The AGORA project

An application of citizen science in the field of climate adaptation

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MIP4Adapt session #8 Citizen science online, 11. June 2024





Project's information

AGORA supports the Mission of Adaptation to Climate Change by actively involving communities and regions in climate actions.







Engaging citizens in climate adaptation dialogues



Involvement

AGORA is involving citizens through focus group discussions.

Dresden, 27.05.2024



People with disabilities and chronic illnesses

Dresden, 30.05.2024



Youth (16-24 years old)



The structure of the focus groups



Outcome

Could you tell us about a memory from the last [climate-related event] you experienced?

[introduction of the gaps previously selected by the stakeholders]

• Is this issue relevant to you?

Local climate vulnerability and gaps in the local climate adaptive capacity

 What ideas or actions can we propose to overcome this challenge?

 How would you actively engage/be engaged in this solution?

Soft climate adaptation solutions



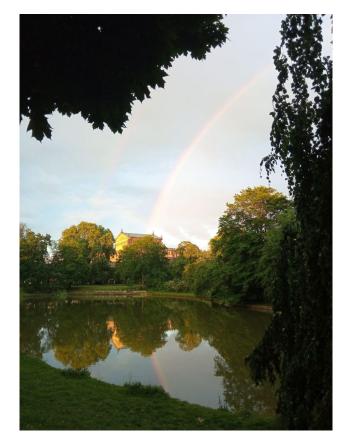
Key takeaways and results

People with disabilities and chronic illnesses:

- Offer solutions in multiple forms (e.g. audio description, sign language, etc.)
- Avoid scare tactics in awareness and warning systems; focus on solutions rather than risks

Youth:

- Activities should be integrated into school time
- If outside school hours, must be spontaneous and enjoyable; peer recommendations
- Wish to be recognized as a specific target group, seeking safety and consideration

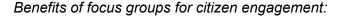




Some impressions from our experience:

Citizen science is a powerful tool to involve citizens and stakeholders in climate adaptation dialogues.

- Involving diverse perspectives leads to a **better understanding** of climate issues.
- Citizens' firsthand experiences can inspire innovative, practical solutions that address their immediate needs and promote their participation.



- Prioritizing conversation and dialogue over formal presentations fosters a dynamic atmosphere.
- Intimate group sizes facilitate in-depth discussions, ensuring all voices are heard.
- Dynamic exchanges of ideas, enhancing problem-solving and consensus-building.



Benefits



Democratisation



Participation



Some impressions from our experience:

Diversity and inclusion do not happen automatically!

- Some groups are hard to reach and need specific outreach strategies → "go where the people are."
- Reflecting on barriers and planning ways to overcome them is crucial
- Citizens often seek enjoyable and meaningful participation

And what is going to happen with these solutions? "Why did we do this?"

- Clear communication about the impact and implementation of solutions is important.
- Valuing every input ensures participants feel taken seriously and have an impact.
- Be mindful of who is involved and how data is used.







Feedback



Acknowledgment



Impact



Ethics



The importance of local climate adaptation networks



First phase: Stakeholder engagement







Follow-up event, 27.02.2024

Inception workshop 16.11.2023





Comments, ideas, questions are very welcome!





















