

Laboratorio para la Ciudad (LabCDMX) — Mexico City's Experimental Urban Innovation Office

City Innovation Library · Good practice · Mexico

Quality score: 71/100

Evidence strength: Strong

Summary

Mexico City's 'Ministry of Imagination' ran 50+ civic experiments in five years, including Mapatón: 3,594 citizens crowdsourced GPS data to map 51,308km of 1,500+ informal bus routes. Dismantled in 2018 after a mayoral change, but its model spread across Latin America.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured results	3/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	3/3
Scalability	1/3
Sustainability / continuity	0/3
Innovation	3/3
Inclusiveness / equity	2/3
Multi-stakeholder collaboration	3/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-07-23

[Laboratorio para la Ciudad / Government of Mexico City](#) — accessed 2026-07-23

[The Living Library — Mapatón CDMX](#) — accessed 2026-07-23

[Quartz — Mexico City is attempting to map its more than 1,000 unwieldy bus routes with a crowdsourcing app](#) — accessed 2026-07-23

[Fast Company — Mapping Mexico City's Vast, Informal Transit System](#) — accessed 2026-07-23

[Next City — In Pursuit of Big Data, Mexico City Mapathon Gamifies Crowdsourcing](#) — accessed 2026-07-23

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