Journey to the roadmap

CAN-Cy project is more than an inter-communal civic engagement project. It is an opportunity to see a potential future becoming reality.
In the past 6 months we organized, co-organized and attended to various events introducing CAN-Cy project, engaging with the public via mini-SDDP workshops and presenting our results. We also ran various social media campaigns on Facebook and via Pusula Platform. The mini-SDD events were free of charge and open to the public, and participants came together to share their thoughts and ideas in a structured and democratic environment.

Ideation

We collected ideas towards our ideal future of Cyprus. We reached out to activists, NGO's, local authorities, associations, schools and universities and launched an online campaign. People recorded 1 min. video of themselves explaining their idea. We also co-organized 5 separate Mini-SDDP workshops island-wide to generate more ideas collectively. We collected 121 ideas in total, categorized in 6 different thematic areas, generated by 59 ideators from 5 different demographics, island-wide.

The thematic areas are;
- Education, Culture & Sports
- Good governance
- Economy & Technology
- Environment
- Social Cohesion & Inclusion
- Politics

The demographics of the ideators;
- Greek speaking Cypriots
- Turkish speaking Cypriots
- Armenian Cypriots
- Migrants and international students living in Cyprus
- Other groups including those who live in Nicosia

Evaluation and public voting

We disseminated the ideas on social media and via our contacts. We encouraged the public and the ideators to vote for the ones they like the most on Pusula digital platform, view on YouTube and like, comment and share on Facebook. We shared and promoted Youtube videos on our Facebook page in order to create social media traffic, public engagement as well as encouraging the idea owners to share their own ideas through their own social media accounts. Pusula's instagram account was also utilized with the means of stories and posts for more visibility and engagement. Shortlisted ideas by categories;

Politics
- "A federal state" by Fezile
- "A dream of united Cyprus" by Cengiz
- "Collaboration across the division" by Daniel
- "No borders" by Övgü
- "More crossing points" by Marian
- "Bi-zonal, bi-communal federal state" by Paraskevi
- "Inclusivity" by Rictus

Education, Culture & Sports
- "More respect to musicians" by Cengiz
- "Basketball court in Nicosia old town" by Alden
- "Media arts" by Adele
- "Reform in education system" by Maria
- "Education about emotional regulation and health in primary schools" by Nune
- "Reform in education system" by Kalia

Good Governance
- "No domestic violence" by Kyriaki
- "Road safety campaign" by Alden
- "No trading of illegal substances" by Nicolas
- "My dream for the future is for Cyprus to have the best health care." by Tabarek
- "A bi-communal policy for international students who are HIV+" by Rictus
- "To develop a global awareness as an island community" by Merve
- "An earthquake assessment done independently from construction companies for all buildings in Cyprus" by Wolfgang
- "Free social spaces" by Argyro
- "Inclusive and compassionate play grounds for kids" by Athos
- "Fair and just politics" by Rictus"More youth centres!" by Theodosia
- "Integrated and island-wide railway network" by Ali
- "Interactive parks" by Adele
- "A bi-communal policy to penalize human trafficking" by Rictus
- "Better communication between citizens and local authorities" by Christos

Economy & Technology

- "Affordable housing" by Ioanna
- "To become part of the international community and learn from their examples that are similar to ours." by Irmak
- "Free wifi and electricity in public parks" by Barış
- "A Cyprus which is a regional hub for MENA and south east Europe" by Alex
- "Better working conditions matter" by Christos
- "Nicosia Smart City" by Athos
- "Online supermarkets and grocery shops" by Sammy
- "Eliminate unemployment" by Costas
- "I dream of a city that is technologically advanced" by Nicolas

Enviroment

- "Public transport" by Maria
- "Eco-conscious urban planning" by Marina
- "Littering and respect for the environment" by Halil
- "Watering system for dry lands" by Selçuk
- "Sustainable energy" by Övgü
- "Agricultural development" by Selçuk
- "Environmental awareness and sustainability practices are adopted by everyone" by Tabarek
- "A healthy environment for birds" by Thasos
- "More protected natural areas" by Andrea
- "Efficient trash and recycling collection" by Alden
- "Action for the environment" by Chris
- "Bicycle focused" by Alden
- "Bicycle lanes for cyclists" by Pantelina
- "In my ideal world everything is Green!" by Antaia

