ASSIGNMENT I

ASSESSMENT REPORT

JARDIM NAKAMURA SÃO PAULO - BRAZIL













Summary

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Methodology
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- 4. Key Challenges
- 5. Key Opportunities
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1. Introduction

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1. Introduction

Jardim Nakamura

The Proximity of Care Framework was used in combination with the tools that Cidade Ativa's team have used across actions in Jardim Nakamura, São Paulo - Brazil. The neighbourhood is located in the outskirts of the city and has a complex vulnerable context (social, economic and environmental).

The PoC Framework was used as a new approach to understand the challenges and opportunities for early childhood development, as identified in the following 4 dimensions:

For **health**, the lack of safe spaces to play, the proximity to spaces used for inappropriate disposal of solid waste, contact with air and noise pollution, and the lack of support equipment for caregivers and children are relevant concerns, which can be alleviated with simple measures such as actions to adapt the space and raise awareness.

For **protection**, walkable routes and public spaces do not provide safe and inclusive areas for children walk or play. There are no support facilities and infrastructure is poor (lighting and crossings). For a safer, more resilient and playful environment, integrating and complementing physical actions can be done by improving the critical elements identified.

For **stimulation**, the limited size of housing and the short time available for worker caregivers at home make public space even more important. There are inadequate dimensions for commuting spaces and a lack of support facilities for social interaction. Improving and expanding meeting and recreational spaces, improving the active mobility network and road safety are essential measures.

For **support**, understand the implementation of municipal policies and plans for early childhood in the neighborhood and identify local organizations that work with the theme. Thus, it will be possible to act together and guide possible and necessary actions that can be done with low implementation costs, as well as attract additional sponsors to support the delivery of the proposals.

2. Methodology

2. Methodology

During the development of this assessment report between 20 June and 20 July 2022, the **following methods were used to identify key challenges and opportunities**:

Desk-based review:

- Secondary data on demographic, geographic (as schools, healthcare facilities, vegetation and others), socio-economic trends in the site and local policies.
- Local knowledge from projects developed in the area since
 2014: contacting key stakeholders, reviewing previous findings and pre-developed ideas and projects, assessing challenges and opportunities previously identified throughout actions in 2014 and 2018.
- **Transect Walks**: 2 walks were conducted in 1 weekday. We used it to confirm previous findings and update our long-standing knowledge of the area;
- Stakeholder map: key stakeholders mapped;
- Individual Interviews: we interviewed some key stakeholders in the area, including local community champions, representatives of the local authorities and a sample of caregivers and children.



Most relevant goals and factors of Proximity of Care Framework during Jardim Nakamura's understanding phase. Numbers reflect framework spreadsheet.

Assignment I

Design Brief Step #1

Methodology: Summary

We used the Proximity of Care Framework for assessing Jardim Nakamura during the 'Understanding' phase, and organised our findings following the Dimensions, Goals and Factors proposed by the methodology.

Although we have assessed **several Factors** in **14 Goals** and all **4 Dimensions**, we will be focusing on key ones, and addressing secondary goals and factors that can contribute to the achievement of a overall higher impact in the life of children and their caregivers in the area. The numbers on the table at the right side and on the next pages reflect PoC framework spreadsheet.

Some of those factors could be addressed directly by Cidade Ativa and PoC. Others, will most likely depend on engagement and partnerships with the local authorities, the local community and key community champions in the area, both to be delivered, and to be maintained once the project is delivered.

HEALTH

Appropriate WASH	1.1.3 Reliable, accessible and affordable solid waste disposal and management services
Appropriate Healthcare	1.2.2 Availability of reliable, accessible and affordable paediatric healthcare facilities & services
Healthy Nutrition	1.3 Appropriate & healthy nutrition (not assessed)
Healthy Environment	1.4.3 Sufficient coverage of well-maintained trees and green spaces

