

Catalog of Ideas for Developing Courses and Circular Competencies - appendix 4

Research Project: International Circular
Competencies with Urban Mining as a Case

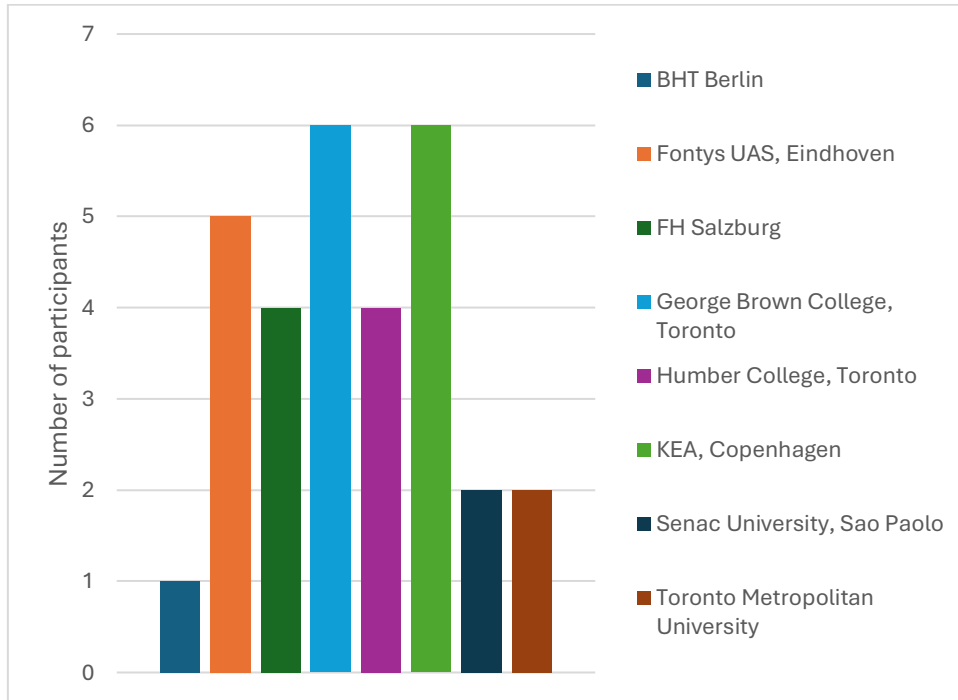


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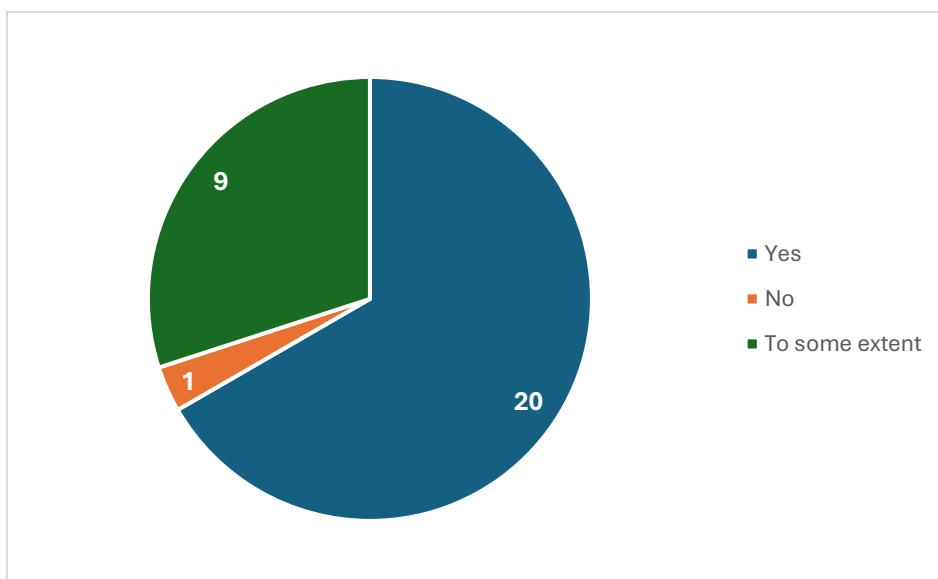
4. Evaluation of the Charette 2023

Evaluation of KEA Charrette 2023

1. Which institution are you from?



2. Before the workshop: Did you receive adequate information about practical matters such as schedule, locations, how to prepare etc.?



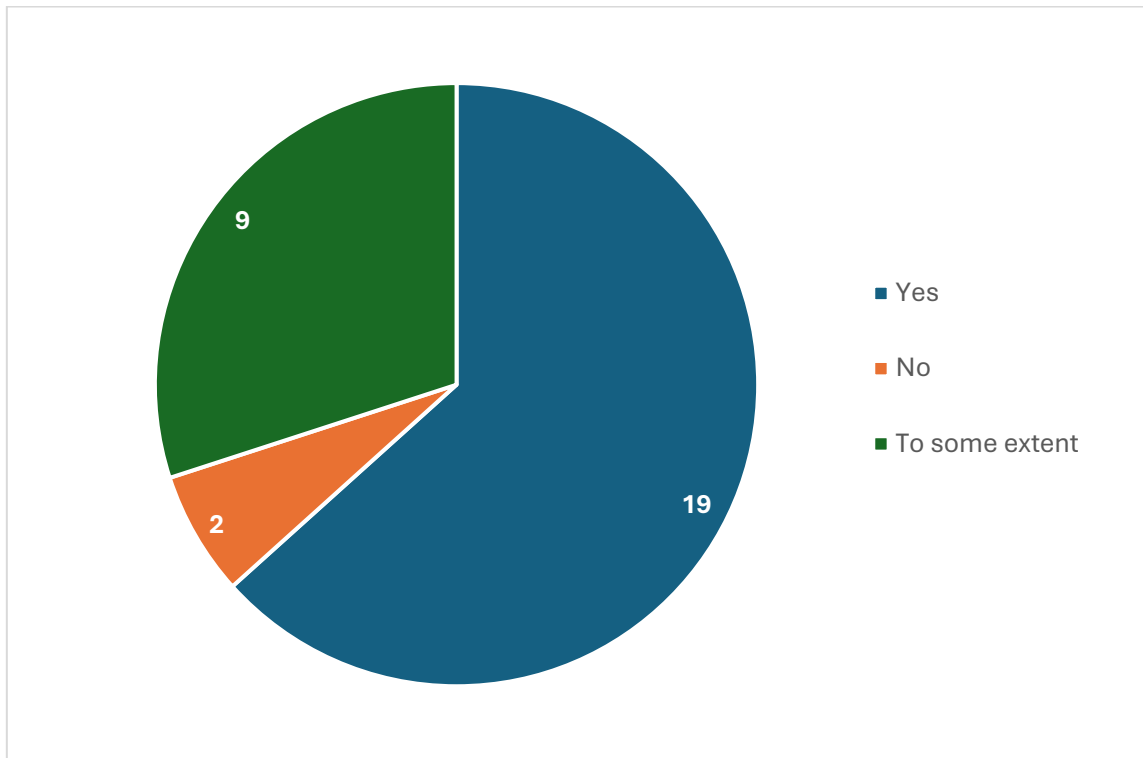
3. Please elaborate on your answer above if needed

1. "I would've liked better information on how the transit system works, how to get to the hostel from the airport, how to get to KEA from the hostel, etc."
2. "I felt like we received great information PDFs on the topic. It was a bit unclear as to how the competition would be run but that was part of the fun. I think the information package and photos from past Charette's gave me a good idea of what was to come."
3. "Yes but it would have been nice to have a bit earlier."
4. "I received some information about the schedule and locations, but only a little on hoe to prepare for it other than reading a paper."
5. "I felt that information more detail about you are you organizing the rooms should be helpful. Some of us weren't aware of this, we were told a different thing, and we weren't comfortable being in the same room with strangers."

Summary:

Participants expressed a desire for more detailed information regarding transit options and logistics for reaching their accommodations and the KEA event from the airport. Feedback on the provided information PDFs was generally positive, highlighting their usefulness in setting expectations for the competition, despite some clarity issues regarding the event's structure. Some attendees wished for earlier receipt of this information. There were calls for clearer instructions on preparation beyond reading materials. Concerns were raised about room organization, with a preference for clearer communication on room sharing arrangements to avoid discomfort with unexpected roommate situations.

4. Before the workshop: Did you receive enough information about what to expect from your role as an international student / KEA student?



