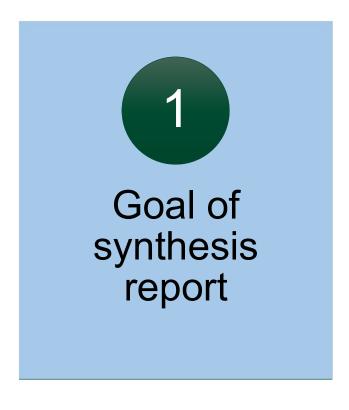


Synthesis report about stakeholder and citizen deliberation for the EGD

Solène Droy & Else Giesbers
REAL DEAL Summit June 2024



Agenda



Evaluation strategy





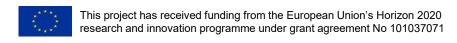




1. Goal of synthesis report

Research questions

- 1. How can we overcome and resolve the potential conflict between respecting the planetary boundaries for reaching a sustainable future and preserving openness and democratic sovereignty in our governance institutions and processes?
- 2. How can we assure that representatives of marginalised or disadvantaged groups of society are an integral part of our participatory processes and how can a fair and adequate integration of different and sometimes conflicting positions be accomplished?
- 3. What is the appropriate vertical governance level for what kind of policy issues and measures, and how can outcomes of different vertical governance levels be integrated for a common EU policy process?

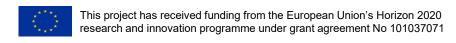




Synthesis report - goal



To increase our understanding about what works under what conditions when aiming to contribute to meaningful citizen participation and deliberation in the context of the European Green Deal





Synthesis report - connections

- Connection with other work in REAL DEAL
 - Theoretical background
- Evaluation of the events
 - According to criteria

Input for the protocol







2. Evaluation strategy

Evaluation design





Before the event After the event (interview)



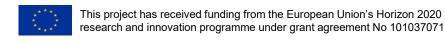
Questionnaire participants

Before the event
After the event
Two months after the event



Observations

For some event





Formats

- Focus group
- Roundtable
- Citizen assembly
- Group Delphi
- Deliberative events
- Combinations of formats



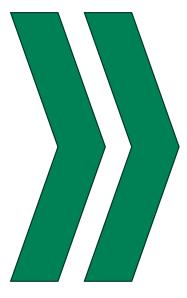
Criteria for evaluation

1.1 Criteria for meaningful citizen participation and deliberation

Gender indicators

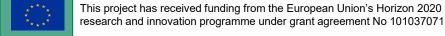
1.2 Process and outcome criteria

> Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI)



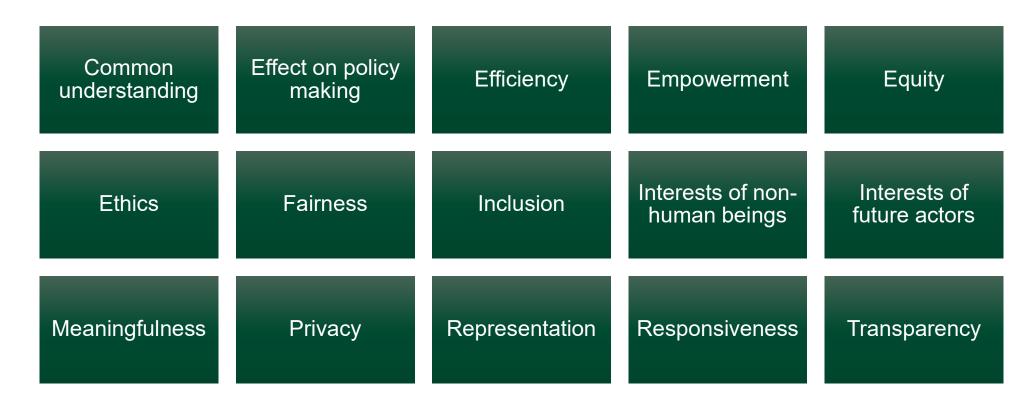
15 criteria for evaluation

1.4 Objectives participatory processes





Criteria for evaluation



Criteria for evaluation

Common understanding	Effect on policy making	Efficiency	Empowerment	Equity
Ethics	Fairness	Inclusion	Interests of non-human beings	Interests of future actors
Meaningfulness	Privacy	Representation	Responsiveness	Transparency



3. First observations and discussions

First observations

Inclusion and Equity requires extra effort, time and measures

- Diverse results on reaching inclusion and equity
- Self-initiative participants, online participation, recruitment techniques, moderation techniques.