PROTECTION

Secure Home	2.1.1 Safe home environment, resilient to natural and man-made hazards 2.1.2 Presence of protective and reliable network of support for caregivers
Inclusive Spaces & Infrastructure	2.2.1 Provision of safe public and green spaces connected through safe routes 2.2.2 Provision of safe and child-sensitive infrastructure and facilities 2.2.3 Presence of inclusive amenities and activities for pregnant women and caregivers
Improved Climate Resilience	2.3 Improved climate & risk resilience (not assessed)
Improved Security	2.4.3 Mechanisms for enhanced security in roads and public transportation

STIMULATION

Nurturing Home	3.1.2 - Presence of adequate indoor and outdoor spaces for safe, unstructured play and exploration; 3.1.3 Presence of adequate equipment and toys to encourage diverse play modes
Accessible Play Spaces & Equipment	3.2.1 Presence of accessible and stimulating public spaces, green areas, and play spaces (indoor and outdoor); 3.2.2 Public spaces, green areas, and play spaces have a high play value with age-appropriate equipment and space for caregivers and children interaction
Playful Childcare	3.3.3 Presence of accessible and affordable playful out-of-school facilities and activities, for different age groups and abilities
Friendly Mobility	3.4.1 Presence of child- and caregiver-friendly public transportation options by safe roads encouraging active mobility 3.4.2 Presence of a network of safe and playful streets that cater to a range of active mobility options 3.4.3 Policy measures and community mechanisms to improve road safety and ensure affordable active mobility options

SUPPORT

Supportive Livelihood	4.1.3 Presence of effective civil society organisations and key stakeholders focusing on ECD
Supportive City Leaders	4.2.1 City leaders advocate for ECD and allocate adequate city budget to promote infant care, caregivers and pregnant women; 4.2.2 Participation of caregivers, children and pregnant women in decision-making and planning
Supportive City Planning	4.3.1 Effective and coordinated, child-friendly regulatory and legislative frameworks; 4.3.2 Integrated ECD design principles in urban planning; 4.3.3 Available plans and guidelines that promote children's safe active mobility and play in cities
Supportive Data & Communication	4.4 Supportive data management & communications (not assessed)

2. Methodology - Summary

Week 1

Learning the Proximity of Care Assessment Tools

We examined the Framework to familiarise ourselves with the methodology and planned how to deliver a comprehensive assessment in the following weeks.



- PoC Framework
- Stakeholder Map
- Download and reading other assessment tools
- Contact local
 stakeholder

Week 2

Applying the PoC Framework: desk research

We reviewed Cidade Ativa's projects developed in the area (2014, 2015 and 2018) using PoC Framework, as many tools have been applied previously.



- Secondary data
- Stakeholder Map
- Assessing PoC
 Dimensions and Goals

 Framework broadening
 the scope

Week 3

Applying the PoC Framework: site visit and engagement

We consolidated a first presentation of the general context and methodologies used, and then went to Jardim Nakamura (site visit), to apply a selection of tools.



- Refining key Challenges and Opportunities to presentation in training
- Transect walks
- Individual Interviews

Week 4

Consolidating the Assessment using the PoC Framework

After the site visit, engagement activities and feedback on the presentation, we reviewed the scope and gave more focus to our assessment and proposal.



- Reviewing Priorities
 (Challenges and
 Opportunities) through
 engagement
- Consolidating Report

Methodology - Stakeholder Mapping

Previous to the site visit, we mapped first key stakeholders that we wanted to engage, both on site and through phone calls/e-mails. Some of those have been previously identified and engaged at different moments/projects Cidade Ativa has delivered in the area.

Highlights:

Local Stakeholders:

- Community champion: Vininho/ São Paulino
- O Non-profit organisation: Favela da Paz
- Artists: Ciclo Social Arte

Local Authorities:

- Subprefeitura M'Boi Mirim (local municipality)
- o SPObras
- o Ilume
- Education Sector
- Policy makers (early childhood)