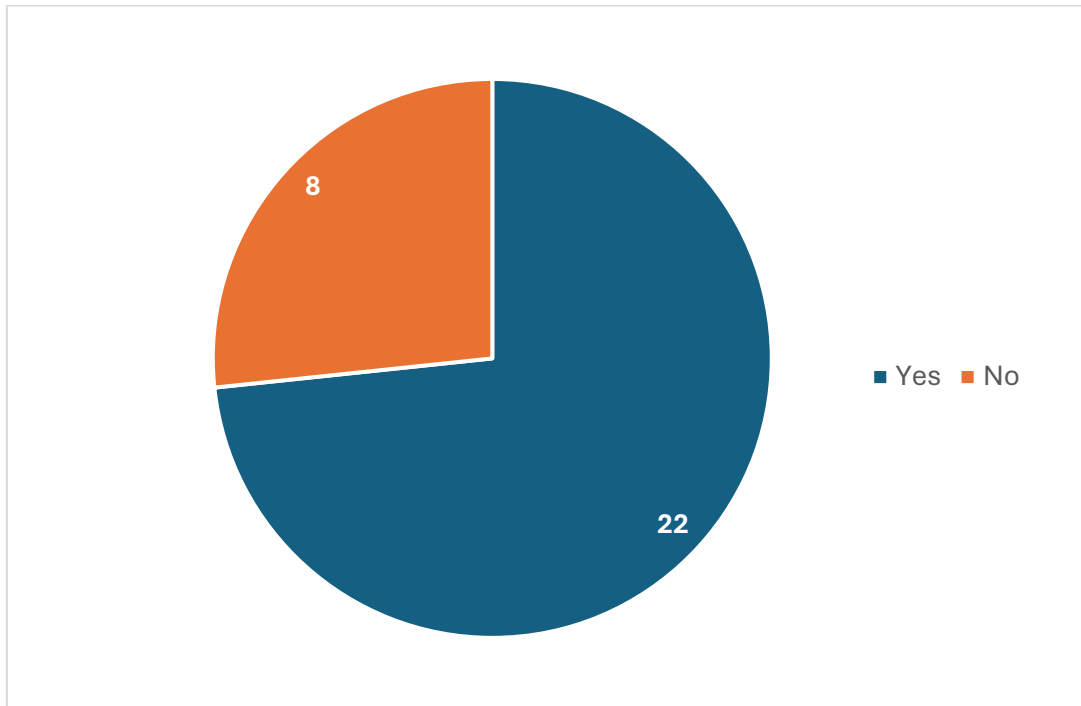
5. Please elaborate on your answer above if needed

1. "I feel I did expected something different, closer to my study field. However, I think that the initial confusion was needed and the fact that I have to find my own path during the week it's an added value, I've learned a lot"
2. "Before the workshops I had very little idea about what was expected from me since we were barely informed, we just received a paper about some examples of urban mining. We did not know if we had to work on something physical or with the community, etc."
3. "To me it was a little vague what we are supposed to create and what our final product would be"
4. "Pls do! Mostly of the students didn't care about the project, just the trip. I would say to be more careful about who can participate, I don't think this is for everyone. It was so disappointing and frustrating. I heard bad stories among the groups about this, and also about drama/fights."

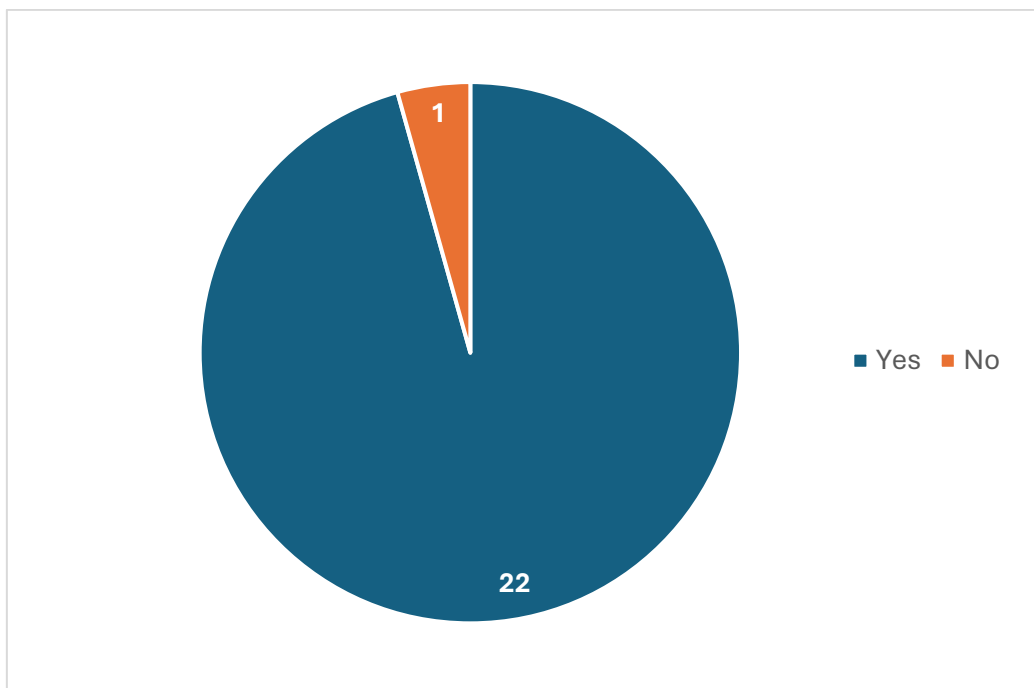
Summary:

Participants expressed initial expectations misalignment with their study field but acknowledged the value of the experience in fostering personal growth. Lack of clarity before workshops led to uncertainty about project expectations, whether it involved physical work or community engagement. Concerns were raised about the vagueness of the project's objectives and the final deliverable. A call for more careful participant selection was made, citing disappointment among some students who prioritized the trip over the project, leading to negative experiences and conflicts within groups.

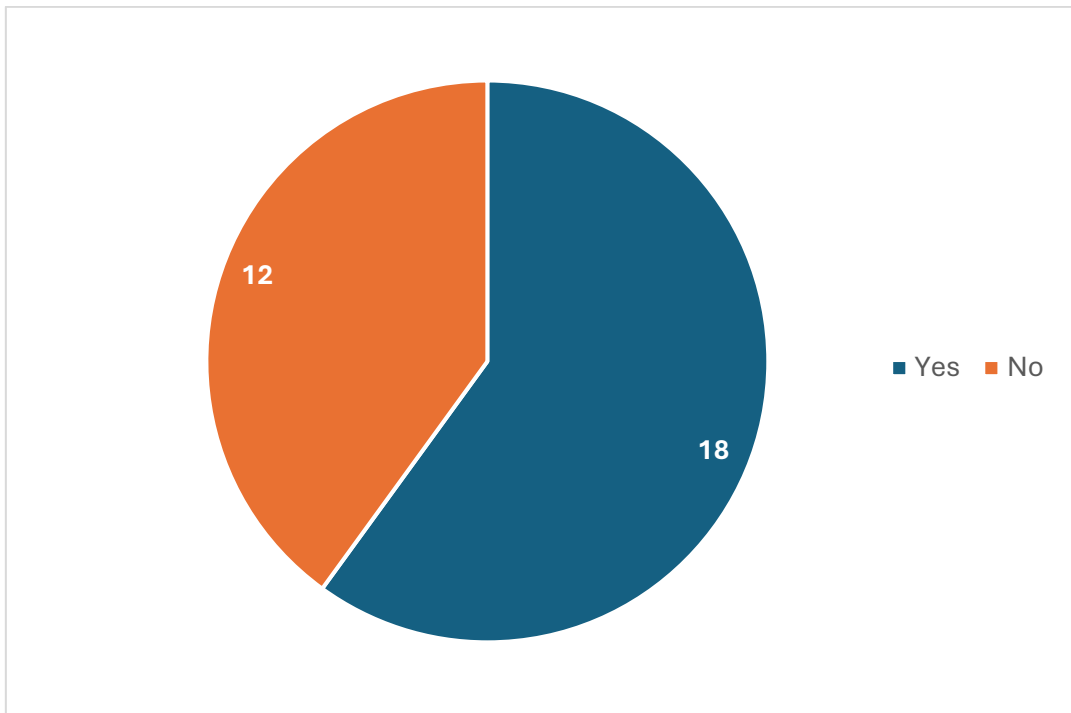
6. Did you read the Urban Mining Research Package document (shared in Teams) prior to attending the Charrette?



