

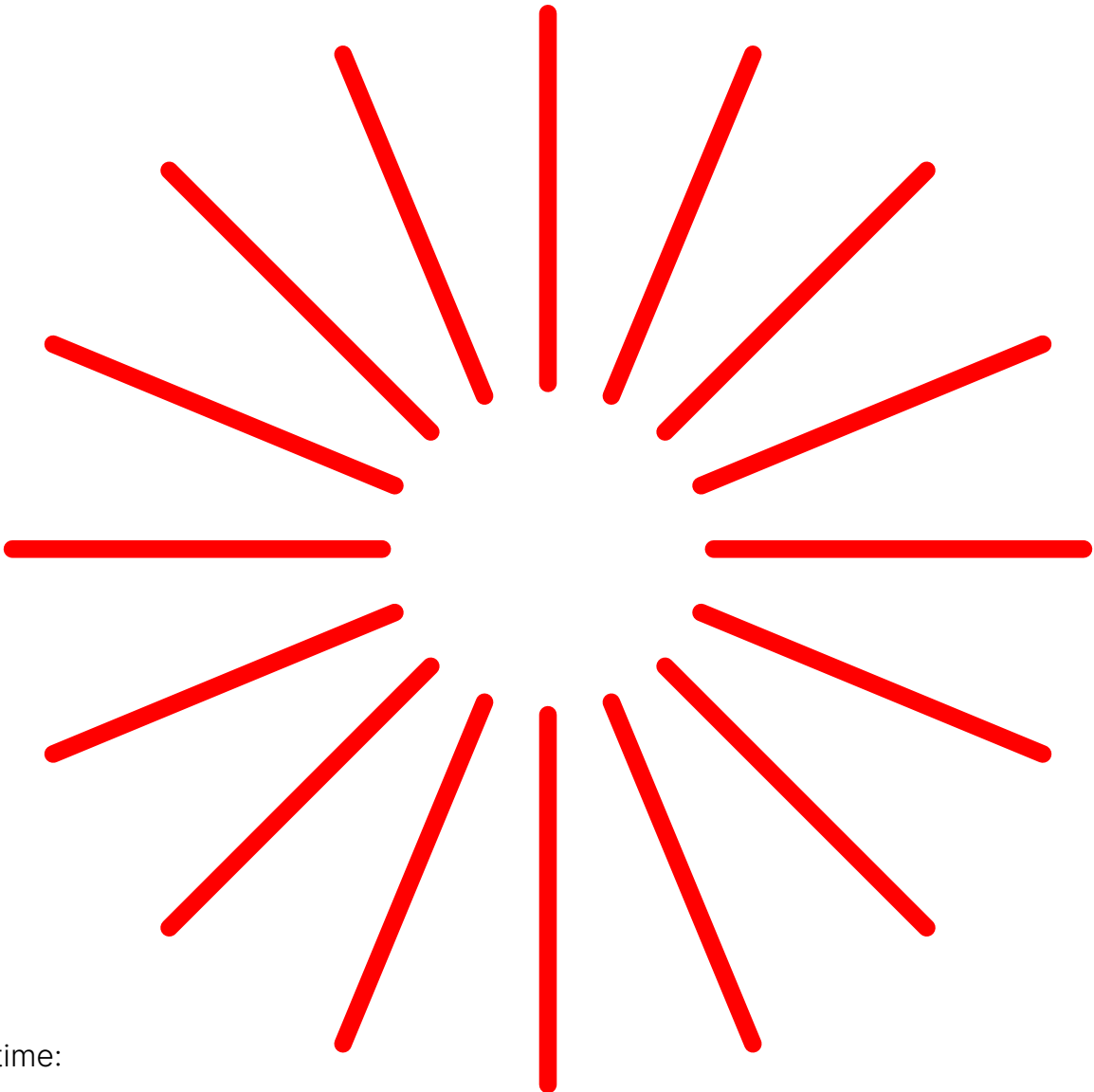


# The Compass Quality Vision

---

Exercise No. 1

Individual Preparatory  
Exercise



Estimated time:  
45 minutes

# The Project

Individual preparatory exercise

Name of project:

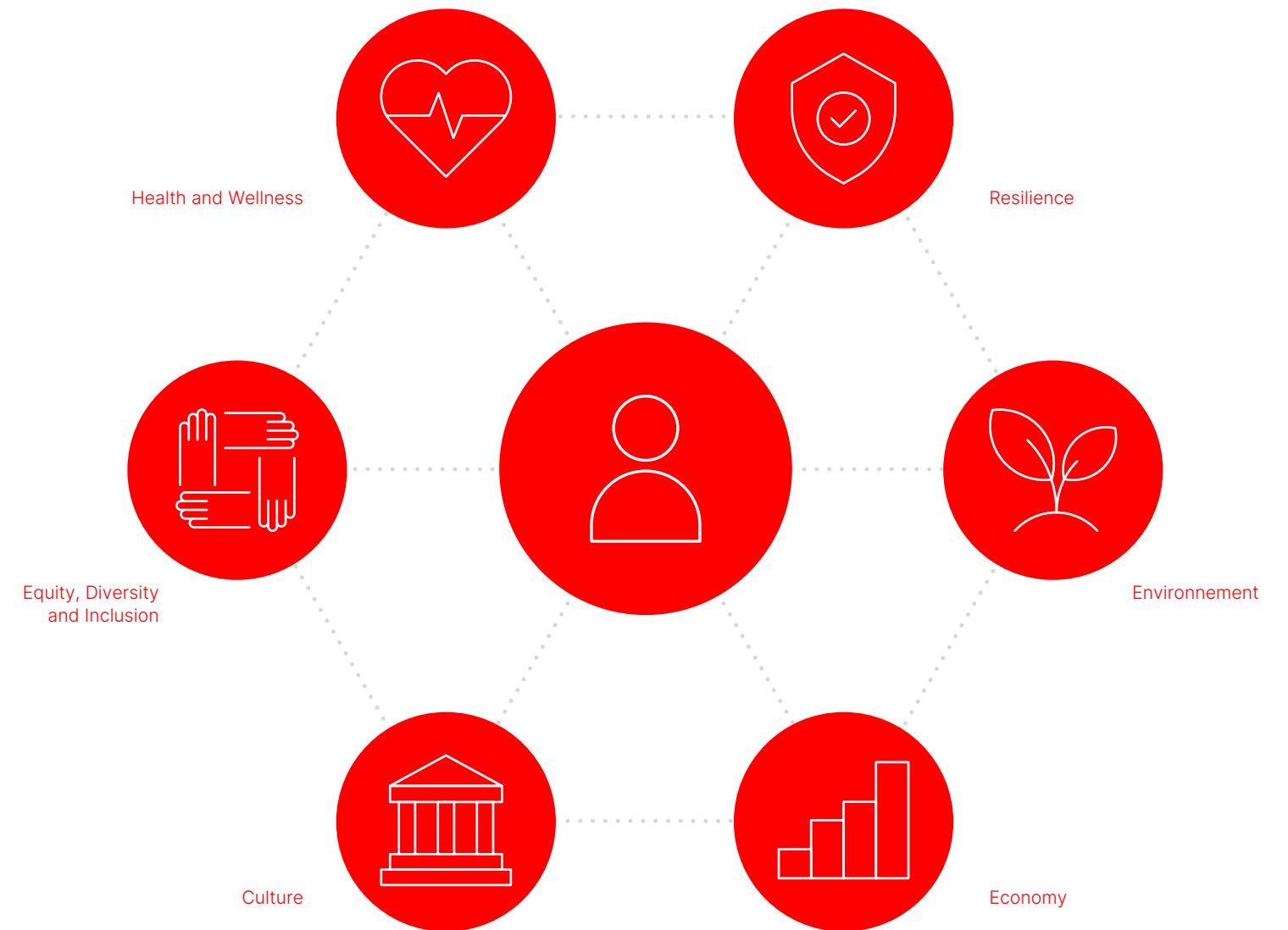
---

Date:

---

# The Quality Vision

The six dimensions of quality in design and architecture



# Context

The **Montréal 2030 Agenda** posits that **design and architecture** help to shape a city that is:

1. More **resilient** to crises and changes;
2. More **environmentally** responsible;
3. More **economically** efficient;
4. More **culturally** attractive and fulfilling;
5. More **socially equitable, pluralistic and inclusive**; and
6. More conducive to **health and wellness** for all.

This individual **Quality Vision** exercise allows each member of the project team to familiarize themselves with the notions in the toolkit at their own pace and get a good sense of the project vision and priority objectives, ahead of the group exercise.

# Objective and Guidelines

## Objective of the exercise

The objective of this exercise is for everyone, individually, to:

- Familiarize themselves with the **six dimensions of quality**;
- Get a good sense of the vision and the objectives that they feel are priorities for the project.

## Step 1

Review each of the six dimensions of quality and the suggested examples of objectives that could inspire you for your project.

For objective suggested, check **“Yes”** if it seems to be relevant and a priority for your project, **“Maybe”** if you’re not sure of its relevance, or **“No”** if you don’t think it’s relevant or you think it would be impossible to implement for your project.

**Taken together, the suggested objectives make up the range of possible actions in favour of quality in design and architecture. It’s perfectly normal for you not to check “Yes” beside every objective. These examples are provided as thought-starters, and some of them may simply not be applicable to your project.**

You may of course think of other objectives that are applicable to your project; if so, add them in the appropriate fields.

## Step 2

Based on your reflections, **write a statement that sums up your vision of the project** and the objectives that it supports. You’ll be asked to share this statement at the start of the group exercise.

# Dimension 1 Résilience



No: Not applicable to the project or impossible to implement  
 Maybe: To be considered, but might be difficult to implement or is not a priority  
 Yes: Important to the success of the project

How can design contribute to greater urban resilience?

## 1a. By mitigating the impacts of climate-related hazards

No MB Yes Other objectives

Via a bioclimatic design approach that fosters reduction of the impacts of climate vulnerabilities (e.g., heavy rainfall, heat waves, flooding, drought and destructive storms).

## 1b. By mitigating the impacts of industrial hazards

No MB Yes Other objectives

Via spatial planning strategies and construction methods that reduce the risks related to operations on and around worksites (e.g., spills, leaks, explosions).

## 1c. By minimizing requirements in terms of essential resources and services

No MB Yes Other objectives

Via design of highly efficient systems that require fewer resources (e.g., primary resources, human resources, telecommunications) and that reduce pressure on networks so as to prevent disruptions, outages and shortages.

Via off-grid power systems that compensate for disruptions (e.g., heat recovery and redistribution, production and storage of clean, passive and renewable energies).

# Dimension 1 (cont.)



No: Not applicable to the project or impossible to implement  
 Maybe: To be considered, but might be difficult to implement or is not a priority  
 Yes: Important to the success of the project

How can design contribute to greater urban resilience?

## 1d. By ensuring methods for rapid repurposing

No MB Yes Other objectives

Via "reversible" spaces and services; i.e., the ability to easily adapt in order to host new uses depending on changing socio-economic needs, or to house public services or vulnerable population segments in crisis situations (e.g., ice storm, public health emergency, migrant crisis).

Via spaces and services that allow for deployment of adaptive measures in the event of a crisis (e.g., public health measures in the context of a pandemic).

## 1e. By facilitating emergency or crisis-response actions

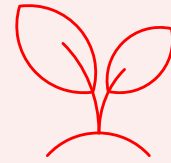
No MB Yes Other objectives

Via reliable and functional emergency systems when required (including access, evacuation and emergency wayfinding systems).

