

ID Card of case study: European Citizens' Consultations

Title	The Challenges of a Cross-Border Public Participation Process: Methods used and implementation of the European Citizens' Consultations Project
Short description of the case	<p>Participants will simulate a meeting of a fictitious executive bureau that takes care of the central coordination of the first pan-European participatory project including all 27 Member States.</p> <p>They meet after the successful conclusion of the European Citizens' Consultations, in June 2007, to discuss a possible future strategy of the project.</p> <p>Explicitly, they will evaluate the methodology and the overall organisation of the event, identify shortcomings and adapt the strategy accordingly.</p> <p>Participants will enjoy a real-time experience as they will simulate an evaluation and strategy development session of a project that has recently started its follow-up phase.</p>
Training objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to learn about challenges of a cross-border pan-European public participation process - to identify possible shortcomings of a methodology and make sure that it is adaptable, robust and credible - to discuss about organisational aspects of a pan-European dialogue event that deals with 27 national levels and partners in all Member States
Training method	<p>Participants will have a very visual introduction into the case that enables them to grasp instantly the core phases of the project.</p> <p>They will then split into two groups, each evaluating the building blocs or elements of a pan-European process and formulating recommendations for improvement:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Methodologies (agenda-setting, planning cells, simultaneous national events, synthesis) 2) Implementation (recruitment; partner management incl. coordination, planning, training, budget; simultaneousness, interrelatedness, integration and coordination of events; media & outreach) <p>In a final step, they come together to present their findings and discuss the outcomes.</p>
Previous knowledge required	Basic knowledge on participatory processes
Materials	<p>Pin boards (4), writing pens (4), pins (1 box), card boards (min. 21 x 10 cm) in 3 different colours (min. 1 set each)</p> <p>Space for a setting of two larger groups (incl. room for break-out sessions of the 2 sub-groups per group)</p> <p>Technical: Internet access, 2 laptops, 2 projectors, 2 screens</p>

Resources and further reading	ECC Website: www.european-citizens-consultations.eu Meeting of Minds: www.meetingsofmindseurope.org
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