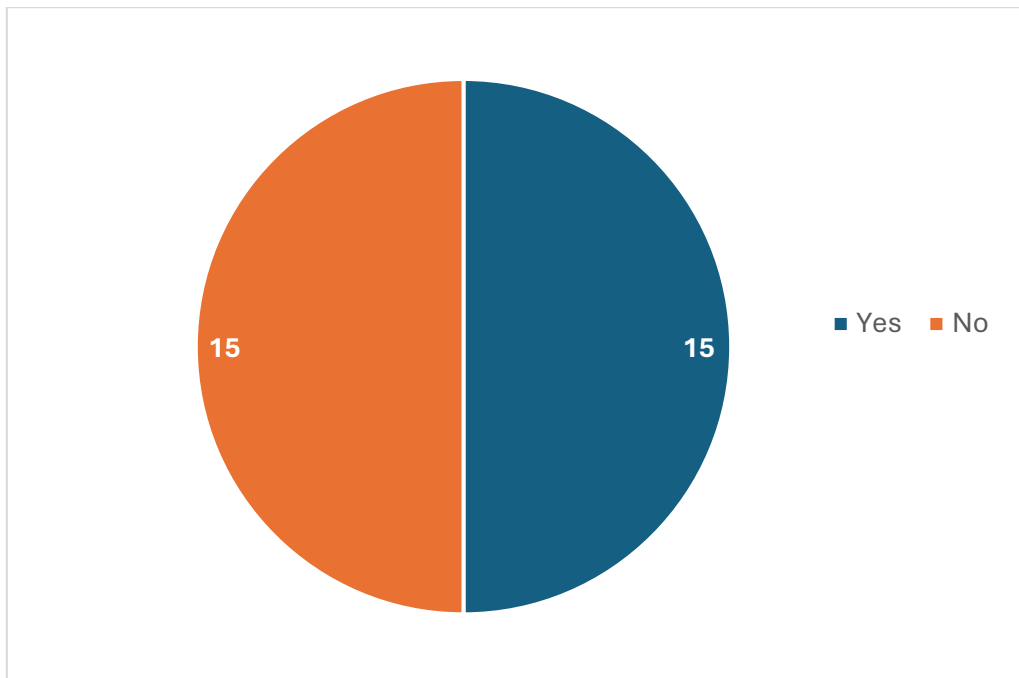
7. If "yes", did you find the content and language accessible?



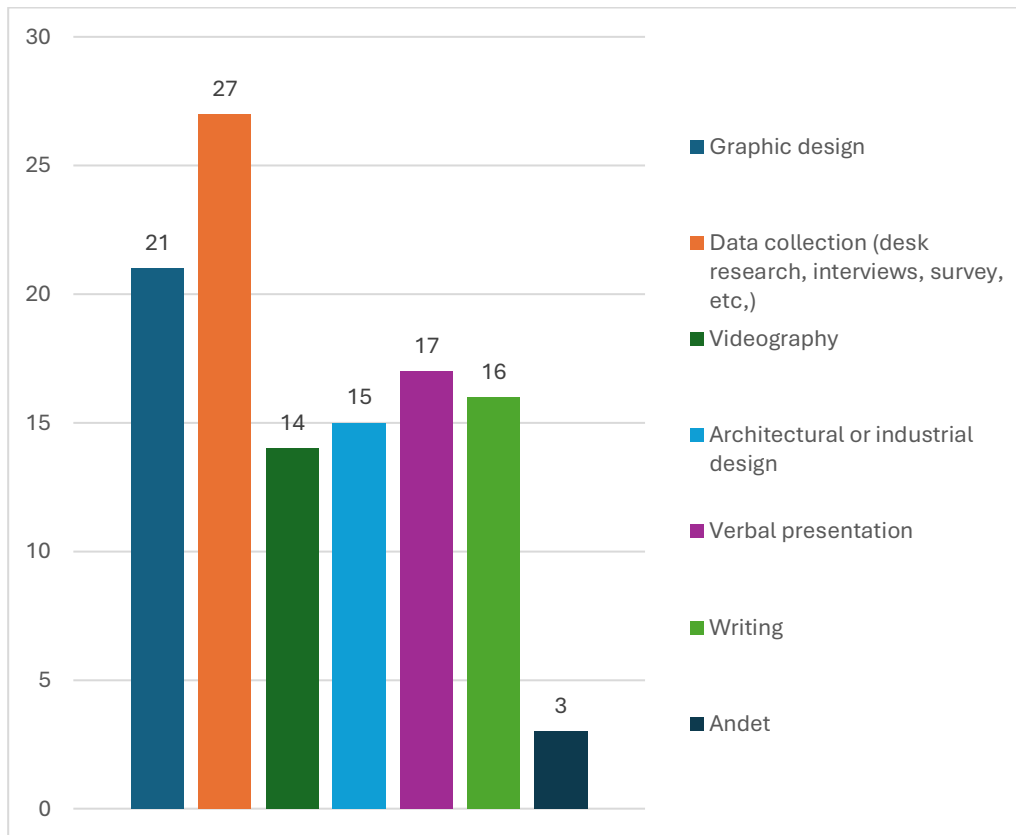
8. Did you read any of the research texts that had been made available to participants?



9. Had you heard about urban mining prior to signing up for the Charrette?



10. What tools or methods did you make use of during the Charrette? Please check any that might apply.



11. Did you understand the brief? Please feel free to add any comments you might have about the brief and the overall assignment.¹

1. “Yes, I understand that the project brief is a valuable resource that helps us identify the problem, define our target audience, and determine the most effective solution. It serves as a guiding document for understanding these key aspects of our design project.”
2. “We encountered some challenges during the project that we'd like to address in a respectful and open manner. The initial project brief differed significantly from the expectations of the neighborhood guides. While the workshop had a primary focus on Urban Mining, the guides were more interested in community engagement and the development of local spaces. This divergence in priorities created some confusion regarding the direction we should take. As we engaged in discussions with our advisors, we realized the importance of aligning our project goals with the neighborhood guides' vision for the community. While we had a basic understanding of Urban Mining and the idea of extracting valuable resources from waste, our team lacked the technical expertise and equipment required to carry out the extraction and processing of materials. It's worth noting that none of our group members possessed this specialized knowledge, as we all came from diverse backgrounds in design and construction. Consequently, the decision of the jury and the feedback we received felt somewhat unclear and difficult to justify. We genuinely wanted to contribute to the community's betterment, but we found ourselves grappling with these challenges along the way. We believe that open

¹ Left out four answers that just said “yes”

communication and collaboration are essential to finding a way forward that benefits everyone involved.”

3. “The brief was understandable, but somehow incomplete. As I said before i think it's either way a goofmd thing to not start with a solid structure but finding your path through the week.”
4. “Yes! Just wish it was elaborated on a bit more before groups were sent to meet together.”
5. “At the beginning it was hard to understand what we are expected to do and I think urban mining might have been a bit ambitious for such a short time and small project. I guess that's why the projects were mainly recycled diy projects.”
6. “Yes. Urban mining is a hard assignment”
7. “Yes, however I feel like Teams wasn't the best delivery method.”
8. “I did understand the brief, however I felt like there was a piece missing. The neighbourhood we were assigned and the people who live there were central to the project as well. This social / humanistic side was not covered in the brief and the advisors/judges/experts didn't seem very informed on it, and design that doesn't consider the human side of things is essentially useless.”
9. “Brief felt very empty and seemed to lack direction”
10. “Yes i did, the brif was clarifying as well as the initials presentations about the theme and the assignment.”
11. “The brief was quite elaborate and clear!”
12. “Yes, however there was a difference between recycling and urban mining that was confusing for most participants.”
13. “Yes, I understood the brief.”
14. “It wasn’t very specific.”
15. “U did an excellent job”
16. “Yes, but it felt a bit too blend. Too open and a little confusing. I wish they would expand on what they were expecting from us.”
17. “Yes I did, I love how short and clear it was”

Summary:

Participants generally expressed understanding of the project brief but highlighted various perspectives on its clarity, completeness, and effectiveness. Some acknowledged the brief as a valuable guiding document for identifying problems and defining target audiences. However, challenges were noted, such as divergences in expectations between the initial brief and the community's priorities, leading to confusion about project direction. The need for more elaboration before group formation, particularly regarding the complex concept of urban mining, was emphasized. Concerns were raised about the ambitious nature of the assignment within a short timeframe, leading to mainly recycled DIY projects. Some participants found the Teams platform less optimal for project delivery. Feedback on the brief ranged from being clear and elaborate to feeling empty and lacking direction, with calls for more emphasis on the social and humanistic aspects. Despite these varied perspectives, participants generally acknowledged their comprehension of the brief.

