

Table of Contents

- **How to design and organize public deliberation**

2nd CIPAST - Training Workshop

Projects

- **NanoDialogue**
Final conference in Brussels
- **Promoting participative environmental planning in Catalonia**
- **Les Etats généraux de l'alcool**
A citizens' debate on alcohol issues in France
- **The "Dialogue on Nanoscience and Nanotechnology" Project**

News

- Citizen Participation and Democratic Governance – PRIA's 25th Anniversary Dialogues
- Publication: Interfaces between Science and Society

Dates & Events

Project partners

La Cité des sciences et de l'industrie (Paris, F), Rathenau Institute (Den Haag, NL), Danish Board of Technology (Copenhagen, DK), Centre for Studies of Democracy, University of Westminster (London, UK), Science-Society Interface, University of Lausanne (CH), Fondazione IDIS - Città della Scienza (Napels, I), Deutsches Hygienemuseum (Dresden, D), INSERM (Paris, F), INRA (Paris, F), ARMINES (Paris, F), Fondation Nationale des Sciences Politiques – Sciences Po (Paris, F) and the Bonn Science Shop (D).

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More about CIPAST at www.cipast.org

This is the fifth issue of the CIPAST newsletter. This quarterly newsletter provides news on the situation of participatory procedures in Europe and news about the CIPAST project and its members.

I hope you will not be too stressed in the run-up to Christmas and would like to take the opportunity to wish you all the very best for 2007. I hope you all will find the time to relax, despite all the hectic activities usually linked to the old years closure. Don't forget to keep some energy for the New Year's participative activities. Keep on contributing!

Yours sincerely,
Norbert Steinhaus, Editor

How to design and organize public deliberation?

2nd CIPAST training workshop including public events
June, 17th - 21st, 2007, Napoli



In recent years, quite a few experiences of public participation in science and technology have taken place in European countries. Also, within the European 'Science and Society Action Plan', more active public participation is identified as one of the key ways for improving the relationships between science and society. However, this did not lead to global learning process yet since such experiences were conducted using a variety of contexts, problems and participatory processes. It is now necessary to foster organisational learning, dissemination of good practices across institutions and countries, as well as critical self-reflection. The training workshops of the CIPAST consortium are instrumental tools to achieve this objective. They aim at gathering users and stakeholders, as well as researchers interested in participatory methods & procedures. The CIPAST consortium will organise the second training workshop on '*How to design and organise public deliberation*' in Napoli, from June 17th to June 21st 2007.

Objectives

The aim of the Napoli training workshop is to foster exchange of expertise on public participation in science and technology and consolidate networking. The workshop will present the state of the art knowledge on public participation in science and technology and will refer to concrete experiences in European countries. The workshop is also designed in order to test training tools. Drawing on this workshop, the CIPAST consortium will produce a training package, available through its website, for further training initiatives.

Participants

This workshop will propose activities adapted to suit several levels. Therefore it will welcome people who have a strong interest in public participation in science and technology, who may already have organ-

ised participatory exercises or willing to do so, or who simply want to learn more about public participation, as well as participants that attended the first CIPAST training workshop in Dresden.

Pedagogical principles

The Napoli training workshop will allow much time and space for contributions from participants, either by carrying out participatory exercises or by discussing projects within the workshop. Training activities will include special sessions as presented below. In addition to a presentation of state of the art theory and practice, participants will be proposed to engage actively in the training workshop:

Poster sessions

Cipast members will present and discuss various methodologies of public participation. Participants will also have the possibility to present their own posters on Citizen Participation in Science and Technology. (See hereafter "How to contribute?")



Case studies

Participants will work in small groups on case studies constructed in a way which leads participants to work as if they were in a "real life" situation. This type of case study has many pedagogical benefits since participants learn more effectively when actively involved in the learning process. With the assistance of Cipast members, participants will have to perform a task which will illustrate some of the difficulties of design and implementation of public participation in practice: choice of a procedure, drafting of a rationale for public participation for a given policy maker, drafting of a press release, etc. Each participant will have the possibility to work on at least two such studies: one proposed by Cipast members and one prepared by Cipast members on the basis of the results of the Call for proposals. (See hereafter "How to contribute?")