Social cohesion & inclusivity

- "A new public holiday called Mazi/Birlikte Day" by Ilke
- "Young people helping elderly people with online bureaucratic work" by Sofia
- "Integrated youth" by Simbi
- "Empowering women" by Kriyaki
- "LGBTQ+ rights are enshrined in law and practice" by Alex
- "Free our nipples" by Katerina
- "Social awareness and empathy" by George
- "More polite people" by Cassandra
- "Free therapy for everyone to heal our intergenerational trauma" by Nune
- "Human rights violations" by Shahd Al-Sarori
- "Safe spaces for emotional health" by Nune

We also engaged 10 experts to evaluate the ideas in their fields based on their impact, inclusivity, feasibility and desirability and score them out of 5 for each category.

In addition to expert evaluation, we conducted an internal evaluation where each member of the team selected their top 30 ideas. We then paired up ideas that were similar, but didn't receive enough public votes, in order to maximize the inclusivity of the selection process as well as making sure that each thematic area has been covered. This multilayered evaluation helped us select the top 62 ideas that took part in the road mapping process.

The selected 62 ideas were announced on our Facebook page with visuals and the idea owners were notified via email. The stats mentioned above were also shared in video format on our Facebook page. We also published another video solely for Idea Prism.

The refinement and formation of the roadmap

Once all the ideators of the shortlisted ideas were informed, we moved into the next stage of idea refinement and formation of the future road map.
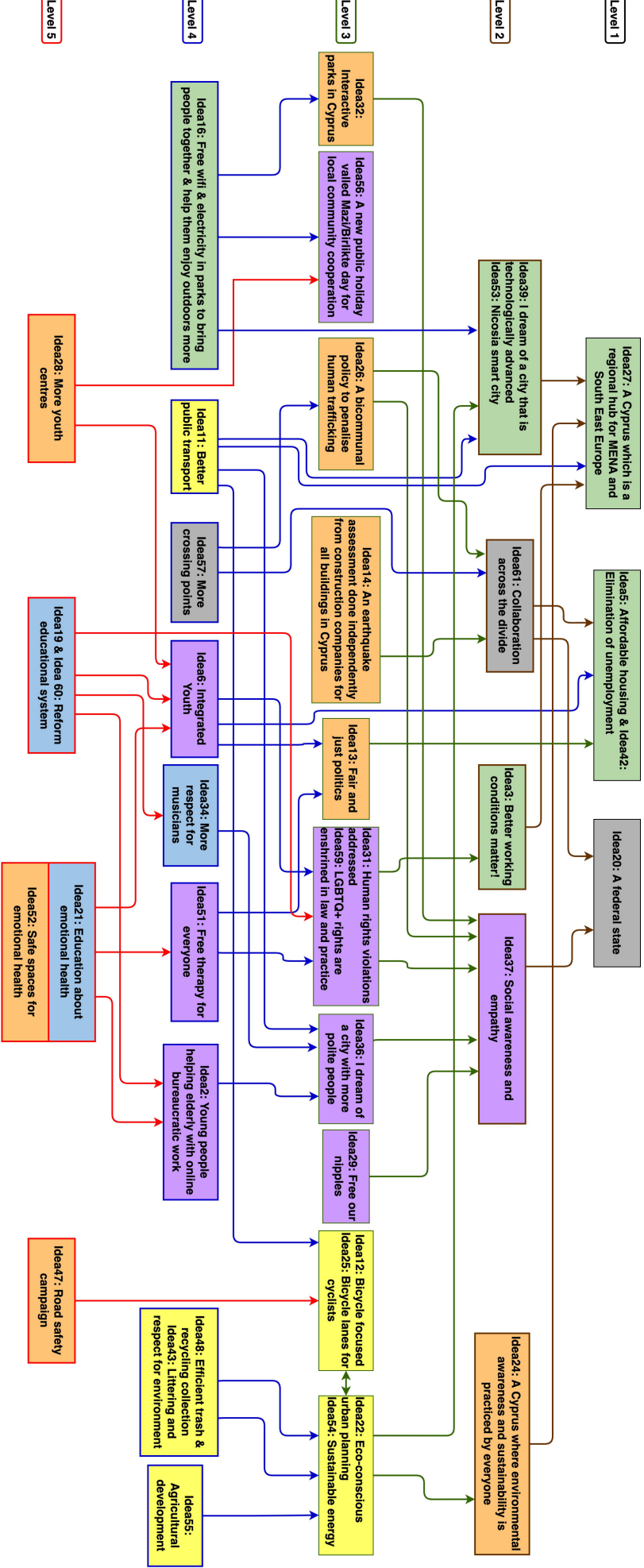
All the ideators were invited to one hour long online meeting in order to introduce themselves and their ideas as well as their expectations.

