

# DECALOGUE OF GOOD PRACTICES

## 10 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CITIZEN ACTION GROUPS

### 1. USE THE SPACE

If a green space becomes popular among the local community, whether it's for sport or family activities, it will be more difficult for investors to claim and develop that area.



### 2. INTERVENE EARLY

It is easier to stop development in initial planning stages rather than when development begins.



### 3. MAP THE STAKEHOLDERS

Mapping the actors involved in the struggle is essential for getting the community to understand whom they are fighting against or alongside.



### 4. FIGHT FOR THE OBVIOUS

Development can often be contested in legal proceedings. Therefore, knowing the legal status of the land you are trying to protect, who owns it and why can be very helpful in fighting development through legal routes.



### 5. MANAGE YOUR RESOURCES WISELY

Defending or reclaiming an area of land can take a long time, make sure the situation is constantly monitored and delegate tasks to help the movement accordingly.



### 6. SECURE THE SUPPORT OF THE COMMUNITY

Community support is vital - establishing face-to-face contact and making yourselves recognisable to the local community is much more effective than hundreds of social media posts.



### 7. CONNECT THE COMMUNITY

Reaching out to similar initiatives or organisations can be very useful in seeking local or national advice, as well as experiences or tips from others that have fought through the same situation.



### 8. BE PROACTIVE

Resistance is crucial, but taking a more proactive stance is just as important. Fighting for greater formal protections for green areas might help defend other green spaces in the future.



### 9. ENGAGE LOCAL POLITICIANS

Contacting and building a relationship with a local politician to use their influence with the local or national government may be helpful in ensuring your goals are met.



### 10. STAY ALERT

No victory is absolute. Stay vigilant, so that new threats to the green space can be averted.



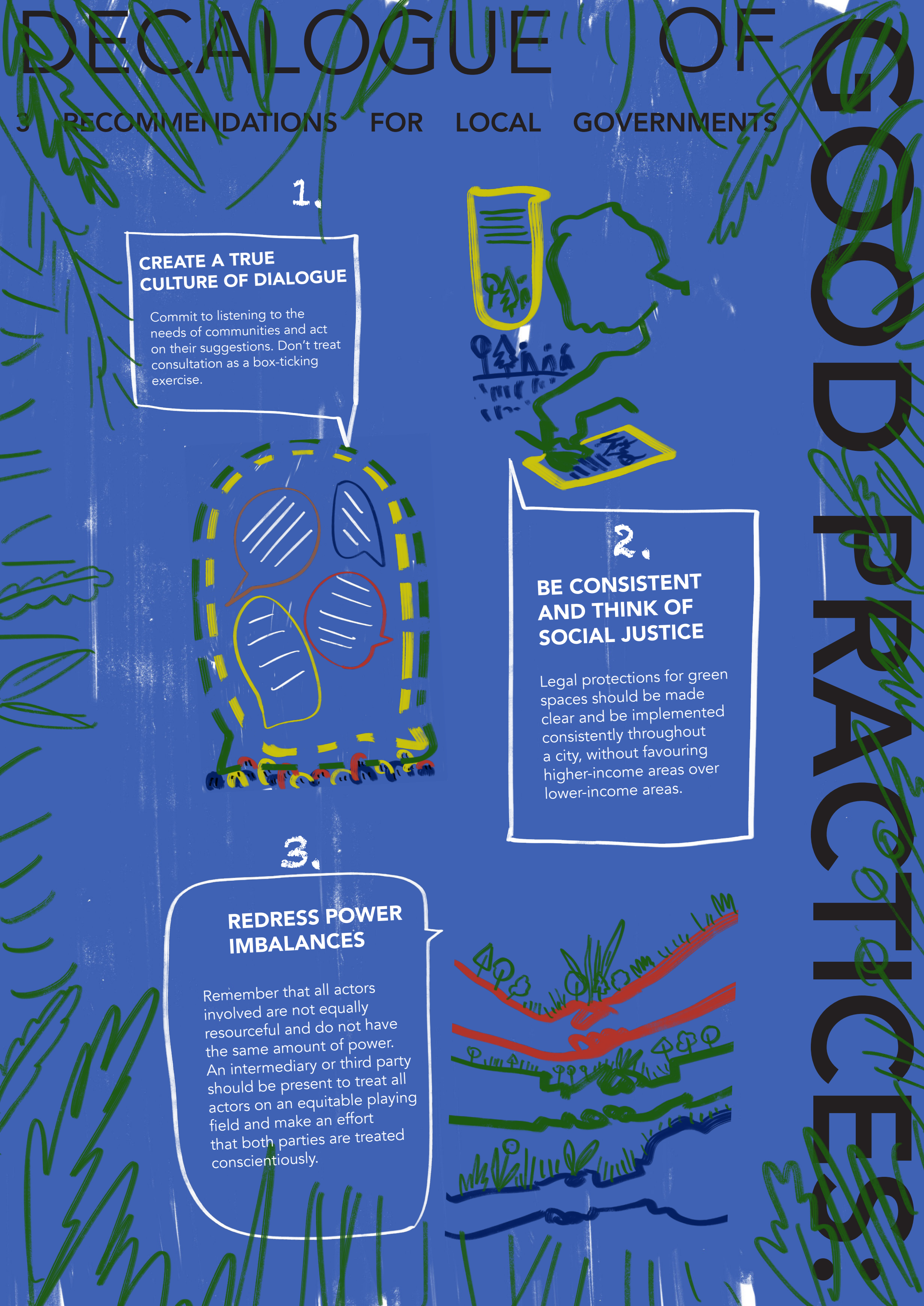
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Illustrations: Lena Pozdnyakova.





