



Effective Social Integration of mobile EU citizens - EnVISION

EnVISION



Activity 2.7 Design of 5 Social Inclusion Activities that foster active participation (per participating country)

Work Package 2 (Deliverable 2.7)

REPORT 3 Education of fundamental rights, focusing on women and youth

Helping Hand

Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme

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Disclaimer

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1. Introduction - The EnVision project

The aim of the EnVision project is to introduce mobile EU citizens to the Public Consultation Process, during the formulation of local interventions, emphasizing on educational and social activities, including unrepresented persons such as women and young people. This is going to be achieved through the development of a reasonable, adaptable methodology for the sustainable promotion of active participation of mobile EU citizens in local societies.

The objectives of the EnVision project are established in a wo-way process, aiming to:

- Foster the successful inclusion and participation of mobile EU citizens and their family members in the host EU country's civic and political life, as well as their participation in the democratic life of the EU
- Increase the capacity of the Public Administration Authorities & Experts in local level, in the participating countries to enable and facilitate the participation of mobile EU citizens in their host Member-State
- Improve the availability, awareness and participation of mobile EU citizens in civic activities in their host communities

Expected results of the Envision project:

- Direct involvement of EU mobile citizens to the Public Consultation Process.
- Increased participation of EU mobile citizens in the political and social life of their host communities.
- Increased capacity of experts in local level in the participating countries to enable and facilitate the participation of mobile EU citizens in their host Member State.
- Improved acceptance of mobile EU citizens into activities organized and implemented at a local level.

The project is funded by Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme of the European Commission and is implemented by:





- AKMI S.A (AKMI) – Greece
- Central Union of Greek Municipalities (KEDE) – Greece
- Astiki Mh Kersoskopiki Etareia Helping Hand (HELPING HAND) – Greece
- Union of Cyprus Municipalities (UCM) - Cyprus
- ZEWELEPE Consultants Limited (ZEWELEPE) - Cyprus



2. Structure of the deliverable

The purpose of this report is to test the functionality and effectiveness of our two – way approach methodology using the public consultation. The Envision Partnership piloted five (5) different educational and social activities encouraging active participation of mobile EU citizens in local societies. Our pilot included the preparation of local Initiatives that are going to enhance active participation. We established 5 groups of Activities, using this new Consultation Methodology, focusing on the following 5 thematic areas:

Figure 1 Design of 5 Activities in the areas of:



This Report provides the documentation for the third Activity: Education of fundamental rights, focusing on women and youth.

The structure of this deliverable contains the following elements:

Chapter 3 provides the key terminology related to social inclusion and integration, which is the main outcome of all planned activities, under the Envision Project and this Activity.

Chapter 4 provides a description of the proposed Activity. It contains the analysis of the decision of the most appropriate public consultation process, related to the Activity, It also



describes the Consultation Documents used to support this activity, by offering a description of the Activity and the documents for the implementation of the consultation process.

Moreover, the specific implementation timeline and the finalization of the content of the proposed Activities, taking into consideration and including the results of the Public Consultation. Finally the feedback received is presented.

The core of all planned 5 Social Inclusion activities, follows this procedure:

1. Identification of Stakeholders, aiming to prepare the cooperation structures between stakeholders and mobile EU citizens, by establishing an active communication channel among them, during the preparation of the Activities;
2. Decision of the most appropriate public consultation process, related to each proposed Activity;
3. Preparation of Consultation Documents, including i) a detailed description of the planned Activities, that are going to be presented to mobile EU citizens ii) standard documents for the implementation of the consultation process;
4. Establishment of the consultation process with a specific implementation timeline and monitoring of results;
5. Finalizing of the content of the proposed Activities, taking into consideration and including the results of the Public Consultation;
6. Provision of feedback to stakeholders and especially to mobile EU citizens, so that they get assured that their opinion is being valued and included in the designed Activities.

The finalized Educational and Social Activities are going to be input for Activity 2.8.



3. Definition of key terminology

In general, the terms: social inclusion, social integration and active participation are open to many different interpretations, which can be defined based on the background of people making reference to them, the context in which they are used and the type of the organisations that eventually refer to them. These terms are similar and may overlap. At the core of them lies the concept of the equal and full participation in all aspects of life.

✓ What is Social integration?