12. How was the group work? Please feel free to comment on how you found the group size and the mix of academic backgrounds.

1. "Great Group"
2. "I loved how the group was mixed with all different academic backgrounds, working with them gave me new experiences on how to collaborate with others who might not have the same approach to problem-solving. But in general, I loved how organized the working atmosphere was and even included having lunch with your group, which made it easier to get along with your group teammates otherwise we would always find ourselves looking for the people we came from the same university and with that, it could have kept us in the comfort zone which would prevent the opportunity of getting to know your group members and get along."
3. "The group size and mix was fine, it was just unfortunate that some people left every day before 15:00 and even though our group discussed this with each other and other supervisors that we are supposed to work together at least till 17:00. But they still continued and no supervisor did anything about it, they just laughed in disbelief and let them continue not working on the project. The students that always left before 15:00 saw the Charrette as just a cheap vacation (which they told to each other in their own language but someone in the group intercepted the conversation and could also understand their language). So next time please make notice of that so students don't do this again. They don't want to work, just have a cheap vacation. It ruined our group's enjoyment of the project."
4. "It was very enriching seeing and sharing different ways to approach the assignment with mixed academic background. About the size of the groups I feel it was a good number of people based on the period of time we had to do the project."
5. "It was pretty pleasant, it was amazing that I could see so many different ways of working"
6. "I loved my group! I think 10-11 people was a good size and a good mix of backgrounds, though I know a lot of people in the graphic design programs felt a little unsure about how helpful they were to the project. Of course graphic designers play a huge role especially on the communications side of the project, but I heard a lot of us felt like they were relegated to simply designing a poster or slide deck and not as included in the project as a whole. I also think it's super helpful to have folks with community organizing/engagement backgrounds on the team, as well as people on the social / entrepreneurship side of things."
7. "I enjoyed working with my group. I felt that the advisors were there a little early. I liked our advisors. The mix of academic backgrounds worked. I think my group was a bit more "seasoned" and worked well together."
8. "Min uddannelse kom ikke rigtig i spil. Jeg er mere hands on og opgaven var mere teori. Jeg kunne godt bruge mere rigtig produkter, som jeg kunne regne på."
9. "Our group was really good. One of the individuals took on the role of project manager, and tasks were assigned based on each person's skills. It was very dynamic and fun."
10. "I feel like if the team is committed, one week is enough. However, they weren't professional at all."
11. "Working in a bigger group than what I'm normally used to was a challenge, but thanks to the alignment my group had since the beginning we managed everything perfectly. The mix of academic background is really stimulating and I really appreciated working with different professions."
12. "It was a challenge, because some believed the social aspects are more important than the actual urban mining task"

13. "Group work was okay, some group members seemed unengaged or not motivated even though they flew halfway across the globe to be there"
14. "Really good! Mix of academic backgrounds was exceptional, especially in putting the final piece together."
15. "Our experience with group work began with a bit of disorientation since our team members hailed from various cultures, countries, and educational backgrounds. However, as time passed, we began to shed our initial awkwardness and gradually got to know each other better. It became clear that our diverse backgrounds were actually quite beneficial. Nonetheless, one challenge we encountered was the need for more respect towards each other's opinions during group work. This issue was particularly noticeable when collaborating with certain groupmates. It would greatly enhance the team dynamic and the overall experience if we can foster a more inclusive and respectful atmosphere in the future."
16. "Our group was a bit smaller than some other groups and I was very happy with that. We still had people with all of the skills we needed. At the beginning I felt like I was at the wrong place and didn't know what I could do, but in the end also my skills were useful, although I heard from colleges that they had extreme difficulties with that. I would say that the skills from the colleges from Toronto were the most useful ones. They were also the people working the most and the longest."
17. "It was good for the most part, however I found many people look down on my abilities as a Fashion student. Because there was such a diverse set of academic backgrounds, there was little space for my skills to be used."
18. "Everyone was committed and worked well together"
19. "Good. The size was just fine but I wouldn't mind being on a smaller group because at some points some of us weren't helping a lot while others worked."
20. "The group work was fun. However, it was difficult to be heard sometimes due to the lack of time and number of individuals in each group."
21. "People were open to works with each other and open to help."
22. "Det fungerede godt. Det er jo en gruppe opgave og vi skulle alle blive enig om opgaven, hvilket kræver kompromis. Jeg havde selv svært ved at bruge min uddannelse, da der var en det præsentation og ikke meget der kunne bruges i min uddannelse. Men jeg fandt min plads og beundrede hvordan samarbejdet forgik imellem de forskellige faggrupper"
23. "The group work during the charrette was quite impressive, in my opinion. We engaged in extensive brainstorming to address the problem, and we made a conscious effort to bridge the gap between urban mining and community needs. It was challenging but rewarding to explore the problem from various dimensions, zooming in and out. We had to consider cost-effective solutions with limited materials and time, which added complexity to our task. I particularly felt that conducting interviews with the target audience was crucial because it helped us understand their real needs, rather than relying on imagination. Our diverse academic backgrounds allowed us to approach solutions from various perspectives, ultimately contributing to a comprehensive system. What stood out to me was the respectful and collaborative nature of our group. We actively listened to each other's concerns, understood different viewpoints, and remained humble, not always insisting that our ideas were the best. This collaboration, coupled with our strong execution abilities, allowed us to complete our work efficiently. Overall, I believe our group did an excellent job in addressing the challenges and working cohesively to develop robust solutions."

Summary:

Participants shared varied perspectives on their group work experiences during the Charrette. Some described their groups positively, expressing enjoyment and appreciation for the mix of academic backgrounds. The diverse group composition was seen as beneficial for problem-solving and fostering new collaboration experiences. Others raised concerns about unprofessional behavior, lack of commitment, and disruptions by some members, impacting the overall group dynamics and project enjoyment. The importance of clear expectations and commitment from all members was emphasized. Several participants mentioned the positive impact of diverse academic backgrounds, but challenges were noted, such as certain skills being underutilized or undervalued. A few participants highlighted the need for more inclusive and respectful communication within groups. Overall, the group work experiences were diverse, ranging from successful and enriching collaborations to challenges and the need for improved communication and commitment.

13. What did you think about the advising sessions (on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday)? Please feel free to comment on the timing of the sessions and number of hours allocated. You could also reflect on the academic strength of the advisors and how they were to work with in general.

1. "Awesome and empathic advisors, they had reasonable feedback and always supported us"
2. "The advising session was so helpful and needed because with them it always gave us an insight and direction of what is needed to achieve the clear end goal with that limited time, especially with their expertise it helps."
3. "I had a feeling that some of them wanted to put their idea into our project. But even when we explained that something like that would simply not work and we did research about it, they didn't listen and continued to push her idea even more in our project, which was not helpful."
4. "it was essential to help us organize the ideas and clarify some doubts that we found during the process of developing the project."
5. "They were useful and helped us to find the right direction"
6. "The advisors were very nice and did have some good thoughts. However, overall it felt like a lot of them were not on the same page. Comparing notes with other students we were getting conflicting feedback across groups, and from our own profs vs advisors. I think having some training/information sessions with all the advisors beforehand would have been beneficial to get everyone on the same page. I also noticed they were not in tune with our neighbourhood or aware of the social issues we were addressing in our project. I think Anti-O trainings would have also been beneficial for all the advisors, judges and program coordinators."
7. "I think them just encouraging us to keep going and helping us with "considerations" but not making us feel bad was useful."
8. "Det var skønt, men jeg savnede retning"
9. "I found them to be a little wasteful because our teachers were always the same and not from different backgrounds. Maybe have the option to reach out to teachers as well that you'd find appropriate for your project"
10. "The advising sessions were great, the teachers were attentive, they posed challenges and suggested alternative paths for us to consider."
11. "Less time was ok. The advisor weren't much useful."

