

Webinar on Participatory Budgeting, 14 March 2018

Invitation to the Webinar on the role of local Administrations in enabling Participatory Budgeting practices and projects



Agenda

When: 14 March 2018 – 14:00-15:30 CET

Where: [online](#)

Learning Objectives

Following the one year Anniversary of the EIP-SCC [Inclusive Smart Cities Manifesto on Citizen Engagement](#), the [Citizen Focus](#) Action Cluster announced the launch of a series of **three webinars** on Participatory Budgeting to continue fostering the active and full participation of citizens in Smart City planning. The [first webinar](#) was held in December 2017 and presented the role of collaborative platforms in enabling Participatory Budgeting initiatives. Throughout this second webinar, we will be looking into the role of local Administrations in Participatory Budgeting activities.

The practical organization of a Participatory Budgeting activity in an urban context requires specific skills and resources for setting and coordinating a public consultation that involves thousands of participants.

Managing a Participatory Budgeting process is a complex task that requires scientific and technical resources that administrative offices are not always equipped with – particularly when the scale of the engaged public authority is small. For this reason, many cities delegate Participatory Budgeting processes to third parties, such as sub-contractors and providers of services, resulting in significant consequences on the overall political and financial balance of the whole process.

The complexity of managing Participatory Budgeting processes has increased in recent years due to the growing digitization phenomena. While on one hand the previously mentioned simplifies Public Administrations' internal management procedures, it also encourages resorting to third parties for acquiring new sets of specialised skills and services.

This webinar will analyse existing models for managing Participatory Budgeting processes.

Furthermore, we will be looking into two case studies that will offer useful insights to those interested in implementing a Participatory Budgeting process.

Knowledgeable scholars will guide us through:

- The definition of theoretical management models for PB;
- The analysis of main costs and services associated to the delivery of a PB process;
- The description of potential contractual models and insights into the configuration of relations between public authorities and third parties;
- The analysis of the possible issues related to the externalisation of PB management;
- The role of supra-local institutions in activating and consolidating local processes.

The Agenda

14:00	Welcome and Introduction by Andrea Halmos (European Commission, DG CONNECT)
14:05	'Citizen Focus' Action Cluster: the new PB initiative, by Maria Sangiuliano (Smart Venice)
14:10	'Models of PB Management' by Michelangelo Secchi (EMPATIA project)
14:30	'D21: Helping Cities with PB', by Jitka Štěpánková (D21)
14:50	'Laboratori di Quartiere', by Stefania Paolazzi & Michele d'Alena (Urban Center Bologna)
15:10	Q&A session
15:25	Wrap up

Speakers Bio

1. **Andrea Halmos** – Policy Officer – DG CNECT, European Commission

Andrea Halmos works as Policy Officer in the e-Government & Trust Unit of DG CONNECT at the European Commission. Her current activities are mainly focused on the implementation of the eGovernment Action Plan 2016-2020. This includes working with numerous Commission services and Member States as well as developing various measures to support local and regional administrations in their implementation efforts. In the past, she worked on developing the vision for the future of public services through the open government concept and used the H2020 funding mechanism to put the concept into real innovation projects. She has previously worked for the eTEN European Community programme, which supported the deployment of trans-European electronic services in the public interest and has worked as case handler at DG COMP. Prior to joining the European Commission in 2003, she worked for an internet start-up company as a sourcing consultant. Having graduated at the Budapest University of Economic Sciences, she received a Master's degree in European studies from the College of Europe and from the Université Libre de Bruxelles.

2. **Maria Sangiuliano** – Action Cluster Leader

Maria is co-founder and CEO of Smart Venice srl, an Italian SME promoting urban regeneration projects where she leads activities on EU projects' design. She is also a Senior Research Fellow at the Department of Computer Sciences of "Ca' Foscari" University of Venice where she is in charge of the H2020 EQUAL-IST project implementing crowdsourced and co-designed Gender Equality Action Plans at 7 Research Organisations across the EU and CIS countries. Maria has extensive experience on working with cities and local authorities in promoting socio-economic inclusion projects and civic participation through digital social innovation practices, mostly targeting women and migrant communities. Over the past 15 years she has coordinated, designed and implemented EU funded projects across different programs (ESF/EQUAL, Interreg, FP7 Science in Society, Life Long Learning, H2020 ICT-Start Up Europe, H2020 SwaFS).

3. **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).

4. **Jitka Štěpánková** – Project Manager at D21

Jitka studied International Relations at ‘Charles University’ in Prague. She has work experience in international corporations and a strong interest in public space, community life and state of the affairs of Democracy in the Czech Republic. This interest led her to joining D21 two years ago, where she is a Project Manager helping cities improve their public spheres and spaces.

5. **Stefania Paolazzi** – Project Manager and Facilitator at Urban Center Bologna

Stefania is a Project Manager and Facilitator at the Office for Civic Imagination of Urban Center Bologna, working in the framework of the ‘Neighborhood Labs’ project and supporting the implementation of the Digital Agenda of Bologna’s Municipality. She studied European and International Studies and holds a post-graduate Masters Degree in Smart Communities Design and Management. She has previously worked for local Authorities’ networks such as ICLEI and ANCI Toscana and for the Representation of South Tyrol in Brussels.

6. **Michele d’Alena** – Office Coordinator at Urban Center Bologna

Michele is the Office Coordinator for Civic Imagination of Urban Center Bologna. He has previously worked in the social field and in private and public administration. Additional work experience includes the implementation of the Digital Agenda for the Municipality of Bologna through the “Collaborare è Bologna” project and the redesigning the Iperbole civic network. As a Consultant, he coordinated activities for the Tuscany Region, Italian Institution for Commerce and Trade, Italian Chamber of Commerce in Germany, O-One and Italian-Slovak Chamber of Commerce. He has also worked on social-health integration projects, social and intercultural communication, active citizenship through ANPAS ER and AUSL Bologna. He was also involved with the TagBoLab, a laboratory on territorial marketing in 2.0 web engaging young students of the University of Bologna.

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 and to 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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