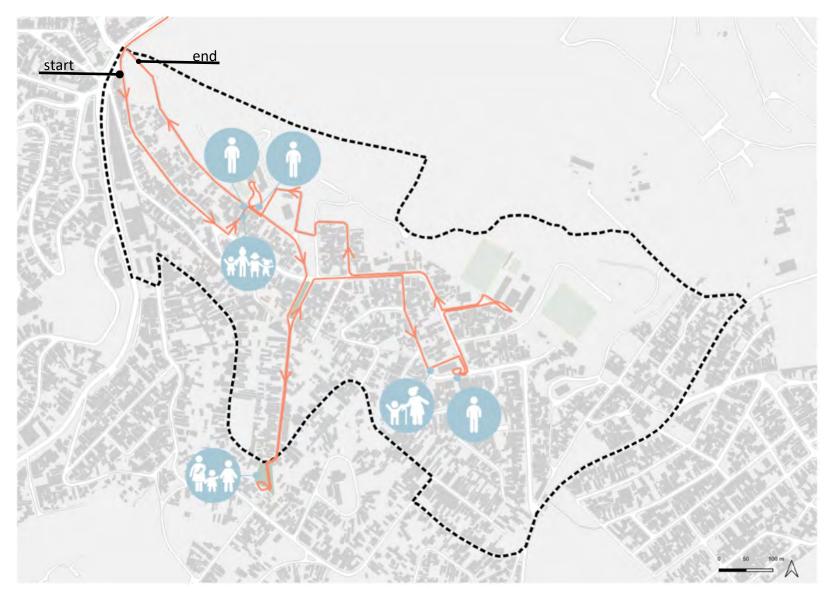
• Local Community:

- Children (early childhood and oldest one)
- Caregivers (specially women, who are mainly responsible for the care tasks, but also others as older siblings, grandparents etc)
- Local traders
- Staff of public facilities (such as health posts)

Schools:

- 3 different school directores
- o Students
- O Other people from the school community (teachers/ staff)

Methodology - Transect Walk map and interaction with community



During the Transect Walk, the team observed built and social environments, took photos, and interacted with community members. These interactions were done in an empathy interview format (non-structured interviews), with questions specific to each audience member's profile, in order to map real experiences, dynamics and ambitions for the site.

The route taken connects the main streets and potential open public spaces and colective spaces, such as school courts. One route coincides with the prooosed safe and accessible school route. The Transect walk route included streets, stairways and alleys.

Methodology - Interviews

On the same day we did the transect walks, we met with key local stakeholders in the area and conducted non-structured interviews. Amongst them, we can highlight the following:

- Local community champion (Vininho/São Paulino): He has been supportive of Cidade Ativa's works in the are since 2014 and has been instrumental to us, as he knows everyone in the neighbourhood. He is the person who represents the community in demanding its rights from the public authorities. On this short interview he updated our team of recent works on a staircase and local streets, presented us to the local authority mayor and helped us get updated contacts with school head teachers. He mentioned that only one school keeps its doors open for the community to use as a public space, and that there is a lack of other spaces for play. This is most evident during the holidays periods, and that's why improvements in the area for children would be very welcomed.
- Subprefeito M'Boi Mirim (local authority mayor João Paulo Lo Prete): he made a visit on site to discuss with the local leader some possibilities for improvement on problems pointed out by the local community. He was very receptive of a potential partnership to deliver on further improvements in the area. He said he would like to implement actions in line with the needs and desires of the local community, but what the sub-municipality lacks is the capacity for innovative proposals. With good ideas, he said he can back it up with delivery of actions.





Methodology - Interviews

- **Group of caregivers in public space:** In one of the few public spaces with a green area and benches, we found 2 adult women who were accompanied by 2 children (newborn and 8 years old). They are local residents who grew up in the neighbourhood and have used that space since they were kids. They revealed that they always escort their children to the square, because the path is unsafe. Although small, it is often used by children to fly kites, and is one of the few places they frequent due to the lack of options in the neighborhood.
- Caregiver with children in play space: At the entrance of an alley that has been adapted to accommodate some playground and gym equipment, we interviewed a grandmother who has taken her grandson(and dog!) to play outdoors. She is the main caregiver during the holidays' period. She said that he stays indoors a lot because there is no place to take him, but that when he is with his parents in the neighbourhood where he lives he always goes to public spaces. She showed concern and frustration for not being able to provide him with the same possibility.
- Health centre (UBS) staff: The security worker at the health centre shared that staff at
 the unit promoted actions to encourage play by painting games on the footpath.
 Currently the paint has faded, but the children really enjoyed it and interacted while it
 lasted. He also commented that the road safety measures in the neighbourhood were
 not very efficient, and were not well received by the community.
- **Group of children in a staircase:** 4 girls were playing on the staircase in front of one of the schools, and shared that if there were play spaces at the school entrance, they would be used more by boys. They like the idea, but fear being excluded.





