Participatory Data Physicalization

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With “Data Physicalization” we translate data into artifacts that are simultaneously tangible, visible and perceptible-with-senses-other-than-vision. This project aims to explore the potentiality of this approach and mode of infodesign as a way to inform, involve and engage citizens on specific issues. We propose that Participatory Data Physicalizations (PDP) can be a way to promote participation, democratize data beyond the simple diffusion of information and deepen citizens’ understandings of complex everyday life. The novelty of the present research project does not consist only in an update of the knowledge and of the techniques taken into account and deployed, but also that such knowledge and techniques will be used in relation with new forms of visualization - namely environmental and analog visualizations - carried out through participatory processes. This domain has been little explored, up to now.

The present research project intends to integrate the reflection on the use of images and objects in the design of data visualizations (and so physicalizations), in order to provide procedures and guidelines for PDP.
Figure 1. Detail of the first PDP case study commissioned by Know and be live and presented at the Ted Med Milan, 2017.
Figure 2. Detail of the first PDP case study commissioned by Know and be live and presented at the Ted Med Milan, 2017.
Publications

Moretti, M., Mattozzi, A. [2018]. ParticipatoryDataPhysicalization: designing informative experiences (under review)

Figure 3. Detail of the first PDP case study commissioned by Know and be live and presented at the Ted Med Milan, 2017.