Open Space Technology will be the opportunity for participants to present and discuss specific experiences or transversal questions. This method is a self-organising

practice that enables groups of any size to address complex, important issues and accomplish meaningful work. It releases the inherent creativity and leadership in people by inviting them to take responsibility for what they care



about. Open Space establishes a marketplace of inquiry, where people offer topics of interest, reflect, learn and work together. As the training workshop will take place at the City Council on Procida Island, about one hour away from Napoli, participants who want to attend the introduction day are advised to arrive on Sunday 17 June. Participants who do not, are advised to arrive on Monday 18 June. Training workshop closure will allow participants to leave on Thursday 21 late afternoon.

"How to contribute?"

The CIPAST Napoli training workshop will be partly based on your inputs. You have the two following possibilities:

1. Propose a Poster

You want to prepare and present a poster. Please send an abstract (300 words) and specify whether you need Cipast support for the preparation. All posters selected will be protected by a Copyleft licence and will be available through the Cipast website.

2. Propose a case study

Should you wish to propose a case study, it must be based on your own experience (or questions) about public participation (past, on-going or future initiative). Please send an abstract (500 words) describing the case you submit: the context, the questions raised –and eventually the solutions–, and the relevance of this case for the Cipast Workshop. The selected cases will be prepared in collaboration with Cipast members.

Please send your proposals to Delphine Ducoulombier at dducou@ivry.inra.fr before 15 February 2007.

The selected projects will be developed further by the participant in collaboration with CIPAST consortium members in April and May 2007.

How to pre-register?

You can already pre-register for the workshop by replying to Jennifer Palumbo, Citta della Scienza, Progetti scienza e Società, palumbo@cittadellascienza.it, Tel: +39 081 570 21 58 / +39 081 6100952, Fax: +39 081 7622670. Online registration will soon be possible [here](#).

We have limited possibilities of co-funding which will be devoted in priority to help NGO representatives and citizens from new member states.

Do not hesitate to propose ideas on the discussion group (cipast@yahoogroups.com). You can subscribe for the discussion group on the CIPAST website (www.cipast.org) or send an e-mail to norbert.steinhaus@wilabonn.de

Workshop Programme

Monday 18 June

Introduction day to citizen participation

9:30 – 10:00

Welcome and Introduction

Roland Schaer

10:00 – 12:00

What is citizen participation?

Presentation of Metaplan and facilitation of plenary: P.B. Joly

The audience splits in 4 groups of 10-15 people

- Metaplan exercise, about 60 min
- Rapporteurs in plenary and general discussion, about 45 min

12:00 – 13:00

The basic principles of participation and how to manage them

André Krom

13:00 – 13:30

Methodology Poster Session (without experts)

15:00 – 15:30

Methodology Poster Session (with experts)

15:30 – 17:00

Planning citizen participation

Including a group exercise on how to select an issue or how to select a method

Ida Andersen and Gy Larsen

17:15 – 18:00

How to achieve impact?

Daniel Boy

18:00 – 20:00

Welcome of participants who did not attend the introduction day

20:00

Dinner



Tuesday 19 June

9:00 – 9.30

General introduction to Case Study 1 in plenary

9.30 – 17:00

Three parallel sessions

- Introduction to the case studies
- Work on the case studies in small groups (3-4 participants each)
- Feed back and discussion with invited witnesses

17:00 – 18:00

Poster Session

18:00 – 20:00

Panel discussion on "Public participation in science and technology and civil society"

20:00

Dinner

Wednesday 20 June

9:00 – 13.30

Three parallel sessions on Case Study 2 (emerging from the call for proposals)

15:00 – 22:00

Open space Technology on "How to design a training on public participation in Europe?"