Methodology and limitations

Additional tools and methods that are expected to be conducted in further phases of the project, depending on resources and availability of stakeholders:

- Surveys
- Focus groups
- Assessment workshops
- Interactive boards*
- Exploratory walks*

Limitations:

- School holidays: school staff and teachers proved harder to reach due the pre and during school holidays;
- Pre-election period (national elections in October) reduce how keen the community is to engage on activities - lack of trust on what can be seen as politically driven activities;
- Reputational / trust risk: creating expectations of local stakeholders on local improvements without assurance that the project will be developed and delivered in the short-term.

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Interactive boards and exploratory walks with children, activities conducted by Cidade Ativa in previous projects.

Source: Cidade Ativa, 2018. Eugenio Gastelun (UN-Habitat), 2018.

Site Overview

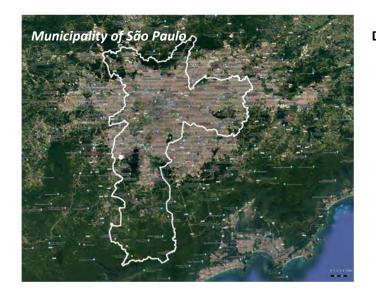
Jardim Nakamura neighbourhood located in the southwest area of São Paulo, Brazil. It is 27 km far from the city centre. **It presents very complex social, economic and environmental vulnerability contexts**, including lack of formal jobs, low quality sanitation services, and informal settlements. Some highlights:

- Lack of quality public open spaces and green areas that can be accessed by families, in special play areas for younger children;
- Unsafe, insecure, disconnected and inaccessible footways and crossings;
- Unhealthy environment with limited waste collection and street cleaning, open air drainage and limited sanitation network.

Administrative Boundary

The area is approximately 52.2 hectares, and represents about 1.4% of the district it is part of.

It is part of the Jardim Ângela, one of the 96 administrative districts (sectors) in which the city of São Paulo is organized. Its local authority is M'Boi Mirim sub-municipality (one of the 32 local authorities linked to the Municipality of São Paulo).















Demography

It has a diverse population, composed in part of migrants from other Brazilian states. It is estimated to be divided between **52.7% women** and 47.3% men (binary evaluation; OD, 2017); At the precarious housing area, the predominant race/ethnicity was brown (49,6%) in 2010; and most of the population had between 30-39 years old (OD, 2017). The houses are cohabited up to 9 person; the most common is from 2 to 5 (2010).

Socioeconomic Conditions

The Jardim Ângela district is known for its social vulnerability and significant lack of formal jobs (less than 1 job/inhabitant - source: RNSP, 2017; 0,04 job/inhabitat - source RAIS,2010), which results in the need for long daily trips to the most central region of the city. The average time for locomotion is 43 minutes and around 109 minutes when it is busy (source: OD, 2017). For women, still mainly responsible for the family care tasks, **this significantly affects the time dedicated to child care.** There are 59,1% people with no income (OD, 2017). Under the Social Vulnerability Index (IPVS) it scores 6 and 5, in a scale of 1 to 6, on which 6 is the worst scenario.

In the 1990's the area had the infamous title of the 'most violent area of the city'. It has improved a lot, but it is still not a safe place.

one of the main pedestrian accesses to the neighbourhood has space used as a dump



4. Key Challenges

Key Challenges: Health

Challenge 1:

<u>Limited access to green public spaces</u>: a small central square; some football fields; green area with geological risk. Children play in improvised or restricted collective spaces that are open on weekends (schools courtyards).

