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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 sixth 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.

The next CIPAST event is getting closer. We would like to invite you to join the second CIPAST training workshop in June in Naples, Italy, and share your expertise and experience. The call for contribution, we launched in December, led to 10 case studies we would like to deal with in problem-solving exercises with the participants. A huge variety of posters will complete the presentations.

And please have a look at the CIPAST database on participatory processes and actors, which is now accessible via the CIPAST website.

Yours sincerely,

How to design and organize public deliberation?

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



The European 'Science and Society Action Plan' identified active public participation as one of the key ways for improving the relationships between science and society. Meanwhile a number of experiences of public participation in science and technology, using a variety of contexts, problems and participatory processes, have taken place in European countries. Based on the results of the first CIPAST training workshop, held in Dresden, June 2006, the coming workshop aims at fostering organisational learning, dissemination of good practices across institutions and countries, as well as critical self-reflection.

The CIPAST consortium invites you to join the second training workshop on '*How to design and organise public deliberation*' in Naples, Italy, from June 17th to June 21st 2007. Registration is possible until April, 27th, 2007.

Objectives

Besides the exchange of experience and expertise and much scope for establishing contacts or consolidating 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.

After introductory lectures the participants will work on concrete case studies, offered by the CIPAST consortium but also introduced by the 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 organised 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.

Poster sessions and case studies

Cipast members will present and discuss various methodologies of public participation. In addition, the call for contribution led to 19 posters and 26

case studies. Ten case studies have been accepted for detailed problem-solving exercises during the workshop on issues raised by these case studies. They will now be prepared in detail. Information about the case studies will be available on the CIPAST website by the end of May. But for not losing important input and offering time and space for questions and discussion, the contributors whose case studies have not been selected, were asked to adapt their case study for a discussion in the *Open Space* session and therefore to prepare a poster. The CIPAST website will be regularly updated with information about the workshop (posters, speakers, case studies and preparatory material).

During the workshop 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. Assisted by CIPAST members, participants will perform a task which illustrates some of the difficulties showing up in the 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 studies: one study prepared by CIPAST members and one of the selected studies prepared by participants under assistance of CIPAST members.

Open Space Technology

offers 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. You can learn more about this methodology on the specific CIPAST website section.

How to register?

Please register for the workshop until April 27th by replying to Guglielmo Maglio, Citta della Scienza, Progetti scienza e Società, maglio@cittadellascienza.it, Tel: +39 081 570 21 58, Fax: +39 081 7622670. Online registration will soon be possible [here](#). The conference fee will be 150,-/250,- Euro.

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

As the training workshop will take place at the City Council on Procida Island, about one hour away from Naples, 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 18th

June. You can find ferry schedules on the [CIPAST website](#). The workshop takes place in the centre of the island, in a 20 minutes walking distance from the harbour. A shuttle service from Procida harbour to the workshop venue will be available. Training workshop closure will take place at Citta della Scienza in Naples, on the mainland. This will allow participants to leave on Thursday 21st in the afternoon without ferry transfer.

Procida island has five hotels and many guest houses offering bed & breakfast. For support in finding an accommodation, please address to Guglielmo Maglio, maglio@cittadellascienza.it, at Citta delle Scienza.

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

Please check for updates and details on the [CIPAST website](#)

Sunday 17 June

Arrival of participants joining the introduction day

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 studies prepared by CIPAST members

9.30 – 17:00

Three parallel sessions

- NanoDialogue • Ocean Rise • GM Vine

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 – 9.30

General introduction to the case study exercise

9:30 – 15.00

Parallel sessions on case studies emerging from the call for proposals

15:00 – 22:00

Open space technology on public participation in Europe.

Including an introduction to the rules of Open Space, the choice of themes and group formation, the work in groups and the preparation of reports by participants

Thursday 21 June

8:30

Transfer to Citta della Scienza

9:30 – 10.00

Networking and CIPAST Database - Esther Lucciola

10.00 – 11:30

Evaluation: Why evaluate and how to evaluate? - Simon Joss

11.30 – 13:00

Visit of Citta della Scienza and closure

The CIPAST Database

The CIPAST platform intends to support the structuring of an expanded network of European organizations already involved or interested in participatory processes regarding scientific and technological issues. With this objective in mind, the CIPAST consortium decided to set up a database, in order to facilitate knowledge and information transfer between the members of the network.

The [link to the CIPAST database](#) can be found on the CIPAST website. In general the database is meant to be a tool for actors involved in science and technology, with a special focus on technology assessment and citizen participation. In particular it identifies key persons or institutions that may concretely contribute to promote the development of participatory procedures in science and technology in their country. It also gives an overview of several past or ongoing participatory processes. In addition the database provides statistics on the kind of actors and thematic fields represented.