Jennifer Palumbo and Jörg Naumann

- Introduction to the rules of Open Space
- Choice of themes and group formation
- Work in groups
- Preparation of reports by participants

Thursday 21 June

9:00 – 10.30

What have we all learnt from the workshop? (Discussion of design training and training material)

10.30 – 11:00

Networking and presentation of CIPAST Database

Esther Lucciola

11.15 – 13:00

Evaluation

Speaker to be announced

- Why evaluate?
 - how to evaluate?
- Including self evaluation of the training workshop

NanoDialogue

Final conference in Brussels

On the 5th of February 2007 the final conference on the NanoDialogue project will take place at the European Parliament in Brussels. The project, promoted by the 6th Framework Program of the European Commission and organized by a consortium coordinated by Fondazione Idis – Città della Scienza of Naples, Italy, is one of the first projects, at European level, that focused on an intense dialogue activity with citizens and stakeholders on ethical, social and legal aspects of nanotechnologies.

NanoDialogue has involved all its participants through participative procedures – such as a “scenario workshop” to define the content and the layout of the exhibition – from the very beginning of the project. Furthermore, throughout the exhibition, several chances to debate the aforementioned topics were established. The aim of the project was in fact to have more than 1.000.000 people attending the exhibitions and more than 50 scientific events, involving scientists and researchers and to inform and raise awareness in the general public.

But the NanoDialogue final Conference is not only a report on the results. The aim is also to involve other European parties already working on Science and Society activities in this dialogue on N&N. Moreover the EU Commission is ready to organize, on the following day, a workshop involving projects on ethical, legal and social aspects of scientific research. Of course this is an opportunity to guarantee a broad discussion for a qualified audience among S&T research, social research and science communication. It could also be an important chance to meet participants with different backgrounds and, of course, to discuss the project results with the European Commission and other experts on the project results.

The main aims of the project remain of course to inform the public of the advances of N&N today in Europe to stimulate public awareness and to research the perceptions and desires of the people attending the exhibition. These results, collected by questionnaires and focus groups, were studied and analysed by the Centre for the Study of Democracy of the University of Westminster. The questionnaires consisted of several questions, which had to be filled in partly before the visit and partly after the visit to the exhibition. The second method involving, three focus groups – conducted by expert demonstrators – were organised so that various categories of people could take part.

The projects and its recommendations will be presented in public meetings and to the European Commission. Moreover the collected data on people's expectations and acceptance of N&N in Europe are included in the list of final recommendations for the “governance” agenda in the ERA.

<http://www.nanodialogue.org/>

Promoting participative environmental planning in Catalonia

The recognition of the existence of co-evolutionary dynamics between society and the environment determines the necessity of proposing new strategies for local policies, with a greater involving in the urban planning. So we must turn to new instruments of intervention, more considered and more complex, which includes the environmental dimension of territory and the expectations which have often been expressed by the population. Environmental planning, across the 21 Local Agendas and other tools of the new generation, offers a cross-section view in relation to regulations that emanate from other fields and that affect the spatial and temporal dimensions of a territory. Such diversity of interactions between physical and social processes becomes very explicit at a local scale.



A project, done by the Geographers Group on Social Ecology (2GES) of the University of Barcelona, developed during 2005, consisted in the elaboration of the environmental local auditing of Sant Sadurn d'Anoia, a small Catalan town, near to the

metropolitan area of Barcelona. The environmental auditing had two main objectives: 1. to develop a report with proposals for introduce the sustainability criteria in the economy and the local management and 2. to demonstrate that citizens and the auditing team were able to work together.

The participation process contemplated different kinds of citizen participation according to the elaboration schedule of the environmental local auditing. In the beginning, the participation was reduced to actions to diffuse and explain the environmental auditing project and to explain what could be attained by the citizen implication. All meetings had been organized like work reunions. In the diagnosis phase, the direct cooperation with the auditing team was promoted. Thus two main ways to participate were prepared : a) across specific opinion polls for citizen organizations; b) with assistance to work reunions by the auditing team. The last reunion was dedicated to local future scenarios in relation to environment and the possible changes to local sustainability.