12. "The advising sessions were good. Probably I would allocate a bit less time, since our group had to produce a lot we were tempted to keep working during the sessions. The feedback from the advisors were valuable and realistic."
13. "It was ok to work with them. I would suggest having one session earlier rather than one day later, because most groups knew what to do in the end but ran out of time"
14. "I did not enjoy the advising sessions, only our first one seemed helpful to me. The advisors were uninformed, I soon realized that the international advisors hadn't been to the area we were assigned, which meant that we as a group had to explain the area to them. For example one kept going on about rooftop gardening, and I had to explain multiple times that the rooftops in our area, 1 is privately owned by union housing and 2, that the roofs in the area are slanted, which means rooftop gardening is not an option... One of the other advisors hated all ideas concerning removing parking space to make way for outdoors social areas, even though our survey told us that is was what the residents wanted and needed. Maybe the advisors should've been on the city walk with us..."
15. "Advising sessions were more helpful on wednesday and thursday, as tuesday we didnt really have an idea yet. i think it would be better if they were also held a bit earlier, maybe around 13:00, and perhaps another one before the group left?"
16. "The advising sessions truly proved to be a valuable learning experience for us. It was fascinating to delve deeper into the realm of Urban Mining and explore the significance of materials in the workshop. One particularly intriguing demonstration featured a wooden table held together by magnets, highlighting the important aspects of material use. The breakdown of a laptop was an especially enlightening experience. It provided us with a clear perspective on why we should be mindful of how much time and resources we allocate to the extraction of specific materials. This newfound understanding has underscored the importance of resource efficiency and sustainability, which we believe will greatly inform our future actions and decisions."
17. "The advising session on Tuesday was very useful, also the one on Wednesday. I didn't attend the one on Thursday but my colleges mentioned that we wouldn't have needed it. Our advisors were great, but I wasn't completely sure if they really knew the area before."
18. "It was okay, however one advisor made a comment on me being a Fashion student. However, they apologized at the end of the charrette."
19. "Relatively helpful but it seemed like time better used on work"
20. "They were ok. Some advisors were of a lot of help, but others were just there without saying anything. Also it felt as if they couldn't understand our explanations, which for the entire group were very clear. The timing could have been longer, specially because they were late."
21. "The advising sessions were quite useful and insightful. The advisors were encouraging, and the constructive feedback they provided helped us a lot to improve, simplify and narrow down our work."
22. "Advices were a bit vague but the guidance was definitely there"
23. "While the advisors provided us with great questions about the project and pointed out details to be described during the verbal presentation, they were also not experts on urban mining nor truly knew the neighborhood we were working on. Therefore, the sessions felt more like pitching them the project instead of being advised on what could be improved in terms of ideation. Even though their contribution was much appreciated, maybe next time the advisors could be more prepared to talk about the subject/brief and be instructed to give direct

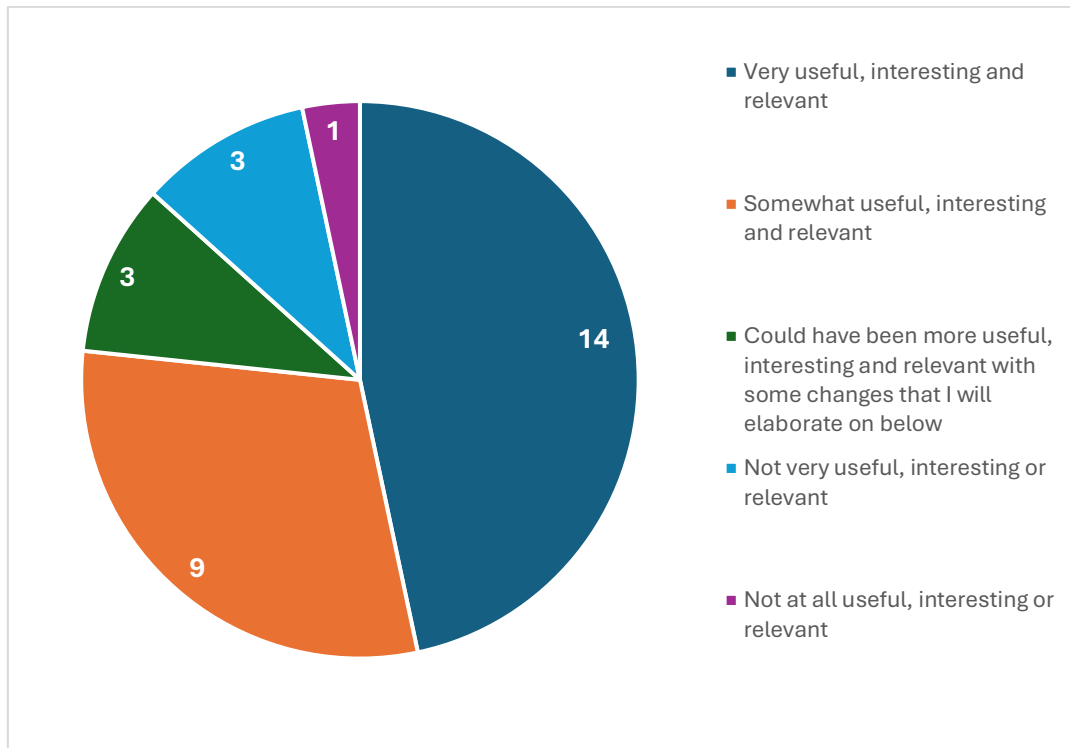
constructive criticism, which would allow the team some more time to work on improving the project.”

24. ”Vi havde alt for meget vi skulle nå, men vejledningen var rigtig god, det ødelagde dog meget af dynamikken og der blev ikke produceret meget efter vejledningen.”
25. ”I found the advising sessions, which took place on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, to be extremely valuable. The timing of these sessions and the number of hours allocated seemed well-balanced and allowed for in-depth discussions and guidance. It was evident that the advisors played a crucial role in our project’s development.”
26. ”The advisors’ academic strength was impressive and greatly contributed to our project’s success. They provided insightful feedback and helped us broaden our perspectives. Particularly, I appreciated how they guided us to consider the broader community rather than limiting our solutions to a few people’s concerns. Their comments and suggestions were instrumental in helping us refine our questions and find more comprehensive solutions.”
27. ”In general, the advisors were approachable, knowledgeable, and supportive, creating a positive learning environment. Their expertise and willingness to work with us had a significant impact on the quality of our project, and I believe their involvement was instrumental in our progress.”

Summary:

Participants had diverse opinions on the advising sessions during the charrette. Some found the advisors to be empathic, and supportive, providing reasonable feedback. Others appreciated the helpful insights and clear direction offered by the advisors, highlighting the value of their expertise. However, a few participants expressed concerns about advisors wanting to impose their ideas on projects, even when not aligning with research. Some mentioned conflicting feedback between advisors and felt the need for better coordination among them. Suggestions were made for earlier sessions, varied academic backgrounds among advisors, and Anti-O training for a more informed approach. While some believed the advising sessions were wasteful, others found them valuable for organization and doubt clarification. Issues with advisor awareness of the project area were raised, emphasizing the need for better preparation. Overall, participants acknowledged the importance of advisors, with varying degrees of satisfaction with their academic strength and collaboration.