Via integration of specific security provisions in the event of a deliberate attack.  
 To consult

General notes (e.g., prioritization of certain objectives as well as perceived constraints and opportunities)

# Dimension 2 Environment



No: Not applicable to the project or impossible to implement  
 Maybe: To be considered, but might be difficult to implement or is not a priority  
 Yes: Important to the success of the project

How can design help address environmental challenges?

## 2a. By contributing to achievement of carbon neutrality objectives

No MB Yes Other objectives

Reducing the project's GHG emissions both in terms of the embodied carbon of materials (e.g., reuse of existing buildings, use of low-carbon and/or green materials) and of operational carbon emissions (e.g., energy, water, waste, transportation, plant carbon sequestration), all within a life-cycle approach.

## 2b. By making responsible use of resources

No MB Yes Other objectives

Emphasizing reuse, restoration and repurposing of existing assets.

Increasing the project's energy efficiency.

Implementing a sustainable water management system (e.g., rainwater recovery, wastewater recycling, retention ponds, low-flow fixtures, soil permeability percentages, restoration of former surface watercourses).

Developing a sustainable waste management system (e.g., zero-waste strategy, abolishing single-use products, sorting and redistribution, ecocentre, reclamation of organic materials).

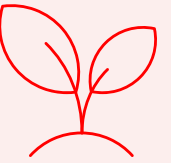
## 2c. By contributing to the richness of natural environments

No MB Yes Other objectives

Modulating the project's volumes and siting to minimize its ground footprint and its impact on the existing natural surroundings.

Greening vertically and horizontally to help ensure continuity of biodiversity corridors, implementing rich microclimates for animal and plant life.

# Dimension 2 (cont.)



No: Not applicable to the project or impossible to implement  
 Maybe: To be considered, but might be difficult to implement or is not a priority  
 Yes: Important to the success of the project

How can design help address environmental challenges?

## 2d. By reducing environmental pollution

No MB Yes Other objectives

Minimizing sources of pollution (including noise and visual nuisances).

Contributing to air, soil and water quality (e.g., decontamination, non-toxic construction and operation).

Enhancing the sustainable low-carbon mobility network or the logistical efficiency of an intermodal transit hub, or optimizing "last-mile" local deliveries.

## 2e. By reducing environmental impacts over the full life cycle of projects

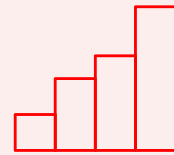
No MB Yes Other objectives

Choosing a project site that offers the best perceived conditions over the long term (e.g., forecasting of bioclimatic forces, construction or expansion of a shared thermal loop).

Minimizing issues related to obsolescence and wear and tear of materials and systems, to ensure sustainability of the project (e.g., materials and technologies life cycles, quality of building systems, architectural language, repairability).  
 To consult tools and

General notes (e.g., prioritization of certain objectives as well as perceived constraints and opportunities)

# Dimension 3 Economy



No: Not applicable to the project or impossible to implement  
 Maybe: To be considered, but might be difficult to implement or is not a priority  
 Yes: Important to the success of the project

How can design help generate greater economic benefits?

## 3a. By contributing to the neighbourhood's prosperity

No MB Yes Other objectives

Consolidating, complementing and diversifying the existing commercial offering and job sectors.

Prioritizing local purchases and compact supply networks.

Being mindful of the project's potential impacts on gentrification of the neighbourhood.

## 3b. By enhancing the neighbourhood's attractiveness

No MB Yes Other objectives

Making the local services network more attractive and drawing new types of economic activity to the neighbourhood.

Repurposing or redeveloping existing assets to help enhance the perceived value of the neighbourhood.

Providing affordable spaces to startup businesses or community groups.

## 3c. By taking a life-cycle approach to cost-benefit analysis

No MB Yes Other objectives

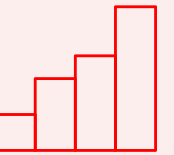
Using verified comparative design details that deliver a fair measure of profitability between initial investment, operations, maintenance, and long-term replacement.