Empowerment happened in some cases

• Especially positive results by younger generations and women.

Level of knowledge is a central question

- Usually positive results through interaction with Delphi Groups.
- Participants seem comfortable if they do not possess prior knowledge.

Inclusion of structurally excluded groups

Not addressed in most cases.





First observations

Participants were satisfied with level of fairness

• Generally, all opinions, ideas and perspectives are equally valued.

Closure

• The goal was not necessarily to reach a consensus but to find common understanding, and broaden perspectives.

Open, fair dialogue

•The topic of climate change / Green Deal was not overdramatised.

Role of participants

•Many participants mentioned their role was to share their opinion. Most did not mention their role was to listen or to partake in deliberative dialogues.



Description

We provide a description of the criteria

• Definition

Present

We present some first observations

- What went well
- What did not go well

Question

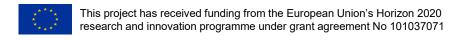
Question to you

- Discuss with one or two neighbours 5 minutes
- Write down your thoughts on paper

Equity

"Equity can be understood as a principle according to which each individual or group of people is given the same resources or opportunities, however each person has different circumstances and therefore the exact resources and opportunities needed to reach an equal outcome [differ for each person]."

Ryan et al., 2022. Deliverable 1.1, p.61





Equity

Supporting equity

- Focus Group:
 - Online participation makes participation possible for certain people
- Deliberative events
 - More space to adapt to people's needs
 - E.g., accessibility coordinator

Difficulties regarding equity

- Some formats are structured
 - E.g. Delphi panel
- Same resources for everyone
 - No help in supporting with childcare or other care duties
 - No financial incentives

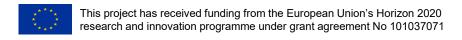
It requires adequate resources and extra effort from organisers





Equity

How to prepare and facilitate an event that integrates different needs and wishes of participants?



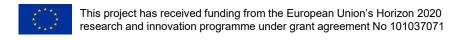


Inclusion

"Inclusion refers to the composition of the group of participants and stakeholders, the selection of themes and issues as well as the time frame of the engagement activity or process (Renn & Schweizer, 2009)."

"Inclusion refers to the engagement of various perspectives in decision-making processes."

Schweizer et al., 2022 (Deliverable 1.2, p. 20) and 2023 (Deliverable 1.4, p. 7)





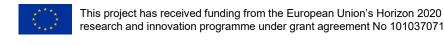
Inclusion

Supporting inclusion

- Random selection, open call, additional measures
- Deliberative events:
 - Involvement of participants in determining the topic

<u>Difficulties regarding inclusion</u>

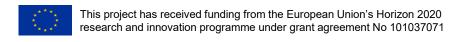
- Different moderation styles
- Quite homogenous group of participants
 - In terms of educational level and socio-economic status
 - How to reach people in marginalised positions?
- Use of other forms of communication beyond text
- Online participation





Inclusion

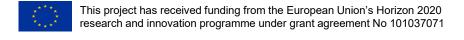
What practical suggestions do you have to ensure inclusion?





Fairness

The extent to which interests and values have been considered, and the extent to which there was a major effort to come up with fair and balanced solutions or recommendations





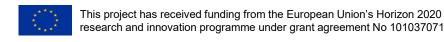
Fairness

Supporting empowerment

- People indicated that they felt safe and confident to talk
 - Moderators guaranteed a fair chance to participate
- In most cases, common understanding was reached, sometimes consensus

<u>Difficulties regarding</u> <u>empowerment</u>

 Where there were no moderators present to guide the conversation, participants experienced a lower level of fairness

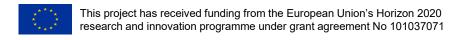




Fairness

GE1

How to get people on the same level regarding knowledge?





so0 Ideally yes, I would rather say: how to create optimal conditions that people get on the same level regarding knowledge?