We then proceeded to the Structured Democratic Dialogue Process sessions lead by Yiannis Lauoris. The sessions were hosted by Goethe Institut Zypern in buffer zone so that it is accessible for participants who cannot cross to either sides of the border. Both sessions were 3 hours long where participants were asked to actively participate in decision making and voting processes as well as as influence mapping.

Due to some unforeseeable obstacles the second session was made available for online attendance in addition to face to face. Each participant were given 10 stickers to vote for the ideas that they believed should be included in the roadmap. They could use their votes as they wished, all for one idea or spread across. This helped further filter the 62 ideas to 37. The participants then deliberated about the relationship between the ideas and discuss which has a signficaint facilitating influence on which, using a software based on a structured equation algortihm called Cogniscope, the participants structured the ideas into an influence map via a democratic deliberative process. Through this process a draft roadmap is formed and it will be presented to the ideators for their feedback before finalization.

Level 1

Level 2

Level 3

Level 4

Level 5

Idea32: Interactive parks in Cyprus

Idea16: Free wifi & electricity in parks to bring people together & help them enjoy outdoors more

Idea56: A new public holiday valued Mazi/Birlikte day for local community cooperation

Idea28: More youth centres

Idea26: A bicommunal policy to penalise human trafficking

Idea11: Better public transport

Idea57: More crossing points

Idea14: An earthquake assessment done independently from construction companies for all buildings in Cyprus

Idea19 & Idea 60: Reform educational system

Idea6: Integrated Youth

Idea34: More respect for musicians

Idea21: Education about emotional health

Idea52: Safe spaces for emotional health

Idea51: Free therapy for everyone

Idea2: Young people helping elderly with online bureaucratic work

Idea47: Road safety campaign

Idea39: I dream of a city that is technologically advanced
Idea53: Nicosia smart city

Idea27: A Cyprus which is a regional hub for MENA and South East Europe

Idea61: Collaboration across the divide

Idea5: Affordable housing & **Idea42:** Elimination of unemployment

Idea13: Fair and just politics

Idea31: Human rights violations addressed
Idea59: LGBTQ+ rights are enshrined in law and practice

Idea3: Better working conditions matter!

Idea20: A federal state

Idea37: Social awareness and empathy

Idea36: I dream of a city with more polite people

Idea29: Free our nipples

Idea12: Bicycle focused
Idea25: Bicycle lanes for cyclists

Idea22: Eco-conscious urban planning
Idea54: Sustainable energy

Idea48: Efficient trash & recycling collection
Idea43: Littering and respect for environment

Idea55: Agricultural development

Idea24: A Cyprus where environmental awareness and sustainability is practiced by everyone

Category Colors

Good Governance

Environment

Economy & Technology

Social Cohesion & Inclusion

Politics

Culture & Education

Arrows

Direction: Exerts positive influence
Color: Denotes the level from which it originates

Levels

Deeper levels are MORE influential

In total the ideators participated 9 hours of Structured Democratic Dialogue Process, including visioning and influence mapping as part of Civic Action Now for Cyprus Project and they will all receive a certificate for their contributions and participation.

Interpreting the roadmap

The road-map is actually a visualisation of an influence map like a tree. It provides us a sequence of the ideas, with a starting point at the bottom and a vision at the top. The is done via the3 Structured Dialogic Design Process which is a democratic and deliberative method, and thus it is also based on collective wisdom and ownership.

The road-map shows us where we should start to facilitate our way forward to the vision, and pieces together the ideas in a way that identifies symbiotic relationships, synergies and where and how we can create momentum for transformative change.