Data always is in a state of flux. Thus the CIPAST database will always be under construction what means constantly updated. Even though it does not pretend to be exhaustive, it provides reliable information about actors and participative processes in Europe. At present the whole list of institutions, as well as the personal contacts are only available to the CIPAST partners and thus require a personal login and password. But the following three lists are available for the public:

- reference institutions with 331 records from 16 countries
- reference institutions' addresses
- participatory processes with 146 records from 21 countries

The public lists can be filtered by countries, thematic fields or types of actors, in order to search for specific actors according to their geographical, thematic or institutional characteristics. These lists can be exported into Excel or .pdf documents. Specific buttons are meant to use these functionalities. The list of participatory processes gives links to other databases and websites. It mentions reference documents and contact persons. It finally gives a short description of each process.

If you are interested to be listed in the database you are kindly asked to fill the registration forms on the CIPAST website. For further information, please contact the [database manager](#) or the [webmaster](#).



European Citizens' Consultations

Making citizens' voices heard in the debate about the future of Europe

The European Citizens' Consultations are the first-ever pan-European debate to involve citizens from all 27 Member States of the European Union into the debate about the Future of Europe. A carefully crafted process design allows them to deliberate across the boundaries of geography and language. The selection procedures ensure that citizens are randomly selected while reflecting the diversity of the EU's population. Professional stage and group facilitation smoothes the exchange of opinions among citizens and lets them develop their ideas regarding the future of Europe. Simultaneous and interlinked events across Europe allow citizens to share and enjoy a truly European experience. A transparent and accountable follow-up ensures that the citizens' ideas are communicated to policy-makers and that citizens are informed about what happened to their input and what happens next.

The objective of this project is to engage citizens in the debate about the Future of Europe and to inspire European as well as national institutions and decision-makers as they prepare to take decisions on the next phase of Europe's development. The process is funded and organised by an independent consortium of foundations and non-profit organisations from all over Europe and led by the King Baudouin Foundation. It is co-financed by the European Commission and linked to DG Communication's "Plan D".

Background

The ECC project draws its strength from experience with the successful "Meeting of Minds" project. There, citizens from 9 EU countries debated on how to deal with new scientific knowledge on the brain, a topic usually left up to the experts. They came up with recommendations that have been recognised by leading experts as specific and highly relevant to policy-makers.

The ECC project was born out of the idea: if citizens from 9 different countries are able to discuss a topic as specific and complex as brain science in 8 different languages, why should citizens from 25, now 27 countries, not be able to discuss a much broader issue, namely the Future of Europe, in all their respective languages?

To shed light on this question, a feasibility study was conducted that analysed existing European dialogue formats, identified their shortcomings and designed a process that would overcome these shortcomings and scale up the scope of previous dialogues.

The result: the outcome of the study was transformed into a realisable project design and submitted to the European Commission in response to its call for proposals under the DG Communication's Plan D. The ECC project is among the largest of the 6 projects that have



European Citizens'
Consultations
Making your voice heard

finally been chosen by the European Commission to receive financial support.

Project Phases

In October 2006, 200 citizens from the then 25 Member States came together in Brussels and deliberated on the question "what Europe do we want". In the end, they selected three topics that they considered most important for a debate on the future of Europe, namely: "The environmental and economic impact of Europe's energy use", "The social and economic conditions for Europe's families", "The EU's role in the world and the management of immigration".

In a next step, between February and March 2007, citizens in all 27 Member States will discuss these 3 topics in their respective countries thereby assessing the question "what is needed to achieve the Europe we want"? At 4 weekends, 5 to 9 of these countries will organise their events simultaneously with technical and communicational links ensuring that ideas are exchanged and results compared across borders. At each of the consultations, citizens will draft a national report, which they will hand over to national policy-makers and which will feed into the final consultation. This last consultation will take place in Brussels on 9/10 May 2007 with a smaller group of European citizens. They will produce a synthesis report combining the 27 individual results. All national and European events will be accompanied by intensive press and media activities in order to build up the necessary resonance of the project across all levels.

Project Elements

National focus: Although both the launch and the final event take place in Brussels, the project's emphasis is put on dialogues in the national context. These events are organised under the national partners' responsibility, them being much closer to citizens, national decision-makers and national media. To ensure a high level of quality partners get trained and use the same basic event design.

Recruitment: Citizens are randomly selected and recruited following strict guidelines to reflect the diversity of the EU's population. (age, education, profession, belonging to a minority group etc).

Interpretation: At the Agenda-Setting event, each citizen spoke his or her own language. More than 60 inter-



preters, placed both in 19 translation booths and at 20 tables made each citizen's voice heard and understood by means of simultaneous and consecutive interpretation.