The described process has to be understood as a commitment that will lead the municipality's transformation towards sustainability. In fact, it could also be considered as a pre-experimental phase of the Local Agenda 21 that should be developed in a broader sense, so that not only citizens get involved but also the majority of economic actors.

Contact: M^a Àngels Alió & Sandra Estrella, Geographers Group for Social Ecology. Dalio@ub.edu, www.ub.edu/cres



Les Etats généraux de l'alcool

A citizens' debate on alcohol issues in France

Alcohol has a notable place within French society: it is of great importance from economic and cultural standpoints. But it is also the second most common cause of avoidable death: it plays a direct or indirect role in the occurrence of many diseases, and it is also involved in road accidents, violence and in some mental diseases. In the face of such stakes, the French Ministry of Health and Inpes were organizing in autumn 2006, "les Etats généraux de l'alcool", a citizens' debate on issues relating to alcohol. This participatory initiative has 4 main objectives:



1. to share reliable and accurate knowledge,
2. to open a debate that gives the opportunity to collect the opinions, representations and expectations of all citizens,
3. to mobilize new opinion formers,
4. to allow an overhaul of public health policies related to alcohol.

"Les Etats généraux de l'alcool" are managed both at the national and regional level, including all 26 French regions. The topics of the debate, the methodological framework and the organization toolkit have been provided at the national level.

In every region a public conference called "citizens' forum" took place in October or November 2006. Prior to these forums, a citizens' jury is constituted by lottery within the French adult population. The jury follows a training provided by regional health authorities: this half a day to 2 day training programme focuses on the rules of the citizens' debate and on key facts relating to alcohol. During the forum, the jury questions an expert panel. The public is also invited to participate in the debate. At the end of the forum, the jury convenes behind closed doors in order to deliberate and draw up recommendations.

In the meantime, a website hosts 6 chat rooms focusing on the topics of the debate. The website also provides practical information about the "Etats généraux", as well as knowledge on various topics relating to alcohol, such as health, social, cultural and economical issues.

A national meeting took place in Paris on the 5th of December, 2006. The main objective of this day was to summarize the regional and online debates, as well as the jury recommendations.

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The "Dialogue on Nanoscience and Nanotechnology" Project

In 2003 CREA, in collaboration with the Communication and Scientific Dissemination Department within the Barcelona Science Park, started a project to open the Science Park to the Neighbourhood. This project was a framework within which many activities and different groups of participants related to science and technology in science & society were included. A database and an email distribution list were created in order to ensure that communication took place via a two-way dialogue between all the actors involved in the activities. The "Dialogue on Nanoscience and Nanotechnology" Project had three stages of activity: 1. Survey on public knowledge of nanotechnology; 2. Working groups and 3. a seminar called "Dialogue on Nanoscience and Nanotechnology", which was held at the end of November 2005. The project opened up a public debate on nanoscience and nanotechnology on different levels of society, and it involved students as well as laymen. The results of the public debate basically arose from the analysis of the two previous stages. Besides, in all of the fieldwork from this scientific discipline, participants shared their thoughts, questions and concerns, which were summarized by a researcher from CREA. Everything was presented in the seminar "Dialogue on Nanoscience and Nanotechnology".



The seminar was a meeting point for researchers from the area of nanoscience and nanotechnology. The inclusion of the public's opinions, especially people who have not traditionally been involved in scientific research, were seen as an innovative element. The use and development of new methods based on the inclusion of social groups' opinions in the analysis and dissemination of the project contributed towards enabling the project to have a social impact and help to ensure that policy recommendations result from the dialogue between scientists and other stakeholders.