The ideas at the bottom of the tree are actions that would facilitate the ideas they are interconnected with the other levels above them. In other words, achieving progress in ideas presented at the root (level 5), will facilitate achieving the ideas presented above (level 4). The arrows indicate a relationship between ideas. They are not causal arrows, they symbolise a facilitating positive influence. This does not mean that the starting point cannot be an idea on level 4, but it means that if we start from an idea on level 5 that has arrows feeding and facilitating other ideas building momentum and achieving progress would be easier.

Looking at the road-map, we see an attractive and desirable vision, which is the destination. This vision that emerged from the structuring of ideas organically is built upon three pillars:

- human security via **affordable housing**
- long lasting peace via a **federal state**
- positioning of Cyprus as a regional hub for prosperity and regional collaboration.

The road-map presents 5 parallel starting points that can pave the way towards this vision on level 5. These starting points are a lot more actionable and achievable with practical and scale-able investments that would not cost a lot but would have big impact. These are:

- More youth centres on the local level where creation, entrepreneurship, community cooperation, sense of belonging and civic duty can be cultivated and leveraged, and where wellbeing of youth would be nurtured.
- More safe spaces where there is regular, open facilitated dialogue about emotional health and where individual and family healing can happen to nurture wellbeing at and beyond youth centres, women centres, community centres, shelters, parks, citizen's forums.

- Education about emotional regulation and health in primary schools is critical because this needs to start at an early age. It would have a huge effect in how we interact with each other, and how we build healthy constructive relationships with our family, peers, teachers, neighbours and society. A small investment on this level can have huge positive and multisystemic outcomes for our society and for Cyprus.
- Reform the education system to respond to youth's needs more and to catch up with the global trends from employability to life skills, from forest schools to better integration of digital tools and AI. Beyond the curricula development, the education system in Cyprus should learn from different contexts and methods in a more practical and integrated way, and become more responsive and adaptable.
- Road safety in Cyprus is very important because for a small island, the number of traffic accidents, deaths, traffic law violations are extremely high. A simple practical intervention and campaigns around improving the knowledge and adherence to traffic laws (e.g. via apps) would help. Improving road safety would also help reduce stress induced by commuting and road rage.
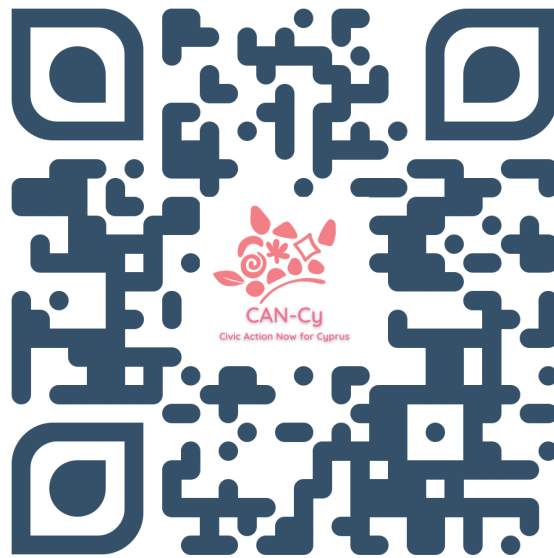
The road-map presents many other ideas on other levels that can be initiated in parallel. We believe it provides us with a menu of actionable, impactful and desirable ideas that were generated via inclusive and participatory means, cooked and pieced together via democratic and deliberative methods. All we need to do next is to take them, one by one, two by two, and develop them into projects, interventions and investments. We believe that a lot of these ideas on the road-map are implementable via local authorities, NGOs and even as corporate social responsibility investments. Once we know what to do, why and towards what vision, we think finding funding is not the issue.

Public launch event

Final version of the roadmap will be revealed during the public launch event at Home for Cooperation on 13th July. Two representatives from the ideators will be presenting the road map. We are partnering with Cyprus Peace Dialogue Centre to for the Launch Event, where the Norwegian Consul Mr. Antoniades and Dr. Meltem Onurkan Samani will be making opening remarks. The event will also host UNFCYP representatives, ambassadors, mayors and civil society leaders and it is crucial part of CAN-Cy project since it is also a presentation to the key stakeholders and decision makers. We aim to use this momentum to engage the publics attention and create sustainable networks for actualization of the projects.

The next stages

The project will move forward into capacity building and refining the ideas into actionable projects. Through Idea Prism the necessities of core projects will be identified and uniquely tailored trainings from experts will be provided by CAN-Cy project.

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