According to the Report: Social Integration: Approaches and Issues, published by the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development, the social integration: *“For some, it is an inclusionary goal, implying equal opportunities and rights for all human beings. In this case, becoming more integrated implies improving life chances. To others, however, increasing integration has a negative connotation, conjuring up the image of an unwanted imposition of uniformity. And, to still others, the term does not necessarily imply either a positive or a negative state. It is simply a way of describing the established patterns of human relations in any given society.”*¹

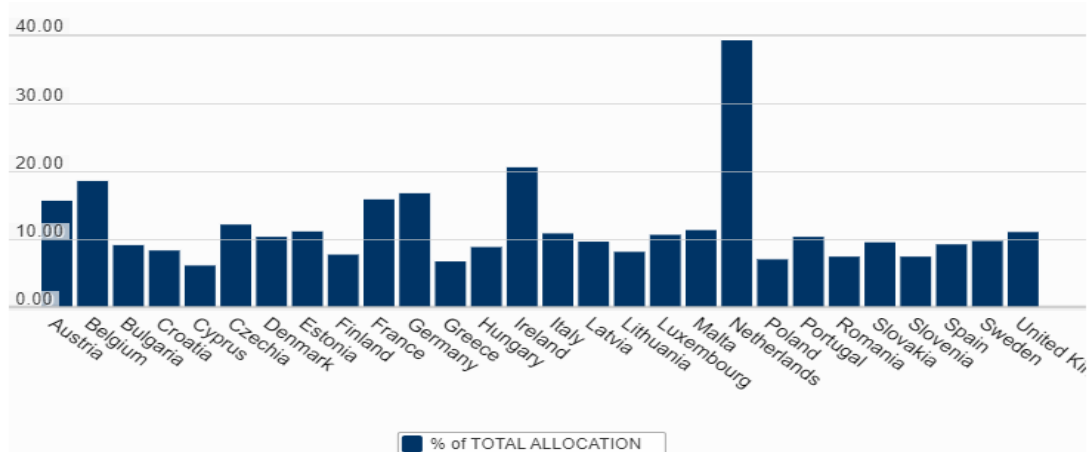
✓ What is Social inclusion?

Social inclusion is the core of the European values, enshrined in the Lisbon Treaty. Creating an inclusive community was a primary goal of the European Union and social inclusion has steadily become a key priority in the Europe 2020 Strategy. Social inclusion is one of the eleven priorities for Cohesion Policy in 2014-2020 (thematic objective 9). The allocation per country in the EU is presented in the following figure. It is important to mention that for our partner countries, Greece was allocated 6,9% of the total budget, and Cyprus 6,3%.

¹[https://www.unrisd.org/80256B3C005BCCF9/\(httpAuxPages\)/510920DA18B35A6880256B65004C6A7B/\\$file/bp1.pdf](https://www.unrisd.org/80256B3C005BCCF9/(httpAuxPages)/510920DA18B35A6880256B65004C6A7B/$file/bp1.pdf)



Figure 2 Thematic Objective 9: Social inclusion by Country for 2014-2020, EU



Source 1: Social inclusion, Europa, https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/policy/themes/social-inclusion/.

“Social inclusion is a process which ensures that those at risk of poverty and social exclusion gain the opportunities and resources necessary to participate fully in economic, social, political and cultural life and to enjoy a standard of living that is considered normal in the society in which they live. It ensures that they have greater participation in decision making which affects their lives and access to their fundamental rights”.²

According to the World Bank, “social inclusion is the process of improving the terms on which individuals and groups take part in society—improving the ability, opportunity, and dignity of those disadvantaged on the basis of their identity.”³

4. Description of the proposed Activity

This Report provides the documentation for the third activity: “Education of fundamental rights, focusing on women and youth”. The Activity is designed in consultation with mobile EU citizens from Greece and Cyprus that have been attending as participants Activity 2.6. The main steps for the designing phase are presented below:

- Decision of the most appropriate public consultation process, related to each proposed Activity

To achieve this goal, we introduced our participants to the public consultation process, by making special reference to each consultation method. A Power Point Presentation was

² Commission of the European Communities, 2003, p. 9

³ <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/social-inclusion>



created, with the aim to provide the most important aspects of the public consultation procedures and methods. This Presentation displays the essentials of the consultation methods, as initially found and presented in our Best Practices Report.

