

# Spatial Justice Benchmarking Tool



**About:**  
The Spatial Justice Benchmarking Tool (SJBTool) is a qualitative evaluation tool designed to measure the application of justice considerations in urban governance and planning of a city or region, assisting evaluation and reflection. It defines "levels of justice", from "Low" to "Embedded", by assigning a score of the attainment of what is being assessed against the highlighted components of the Spatial Justice Conceptual Model.

The tool serves to spark discussion and reflection based on Spatial Justice considerations. Using this lens, it is possible to pay greater attention to aspects that redistribute benefits and burdens, engage people and be more responsive in policy and decision-making processes, and recognise the needs and aspirations of disadvantaged individuals, groups, and communities.

- How to use this tool:**
- 1) Start by clarifying what you're assessing. Review the vision statement provided above to keep it in mind throughout the process.
  - 2) Go through each column on the right. Each column represents a component of the Spatial Justice Conceptual Model (SJCM).
  - 3) Discuss how well the vision statement aligns with each component and assign it a rating from "Low" to "Embedded".
  - 4) Use post-its to write down any ideas or recommendations discussed by the group. Place these directly onto the relevant component for easy reference.

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Download the Spatial Justice Handbook



Download the Spatial Justice Conceptual Model



	DISTRIBUTIVE DIMENSION			PROCEDURAL DIMENSION			RECOGNITION DIMENSION			
LEVEL OF JUSTICE	EMBEDDED	<p>There are considerations regarding the allocation of benefits and burdens across the city. All dimensions of Spatial Justice are considered. This is evidenced in specification of what, how, and who is being considered.</p>	<p>There are considerations about access to benefits and burdens across the city. All dimensions of Spatial Justice are considered. This is evidenced in specification of what, how, and who is being considered.</p>	<p>There are considerations for the appropriation of benefits and burdens across the city. All dimensions of Spatial Justice are considered. This is evidenced in specification of what, how, and who is being considered.</p>	<p>There are considerations on how people are engaged in processes. All dimensions of Spatial Justice are considered. This is evidenced in the specification of what/where, how, and who is being considered.</p>	<p>There are considerations on how internal processes adapt towards justice. All dimensions of Spatial Justice are considered. This is evidenced in the specification of what/where, how, and who is being considered.</p>	<p>There are considerations for aspects of Spatial Justice in the government's actions. All dimensions of Spatial Justice are considered. This is evidenced in the specification of what/where, how, and who is being considered.</p>	<p>There are considerations for validating disadvantaged individuals and groups in laws and regulations. All dimensions of Spatial Justice are considered. This is evidenced in the specification of who, what/where, and how is being considered.</p>	<p>There are considerations to recognise practices of marginalised or non-hegemonic collectives and groups. All dimensions of Spatial Justice are considered, evidenced in the specification of who, what/where, and how is being considered.</p>	<p>There are considerations for aspirations, values, or livelihood of marginalised or non-hegemonic communities or diverse lifestyles. All dimensions of Spatial Justice are considered, evidenced in the specification of who, what/where, and how is being considered.</p>
	GROWING	<p>There are considerations regarding the allocation of benefits and burdens across the city. More than one dimension of Spatial Justice is considered. This is evidenced in specifications of what/how is redistributed.</p>	<p>There are considerations about access to benefits and burdens across the city. More than one dimension of Spatial Justice is considered. This is evidenced in specifications of what/how is made accessible.</p>	<p>There are considerations about the appropriation of benefits and burdens across the city. More than one dimension of Spatial Justice is considered. This is evidenced in specifications of what/how is open.</p>	<p>There are considerations on how people are engaged in processes. More than one dimension of Spatial Justice is considered. This is evidenced in specifications of how, and who or what/where is being considered.</p>	<p>There are considerations on how internal processes adapt towards justice. More than one dimension of Spatial Justice is considered. This is evidenced in specifications of how and who or what/where is being considered.</p>	<p>There are considerations for aspects of Spatial Justice in the government's actions. More than one dimension of Spatial Justice is considered. This is evidenced in the specifications of what/where, and who or how is being considered.</p>	<p>There are considerations for validating disadvantaged individuals and groups in laws and regulations. More than one dimension of Spatial Justice is considered, evidenced in the specifications of who, and what/where or how is being considered.</p>	<p>There are considerations to recognise practices of marginalised or non-hegemonic collectives and groups. More than one dimension of Spatial Justice is considered, evidenced in the specifications of who, and what/where or how is being considered.</p>	<p>There are considerations for aspirations, values, or livelihood of marginalised or non-hegemonic communities or diverse lifestyles. More than one dimension of Spatial Justice is considered, evidenced in the specifications of who, and what/where or how is being considered.</p>