## 3d. By remaining trend-proof

No MB Yes Other objectives

Using design details that meet both current and anticipated trends.

# Dimension 3 (cont.)



No: Not applicable to the project or impossible to implement  
 Maybe: To be considered, but might be difficult to implement or is not a priority  
 Yes: Important to the success of the project

How can design help generate greater economic benefits?

## 3e. By providing opportunities for pooling of resources

No MB Yes Other objectives

Emphasizing the sharing of spaces as well as material and human resources, which, along with social and environmental benefits, deliver improved project performance.

## 3f. By emphasizing the quality of common spaces and services

No MB Yes Other objectives

Capitalizing on experience-rich common spaces and services as drivers of increased use value for the project.

## 3g. By incorporating energy-efficient technologies

No MB Yes Other objectives

Integrating innovative technologies (e.g., cleantech, bioclimatic tech, automation), for which the return on investment is measured over the full life cycle: over both the short and long term.

General notes (e.g., prioritization of certain objectives as well as perceived constraints and opportunities)

# Dimension 4 Culture



No: Not applicable to the project or impossible to implement  
 Maybe: To be considered, but might be difficult to implement or is not a priority  
 Yes: Important to the success of the project

How can design contribute to improved cultural attractiveness?

## 4a. By recognizing, protecting and valuing the site's history

No MB Yes Other objectives

Emphasizing and promoting the heritage value of the site and its buildings, including material, immaterial, landscape and natural heritage (e.g., archeological vestiges, Indigenous lands, emblematic landscapes, architectural forms and materiality).

Opening up the project to the public and providing access to places that commemorate events or people that have left their mark on collective memory.

Valuing local resources and expertise in the choice of construction materials and methods.

## 4b. By integrating sensitively with the site context

No MB Yes Other objectives

Developing a visual language that is in continuity with the history of the space, to ensure harmonious co-existence of the old and the new (e.g., form, materials, textures, colours, rhythms).

Valuing existing uses and services and engaging in continuity with them.

# Dimension 4 (cont.)



No: Not applicable to the project or impossible to implement  
 Maybe: To be considered, but might be difficult to implement or is not a priority  
 Yes: Important to the success of the project

How can design contribute to improved cultural attractiveness?

## 4c. By enhancing the lived experience

No MB Yes Other objectives

Incorporating design elements that celebrate temporality (e.g., night-time lighting and design), seasonality (e.g., wintertime design) or other cultural expressions.

## 4d. By encouraging rich and diversified cultural and artistic life

No MB Yes Other objectives

Dedicating spaces in the project for gathering, exchange and creation for artists, performers and cultural professionals.

Including a hub for cultural presentation and mediation that stimulates public enthusiasm and the collective imagination.

General notes (e.g., prioritization of certain objectives as well as perceived constraints and opportunities)

# Dimension 5

## Equity, Diversity and Inclusion



No: Not applicable to the project or impossible to implement  
 Maybe: To be considered, but might be difficult to implement or is not a priority  
 Yes: Important to the success of the project

How can design help improve equity, diversity and inclusion?

### 5a. By responding to user needs equitably

No MB Yes Other objectives

Designing flexible, adaptable spaces that allow for mixed uses and functions and can be easily embraced by diverse user groups.

Responding to societal needs that are ignored or neglected; e.g., those of vulnerable, marginalized and underrepresented people.

### 5b. By making the site accessible to as many people as possible

No MB Yes Other objectives

Responding to the expectations and needs of multiple generations and household types (e.g., young children, families, seniors).

Deploying best practices in universal design, to ensure that users enjoy barrier- and risk-free access to and movement within the site.

Developing layout and wayfinding solutions that enable universally perceptible navigation.

Simplifying access to services, including with respect to information and communications technologies.

### 5c. By contributing to a sense of shared identity

No MB Yes Other objectives

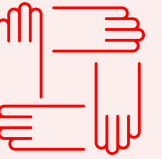
Providing attractive, comfortable public spaces conducive to group interactions.

