

Monitoring and Evaluating the State of the Rights to European Active Citizenship

*Thoughts for the project
methodology and implementation*



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Background

- Thoughts and observations made from the two partners meetings held
 - Practicability and feasibility of suggestions would need to be tested
- Lessons learnt from the CIVICUS CSI

Considerations of Project Design

- ✓ Involvement of ACOs
- ✓ Choice of rights → Activity and Procedure focused
- ✓ How ACOs rights are applied in policy making
- ✓ Rationale: Ambiguous/lack of frame of reference for ACOs to contribute to policy-making
- Actual tools (matrix/ checklist would need to be revisited if recommendations are taken into account)

Objective – Project Design

What are we looking for?

- Bottom-up and top-down recognition of ACO *rights*, and how to recognize one when you see it?
 - Consensus building
 - Implicit capacity building
 - Exchange between public institutions and ACOs

Implications

- Starting with Consensus building:
 - ‘Translation’ of Rights into actions and examples with partner ACOs
 - Dissemination of consensus and examples (own websites, partner organizations, development websites and blogs, universities, public institutions...etc....!!!)
 - Collection of feedback and incorporation into guiding document
 - Dissemination of final (but ‘living’) document

Objective – Project Implementation

What are we looking for?

- Assessing and understanding the implementation of rights
 - Isolated opinions or general understanding?
 - Static or active process and approach?
 - Information gathering or information building?

Implications

- Meeting somewhere in the middle
 - Exchange between Public institutions, ACOs, citizens
 - Assessing and understanding the rights from different perspectives
- Making tools accessible (also in language and layout)

Objective – Project Results

What are we looking for?

- Recommendations for ways forward?
- Benchmarking?
- Fluidity and consultation throughout?
- What do we make of the findings/ results?

Implications

- Ongoing platform of ACOs and citizens with aim of increasing understanding, knowledge and consensus
- Implementation at different levels
- ➔ Dissemination of tools and findings

- Structure to be established
 - Example:
 - Establishing points in time for 'checking in'
 - Yearly 'cut off' to discuss ongoing results and improvements/ situations of worsening access to/ implementation of rights

How?

- Luxury vs. Economy models
 - Adapting to needs, means and levels
 - Use ICTs for information sharing, consensus building and dissemination
 - Wikis, Blogs, Social platforms...etc....!!!
 - ➔ Open Space approach
 - Focus groups are important but can be minimized if other tools are used
 - Example: select project 'ambassadors' to bring discussion to other levels: public institutions, academia, local level, etc

Expansion of Concept?

LIVING

the Right to European Active Citizenship