Best Practices

Participatory budget

The “participatory budget” enables local residents to propose citizen projects and take part in budgetary decisions by voting for their favourite project(s). This participatory approach is part of a drive to involve citizens in projects designed to improve the quality of life in the local authority (town planning, mobility, culture, heritage, social action, schools, youth and sports, etc.).

Objectives

- To encourage local residents to get involved in local social, political and community life,
- To encourage residents to identify with the place where they live,
- Carry out projects of general interest, designed to improve the quality of life in the community,
- Contribute to community life and encourage collective action.

Methods

The participatory budget is managed in the form of a call for project proposals. The application process consists of the following stages:

- Submission of projects
- Examination of the projects (analysis of admissibility and feasibility) *
- Vote on the projects
- Project implementation
- Project evaluation

Projects may be submitted individually or collectively, with a limit of one project per person. Each project submitted must mention a person responsible.

Budget

Depends on the envelope granted (e.g. €100,000) and IT costs if you are setting up a website/application.

Materials

N/A

Periodicity

Once a year

Evaluation indicators

- Feedback from participants
- Feedback from moderators
- Number of ideas submitted
- Quality of ideas submitted

Practical advice - DO's

- Determine the envelope for the winning projects,
- Set up a website/platform where citizens can submit their projects.
- Establish selection criteria.
- Be transparent in the selection of projects and argue for and against the projects submitted by referring to your selection criteria.
- Promote the project to the general public and associations.
- Promote initiatives of different sizes (including small projects).

Practical advice - DONT's

- Make sure it is not only available to NGOs that specialise in project management.

Contact person/Possible partners

N/A

Additional information

The Dudelange participatory budget :
https://jeparticipe.dudelange.lu/

The Roeser participatory budget:
https://jeparticipe.roeser.lu/page/budget-participatif-de-quoi-sagit-il-1