



# Karl-Bank

Kallabakki

LOCATION

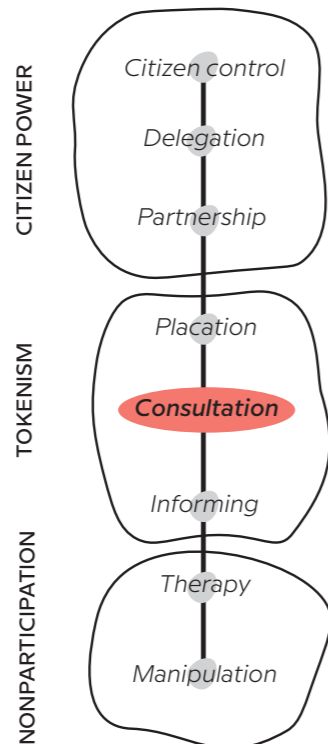
**Djúpivogur, Iceland**

TIME PERIOD

**Since 2017**

## THE PROJECT

The project is located on Kallabakki. This place was originally a sloping grassland on cliffs with a point of view on the town. However in the 1970s, it turned into car facilities. Thereafter, the space was left abandoned and used as a parking lot. The aim of the project was to turn the area into a public space where locals or visitors can rest, talk and enjoy the environment.



## RESULT

The targeted impact was achieved. The place is now used as a public space instead of being a parking lot. It also reinforces traffic safety, because those who are walking are separated from the ones driving. The place has become a town center square with the possibilities that a square this size gives. The will of improving the town structure has become stronger in the local's and municipality's minds. People stay longer in the settlement, it boosts the attraction of the town and local businesses benefit from visitors influx. At the beginning, people were concerned about the loss of parking space. If some people did not notice anything, others accepted the change and think that it is easier to walk there.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE SPACE

The remoteness of Djúpivogur is based on several factors. The population density is low, the transportation links are not good enough, the job opportunities are very few and there are the minimum daily-life-support facilities to live there. However, the most relevant remote characteristic of Djúpivogur is the geographical allocation, due to its location on the East-fjords. If the settlement is composed of several public spaces, their quality is not good enough. In addition, there is no central place where people can meet and gather in Djúpivogur.

town. They commissioned TGJ Design Studio to manage the project. However, locals also contributed to decision making.

## ROLE OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY & METHODS USED

The public space was created by arranging small wooden blocks in a row along the "Bakki" street to separate the lot and the street. Now, the two areas are separated with big flower pots. In the defined public space, there are some movable benches with tables. The local community participated in the consultation process for the making of the town center's detailed land-use plan, including Kallabaki. The participation of the population was made possible through public town meetings and workshops. This project also benefited from the public authorities listening carefully to the people's ideas.

## WHAT MAKES THE SPECIFICITY OF THE PROJECT

The project was initiated by the municipality of Djúpivogur in order to have better urban planning in



View before intervention B1  
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Kallabakki before the change  
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Kallabakki full of people  
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Djúpivogur, Municipality of Múlaþing, Iceland

more about this project





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Link to the publication:  
<http://www1.uirs.si/en-us/book/id/119>