14. How did you experience the Friday feedback session with your local collaborator?



15. Please elaborate on your answer above, if you have any suggestions as to how the feedback session could be improved.

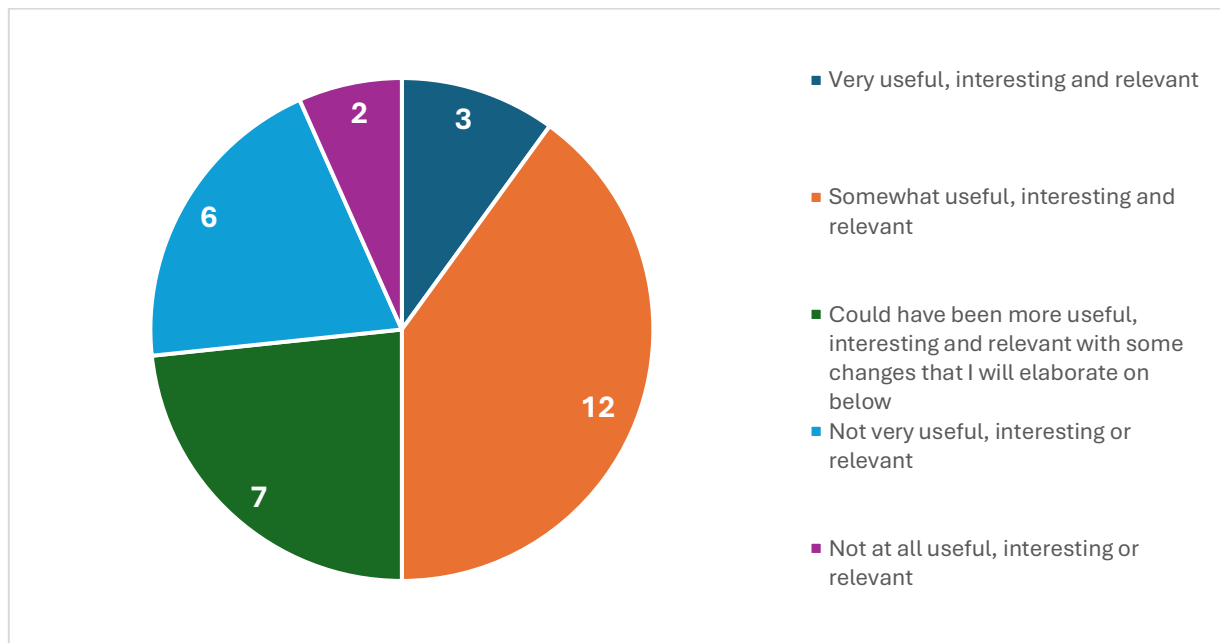
1. "It was very rushed due to our local guide having limited time with us. In the days beforehand he told us he was very happy and interested in our solution. But on the last day he suddenly changed his mind and it needed to look more colourful for some reason. It was very confusing."
2. "I think it's very important to get feedback from someone who actually has a relationship to the community you're designing for, this felt more important to me than the advisor sessions."
3. "I don't think much could be done at that point. They came right before we went to talk to the jury. At least ours agreed with our idea and vision. Regardless of what they said, we had to go ahead."
4. "Jeg syntes at dem der vandt var ikke nytænkende, jeg havde et projekt ligende, 5 år før. Men opgaven var også meget svær"
5. "We loved him! He was very supportive"
6. "My group decided to talk with the local collaborator also on Wednesday, and I think this help us increasing the confidence in our project. We also thought that if the local collaborator would have rejected our idea on Friday we wouldn't have be able to present a nice concept. So I would maybe move the feedback session before or encourage students to ask for feedback before too."
7. "Advising session with collaborator would have been more useful during the middle of the week, as there was no time to change anything if they had any remarks."
8. "Having a designated collaborator within the local community would have proven highly beneficial."
9. "We met our collaborator the day before again, so there were no changes."

10. "Even though some information given to us on Friday could be useful, it was already too late to make any changes to either the design or concept. Perhaps the local collaborator can join the last advising session on Thursday for the feedback to be truly useful."
11. "Jeg var der slet ikke, da vi havde travlt med at nå at blive færdig med vores ting som skulle laves i makealab. Det hjalp heller ikke da de valgt at lave et møde i en time efter de åbnede om morgenen. Der var dog en studiemedhjælper der hjalp hvad hun kunne, men det var super dårlig timing."

Summary:

Participants shared varied experiences with the Friday feedback session with their local collaborator. Some found it rushed and confusing, citing changes in expectations at the last moment. The importance of feedback from someone connected to the community was emphasized, with some participants valuing it even more than advisor sessions. A suggestion was made to have the local collaborator provide feedback earlier in the week, allowing for meaningful adjustments. The idea of having a designated collaborator within the local community for more beneficial interaction was proposed. Participants appreciated the support from their collaborator and acknowledged the limited impact of Friday feedback due to timing. Recommendations included incorporating the local collaborator in the Thursday advising session or having feedback sessions earlier in the week for practical changes. Overall, the feedback highlighted the need for more thoughtful timing and involvement of local collaborators in the design process.

16. How did you find the feedback from the jury on Friday?



17. Please elaborate on your answer above if needed.

1. “We received feedback that we should have included in our presentation how many people participated on our survey. We were shocked since we actually did say that and it was even in the presentation. When this feedback was given immediately everyone turned to us and told us that we definitely did mention it in our presentation. It made me feel like the jury didn't pay attention to our project at all and if this work was all done for nothing in the end. We explained that the local community wants to continue our project and we even made a plan for it. But I feel like after the Charrette nothing will be done about it and empty promises were made that these project were taken seriously to improve the community and environment.”
2. “I found the question the judge asked us to reflect more on his bias against the type of people who live in our assigned neighbourhood than it did with our design. I appreciate critical feedback, I came all this way because I wanted to learn, but it seemed like the judges didn't really understand the project or our values as a team, and weren't focusing on what was important. A lot of the opinions we received seemed to be coming from a place of privilege. This is why I suggest mandatory Anti-O trainings for everyone involved. Overall this program would benefit from asking whose voices are not being heard? Who isn't in / can not access this room?”
3. “I felt some of the questions asked were inadequate and kind of went against the whole idea of what was brought to the table. There was a lack of listening or understanding of the macro-level approach. It would have been more useful if they had taken into consideration the topics and research that was revealed. Perhaps their should have been three to five questions, so a greater understanding could be achieved. Asking someone, "what if the wood gets set on fire"? was utterly mind-boggling.”
4. “The jury seemed to be very biased on their own matter and went into nitpicking when it came to the final selections and gave a very standard and not so useful feedback”
5. “It was very short.”
6. “Feedback was nice but kind of unnecessary as many just wanted to go and celebrate if I am being honest.”
7. “Our group, Group 10, found that we received very limited feedback during the evaluation. While one of the jury members provided only positive remarks about our project, two others remained silent, and one offered a negative remark concerning the idea of creating pillows from leftover fabric and she told us " That would create a lot of pillows". It would have been great if we had gotten a chance to justify and answer regarding the feedback that we got. We value feedback and believe that constructive insights would have been invaluable for us to understand what aspects of our project excelled and where improvements could be made. Constructive feedback helps us grow and enhance our work, and we would have greatly appreciated more detailed insights.”
8. “Jury seemed to not understand the topic and the questions asked were simply not helpful and created more questions for us”
9. “It would have been nice if the jury were more knowledgeable on the neighbourhoods, the questions and feedback felt somewhat disconnected and lacked background information relevant to the project presented.”
10. “kunne godt bruge en mere præcis feedback. Måske på 15min, pr. gruppe i grupperne. Altså face to face, med mulighed for at stille spørgsmål”

Summary:

Participants had varied opinions on the Friday jury feedback. Some expressed frustration with perceived oversights and doubted the jury's attention to their projects. Concerns were raised about bias, lack of understanding, and the need for mandatory Anti-O trainings to promote inclusivity. Feedback inadequacy and disconnected questions were noted, with calls for more knowledgeable jurors providing specific, face-to-face feedback for better project insights. Overall, participants suggested improvements in the jury's understanding and evaluation processes.

18. What was the most difficult part about the Charrette?

1. "The living situation"
2. "On my side, I wouldn't say there was anything that was most difficult for me, and that came from the way the Charrette was planned and organized which made it easier for me."
3. "Find out what the problem really was."
4. "Trying to work with people who do not want to work and having to stay and work way longer than the other groups. Getting feedback that suddenly changed over one day and making things very confusing."
5. "For me the most challenging part was developing the project in a short period of time."
6. "Finding the material"
7. "The most difficult part of the Charrette was honestly the accommodations. I'm okay to put in long hours and work hard on the project, but not being able to rest at the end of the day really put a strain on my physical and mental health. The danhostel was overcrowded and unhygienic, especially now as we live with COVID. I understand that this was probably a financial decision, but I think this program should consider what the choice of accommodations communicates to students. Do you see us as partying high school students, or do you take our work and wellbeing seriously?"
8. "The deadline, and being together without having time to get to know each other"
9. "Working within the time constraints."
10. "Opgaven var alt for bred"
11. "Working together and trying to bring everyone in the game and to work together"
12. "Working in another language with people who speak different languages required a lot of mental effort to understand all the accents and formulate my own speech. On Monday, we also had a very long and tiring walk to get to know the area, after an intense series of lectures. On the other days, the experience was better."
13. "Lazy people"
14. "Working with software that I'm not used to and not be able to put in practice any practical skill I previously learned."
15. "Finding Useful material in the area and getting on the same page with group members"
16. "Collaboration with group members with other cultural backgrounds"
17. "being there as science student"
18. "Long hours"
19. "One of the most challenging aspects we encountered was the limited time provided for task completion. Conducting thorough and comprehensive research is time-consuming, and it's during this process that the best solutions tend to emerge. We believe that a more generous timeframe would have allowed us to deliver even more effective results."
20. "splitting the work equally, as our skills were differently relevant."

