially for the famous Market on East Street or the Walworth High Road.

What I showed you represents only a few weeks of work and I hope that the mapping will be soon continued by the Forum. For example the next stage could consist in mapping for the most popular projects members and groups involved as well as priorities and next actions. Mapping for planning collective action in fact.

eg EA as SH : Wal Soc, 55 East, PH to collect accounts, members involved in Pub preservation could share their experience, and so on...

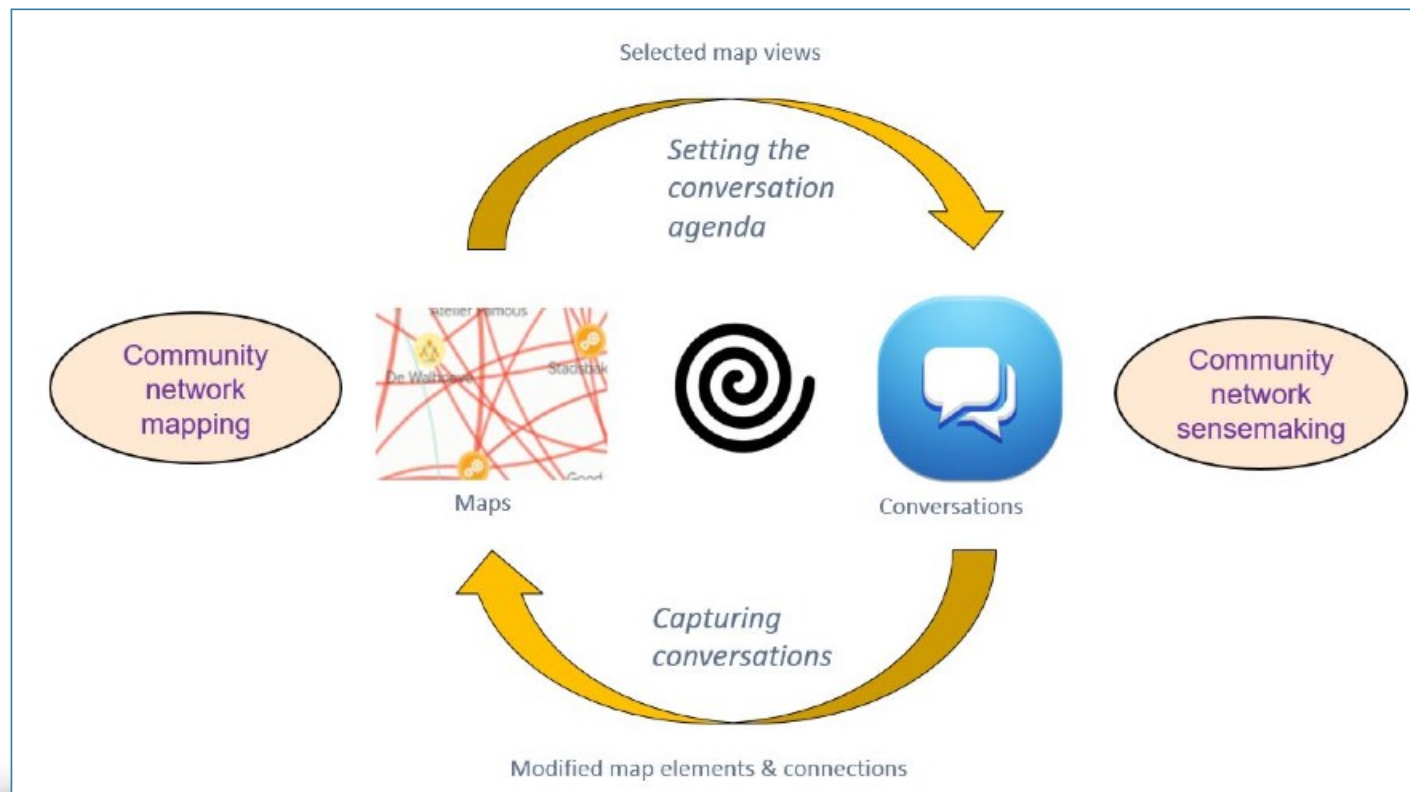
CommunitySensor: towards a participatory community network mapping methodology

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Sensemaking (used in social psychology) could be defined as «the process by which people give meaning to their collective experiences.»

Figure 2: The Community Network Sensemaking Cycle

SLIDE community mapping // community sensemaking

This iterative practice of mapping // discussing collectively the map // mapping again ... has been conceptualised by Aldo de Moor.

In fact I discovered it only a few weeks ago and I was amazed to read this inspiring paper which put words on an intuitive practice I had.

Aldo de Moor insists on the concept of sensemaking (used in social psychology) that could be defined as "the process by which people give meaning to their collective experiences." Indeed the process of mapping their resources, networks and objectives ... can be a great tool for a specific community ... to get a collective understanding of who they are and what they aspire to.

The same way that in justMap we are mapping in parallel local resources and proposals, Aldo de Moor also insists on the necessity to always include aspirations in the mapping. It is not about mapping for the beauty of it, but mapping as a collective process to understand and define the common aspirations.