Healthy & green environment

1.4.3 Sufficient coverage of well-maintained trees and green spaces



Challenge 2:

Lack of greening and trees, which would help reduce air pollution. The circulation of motorised vehicles and narrow footways leave pedestrians more exposed to pollution, affecting especially children.

Goal: Healthy & green environment

1.4.3 Sufficient coverage of well-maintained trees and green spaces



Challenge 3

Non-designated solid waste dumping spots

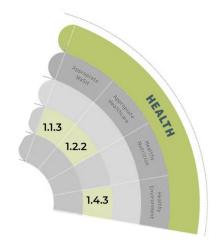
(fly tipping) are located in the territory, representing a health risk for those passing by the and for children who might play in the surrounding spaces. Limited waste collection.

Goal: Appropriate WASH and waste facilities & services 1.1.3 Reliable, accessible and affordable solid waste disposal and management services



Key Challenges: Health





Despite the proximity with a dense natural vegetation of considerable size, there is <u>limited access to green public</u> spaces and a lack of greening and trees at Jardim Nakamura. There are only two green areas available apart from the football field.

On top of that, there are some waste dumping spots.

There is a basic healthcare facility in the neighbourhood and a big public hospital nearby.

Key Challenges: Protection

Challenge 1:

<u>Limited safe public spaces and poor quality</u>
<u>pedestrian network</u> in the neighbourhood,
affecting movement of children, caregivers and
pregnant people.

Goal: Secure and inclusive network of child-friendly spaces and infrastructure

- 2.2.1 Provision of safe public and green spaces connected through safe routes
- 2.2.3 Presence of inclusive amenities and activities for pregnant women and caregivers

Challenge 2:

<u>Existing public spaces don't offer inclusive areas</u> <u>for children</u> of all ages and physical and cognitive conditions can play safely.

Goal: Secure and inclusive network of child-friendly spaces and infrastructure

2.2.2 Provision of safe and child-sensitive infrastructure and facilities

2.2.3 Presence of inclusive amenities and activities for pregnant women and caregivers

Challenge 3:

<u>Play spaces deficiency and limited adequate</u> <u>dwelling areas</u> that provide safe sightlines for caregivers and safe access for children to play spaces.

Goal: Improved security

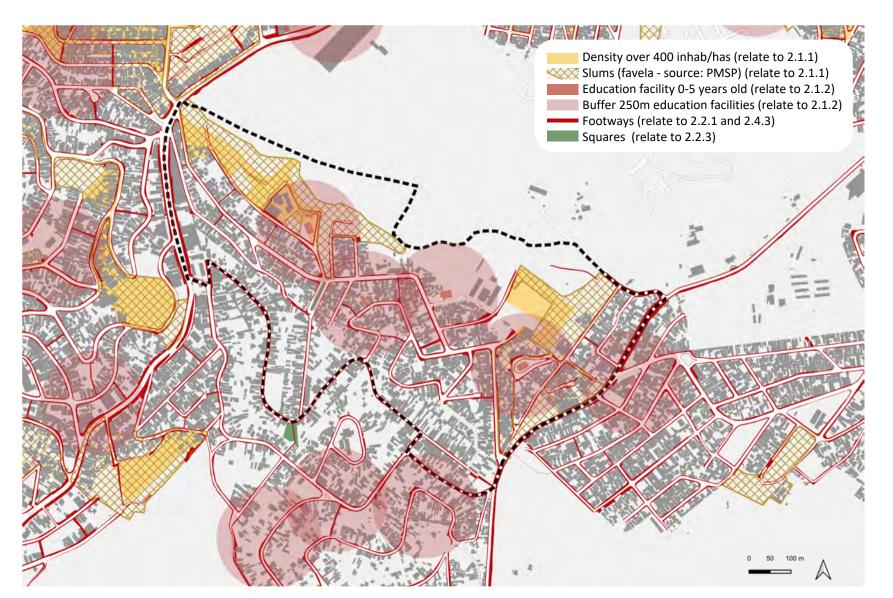
2.4.3 Mechanisms for enhanced security in roads and public transportation







Key Challenges: Protection





Jardim Nakamura has areas that can be considered a slum, as some have <u>over</u> 400 inhabitants per hectare, consisting (partially) in an overcrowded occupation over a slope.