GOOD PRACTICE

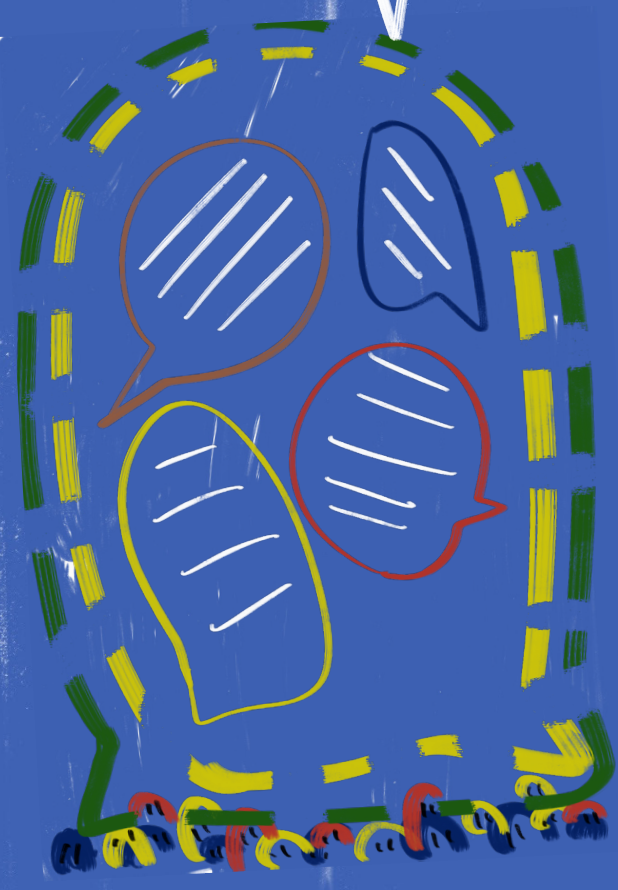
# DECALOGUE OF

## 3 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

1.

### CREATE A TRUE CULTURE OF DIALOGUE

Commit to listening to the needs of communities and act on their suggestions. Don't treat consultation as a box-ticking exercise.



2.

### BE CONSISTENT AND THINK OF SOCIAL JUSTICE

Legal protections for green spaces should be made clear and be implemented consistently throughout a city, without favouring higher-income areas over lower-income areas.



3.

### REDRESS POWER IMBALANCES

Remember that all actors involved are not equally resourceful and do not have the same amount of power. An intermediary or third party should be present to treat all actors on an equitable playing field and make an effort that both parties are treated conscientiously.