Technical elements: At larger events, the citizens' table discussions are documented using networked laptop computers. The stream of information coming from all the tables is carefully edited and shown to the plenary. Citizens then vote using electronic voting keypads, receiving the results instantly. A small editorial team works behind the scenes to synthesise and document the ideas developed at the table groups. Simultaneous events are technically linked, by means of, e.g. an on-line forum, to exchange and compare results.

Dialogue format: At the events, a combination of facilitation methods is applied. All partners undergo training workshops to ensure that each citizen is empowered to contribute substantially to the results. Both stage and table facilitation are brought up-to-date by combining them with other methods and technology. In addition, an adaptation of the World Café method is applied at some events gathering delegates from all small table groups at a central table, which allows to focus the discussion.

Market place: Participants have the opportunity to get informed at an information fair, a setting not unlike the well-known Open Space meetings. Posters featured facts and figures about the EU, citizens could leave their comments, so-called resource persons or experts gave short presentation and could be challenged by citizens.

Observer Programme: the events are accompanied by an observer programme, a guided and supervised programme for VIPs, decision-makers, media, stakeholders and other interested parties – some of the events offering a round table discussion.

For more information on the European Citizens' Consultation project, please consult the Website www.european-citizens-consultations.eu or contact us directly:

Project Lead Partner: King Baudouin Foundation, rue Brederoedestraat 21, B -1000 Brussels, www.kbs-frb.be, Gerrit Rauws, rauws.g@kbs-frb.be

Coordination: IFOK GmbH, rue de l'Industrie 4, B - 1000 Brussels, www.ifok.de, Felix Oldenburg, felix.oldenburg@ifok.de, Stefan Schäfers, stefan.schaefers@ifok.de

Budapest Science Café

The Science Café in Budapest is a place where famous British thinkers and researchers come together to lecture and create sparkling debates over a cup of coffee or a glass of wine.

The Environmental Social Science Research Group (www.essrg.org) under the auspices of the first Hungarian Science Shop (www.scienceshop.hu) approached the British Council Hungary (www.britishcouncil.hu) with a proposal for co-operation on a so called Cafe Scientifique for debating science issues and promoting public engagement with science. The roles and contributions of these events are divided between three parties:

- ESSRG for providing professional organisation,
- Merlin Theater, Budapest (www.merlinszinhas.hu) for providing venue, and
- British Council Hungary for inviting lecturers.

The events are twofold: a science café for the general public and an expert workshop for professional researchers. The science café is free for the general public, anyone can participate, the selection criteria is only interest and some English language skills although translation is provided. The expert workshop is for a professional audience comprised of PhD students and specialists of the topic.



The UK experts are asked to bring the theme of climate change as general example to illustrate their arguments. On 25 January 2007 Kate Soper, Professor of Philosophy, Institute for the Study of European Transformations, London Metropolitan University, gave a public lecture at the Budapest Science Café entitled „Towards Postconsumerism: Nature, Culture and the Politics of Consumption“. In her lecture she reflected on concerns about the destruction and 'loss' of nature, but also on doubts about what is meant by the term 'nature' and what still counts as 'natural' in a world so technically controlled and made over by human beings. Arguing that the problem today is not so much about 'getting back to nature' but about how to develop ways of living that are both ecologically benign and respectful of our distinctively human needs, pleasures and capacities, she focused on the importance



of new thinking about human flourishing and the 'good life' to the development of a more sustainable form of consumption.

"The first public science café event in Hungary initiated by the Hungarian Science Shop received considerable media interest ranging from dailies and magazines to specialist blogs. Still it was rather uncertain how many people might turn up, and finally we were pleasantly surprised

to see over 120 people in the café" – said Bálint Balázs, organiser of science café event at the Hungarian Science Shop. The speaker and the audience all found the evening a success. The topic proved to be rather engaging and after the lecture the questions were very diverse as well as very much personal and thoughtful.

www.cafescientifique.org/budapest.htm

Community X-Change

The European Citizens' Panel: A pilot initiative to collect citizens' opinions on the future role for rural areas in tomorrow's Europe



The global objective of the European Citizens' Panel is to encourage a bottom-up contribution from citizens to the discussion on the future of European policies affecting rural areas. The initiative aims to create a mechanism that will enable European citizens to draw up and disseminate proposals on the future of rural areas in Europe, based on comprehensive and unbiased information provided by decision-makers, experts and stakeholders.

This will be achieved in two major steps: 1) Through the implementation of 9 panels at the regional level in 7 member states and two neighbouring countries (Romania and Switzerland) and 2) via the organisation of a panel at the European level in which citizens delegated by the regional panels will confront their views and define their common policy priorities.