From this experience, it can be concluded that there is a need for such projects. Furthermore, these initiatives demonstrate that the public has a real interest in science, which disproves the stereotypes. This type of initiative also helps to raise awareness for the need for research projects, on any topic, to include the participation of the end-users in order to improve the quality of the research process and to increase its social impact.

Contact: Marta Soler, Centre Especial de Recerca en Teories i Pràctiques Superadores de Desigualtats (CREA),
crea@pcb.ub.es, www.pcb.ub.es/crea.



News

Citizen Participation and Democratic Governance

PRIA's 25th Anniversary Dialogues in Delhi, February 5-8, 2007

PRIA began its journey with a belief in the tenet 'knowledge is power'. Meanwhile, building on its international linkages PRIA broadened the network of civil society actors drawn together by a common goal to include local, national and international organizations exchanging experience and learning; strengthening civil society voices advocating for participation and an empowered citizenship. Its journey of participatory research, which began from a small hut in New Delhi, has today extended its outreach to directly touch the lives of the poor and marginalized living in 12 states of the country and many countries beyond.

The Seminar on the 5th of February, 2007 is a celebration of this participatory research network and attempts to explore ways of deepening this networking and learning exchange. It is an occasion not only of celebration but an opportunity to bring together academicians, practitioners, civil society activists, bureaucrats and citizen leaders from across the country and the world to reflect on what participatory research has given us and what more it has to offer. For further information on PRIA and the seminar you may visit the website www.pria.org.

Interfaces between Science and Society



The aim of the project of science has been to provide answers to questions about the world and how it works. Often, this lofty role has been characterised by a narrow and dogmatic scientific training, an unwillingness to communicate to differing stakeholder needs, a refusal to accept and to manage uncertainty, complexity and value commitments, and the reduction of knowledge assessment to colleague peer review on narrowly technical issues. Times have changed. As the world faces increasingly disparate challenges, science is subjected to increasingly vehement demands from a society calling for transparency, openness and public participation in science policy. Science is going through an evolutionary process — perhaps the most painful process it has ever encountered. Research on the interfaces between science and society is a burgeoning area. A new conception of knowledge now appears to be emerging, based on the awareness of complexity, uncertainty and a plurality of perspectives and interests.

Democracy is extending into the previously quite exclusive scientific realm, and science must now submit to public scrutiny and participation in the governance of knowledge. This book provides much-needed reflections on the methods and tools for knowledge quality assurance, particularly on its inputs to extended policy and decision-making processes.

The overall aim is to improve the relationship between science and society. The discussion involves six themes: communicating between plural perspectives; accepting and learning how to manage uncertainty, complexity and value commitments; acknowledging new conceptions of knowledge; implementing transparency, openness and participation in science policy; valuing communitybased research; and exploring how new ICT can support inclusive governance. Taken together, these themes provide both a framework and vision on how to conceive, discuss and evaluate the changes that are occurring. The chapters cover theory, practice, approaches, experiences, ideas and suggestions for a move beyond 'talking the talk' to 'walking the walk'.

Science and policy interfaces are dynamic processes needing to permanently redefine themselves and their roles. This book contributes to the enrichment and deepening of our understanding of these important new trends in the social relations of science, which are fundamental to our understanding of the prospects for further progress.

Science and Society Interfaces, edited by Ângela Guimarães Pereira, Sofia Guedes Vaz and Sylvia Tognetti, European Commission Joint Research Centre, Italy, November 2006, 366 pp, ISBN 1-874719-97-7, £35.00

www.greenleaf-publishing.com

Dates & Events

February 5, 2007

[NanoDialogue](#)

Final conference in Brussels

February 5-8, 2007

[Citizen Participation and Democratic Governance](#)

PRIA's 25th anniversary Dialogues, Delhi, India

April 11-14, 2007

[10th Community-Campus Partnership for Health conference](#)

Mobilizing Partnerships for Social Change, Toronto, Canada

June, 17-21 2007

[How to design and organize public deliberation?](#)

2nd CIPAST training workshop in Naples, Italy

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