

REAL DEAL Summit – 19-21, June, 2024

The preliminary Structure of the Protocol – Guidance and Toolkit

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Participation and deliberation

• Participation vs deliberation / Co-decision vs consultation

	Number of participants	Type of participation	Participant selection method
Deliberative democracy	Relatively small (but representative) groups of people, as it is difficult to have deep deliberation among large numbers.	Deliberation, which requires that participants are well-informed about a topic and consider different perspectives in order to arrive at a public judgement (not opinion). Consenus not always majority.	Typically, a civic lottery, which combines random selection with stratification, to assemble a public body that is representative of the public; able to consider perspectives, and not vulnerable to being stacked by representatives of powerful interest groups.
Participatory democracy	Large numbers of people, ideally everyone affected by a particular decision. The aim is to achieve breadth.	More participation, in all aspects of politics, from all citizens who choose to be involved; an embrace and encouragement of a diversity of opportunities for political engagement.	Self-selected participation in order to enable as many people as possible to share the experience.







REAL DEAL Handbook

Background -

Examination of the obligations to consult and engage citizens in the EGD areas, <u>e.g.,</u> arising from the Aarhus Convention and the European Convention of Human Rights, addressing diversity, gender equality, transparency and citizen empowerment issues

- Abridged version
 - Analysis and recommendations
- Full report
 - o available at: https://www.realdeal.eu/230331_deliverable_1_3
- 13 country profiles
 - o available at https://www.realdeal.eu/handbook country profiles





REAL DEAL Handbook – Analytical part

- The background for legal obligations to consult citizens in relation to the EGD
- Environmental Governance in Europe
- Mechanisms for citizen engagement in relation to the EGD
- Case studies from country profiles
 - detailed analysis of the legal and political conditions and institutional frameworks for implementation, including the impact of multi-level governance, in selected Member States and non-EU countries." The country profiles provide background information for this analysis.
- Analysis and recommendations



Country profiles

- EIR/EGA results (in the case of non-EU MSs, EPRs)
- Aarhus Convention NIRs
- Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee cases
- Attitudes towards public authorities (EUPACK)
- Bertelsmann results
- Rule of law and accountability indexes
- Citizen assembly experiences and issues





Protocol – Guidance and Toolkit

What is it?

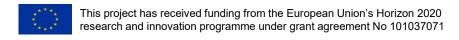
Conceptual framework, Literature review, Stakeholder mapping, Gap assessment, Handbook research

Testing of formats

Brainstorming and research

Why is it needed?

How should it be used?





Structure

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The question/problem
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Reflections:

Criteria

criteria of the process

criteria of the outcome

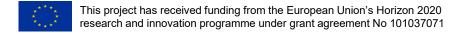
criteria for deliberative participation

Gaps to fill

"Safeguard risks"

Formats – practical Guidance and tools

Evaluations – criteria again?





Criteria of the outcomes

Effects on policy/government

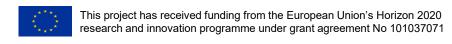
- •Citizen engagement should help to legitimize governments
- Citizen engagement should have effects on political or technical decision making
- •Citizen engagement should lead to more public support for policy/government

Effects on participants

- •Citizen participation should lead to more agreement (or consensus) between citizens about policy decisions
- •Citizen engagement should lead to more mutual understanding between people who have different opinions or who belong to different interest groups
- Citizen engagement should lead to informed and deliberative citizenry
- Citizen engagement should empower citizens

Effects on environment

•Citizen engagement should have effects on sustainability outcomes (and/or help participants to consider the interests of non-human agents)



Source: The REAL DEAL Handbook: Frameworks for research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101037071 citizen engagement in the European Green Deal

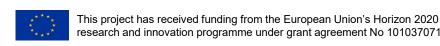


Criteria of the process

- •Any citizen participation process should respect normative principles (such as equality, equity, fairness, transparency), which are key to democracy
- •The selection of individuals that will engage in a participation process (the participants) should be representative of the population affected by the topic under consideration
- •Citizen participation should be inclusive: everyone should have the opportunity and ability to equally contribute to the process.
- Citizen participation should contribute to realising meaningful deliberation
- •Goal of the process should be clearly defined & decision process should be structured (and citizens should have a role in that)

Citizen participation should be coupled to policy from the beginning onward/should be integrated into policy

- •Citizen participation strategies should take context into account and accept that there may be contingency
- Citizen participation procedures should be cost-effective



Source: The REAL DEAL Handbook: Frameworks for research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101037071 citizen engagement in the European Green Deal



Criteria for deliberative participation

- Be aware of power imbalances
- Promoting and ensuring inclusiveness
- Work with and protect nature
- Collaborating with bottom-up activism and cultivating environmental citizenship
- Transitioning the economic model to a green economy

Source: The REAL DEAL Handbook: Frameworks for citizen engagement in the European Green Deal





Gaps between people and EGD

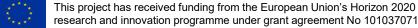
- Complementarity with policy processes and frameworks, monitoring and accountability, which focused on the missing links with other governance and policy frameworks, such as sustainability, the human rights framework, and the SDGs.
- • Bringing the EGD closer to the citizens: civic education and citizen participation, which delved into the limitations of involving citizens in the EGD, as well as its top-down approach.
- International dimensions of the EGD, which touched upon topics such as trade, spill over effects and the impact of green growth in the Global South, as well as on geopolitical issues and the lack of involvement of candidate countries and non-EU member states.
- Economic models for a just transition, which focused on the economic model of "green growth" behind the EGD, and explored alternative concepts and systems such as degrowth, care or sustainable lifestyles.
- A social Green Deal, which explored the social dimension of the EGD, and how to ensure that it is considered further in the design, implementation, and monitoring of EGD policies to support groups most impacted by such policies.
- • Equality and anti-discrimination in the EGD, with a special focus on gender equality and intersectionality. It discussed the way in which equality and antidiscrimination can be put at the centre of the EGD.

Source: Gap Assessment of the European Green

Deal, https://www.realdeal.eu/2307_gap_assessment









Safeguards for possible Risks

- Demographic representation
- Accessibility
- Safe spaces
- Experience of insitutions/policy makers

Source: The REAL DEAL Handbook: Frameworks for citizen engagement in the European Green Deal





Concluding Remarks

Ideals of deliberation vs reality situations

Feasibility

Contextuality

Knowledge

Equality

Engagement of stakeholders

