‘SENSING THE CITY’
WALKS
How does your City feel, look, smell and sound?

What does your neighbourhood look like? And how do the streets look like in your home country? What do the signs, colours and shapes tell you? Are they welcoming? Do the trees cast long shadows on the pavement of your neighbourhood? And do the roofs glow in orange while catching the late summer sunset? Are there also dark streets and corners in your neighbourhood? Do you ever go there? What is your favourite thing to watch and contemplate in your neighbourhood? Is that the boys playing cricket, the seagulls on the roof, or the magnificent canopies in the park? Does your neighbourhood have a lot of colours? If it was a colouring book how would you colour it for yourself?

What are the textures and shapes that feel inviting in your neighbourhood? Those that you cannot resist not to touch - like silky moss growing on old stone walls, that old shiny copper door handle or the soft timber surface of the benches in the park? Are there things you would secretly like to hug on your street, or somewhere you would lay down if nobody watched? Are there also shapes and materials that feel hostile? What is the message they send to you? How would it feel to touch them? Which is the best spot in your neighbourhood to let sun caress your face? And are there streets and lanes in your neighbourhood where the wind seems to always blow?

Do you hear the wind whistling through the windows and rustling the leaves of the trees on your street? Or the sound of the motorway from afar like crashing waves? Can you hear birdsong, flapping seagull wings, the river roaring or raindrops on your roof? Are there cold surfaces in your neighbourhood from where the sound reverberates off? Do you hear children playing outside and people chatting front of the shops? Do you live on a busy street with lots of traffic? Can you hear the signal of the ice cream truck on sunny days, reminding you of childhood summer holidays? Is there music in your neighbourhood? If you were the composer of this cacophony what are the sounds that you would amplify in the melody of your neighbourhood?

What are the smells that best describe your neighbourhood? And those that remind you of your home even with eyes closed? What is the first smell that hits you as you step out to the street? Is it the smoke of the traffic, the fresh earth after rain, or does the wind carry a waft of curry from the kitchen of that shop around the corner? And what are the smells that escape other people’s kitchens in your neighbourhood and make you want to invite yourself in for dinner? Are there edible plants and fruits growing in your street? How do the lanes and backgardens smell in your neighbourhood?

Are there abandoned pieces of land, a little corner, an empty car park perhaps, that you would inhabit with sounds, shapes, colours and smells? Are there cracks and edges on your street where all weeds can freely grow? Is there space in your neighbourhood for your imagination to flow?

Thank you for joining us for this walk!
Sensory Walk ~60 min
Going on a walk together to explore the neighbourhood through our senses
From: To: 
Meeting point:

Introduction ~30 min
Information about the walk and introducing ourselves
From: To: 
Meeting point:

Discussion ~30 min
Reflecting on the walk and sharing our experiences
From: To: 
Meeting point:

ON THE WALK

Notice sensations you like...
...or you don't like
Collect things that say something about your neighbourhood
Take photos of things you find important
Note down your experiences and thoughts
Draw a map of your walk

THANK YOU!