Description

Observation of context is a qualitative research tool to help understand context and to show what people do. This tool involves collecting data using one's senses. It is about getting a perspective or opinion on what is happening, what's going on, who you'd like to spend more time with.
This is a guide for an individual researcher or a group of researchers to use within their chosen setting (e.g. a town, organisation or group). It is likely to take more than one observation to get a complete picture and observations may change as more is learned about the group/ place being observed.

How to conduct

Duration: 30 - 60 min

Material: Pen

Participants per team: individually

Instructions:
1. Use the ethnographic observation template to take notes of the observation process. This includes:
   a) The space: Layout of the physical setting. Other observation such as location, time of year, temperature, etc.
   b) Actors: Observation of people involved.
   c) Activities: The various activities of the actors.
   d) Objects: Physical elements.
   e) Acts: Specific individual actions.
   f) Events: Particular occasions.
   g) Time: The sequence of events.
   h) Goals: What actors are attempting to accomplish.
   i) Feelings: Emotions in particular contexts.

CONTEXT OBSERVATION
Template

Date of observation:	SPACE
Observer:	
Location observed:	
Time & Duration:	

ACTORS	ACTIVITIES	OBJECTS	ACTS	EVENTS	TIME	GOALS	FEELINGS