There are four public nursery/schools for kids up to 5 years old at Jardim Nakamura, presenting an average network of support for caregivers in this perspective.

The network of footways and alleys is currently not appropriated for early childhood protection.

Key Challenges: Stimulation

Challenge 1:

<u>Limited time availability at home for childcare</u> <u>for adult caregivers</u> who work in regions far from home (vast majority). This exposes children to domestic insecurities.

Goal: Nurturing and stimulating household environment

- 3.1.2 Presence of adequate indoor and outdoor spaces for safe, unstructured play and exploration;
- 3.1.3 Presence of adequate equipment and toys to encourage diverse play modes

Challenge 2:

<u>Inexistent public open spaces</u> that provide support facilities for breastfeeding children, or stimulating spaces to develop children's playfulness.

Goal: Stimulating and accessible network of diverse play spaces and equipment

3.2.1 Presence of accessible and stimulating public spaces, green areas, and play spaces (indoor and outdoor);3.2.2 Public spaces, green areas, and play spaces have a high play value with age-appropriate equipment and space for caregivers and children interaction

Challenge 3:

Public transport (bus) stops are considered unsafe, badly-lit, or have inadequate space for strollers. Public transport is important for caregivers who drop-off children at schools before going to work.

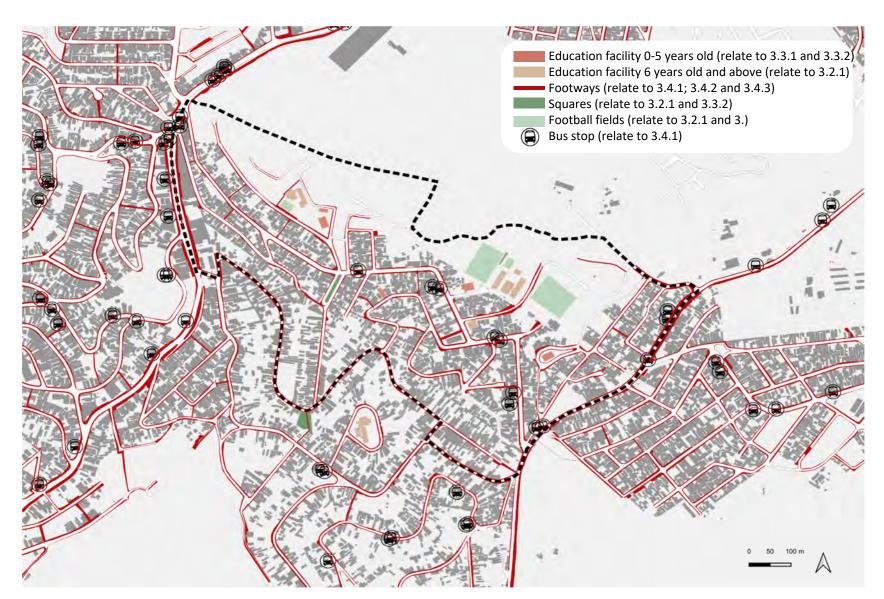
Goal: Child- and caregiver-friendly streets and mobility 3.4.1 Presence of child- and caregiver-friendly public transportation options by safe roads encouraging active mobility

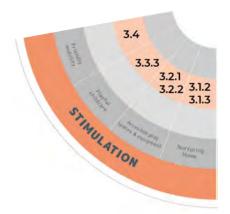






Key Challenges: Stimulation





There is <u>limited offer of public spaces</u> at <u>Jardim Nakamura</u>. The most suitable playable space for small kids consists on an alley besides the healthcare facility. Apart from it, <u>there are two squares</u>, two football fields and a <u>school courtyard which remains open everyday for the community to use.</u>

Footways and alleys are badly maintained and do not offer space for safe unstructured play and exploration. Streets are not safe, nor playful.

