



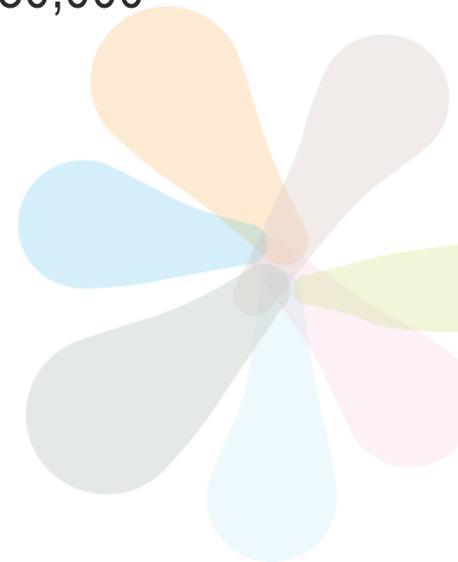
Engaging local authorities in civic space monitoring, climate change and participatory budgeting

Ana Maria Suci
Policy and Advocacy Officer @ENNA
(European Network of National Civil Society
Associations)

ENNA IN A NUTSHELL

Represent and advocate for cross-sectoral interests of non-governmental organisations, mainly national coalitions of NGOs, resource and development centres in 17 EU member states, Norway and Turkey

Work directly and indirectly (through our members) with over 80,000 European civil society organisations



ENNA IN A NUTSHELL

- Advocating and exchanging information between national and European levels
- Acting as an information hub, building awareness, and facilitating dialogue
- Sharing expertise across civil society in the represented countries, by valuing the participative involvement of members and the democratic and civic participation of citizens from local to EU level policy making



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LOCAL AUTHORITIES AS DRIVERS FOR DEVELOPMENT
EDUCATION AND RAISING AWARENESS



- The #LADDERproject philosophy:
Local Authorities, in cooperation with Civil Society, have a considerable multiplier capacity and become *drivers for change*
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4W-SMftgD6E>



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Funded by EuropeAid, LADDER has 4 specific objectives.

1. **strengthen the capacity** of associations of local authorities (**LAs**) and **civil society organizations (CSOs)** to act in a sustainable way as drivers for development, fostering their role of multipliers within their countries, communities and network
2. inform, raise awareness and **engage citizens** in global issues, global interdependency and development education
3. develop & reinforce the **cooperation between LAs and CSOs**, to lead to winning synergies
4. **improve DEAR methods** in non-formal education system, through the development of new and innovative methods and tools addressed to a wide range of stakeholders (including educators, civil servants, NGOs, youth leaders etc).

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The Citizen Participation Work Group is a sub-group of the larger European-wide [LADDER Project](#)

*What EU policy and/or practice would you introduce or change to **foster greater citizen participation** with regard to the following areas of EU activity:*

- *Addressing the contraction of civic space*
- *Creating democratic and accountable institutions*
- *Developing climate change and sustainable development policies and practices*

What are the "low hanging fruit," "middle of the tree," and "top of the tree" policies changes you would recommend?



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Addressing the contraction of civic space

Here's what civic space is, in our understanding:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xtkw6E48SGA>



MONITOR
TRACKING CIVIC SPACE

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Creating democratic and accountable institutions – Participatory budgeting

(#1) Participatory budgeting - a practice that allows citizens to have a say in the budget decisions of their local authorities. It has a demonstrated ability to create more democratic and accountable institutions

(#2). As a WG we want to know **to what degree the EU is supporting this practice via its policies and practices, and what could be improved.** Therefore, we have been talking to civil society organizations that promote participatory budgeting to find out what support they are getting, and what more they could use to increase their impact. This input from the on-the-ground practitioners will shape our policy suggestions.

A PB prezi just in case: <https://prezi.com/kzg35btiiyxl/pb/>



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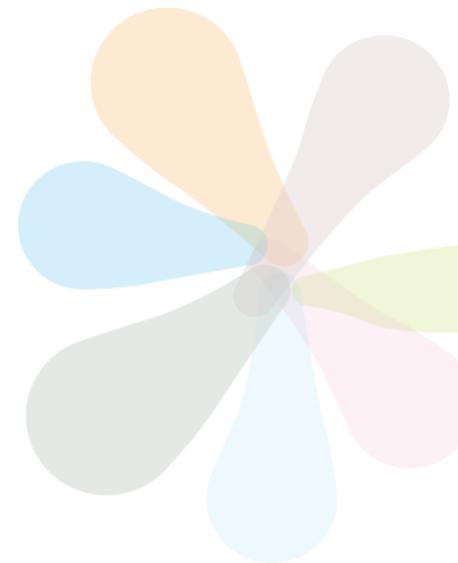


Developing climate change and sustainable development policies and practices
What we seek:

involving citizens in environmental sustainability issues at local level.

How?

- *Water remunicipalisation – rolling back the privatization?*
- *Participatory approaches to local climate policy?*
- *Climate mainstreaming at local level?*
- *Energy efficiency targets at local level?*



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Our task:

Develop a **toolkit** for
Local Authorities in the
3 areas above

The toolkit should:

- Have at least 3 potential actions
LA's can choose from
- Refrain from symbolic statements
- Increase local awareness on
global issues
- Potentially imagine advocacy
goals



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Guiding questions:

- What would Local Authorities need in order to help promote an inclusive civic space/ implement PB initiatives/ include climate mainstreaming in their policy making?
- How much can LAs do without the need of changing national or even EU regulations?
- What can NGOs provide? What kind of actions could they take to support local governments in embracing change?



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Some examples:

- Civic Space toolkit: a local bill declaring the municipality an open civic space – backed by clear measures that facilitate freedom of assembly, association and expression
- PB toolkit – using a small part of the budget to experiment the idea; adopt an online tool that allows citizens to have a say;
- Climate change: promote car pooling for the LA employees; invest in the local transport; close roads – cities are for people!





THANK YOU!

European Network for
National Civil Society Associations

Address: Avenue de la Toison d'Or 77, 1060,
Brussels, Belgium (postal box ECAS)

E-mail: secretariat@ennaeurope.org

Web: www.ennaeurope.org