I. Preparation of Consultation Documents, including:

i) a detailed description of the planned Activity, that is going to be presented to mobile EU citizens

The detailed description of the planned Activity, is as follows:

Our team has prepared a research on the suggested topic and we made reference to some important aspects, covering the topic of our Activity: "Education of fundamental rights, focusing on women and youth". Therefore, we found essential to discuss about the Conventions, which safeguard the Fundamental Rights, starting from the International level and moving to the EU. Special attention and focus was given to the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU. We believe that people are ready to express their opinions, through public consultation processes, but they firstly must be aware of their rights and the legal frameworks that protect them. It is a real fact that EU mobile citizens are not truly aware of their full rights. In most cases, the vulnerable groups, such as the women and youth are more marginalised in the society are much more marginalised and unaware of their rights and the activities in which they could participate.

We also provided information about the various national and European structures to ensure that rights protected, emphasising on the role of the . Ombudsman, data protection authorities, equality bodies and national human rights institutions. Furthermore, we listed the organisations, agencies that operate in the EU level and aim to support mobile EU citizens. We emphasized to the role of the European Ombudsman, Europe Direct, SOLVIT, YourEurope Advice and the right to petition to the European Parliament. We discuss ed about some important Conventions on education and how the Status of women and equality is protected, at the international level, moving to the European. We also made specific reference to the Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025 and the Organizations in the EU that promote Gender equality. A power point presentation was created, based on this topic.



ii) standard documents for the implementation of the consultation process.

We firstly informed our participants that the Public Consultation contains the following elements⁴:

1/. Notification. It involves the communication of information on regulatory decisions to the public. Notification does not, itself, constitute consultation, but can be a first step. In this view, prior notification allows stakeholders the time to prepare themselves for upcoming consultations.

2/. Consultation. It involves actively seeking the opinions of interested and affected groups.

3/. Participation. It is the active involvement of interest groups in the formulation of regulatory objectives, policies and approaches, or in the drafting of regulatory texts.

Aiming to set a common understanding we also provided the overview of the Consultation methods.

4.1 Establishment of a specific implementation timeline

The Envision Consortium, under the leading of Helping Hand, agreed on the following timeframe: The preparatory work should be made within December 2020. The initial pilot of the Activity took place on 02/12/2020, and we received the input from the participants the following days, through their respond in two google forms. Then a second pilot dedicated to this activity was co-organised by Helping Hand, AKMI and Zewepe on 25th of January 2021.

4.2 Finalizing of the content of the proposed Activity

The most important aim of the pilot of this Activity was to discuss the concepts of social inclusion and active participation and to receive the participants' experiences and input on

⁴ OECD, Background Document on Public Consultation, Retrieved from: <https://www.oecd.org/mena/governance/36785341.pdf>



the activities they believe that should be implemented at the local level, aiming to raise the citizens' awareness on the fundamental rights, focusing on women and youth. As a result a poster would be created with their input.

Organisation of the Pilots

Our first pilot took place on December 2, 2020. AKMI and Helping Hand hosted the virtual meeting, via the Zoom platform. That day the online session started with the Training Course, and an interesting discussion was held about the main topics related to the public consultation. Then, during a 10 minute period, we discussed with the participants the main elements of this topic and asked for their feedback. Aiming to keep our participants engaged, we had asked for their feedback in an online form, and we planned a second pilot to further discuss. The second pilot was organized virtually on 25th of January 2021 via the Big Blue Button Platform. AKMI, Helping Hand and Zewelege facilitated the session.

The profile of participants

Participants were mobile EU citizens who reside in Greece and Cyprus and who have already participated in the Envision training, which is available in the Moodle platform: <https://elearning.project-envision.eu/>. All of them were motivated and interested to discuss the suggested topic. In the early beginning of our online session, we informed them that we could communicate either in English or Greek. However, the vast majority spoke English, so we conducted the session in English.

The programme flow of the first pilot

During our first pilot, the discussion for this topic started at 18.20pm and lasted for 10 minutes. We proceeded to the presentation of the most important aspects on the Education of fundamental rights, focusing on women and youth. Then, we asked our participants to dedicate some time after this session in order to complete an online questionnaire.