Key Challenges: Support

Challenge 1:

Goal: Supportive livelihood and community

4.1.3 Presence of effective civil society organisations and key stakeholders focusing on ECD

Challenge 2:

There is a public policy and municipal plan for early childhood in the city. It is necessary to understand what actions are being implemented in the neighborhood, and support managers in implementing actions.

Goal: Supportive city leaders

4.2.1 City leaders advocate for ECD and allocate adequate city budget to promote infant care, caregivers and pregnant women;

4.2.2 Participation of caregivers, children and pregnant women in decision-making and planning

Challenge 3:

There is no appropriate public way-finding and street signs for childrens.

Goal:Supportive data management and communications 4.4 Supportive data management & communications (not assessed)







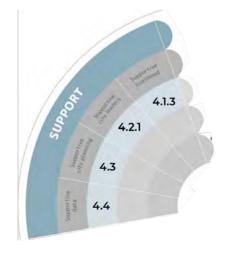
Key Challenges: Support

Municipal policies and plans on early childhood (relate to 4.2.1;4.2.2; 4.3):

- Federal law for early childhood n. 13.257/2016
- Municipal Early Childhood Plan 2018-2030
- Early childhood Action Plan 2021-2024 (municipal)
- Municipal department for early childhood (under the 'Strategic Projects Executive Secretariat')
- Several recent municipal publications about early childhood
- Policy for early childhood (state of Sao Paulo)
- Stadual law: Children first
- Stadual law for the 'week of play'
- LOCAL: several schools and kindergardens in the neighbourhood
- ENGAGEMENT: connection with other professionals working with children, active mobility and playful spaces



Image from the
Municipal
department for early
childhood website
Primeira Infância |
Secretaria de Governo
Municipal | Prefeitura
da Cidade de São
Paulo





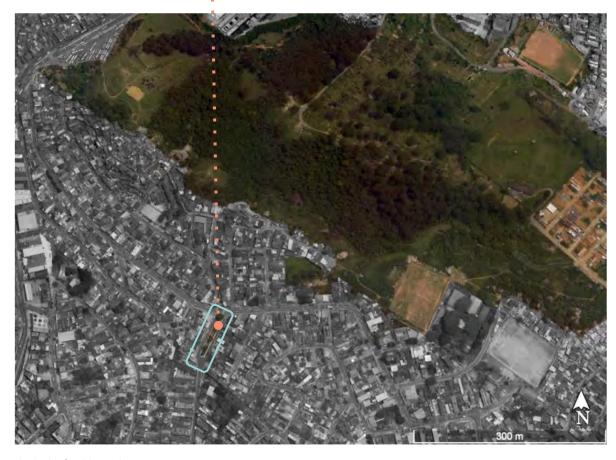
5. Key Opportunities

Key Opportunities: Health

Built environment interventions can create healthier and more enriching conditions for the children, caregivers, and pregnant women of Jardim Nakamura:

- To monitor the air quality in public spaces most frequented by children, caregivers and pregnant women through specific equipment, to choose the most critical point and propose mitigating actions.
- Act together with schools in actions to promote education and awareness about the dumping of solid waste in inappropriate places. After identifying with the children the main critical point of accumulation with potential to become a play area, it is possible to propose urban furniture and/or vegetation as measures to inhibit the dumping of solid waste in inappropriate places.
- Possibility to increase green spaces of squares as well as creating living spaces in green areas that are used as walkways.

- the only square with a green area in
- the neighbourhood



the lack of public and green spaces in the neighborhood. Image: Google Maps, 2022.

Key Opportunities: Protection

Protection has a direct correlation with the configuration of the built environment. Integrating and complementing physical actions to improve safety outcomes in Jardim Nakamura can be done through several measures, some of which are very simple:

- Improve street lighting and de-clutter footways (providing clear sightlines) in key walking routes connecting bus stops, schools, nurseries and other key local destinations.
- Redesign crossings and extend footways to provide safer, accessible and more comfortable routes to and from schools and nurseries and other local destinations. Review and revise recent 'routes to school' project developed by the Municipality Traffic Agency (CET-SP), adding new layers to the proposed action;
- Connect public (streets, squares, staircases) and collective spaces (school's courtyards) in the neighbourhood through this routes, acting in key locations and improving the overall network.