21. "Coming up with a natural material to use"
22. "Experiencing the city while working"
23. "The brief being too open and managing our tasks due to that."
24. "Long hours when you have a normal life to take care of alongside the Charette"
25. "I think working under a strict timeline was quite challenging. To go from user research to design process to preparing the final outcome in 5 days was quite pressurizing, but it was also a lot of fun and I learned a lot from the experience. Sometimes during a design process you veer off into various different ideas, so keeping a strict deadline can keep us on a straight path."
26. "Collaborating with so many different minds and working styles."
27. "Working in a pressure cooker way, it was a bit intense but I still enjoyed it. It would have really helped if we shared room with less people because it was hard to go to sleep and get some rest."
28. "Working with a completely new team on such a short, but intense, period of time. This challenge, however, was also the best part of the whole experience. My fellow students were fantastic."
29. "Vi havde 3 dage til at lave et produkt og det tæredede meget med de lange dage."
30. "The most challenging aspect of the Charrette was the diversity of backgrounds among the participants. Coming from different countries and having English as a second language posed some difficulties in expressing our opinions and ideas effectively. However, one positive aspect was the mutual respect and willingness to support and understand one another. Additionally, we encountered various life-related challenges during the Charrette. It's worth noting that the students from KEA were exceptionally helpful and warm in such situations. For example, when the weather changed, and I didn't have enough warm clothing for a long city walk, a student from KEA kindly lent me her clothes. These acts of kindness and support made the difficulties easier to overcome. In the end, despite the challenges, our belief in the value of loving and respecting one another made it possible for us to navigate through the hurdles and collaborate effectively during the Charrette."

Summary:

Participants identified diverse challenges during the Charrette, with some highlighting the living situation, including overcrowded and unhygienic accommodations. Others mentioned difficulties in understanding the problem, working with uncooperative team members, and facing sudden changes in feedback. Time constraints were a common concern, impacting thorough research and task completion. Language barriers, cultural differences, and working under strict timelines were also mentioned. Some participants struggled with open briefs, while others found collaboration and managing tasks challenging. Long hours, the pressure of working intensively, and the need to balance normal life alongside the Charrette were additional stressors. Despite these difficulties, positive experiences, such as mutual support and acts of kindness among participants, helped overcome challenges and foster effective collaboration.

19. Please describe any specific valuable learning you achieved from participating in the Charrette.

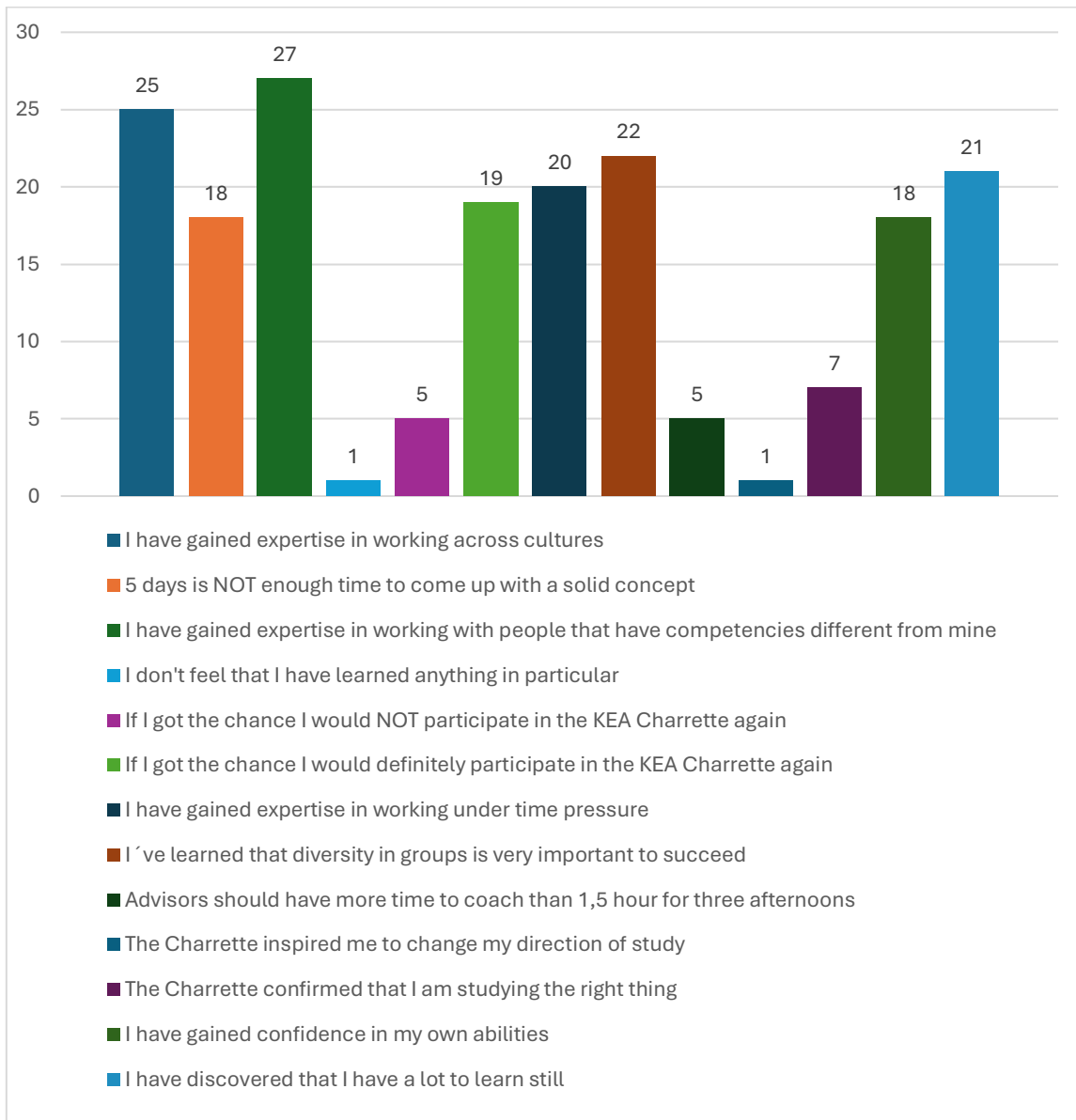
1. "There truly are nice group projects"
2. "I got to know or understand Urban Mining itself because it was something that I hadn't it before. I have learned in working with people who have competencies different from mine, working under pressure/limited time,..."
3. "How to work in international teams."
4. "How to conduct research, work in a group (the rest of them were amazing), how to pitch your idea."
5. "The Charrette was a game changing on my professional path. it made me realized how big and acessible architecture can be when well thought out. But also, for me particularly, getting out my confort zone, meeting new people and cultures, made me more confident in my abilities."
6. "Thinking beyond the screen"
7. "I think the most valuable part is the opportunity to work on the team within a horizontal structure. I think in school and at work we were used to having a clear hierarchy, we are used to working for someone rather than on a team. This threw us into a situation where no one was going to tell us our roles or what to do, it was all hands on deck. Even as a graphic design student, I didn't do much graphic design, since there were other graphic designers on my team, I found where I was most useful. I think this experience is valuable because it gives us experience in collective ideation and collaborative decision making, it shows us skills we didn't know we had, and gets us working outside our usual roles."
8. "Urban mining"
9. "Working within the time constraints and coming up with a solution together as a team."
10. "Make a lab"
11. "The working together. I also saw what I need to improve myself for future pressure cooker projects"
12. "Listening to other ideas and knowing when to let go of the ideas I had."
13. "Handle intercultural and multidisciplinary collaboration."
14. "working with people who where approaching differently to the task"
15. "working in international teams, presentation skills,"
16. "Working on a topic I had not really been too aware of. Collaborating with others from around the world who study different topics."
17. "I had the opportunity to enhance my communication skills and build valuable relationships, while also gaining insights into collaborating within a group of diverse individuals."
18. "working in groups, and other social skills + lasercutting ;)"
19. "The work was fast so you had to be fully involved all time"
20. "Teamwork, communication."
21. "Collaboration between different industries and students"
22. "Working under pressure, working in a multidisciplinary and diverse team, working with different skillsets and picking up new skills were some really valuable lessons I took back with me. Also, being introduced to a new country and exploring it like a local was a lot of fun and a great learning experience that I would love to have again and again!"
23. "How to work through differences of opinion and produce a product we were proud of in 5 days."