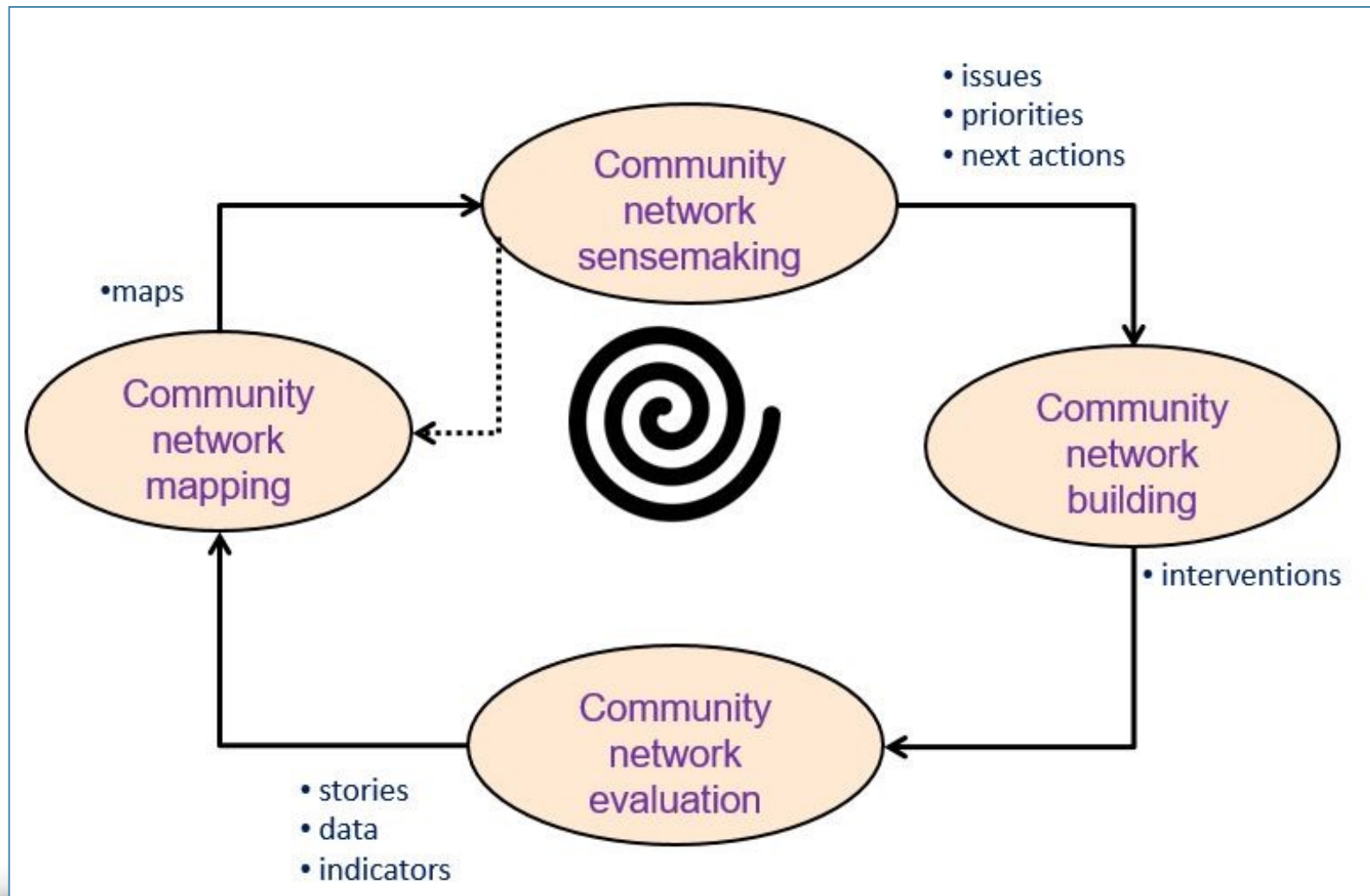


Figure 1: The Community Network Development Cycle

SLIDE on collective action

And as I was suggesting for E&W that the next mapping stage could help to engage collective action, that is precisely what AdM is showing with this diagram.

First the iterative process of revealing and building community sensemaking through the mapping of the community resources, network and aspirations. And then from it planning priorities and next actions to move toward these aspirations. Organising some first short terms interventions, and then evaluating them and start again the process.

This is my last slide and I hope that what I showed you will inspire you to make beautiful civic maps. Here some last data on justMap.

Please drop an email if you have questions, if you want to register for the newsletter or if you want to join us and give sometimes some support in workshops or on desktop.

This project is initiated by :

Just Space + Reclaim Our Spaces

Networks of more than 100 London organisations concerned with community-led planning
<https://justspace.org.uk>

Living Maps

<http://www.livingmaps.org.uk>

Occupy#PublicSpaces

www.occupy.fr

email to contact justMap
justplace@mail.com

LINKS :

justMap GEOGRAPHICAL visualisation of Reclaimed Spaces in London :

https://justplace.carto.com/viz/57683209-6517-4bc2-9c67-a679aac75f58/embed_map

justMap NETWORK visualisation :

<https://kumu.io/nicolas/justmap#justmap/action-area-2>

justMap presentation in 6 pages:

<http://n.fonty.free.fr/JustMap/JustMap-6pages.pdf>

justMap website :

<http://justplace-london.blogspot.co.uk>