Example from applying tools of Proximity of Care assessment: Surveys.

Image: Jardim Nakamura, Cidade Ativa

Key Opportunities: Stimulation

Most houses in the neighbourhood are small and sometimes overcrowded, lacking the possibility of offering children appropriate stimulation to play. Also, with limited time of caregivers at home, the public space becomes even more important, so children can interact and have adequate conditions for their development and sociability. Some opportunities are:

- Football fields and sports courts and its adjacent spaces could be improved and made open for the community on overtime and weekends (currently have limited accessibility);
- Improve the network of pedestrian/bike-only alleys and staircases creating more stimulating, ludic and playful routes and spaces for children.
- Build upon recent proposals and interventions to implement measures and community mechanisms to improve road safety and ensure affordable active mobility options (Mind the Step; School Routes; wayfinding)

- Schoolyard and sports court stays open on weekends,
- but could be improved to also consider younger
- children's needs



Given the complex context, existing spaces can have other uses. Image: Jardim Nakamura, Cidade Ativa.

Key Opportunities: Support

Investing in child and caregiver friendly environments promotes benefits and impacts that are of interest to public management. It is necessary to understand if there is implementation of local actions and how to guide other necessary actions that can be done. Some of them are:

- Recent municipal action plan for early childhood hasn't yet shown direct delivery of actions - Jardim Nakamura could be one of the first places;
- Engagement with local authorities and other organisations which have previously worked with active mobility and children at the same neighbourhood - strengthening relationships and building partnerships for developing and delivering the proposal;
- Creating connection with different schools for more strategic approach on children and caregivers related policies and programmes;
- Municipal policies/programmes/projects which could be influenced by the action, such as Rotas Escolares (School Routes) and Território Educador (Educational Territories);
- Cidade Ativa was invited to collaborate in writing a guide for an organization about low-resource play spaces solutions to be implemented by public administrations and maybe we could use this project as an example;
- Attracting additional sponsors to support the delivery of the proposals.

Example of low-cost solution: Mind the Step - Jardim Nakamura
 (action implemented in 2018)



Promote spaces for play. Image: Jardim Nakamura, Cidade Ativa, 2018.

6. The Project Scope

1. Defining the project

After the Understanding phase and further community engagement, we aim to select the specific project site. We have already scoped some possibilities, which should be discussed, confirmed and cocreated with children and caregivers:

- network of safe and playful streets that cater to active mobility options and unstructured play and exploration;
- school courtyard, which remains open all day long, including weekends, holidays and vacations;
- Qualifying one specific existent public space: the slope square, or an specific alley or staircase, for example.

2. Engagement and Participation

We aim to engage and decide the specific site of intervention together with the community, especially children and caregivers;

We are in touch with the local leader and the submunicipalitymayor;

We aim to involve the schools, toddlers, children and caregivers in the next phases

3. Focusing the framework

We will focus our main action into two dimensions: Stimulation and Protection, whilst Support we aim to address through advocacy and dissemination and Health will only appear as co-benefit related to a possible increase of greening and reduction waste dumping in inappropriate areas.



Focusing the framework for action

Cidade Ativa's PoC project at Jardim Nakamura will focus its intervention on the following factors:

- 3.1.2 Presence of adequate indoor and outdoor spaces for safe, unstructured play and exploration;
- 3.2.2 Public spaces, green areas, and play spaces have a high play value with age-appropriate equipment and space for caregivers and children interaction
- 3.4.2 Presence of a network of safe and playful streets that cater to a range of active mobility options

Beside these factors, we expect co-benefits from the physical intervention over the following ones:

2.2.1; 2.2.3; 3.1.3; 3.2.1; 3.4.1; 4.2.2

And through advocacy and dissemination, influence the following factors:

2.4.2; 2.4.3; 3.4.3; 4.1.3; 4.2.1; 4.2.2



Proximity of Care Framework highlighting the factors Cidade Ativa aims to focus its work at Jardim Nakamura project.