



Citi-sense WP5:

Participation and Empowerment

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Articles and Publications.

A conceptual approach to a citizens' observatory - supporting community-based environmental governance.

In recent years there has been a trend to view the Citizens' Observatory as an increasingly essential tool that provides an approach for better observing, understanding, protecting and enhancing our environment. However, there is no consensus on how to develop such a system, nor is there any agreement on what a Citizens' Observatory is and what results it could produce.

<http://www.ehjournal.net/content/13/1/107/abstract>

Citizen participation and technology.

Those are among the conclusions of a new NDI study, "Citizen Participation and Technology," that examines the role digital technologies – such as social media, interactive websites and SMS systems – play in increasing citizen participation and fostering accountability in government. The study was driven by the recognition that better insights are needed into the relationship between new technologies, citizen participation programs and the outcomes they aim to achieve. What do you think?

<http://thegovlab.org/citizen-participation-and-technology/>

7 lessons learnt in five years of citizen participation & civic innovation.

For the past 5 years I have been involved in a number of web civic engagement projects. I have seen as many successes as failures, which in one way or another have always been a lesson.

<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/7-lessons-learnt-five-years-christian-kreutz>

Citizen participation, at the heart of new Smart Cities.

The concept of 'Smart Cities' is starting to gain strength in Spain. 'Smart Cities' are those cities committed to using Information and Communication Technologies (ICT), and a model of higher quality infrastructures that improve the quality of life of their citizens, while reducing public expenditure.

http://blog.ideas4all.com/2014/04/28/citizen-participation-at-the-heart-of-new-smart-cities/#.VlnHTG-x_R0.twitter

Experiences.

Community Participation in Parks Development: Two Examples from Berlin.

On a Friday night at the end of November 2014, nearly 200 people arrived in the departures zone of Berlin's former Tempelhof Airport for five hours of presentations, working groups and community-led exhibitions.

<http://www.thenatureofcities.com/2014/12/10/community-participation-in-parks-development-two-examples-from-berlin/>



Citizen engagement with national policy: energy project shares its experiences.

Ensuring successful public engagement in policy can be difficult. Four key challenges – communicating complexity, providing balanced information, creating space for deliberation and accessing broader values – are highlighted by a new study. Its authors show how they dealt with these challenges in a UK programme, designed to gather public views on the future of national energy policy.

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/integration/research/newsalert/pdf/citizen_engagement_with_national_policy_397na3_en.pdf

Una 'app' permitirá al ciudadano ver el estado ecológico de los ríos.

Las posibilidades que las nuevas herramientas tecnológicas abren a la participación ciudadana tiene ya una más, gracias aun innovador proyecto de colaboración cívica para el conocimiento del estado de las redes fluviales. Algo especialmente interesante en el caso de la comarca burebana, donde los ríos son muy numerosos dentro de un ecosistema especialmente sensible dadas las especies que en ellos habitan -el visón europeo entre otros- y la existencia del Espacio Natural de los Montes Obarenes.

http://www.elcorreodeburgos.com/noticias/bureba/app-permitira-ciudadano-ver-estado-ecologico-rios_86041.html

Congresses, Seminars, Courses, etc.

CEMR 2014: European conference on citizenship and twinning. Rome 15-16 December.

In this increasingly connected world - culturally, politically and technologically – citizens' active involvement in their communities is becoming more and more prevalent.

Municipalities, cities and regions are recognised as the closest level of government to the communities. By their very nature, local government have the potential to pave the way for stronger participation of citizens in society, better integration and greater equality.

http://www.cemr2014.eu/cemr2014_en.aspx