The Durham/Cumbria panel – United Kingdom

The English panel has been taking place since the middle of October in two counties in the extreme North of England, Cumbria and County Durham. These are two of the most rural counties in the country. The organising team have drawn on previous experiences of citizens' juries to produce a participatory process called "community x-change", which has brought together 30 citizens from across the region. The organisers of the process come from PEALS at the University of Newcastle (a multidisciplinary centre with a special interest in facilitating innovative methods to enable citizens to become involved in policy-making processes). Participants have been selected from a variety of means including the electoral register of voters and through community groups. In recognition of the fact that young people are marginalised from decision making processes the organisers have worked closely with local youth workers and youth work organisations to make sure that over half of the participants are young people.

State of progress

The first meeting was held at an outdoor activity centre in the Lake District in October. The great range of age groups taking part in the process (aged 13 – 83 years old) from a diversity of backgrounds led to a rich debate, which has been further enhanced through the use of methods such as drama, opinion lines, mapping and small discussion groups. During the second meeting in November, the 30 participants took part in discussions with 'information providers' who have certain expertise in the issues prioritised by participants during the first weekend. They also took part in power analyses activities to allow them to discuss who has the power to change things for the better in rural areas. Participants then prepared questions for a local member of Parliament who committed himself to act upon at least one of the recommendations. In the third weekend in February the group met with a further group of information providers including an MEP and produced a set of provisional recommendations.

The session closed with a selection process for the 10 people who will travel to Brussels end of March to develop European recommendations and presented them on 2 April to policy makers, press and the wider public. The team has worked hard to ensure that the group works well together and that inter relationships between participants are given space to develop. This has paid off with the decision that most of the participants wish to continue working past the Brussels visit. The next step is to lobby British MPs with the recommendations.

Information: www.citizenspanel.eu, Peter Bryant +44 (0) 1539 720255: peter@right2Bheard.org, or European Citizens' Panel webpage dedicated to the [Durham/Cumbria panel](#).

News

Too few meetings between Politicians and Researchers

Politicians are not making use of important research results. This is one conclusion from an extensive three-part study carried out by the Swedish organisation Vetenskap & Allmänhet (VA) into Swedish politicians' attitudes to science and researchers.

The study involved a survey of national and local politicians, an analysis of science-related material in political party magazines and those of their youth organisations, and a book "Kunskapsbiten", in which 18 politicians and researchers give their views on the relationship between politics and science. A complete summary of these studies in English can be found at www.v-a.se/download/varapport2006_5_eng.pdf.

86% of politicians believe that medical research has a great influence on the development of society. This is followed by technology and natural science (72%), whilst for humanities and social sciences the figure is only 39%. The policy areas most influenced by research results, according to politicians, are health, the environment and energy.

Three out of four politicians seek out scientific research information in order to support political decisions. But paradoxically politicians seldom look for research information within the areas they believe to be most influential. Most frequently they make use of research results from the social sciences and the humanities. This can possibly be attributed to the fact that politicians often have a social science background, and so find information in other subject areas harder both to find and to understand. These figures are also reflected in the content of party-political magazines, where there are practically no articles concerning medicine, technology or natural science.

Almost all politicians have great trust in researchers at universities and three out of four extend the same level of trust to researchers at companies. Politicians believe, to a clearly greater extent than the public, that there is a good chance that research will help to increase economic growth and slow down climate change.

Three quarters of politicians think that researchers should communicate more with the public about their research. The majority of politicians have research contacts and report positive experiences of these contacts. The internet

however remains politicians' main source of information. The results also point to the fact that politicians and researchers speak different languages, have different perspectives and meet far too rarely. It is clear that researchers and politicians need new ways of interacting and new meeting places, as well as easy-to-read information on research. Together these measures can help to drive the two worlds closer, and to make research easier for politicians to access and understand.

For further information please contact Karin Hermansson, Research Manager at VA, karin@v-a.se, tel. +46 8 611 3047, www.v-a.se.

The 3rd Living Knowledge conference

'Communities building knowledge: innovation through citizens' science and university engagement' will take place in Paris from 30 August 30 till 1 September 2007.

The conference will provide a forum where information on community based research, carried out in both community and academic settings, on new forms of partnerships between research and civil society and on new modes of innovation, can be shared and developed. It aims at disseminating and exchanging information on community based and participatory research, on citizens' science and cooperative innovation. The conference themes are:

- University engagement with communities
- Citizens' science and social movements
- Research policy - from local to global
- Innovation and citizens - added values for communities
- Participatory processes in science and technology

Registration for the conference is open now!

Registration forms, detailed descriptions of the themes are available on the conference websites. (French: http://sciencescitoyennes.org/rubrique.php3?id_rubrique=114, English: http://sciencescitoyennes.org/rubrique.php3?id_rubrique=115, or at the website of the International Network of Science Shops: www.livingknowledge.org.)

You can also submit a proposal for a contribution (workshop or presentation) within one of the five conference theme's. At the conference website you will find an overview of topics that can be addressed in the theme's. **The deadline to submit a proposal is April 30, 2007.**

For additional information about the conference you can contact citizens-research-LK3@sciencescitoyennes.org