

Webinar on Participatory Budgeting, 6th December 2017

Invitation to the Webinar on Collaborative Platforms to enable Participatory Budgeting initiatives



Agenda

Where: click [here](#) to register

When: 6 December 2017 – 12:30-14:00 CET

Where: online

Learning Objectives

Further to our successful session held on 15 June 2016 and in view of the EIP-SCC [Inclusive Smart Cities Manifesto](#) one-year anniversary, we are launching a series of **three webinars** to continue fostering an active and full participation of citizens in Smart City Planning. This first webinar will present a **comparison between existing platforms used for participatory budgeting purposes**. Platforms for Participatory Budgeting (PB) can be considered as a subset of the larger category of collaborative platforms for social innovations: this session will be specifically addressing platforms and tools designed for the management of PB and PB processes.

Participatory Budgeting is a form of **participatory and inclusive democracy** where members of a community learn, debate and deliberate about the allocation of public resources. It has proven to be a powerful enabler for citizens, granting them an active involvement in their city's administration – not just as voters, but also as active players in decision-making.

Since the launch in Brazil during the '90s, European examples of Participatory Budgeting have increased **from 55 to over 1.300** with over 8 million citizens actively involved in PB processes: "a 2008 study estimated that 5.3% of the Spanish population, 1.4% of the German population and 1% of the Portuguese and Italian citizens lived in cities that used PB" (EPRS, 2016, p.8)¹.

Throughout this session, knowledgeable scholars will guide us through:

- The main features of platforms
- The technical analysis of platforms
- Licenses
- Deployment methods

¹ EPRS | European Parliamentary Research Service (2016) Participatory budgeting an innovative approach.

The Agenda

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| 12:30 | Welcome and Introduction by <i>Anne Deltour</i> (DG CNECT) and <i>Maria Sangiuliano</i> (AC Leader) |
| 12:40 | A conceptual framework for PB collaborative tools, by Michelangelo Secchi (EMPATIA project) |
| 13:00 | 'Consul' Platform, by Miguel Arana Catania |
| 13:20 | 'Participare' Platform, by Cesar Silva |
| 13:40 | Q&A session |
| 13:55 | Wrap up |

Speakers Bio

1. **Michelangelo Secchi** – Research Fellow at the Centre for Social Studies (CES) - University of Coimbra (PT).

Michelangelo has more than ten years' experience working on Public Sector and on the design and implementation of citizen engagement processes and participatory governance strategies. Currently working on a variety of EU funded projects in the area of international development (EUROPEAID) and Smart Cities (National and Regional Structural Funds in Italy). Since 2016, he is coordinating the research activity of the CAPS project EMPATIA (H2020 programme). He will present the **EMPATIA project**. The EMPATIA project, launched in 2016 and funded by the EU Horizon 2020 R&I programme, aims to research, develop, test and disseminate innovative approaches and consistent ICT solutions for the design and management of multi-channel Participatory Budgeting processes.

2. **Miguel Arana Catania** – Participation Project Director at Madrid City Council

Miguel Arana is the Director of the Madrid City council participation project. He has been actively involved in the 15M movement in Spain since its beginning with an emphasis on digital tools and on the connection of movement with other countries. Co-founder of LaboDemo, an organization dedicated to the design, implementation and development of participation strategies and digital tools. He has been working in the participation team of Podemos and Ahora Madrid, defining the participation strategy of the parties, and at the European level designing new tools for the future democracy in the D-CENT project.

3. **Cesar Silva** – CEO and co-founder at ChangeTomorrow

Cesar is the co-founder and CEO of ChangeTomorrow, a start-up created to develop global platforms for citizen engagement initiatives. 'Participare' is the first platform set to transform Participatory Budgeting processes enabling multicultural communities as well as promoting online and offline engagement around a trust-building platform. He has been working in PB since 2007 and helped over 50 cities to implement digital PB, distributing over 30 million euro, and achieving high participation ratios (i.e. 36% in Seia/Portugal 2017).



Citizen Focus Action Cluster – who we are

The '[Citizen Focus](#)' action cluster is about civil society, industries and different layers of government **working together with citizens** to realize public interests at the intersection of ICT, mobility and energy in an urban environment. The cluster consists of initiatives across Europe working to ensure cities are inclusive of their citizens by:

enabling citizens with the tools and opportunities to create and problem-solve
facilitating conversation between stakeholders, so citizens' voices are not only heard, but instrumental in designing solutions.

The action cluster has very recently launched the initiative on **Participatory Budgeting for Inclusive Smart Cities and Communities** to foster knowledge sharing, assess the potential of PB in smart cities planning and the role played by digital platforms in supporting the process.

These activities will be carried out during the Roadmap's first phase whereas the second phase – starting in Autumn 2018 – will focus on piloting PB in smart cities and defining best practices. Additional details available [here](#).

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