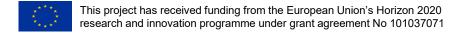
solene.droy, 2024-06-19T06:01:35.180

GE1 I'm now thinking that these questions are like the Q in empowerment. Maybe something else?

Giesbers, Else, 2024-06-19T14:53:17.588

Interests of non-humans and/or future actors

The extent to which the value of non-human actors and the value of future actors have been considered.





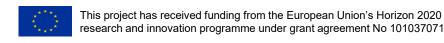
Interests of non-humans and/or future actors

Supporting interests of nonhumans and/or future actors

- Interests of future generations were sometimes discussed
- Deliberative events:
 - Recommendations on rights for nature

<u>Difficulties regarding interests of non-humans and/or future actors</u>

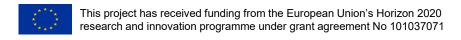
- Interests of non-human actors were hardly discussed
 - Anthropocentric view
 - People discussed short-term or current issues
 - Ecofeminism in one case





Interests of non-humans and/or future actors

What practical suggestion do you have to ensure that non-humans or future (human) generations are represented in the event?

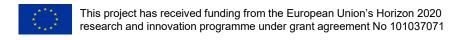




Empowerment

"[Empowerment is about] knowing more about a subject and being able to deliberate and exchange ideas about it with others is considered empowering for participants, as is the opportunity to participate in government at all. For citizens that are marginalised in society, and who are not often heard, empowerment is considered crucial."

Schweizer et al., 2022 (Deliverable 1.2, p. 68)





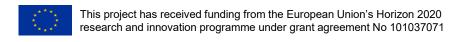
Empowerment

Supporting empowerment

- Certain groups (young people, women...)
- Expert presentations can empower others
- Group Delphi's
 - Participants said they learned a lot from each other

<u>Difficulties regarding</u> <u>empowerment</u>

- Sometimes participants did not feel well enough prepared (FG, RT)
- Not everybody will use preknowledge that is provided





Empowerment

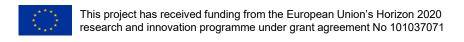
How to make a session valuable for everyone involved, regardless of their level of knowledge?





Effect on policy making

The extent to which there is a connection between the event and the policy making process.





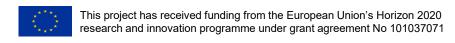
Effect on policy making

Supporting policy making

- Different for each event
- Effects seems to be higher when policy makers are invited to the event
- Not the mandate of many sessions

Difficulties regarding policy making

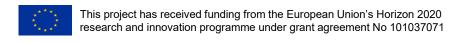
- Disappointment of participants
 - Some participants were unsure of the effects of the events
 - Not a clear strategy regarding an effect on policy making
 - Wishing to have impact





Effect on policy making

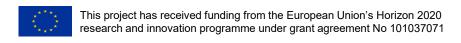
How to ensure that citizens develop recommendations that are relevant for policy makers?





Questions

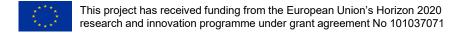
- How to prepare and facilitate an event that integrates different needs and wishes of participants?
- What practical suggestions do you have to ensure inclusion?
- How to make a session valuable for everyone involved, regardless of their level of knowledge?
- What practical suggestion do you have to ensure that non-humans or future (human) generations are represented in the event?
- How to ensure that citizens develop recommendations that are relevant for policy makers?





Transparency

The extent to which information and communication on the purpose, process and outcomes of the event is shared with and understood by participants





Transparency

Supporting transparency

- Participants said to be well informed
 - Some unclarity about the goal of the event

Difficulties regarding transparency

 Often participants mentioned that they thought their role was to share their opinion. They did not mention to partake in deliberative dialogues.





Transparency

How to make sure that people/participants are satisfied with information, communication, content and impact?

