

# Neighbourhood plan for Flensborgarhöfn and Óseyrarsvaedi



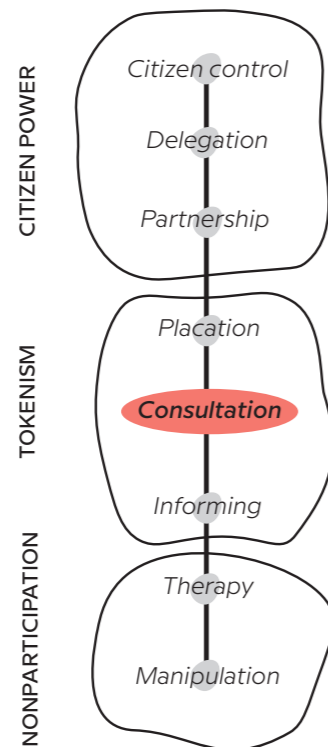
Rammaskipulag Flensborgarhafnar og Óseyrarsvæðis

LOCATION  
**Hafnarfjörður, Iceland**

TIME PERIOD  
**Since 2003**

## THE PROJECT

The project takes place in a harbour area of 20,2 ha that has been losing its function as an industrial site for the fishing and shipping industry. It consists of a new framework and development plan for this area. This ongoing process, which started in 2003, has three major aims: adapting the activities in the harbour since the fishing industry is declining, tackling the lack of character, connection and historical reference and adapting the space to regional planning goals.



based on comments and inputs from locals. In 2018, an open international competition was held and a Swedish team won. They have since proposed a development plan for three separate areas of the harbor.

## RESULT

Since the project has not reached its construction phase yet, it is hard to estimate if it has reached its targeted impacts. However, we should highlight the fact that the local community felt as if they had little ability to influence the project. This is the case when a 22 meter high building was implemented in the project and they protested against it. Thus, even if locals are one of the main beneficiaries of this development plan, they do not feel so enthusiastic about it because they cannot really identify themselves in it.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE SPACE

Hafnarfjörður is a town with about 30.000 inhabitants, located in the outskirts of the capital region (Reykjavik) in Iceland. What gives Hafnarfjörður a feeling of remoteness is connected to its uniqueness and rich history. Since receiving official town rights in 1908, 1490 people lived in Hafnarfjörður. Now, more than a hundred years later, the population has multiplied, but despite this, the town has preserved a strong village feel. In terms of public spaces, this city is well equipped. However, the old center area has suffered from its proximity with Reykjavik with abandoned buildings and poor-quality public spaces.

Hafnarfjörður but other actors have been involved, such as urban designers (Kjellgren Kaminsky and Mareld & Jvantspijker & partners) and the Architect Association of Iceland. The role of the local community will be described below.

## ROLE OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY & METHODS USED

Since 2003, the city has been dealing with this development plan for the harbor area. It is really in 2014 that the local community and other stakeholders have been more involved in the project with a large open meeting. This was done to ensure good communication between the planning authorities and locals, and to ensure that the plan was according to the will of the people. The meeting led to appointing a working group that proposed a preface description for a competition to be held, partly

## INITIATION AND ACTORS

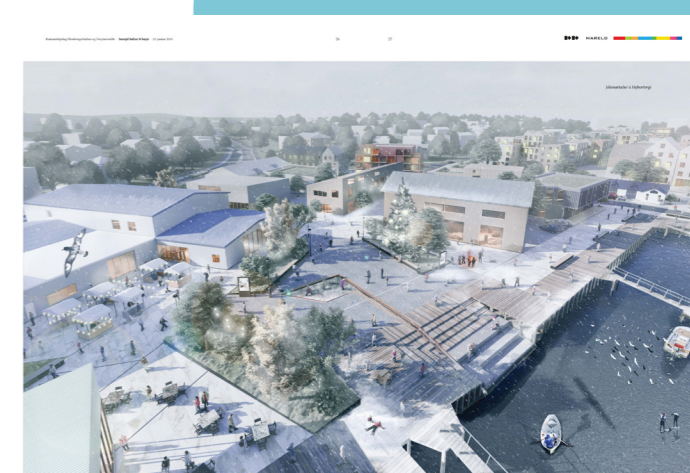
This public project has been launched by the town of



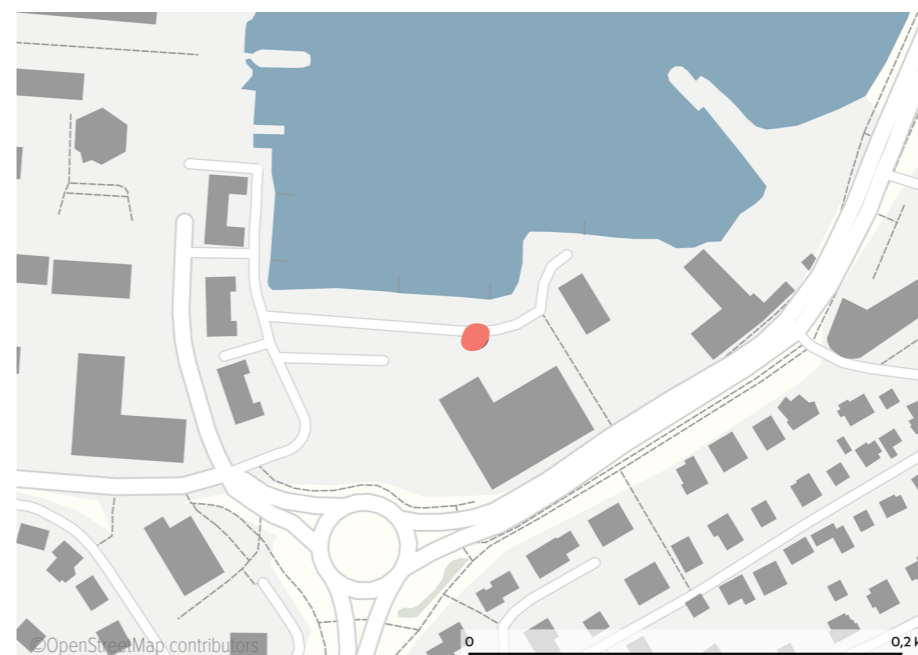
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Hafnarfjordur, Capital Region, Iceland

more about this project

