



Participation & Sustainable Development in Europe

Youth Council of the Municipality of Thermi

Date: May/2022

Country + Region

Greece, Municipality of Thermi

Date (Start - End)

May of 2020

Short Description

We are a Youth Council that uses the sociocratic method in the decision-making process. We are organized in local circles, one for every village and each local circle has a representative in the General Circle. The General Circle is the main institution of the Council but every Circle maintains its autonomy.

Background, Cause

The context at the beginning was that the Directorate of Social and Educational Policy of Municipality of Thermi wanted to find a way to motivate young people to use a healthy way of political expression and stop cases of vandalism. The Directorate and the Vice Mayor of Education were involved and initiated the participation process.

Goal(s)/Objective(s)

Our main goal is to empower youth's voice at a local level and take actions about matters that concern the young people and the society in general.

Process and Flow

As it has been already mentioned, we are using the sociocratic method. We start our process with the check-in, where everybody says how he/she feels. Then we prioritize the topics of the agenda. We examine each topic with the following procedure: the introducer of the topic explains it and we make a circle of questions. Then we make a circle of opinions and the coordinator brings a proposal in order to give our consent. At the end we do a check-out where everybody gives a feedback for the procedure.

Results of the participation process

The results that were achieved are resolving issues, participation, inclusion and transparency.

Experience to share / Lessons learned

When you use an inclusive method as such you learn that everybody's voice really matters and helps taking better decisions, but the process may not be always as fast as it should. Moreover, the members have to be well trained in order to make efficient consultation.

Principal / contracting authority

Directorate of Social and Educational Policy of Municipality of Thermi

Process support and consulting

Sociocracy Center of Greece

Costs and financing

No finance needed. Sometimes the Municipality of Thermi provides financial support to the Council

Publications, links, resources

Applied Method

x	Method	Method	x
x	Agenda Konferenz / agenda conference	Laddering	
	Aktivierende Befragung / activating interview	Mediation / mediation	
	Anwaltsplanung / advocacy planning	Kooperativer Diskurs / Cooperative Discourse	
	Appreciative Inquiry / appreciative inquiry	Online Konsultation / online consultation	
	Bürger_innenbudget / participatory budget	Open Space Konferenz / open space conference	
	Bürger:innenrat / wisdom council	Planning for Real	
	Bürger:innenversammlung / citizens' panel	Planspiel / experimental game	
	Community Organizing / Community Organizing	Planungszelle / „design cell“	
	Delphi-Befragung / delphi method	Pro Action Café	
	Dialog / stakeholder dialogue	Runder Tisch / round table	
	Dragon Dreaming / Dragon Dreaming	Soziokratie / Sociocracy	x
	Dyade / dyad interviews	Konsensus-Konferenz / consensus conference	
	Dynamic Facilitation / Dynamic Facilitation	Syst. Konsensieren / Systemic consensus building	
	Ephesos-Modell / Ephesos method	Workshop	x
	Fish Bowl / fish bowl	World Café	
	Fokusgruppe / focus group	Zukunftskonferenz / Future Conference	
	GfK / nonviolent communication	Zukunftswerkstatt / „Future Workshop“	
	Holacracy / Holacrcy	other:.....	

Topic & Application [please tick the corresponding topic; multiple answers are possible; for information please visit <https://partizipation.at/anwendungsfelder> - German only]

x	Topic	Topic	x
	climate protection / climate crisis	Water resources management	
	Energy(transition)	Natural hazards	
	Construction & Buildings	Socio-space analysis	
	Mobility	Social movements	
	(Local) Agenda 21	Child and youth participation	x
	Cooperative housing and living concepts	Technology Assessment	
	Spatial planning	Nuclear Coordination	
	Circular economy	other:	

Details of the person providing this case study

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Role in the described procedure: Responsible for Internal Communication in the General Circle	