24. "After the Charette I consider myself to be more aware of circular economy and sustainability. Even though it was just for a week, being in a foreign country and experiencing a new culture was eye opening."
25. "Self awareness, cooperation, active listening, and project management were some of the skills I learned throughout the charrette. I must say, however, that the biggest lesson learned was how to effectively communicate with a group who are not used to the same language or tone of conversation."
26. "At arbejde under pres, at kommunikerer på engelsk, at se alle de forskellige fag arbejde sammen."
27. "Participating in the Charrette provided several valuable lessons. One key takeaway was the importance of respecting and acknowledging the strengths of others. Recognizing that everyone has unique skills and expertise in various areas is crucial. Being honest about your feelings and thoughts, and knowing how to communicate effectively, such as using phrases like "yes...and..." for constructive conversations, is essential. Supporting team members and highlighting their strengths was another significant learning. Creating a supportive and inclusive environment allowed us to freely share our ideas and contributions. Additionally, understanding that each team member has their strengths and encouraging them to contribute in their areas of expertise was vital to successful teamwork. Lastly, the Charrette taught us the significance of working as a cohesive group rather than individual fighters. It emphasized the value of teamwork, where the collective goal is prioritized over individual achievements. This mindset helped us collaborate effectively and achieve our objectives as a unified team."

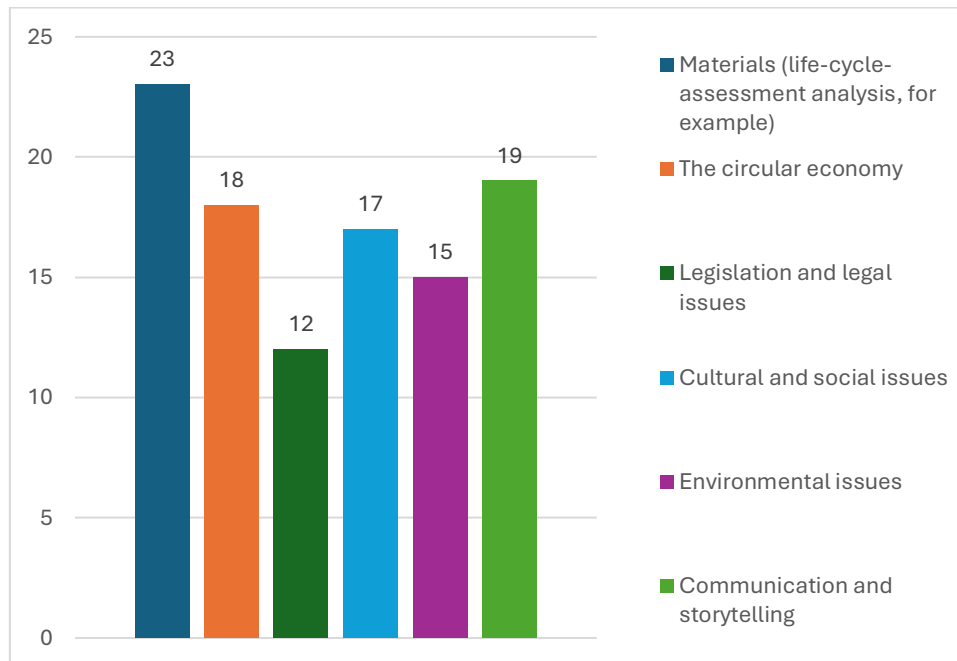
Summary:

Participants gained diverse valuable learnings from the Charrette, including understanding the concept of Urban Mining, honing international collaboration skills, and conducting effective research. Many highlighted the importance of working in diverse teams and adapting to time constraints. The experience fostered a sense of confidence, encouraged interdisciplinary collaboration, and improved communication and presentation skills. Participants appreciated the hands-on experience, learning beyond their usual roles, and gaining insights into circular economy and sustainability. The Charrette provided lessons in navigating differences of opinion, enhancing self-awareness, and promoting a collaborative mindset. Overall, the experience emphasized teamwork, effective communication, and acknowledging and leveraging individual strengths for successful group outcomes.

20. Which of the following attributes can you relate to the KEA Charrette 2023 (you can choose as many as you like)?



21. If you were to take an elective course about urban mining in the future, what kind of topics would you want the course to cover? Please select any of the options that apply:



22. Do you have any other feedback to improve the future Charrettes at KEA?

1. "There is not much to add because I was satisfied, just keep up and you have done a great job."
2. "1. While 5 days (3 working days) was not really enough time for this project, I doubt extending the program is realistic. I would suggest sending more materials ahead of time, not just covering Urban Mining. I think students should have access to more information so they can make an informed decision when signing up for the program. And before attending the program, students could receive soft-skills training to prepare for working in a team. They could also receive more information on Copenhagen and the assigned neighbourhoods (social and cultural issues, environmental issues, political issues, etc)."
3. Future Charettes should host students at better accommodations. Less students per room, and they should be kept with their host school or have some say in their roommates. There should also be sufficient space for students to study at night as we were often struggling to work in the overcrowded lobby to complete the project and keep up with our studies back home.
4. On site mental health resources would be very beneficial. Having a couple therapists with time-slots students can book, or drop-in sessions.
5. More diversity reflected in the judges, experts, and program facilitators. The program should include experts with lived experience as well as academic experience. And Anti-O trainings for the advisors, judges, experts, and program facilitators."
6. "The money was great with the inspirational speakers. Perhaps that could have been on Sunday. It was really interesting, even one more day or half of a day could have made the project better. Also, the professionals and jury were great, but they should understand the constraints and parameters of the projects before just grilling us. I think the best thing we got out of this for you, was just talking to locals (despite having a small number participants)."

7. "thank you it was a pleasure to be there"
8. "During this project, there was some misalignment between the briefs provided by our collaborators and the feedback from the jury, leading to a lack of clarity, particularly in distinguishing between Urban Mining and Recycling Waste. To improve future projects, consider involving students with backgrounds in science and technology. This way, the team would benefit from a more comprehensive technical understanding of materials and ensure that the project's theme aligns more closely with the academic backgrounds of the participants."
9. "I wouldn't join the Charrette again, because I am not really into designing but more the technical person. I had a little bit different expectations (more technical), but I definitely don't regret it. I met great people and it was a lot of fun."
10. "I would shorten the daily hours and lengthen the time of the Charrette. Many of us international students found it frustrating not being able to explore the city much."
11. "This Charette was amazing, but I do feel that when the talk of diversity comes, its not completely diverse, or the participating members are not completely on board with inclusivity. As being 1 out of the 2 Indians, I did sometimes feel that my ideas weren't heard or I wasn't receiving a fair chance to push myself out there. Not all students were friendly either, and sometimes I felt that I had to forcefully push myself a lot to be heard. I do not want to sound as if I'm complaining, but this was a very new experience for me that I had never had to face in Canada or back home in Dubai. I also feel that the Charette should include schools from other parts of the world besides Canada, US and the European countries. Asian countries actually are a lot more advanced when it comes to urban mining, recycling etc as they have to experience a lot due to higher populations and thus, more waste."
12. "Som Energiteknolog er var det virkelig svært at komme med vinkler, hvor jeg kunne bruges og når man er i undertal, er det næsten umuligt på 3 dage. Så flere dage og måske lidt inspiration i, hvordan du får din uddannelse i spil."
13. "The overall experience of the Charrette was excellent. I would recommend ensuring that each group includes students from KEA. This addition proves to be invaluable as it offers diverse insights from a local perspective, which can greatly enrich the problem-solving process in future Charrettes."

Summary:

Participants offered valuable insights to enhance future Charrettes at KEA. Suggestions included sending more materials beforehand, providing soft-skills training, and offering additional information about Copenhagen and assigned neighborhoods. Accommodation improvements, mental health resources, and a focus on diversity and inclusivity were emphasized. Participants recommended scheduling inspirational speakers on Sunday, extending the program duration, and ensuring professionals understand project constraints. Gratitude was expressed for the experience, with a call for more technical focus aligned with individual backgrounds. Other recommendations included adjusting daily hours, lengthening the Charrette period, and addressing concerns about diversity and inclusivity. These insights provide a roadmap for refining the Charrette experience at KEA.