Including programming that helps forge connections and break social isolation.

Delivering memorable new collective experiences.

# Dimension 5

## (cont.)



No: Not applicable to the project or impossible to implement  
 Maybe: To be considered, but might be difficult to implement or is not a priority  
 Yes: Important to the success of the project

How can design help improve equity, diversity and inclusion?

### 5d. By improving the dynamics of Living Together

No MB Yes Other objectives

Supporting communities' expression and fulfilment (e.g., encouraging individual and collective assertion and engagement, cultivating autonomy and capacity building).

Avoiding spatial planning that leads to segregation, ghettoization and isolation of specific groups within the territory.

Providing an environment and services that respect the identities of historically marginalized communities (e.g., Indigenous and immigrant populations) and promote cultural safety.

Giving room to arts and literature in their various forms of expression, in a spirit of openness and representation of diversity.

### 5e. By developing modes of co-existence

No MB Yes Other objectives

Providing modes of co-existence or co-management of spaces that involve community groups, organizations and associations.

Guaranteeing access to the spaces and infrastructures that community organizations need to function successfully over the long term.

General notes (e.g., prioritization of certain objectives as well as perceived constraints and opportunities)



# Dimension 6 Health and Wellness



No: Not applicable to the project or impossible to implement  
 Maybe: To be considered, but might be difficult to implement or is not a priority  
 Yes: Important to the success of the project

How can design contribute to enhancing the health and wellness of users and communities?

## 6a. By taking an interest in users' emotional wellness

No MB Yes Other objectives

Providing abundant, democratized access to natural light and views, as a priority in spaces used by the largest numbers of people, for long periods.

Drawing inspiration from biophilic interior design principles (integration of natural features and materials) and providing access to green spaces of various types and scales.

Designing workspaces that respond to the needs of as many people as possible and provide flexible and adaptable furniture.

Limiting sources of sensory stress and other irritability factors.

## 6b. By taking an interest in users' physical wellness

No MB Yes Other objectives

Providing spaces, facilities and amenities that encourage movement and active travel.

Ensuring thermal comfort throughout all four seasons, both indoors and in furnished outdoor spaces.

Encouraging healthy eating habits and access to quality drinking water.

## 6c. By reducing health and safety hazards

No MB Yes Other objectives

Limiting exposure to volatile organic compounds, allergens, pollutants and viruses and thereby ensuring good indoor and outdoor air quality.

Avoiding the use of materials and substances that pose potential or proven short- or long-term health risks.

Minimizing user exposure to noise, light and odour pollution.

Mitigating risks and nuisances in the vicinity of the project (e.g., railroad tracks, high-voltage lines, overhead lines, electromagnetic fields).

# Dimension 6 (cont.)



No: Not applicable to the project or impossible to implement  
 Maybe: To be considered, but might be difficult to implement or is not a priority  
 Yes: Important to the success of the project

How can design contribute to enhancing the health and wellness of users and communities?

## 6d. By providing safe sites and facilities

No MB Yes Other objectives

Providing safe access to and use of sites in all seasons, day and night.

Minimizing users' vulnerability to mischief and crime (e.g., proper lighting, avoiding recessed areas).

Minimizing the risk of accidents and injuries, including those related to unintended (and unsafe) use of spaces.

## 6e. By contributing to users' fulfilment

No MB Yes Other objectives

Creating spaces where users feel welcome and at home.

Encouraging user self-assertiveness and engagement (e.g., committees, interest groups).

Developing awareness of and empowering users (e.g., responsibility for operations or maintenance, responsibility for activity programs, mentoring or sponsorship).

General notes (e.g., prioritization of certain objectives as well as perceived constraints and opportunities)

# Your Vision Statement

---

Based on your reflections, write a statement that sums up your vision of the project and its priority quality objectives.

Bravo, you've completed the individual exercise. Don't forget to take it with you to the group session!