	BASIC	<p>There are considerations about the allocation of benefits and burdens across the city. It specifies where service or material is being allocated.</p>	<p>There are considerations about the access to benefits and burdens across the city. It specifies where or what service or material is being addressed.</p>	<p>There are considerations about the appropriation of benefits and burdens across the city. It specifies where or what material and/or service is open to change.</p>	<p>There are considerations about how people are engaged in processes (policies, regulations, standards, etc). It specifies how or who is being engaged.</p>	<p>There are considerations on how internal processes adapt towards justice. It specifies how it is being addressed.</p>	<p>There are considerations for aspects of Spatial Justice in the government's actions. It specifies what, where, how or who is being addressed.</p>	<p>There are considerations for validating disadvantaged individuals and groups in laws and regulations. It specifies who is being validated.</p>	<p>There are considerations to recognise practices of marginalised or non-hegemonic collectives and groups. It specifies who is being recognised.</p>	<p>There are considerations for aspirations, values, or livelihood of marginalised or non-hegemonic communities or diverse lifestyles. It specifies who is being addressed.</p>
	STARTING	<p>There is a general concern about the allocation of benefits and burdens across the city.</p>	<p>There is a general concern about access to benefits and burdens across the city.</p>	<p>There is a general concern about the appropriation of benefits and burdens across the city, with initial efforts to acknowledge people's usage and programming.</p>	<p>There is a general concern about how people are engaged in processes (policy, planning, projects, etc).</p>	<p>There is general concern about how internal processes (procedures, values, standards, etc.) adapt to promote justice inside institutions.</p>	<p>There is a general concern for aspects of Spatial Justice in the government's actions.</p>	<p>There is a general concern for validating of disadvantaged individuals and groups in laws and regulations. There is an acknowledgment of disparities.</p>	<p>There is a general concern to recognise practices of marginalised or non-hegemonic collectives and groups.</p>	<p>There is a general concern for aspirations, values, or livelihood of marginalised or non-hegemonic communities or diverse lifestyles. There is an acknowledgment of their existence and relevance.</p>
LOW	<p>There is no consideration for how benefits and burdens are distributed across the city.</p>	<p>There is no consideration of the access to benefits and burdens across the city.</p>	<p>There is no consideration of the appropriation of benefits and burdens across the city.</p>	<p>There is no consideration for how people are engaged in processes (policy, planning, projects, etc).</p>	<p>There is no consideration for how internal processes (procedures, values, standards, etc) adapt towards justice inside institutions.</p>	<p>There is no consideration for aspects of Spatial Justice in the government's actions.</p>	<p>There is no consideration for validating disadvantaged individuals and groups in laws and regulations.</p>	<p>There is no consideration to recognise practices of marginalised or non-hegemonic collectives and groups.</p>	<p>There is no consideration for aspirations, values, or livelihood of marginalised or non-hegemonic communities or diverse lifestyles.</p>	
		COMPONENT 1	COMPONENT 2	COMPONENT 3	COMPONENT 1	COMPONENT 2	COMPONENT 3	COMPONENT 1	COMPONENT 2	COMPONENT 3
		FAIR ALLOCATION	IMPROVE ACCESS TO OPPORTUNITIES	EMPOWER PEOPLE TO ADAPT AND ADOPT	DEMOCRATIC ENGAGEMENT	FOSTER INTERNAL ADAPTIVENESS	INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIVENESS	LEGAL EMPOWERMENT	SUPPORT FOR COLLECTIVE CARE PRACTICES	RECOGNISE AND FOSTER THE PLURIVERSE
		<p>This component focuses on ensuring that resources are fairly distributed to address inequality. It concerns the material or service provision of public goods, basic services, cultural goods, economic opportunities, and healthy environments.</p>	<p>This component highlights efforts to enhance people's ability to reach and benefit from key opportunities. It concerns affordability, availability, connectivity, etc.</p>	<p>This component emphasizes empowering individuals and groups to actively shape and utilise available resources. It concerns the design, programming, and openness to people's agency.</p>	<p>This component focuses on the ongoing involvement of citizens in decision-making processes. The easeness of people to approach the institution.</p>	<p>This component focuses on the institution's internal flexibility and adaptability to evolving circumstances, incorporating feedback, and adjusting policies, practices, and programs to better reflect justice considerations.</p>	<p>This component focuses on how the institution address external stakeholders. It concerns ensuring that processes are fair, transparent, and sustainable, in views to uphold justice and that it legitimatises social sustainability.</p>	<p>This component emphasises the importance of legal frameworks in recognising and protecting the intrinsic value and dignity of individuals and groups as moral agents.</p>	<p>This component highlights actions to sustain and uplift collective efforts and everyday practices in disadvantaged communities, such as solidarity networks and the management of communal resources.</p>	<p>This component calls for a profound transformation of values to enable novel socioeconomic and institutional arrangements, advocating for considering the values, qualities, and unique socio-spatial dynamics of non-hegemonic cultures and communities.</p>