

CITIZENS PARTICIPATING IN SOCIAL INNOVATION

VOICES will yield valuable insight on methods and procedure for engaging citizen participation to help set the research agenda for Europe's Responsible Research and Innovation framework. The knowledge gained through VOICES will echo in other initiatives in need of public opinion.

Focus groups are using a structured VOICES methodology wherein tactics, infrastructure and results are fully documented on an open access portal designed for similar public participation actions in Horizon 2020 and beyond.

VOICES is about using science centres and museums as the powerful citizen engagement resources they are - direct conduits through which the EU can consult the public on science and technology-related issues. This is Europe's future; **participatory democracy in science, research and innovation.**

www.voicesforinnovation.eu

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Views, Opinions and Ideas of Citizens in Europe on Science



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CITIZEN VOICES WILL BE HEARD IN EUROPEAN RESEARCH

For the first time, citizens will be part of defining the European research agenda. Science centres and museums are making this possible.

VOICES is a Europe-wide citizen consultation process which will inform an environmental research dimension of Horizon 2020 - the European Union's research and innovation advancement strategy.

One thousand strong

One thousand European citizens are joining VOICES focus group discussions on innovative uses and solutions for urban waste. Public sharing opportunities will then expand exponentially during the dissemination period of VOICES where principles of collective citizen innovation will be used. In other words, the general public will be called upon to employ a do-it-yourself approach to innovation for urban waste by bringing diverse life experience and expertise to the table.

Citizens setting priorities

Urban waste, like many science and technology topics, concerns every European citizen which is why the VOICES public consultations are so important; voices of citizens will be heard in the priority-setting phase for European research on this socio-environmental topic.

Science centres and museums: Harnessing public opinion

VOICES is engaging citizens in all 27 EU countries using the expertise and impartial platforms of science centres and museums - all of which are powerful partners in public engagement with science and members of Ecsite, the European network of science centres and museums. Focus groups, academic public consultation analyses, and results dissemination are all being orchestrated by Ecsite.

27 COUNTRIES

