



NEAR

Neighbourhoods' Engagement for Accelerated carbon Reductions

PARIS, FRANCE

Emissions domains addressed by the Pilot Activity



Consumption of non-electricity energy for thermal uses in buildings & facilities



Multi-sector waste management & disposal



Land use (agriculture, forestry & other land uses)



Consumption of electricity generated for buildings, facilities & infrastructure



All vehicles & transport (mobile energy)

Key Terms

Neighbourhood carbon footprint | Citizen participation | Usage profiles | Co-creation | Quality of life | Local climate governance | Open-source tools | Replication methodology

Levers of Change

Data and Digitalisation | Democracy and participation | Social innovation

Description of the Pilot Activity

NEAR develops citizen-driven climate initiatives at neighbourhood scale – surveying residents to identify carbon footprints and lifestyle profiles, then co-creating projects that address both emissions reduction and quality of life.

The methodology moves through six stages: starting with a neighbourhood diagnosis (combining carbon footprint analysis and usage profiles), followed by a citizen forum to prioritise a topic, and participatory phases to co-design solutions (exploration, inspiration and elaboration). The project is co-design with residents and local stakeholders, and district city halls.

Year 1 completed the first neighbourhood survey and developed the core tools and platform. A second neighbourhood is being explored, with the aim of testing the methodology in a different socio-economic context, which will demonstrate the methodology's robustness.

Year One Highlights

The NEAR Diagnosis Platform was completed and the first survey collected 450 responses, identifying three resident usage profiles based on everyday lifestyles, showing transportation patterns. Then, we collected 300 answers to carbon footprint inquiry and quality of life survey.

Governance tools were developed to lead to the second phase, focusing on mobilisation. A citizen from a nearby suburb has expressed interest in replicating NEAR independently – the team is accompanying the process as a test of the methodology's transferability.

Innovation Highlights

The open-source platform and training kit are designed for replication from the outset. The mobilisation game offers a practical tool for local leaders to test and challenge their participation strategies. Developing materials to reach climate sceptics and residents resistant to neighbourhood change broadens the methodology's reach beyond already-engaged audiences.

Key Insight

Working with some key residents helping the all process can be game changing, and adapting the communication and approach to different sociologies of neighbourhoods is important.

Twinning with Assen (Netherlands)

The twinning exchange is really interesting to understand their mutual neighbourhood-scale approaches, and digital tools to create data. Both cities expressed strong mutual interest in each other's processes.

