

LDE Global Project

Building Feminist Urban Futures in the Majority World

The Netherlands, Chile, Morocco and Istanbul

THE PROJECT

explores what feminist urbanism can mean in the aftermath of disasters. It brings together researchers, practitioners, and communities across different geographies to critically reflect on rebuilding cities in ways that center care, justice, and lived experience. Its aim is to cultivate a feminist urban community in North Africa, the Mediterranean, and Latin America by enabling regional and generational learning through a series of “traveling urban labs,” while also enhancing the capacity of feminist urban professionals and activists to shape inclusive and sustainable futures.

WORKING METHOD

The project is grounded in feminist action research and emphasizes co-creation throughout the process. It unfolds in four phases across four locations The Netherlands, Chile, Morocco and Istanbul:



OUTPUTS OF THE PROJECT

- Establishing a network of feminist urban scholars across the participating countries and beyond
- Producing videos as feminist interventions to elevate the voices of the women and organizations we worked with
- Developing educational materials to integrate into our teaching
- Presenting our working paper “Challenging Epistemic Inequalities: Feminist Action Research and Decolonizing Urban Futures in the Majority World” at the ISA conference, July 2025, Rabat

SOUTH- SOUTH FEMINIST LEARNING

Taking time to listen and discuss contexts, histories, struggles, references to engage in South- South feminist learning

Some tough questions:

- What is territory? Body as territory, home as the body
- Meaning of home and home making practices, homemaking in the public
- Unpacking the private and public
- What is feminism? Grounded understandings

DECOLONIZING THE METHODS?

- What method makes sense in each context
- Everyday knowledges- different methods
- How to deal with trauma, grief, emotions in feminist research in the context (not friendship but solidarity)
- Non-extractive ways of connecting to women- videos, working with communities, organizations

INSTITUTIONAL BARRIERS

Time, money, and institutional norms were all limitations. Decolonial feminist work is slow, relational, and emergent—but most funding and academic timelines are fast, output-driven, and rigid. We often had to navigate and push back against mainstream expectations around research design and productivity."