

Institutionalising citizen participation and deliberation in European cohesion policy

Learning from OECD-DG REGIO pilots

Virtual event

22 March 2024, 9h00-12h00 CET

As public authorities across the European Union are experimenting with the use of innovative citizen participation to shape the delivery of cohesion policy, governments have an opportunity to embed these practices within the public administration, fostering a systemic culture of participation in the public sector. By institutionalizing structured citizen participation within the administration processes, governments can harness citizen insights and needs, resulting in a more inclusive, responsive, and accountable public sector which delivers better, more transparent, and more responsive policies.

This webinar focuses on the public governance considerations for embedding citizen participation into policy and decision-making, drawing from the experience of the joint DG REGIO and OECD project, as well as from relevant case studies from within and outside the European Union.

While the first session covers the institutionalisation of various participatory processes, applied to both EU Cohesion Policy and local governments, the second one specifically focuses on deliberative processes.

Agenda:

09.00 – 09.10	Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Francesco Amodeo, DG REGIO
9.10– 9.30	Opening remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sofia Alves, Director, DG REGIO• Colin Scicluna, head of Cabinet of Vice-President for Democracy and Demography, European Commission
9.30 – 10.30	Session 1: From experimentation to institutionalisation: embedding citizen participation in policymaking. Introduction (10 min): Building the governance for citizen participation – insights from the Innovative Implementation of the Partnership Principle in Cohesion Policy – Alex Seemann OECD Panel discussion (40 minutes):

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gaetane Ricard Nihoul (DG COM) • Raffaella Gentile – Emilia Romagna (Italy) • Alessandro Bellantoni, Open Government Partnership <p>Q&A (10 min)</p>
10.30 - 10.45	BREAK
10.45 - 11.45	<p>Session 2: From ad-hoc to permanent public deliberation in European cohesion policy</p> <p>Introduction (10 mins): What is a deliberative process and what are the benefits of its institutionalization? - Mauricio Mejia Galvan, OECD</p> <p>Panel discussion (40 minutes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marion Roth – Advisor at Paris City Council - Confirmed • Angela Guimaraes Pereira (JRC) – Confirmed • Pauli Saloranta – New Forms of Participation project coordinator at Sitra, Future Fund of Finland • Marijn Rombouts – Policymaker at Influence and Control, Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations (Netherlands) <p>Q&A (10 minutes)</p>
11.45 – 12.00	<p>Closing remarks – Putting citizens at the center of EU investments with systemic participation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David Goessmann, OECD • Stefan Appel, DG REGIO