The Main Outcomes of our first Pilot



A fruitful exchange of views and discussion took place through the chat forum. It came up as one of the conclusions from the exercise that not all the people are aware of their rights and how to exercise them. Aiming to get the participants input in a more concrete form, we also created a google form, based on this question: “Which activities should be implemented at the local level, aiming to raise the citizens’ awareness on the fundamental rights, focusing on women and youth.?” We had provided specific multiple choice replies, which are being presented in the following table. We managed to receive 17 replies in this question:

Replies	Number of responses
Promote youth skills development and employability, education and training, and supports youth engagement in civic, cultural, academic and professional exchanges.	8 responses
Shelters that offer safe accommodation to women victims of violence and their children.	7 responses
Involve young people in a more sustainable way, by giving them ownership of projects and campaigns, and valuable experiences for life.	7 responses
To train young people across Europe to become ambassadors for young people’s right to information, to be able to carry out local-level trainings with their peers, and to gain skills and competences in different areas that will help them to influence decision-making processes.	6 responses
Creating resources that are made for and with young people. To ‘upskill’ young people, giving them experience in the governance of organisations and the opportunity to have a real impact on decision-making processes.	6 responses



Provide practical skills to young people and women through education	5 responses
Create youth centers where they can exchange ideas for active participation	5 responses
Educating citizens through programs that receive EU funding and engage them as active participants	5 responses
Better education at schools and work with families	5 responses
More inclusive approaches in every aspect of the society	3 responses
Suggest another activity	0

Figure 3 'Which activities should be implemented at the local level, aiming to raise the citizens' awareness on the fundamental rights, focusing on women and youth.?'

Which activities should be implemented at the local level, aiming to raise the citizens' awareness on the fundamental rights, focusing on women and youth.

16 απαντήσεις

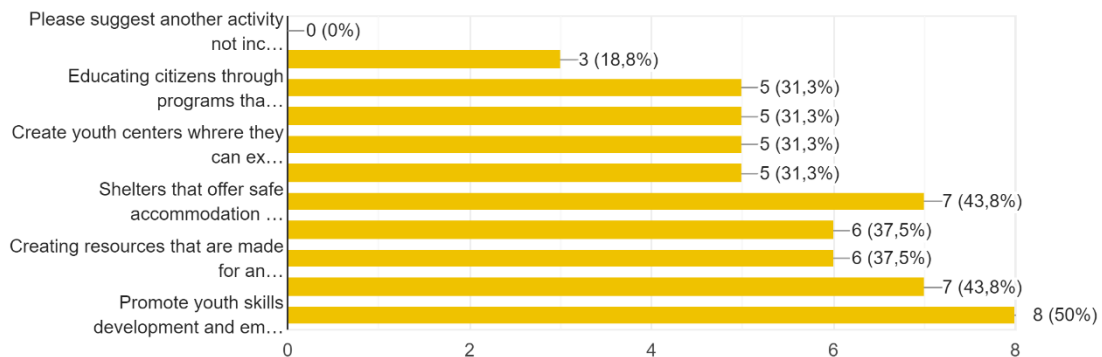


Figure 4 Participants Input, 1st Questionnaire Graphic Representation

Our next question asked them to suggest another activity not included in the above list describing how it should be implemented and whom it should target. In this question, we received 5 replies:

- Educating citizens through programs that receive EU funding and engage them as active participants



- Create youth centers where they can exchange ideas for active participation
- More inclusive approaches in every aspect of the society
- Better education at schools and work with families
- Provide practical skills to young people and women through education

4.3 Provision of participants' feedback

Receiving the feedback from the interested parties must be implemented in a proper way, taking advantage of the following steps:

- Review: Reviewing the current situation, (reflect on questions, such as: what citizens know of their rights?, Who protects the Fundamental Rights at EU level and at the national level?)
- Analysis: Analyse if they know which organization should their contact and who protects them at the local level. How do they currently get information on the topic and what activities have been developed.
- Planning: How would they change the current situation? What activities do they believe are mandatory to take place at the local level?
- Implementation: Co-decision of the appropriate consultation methods, and designing of the activity to be implemented at the local level.

The participants' input and valuable feedback was taken into consideration. Hereby, we present the input received from the EU mobile citizens. Aiming to receive more input from the EU mobile citizens, in the framework of an additional online event organized on 25 of January 2021, we shared with the participants a new online form, which included some additional questionnaires. We received 24 replies and the following data were retrieved.

The participants originate from different EU countries, while the majority live in Greece, for more than 6 years.



Country of Origin

24 απαντήσεις

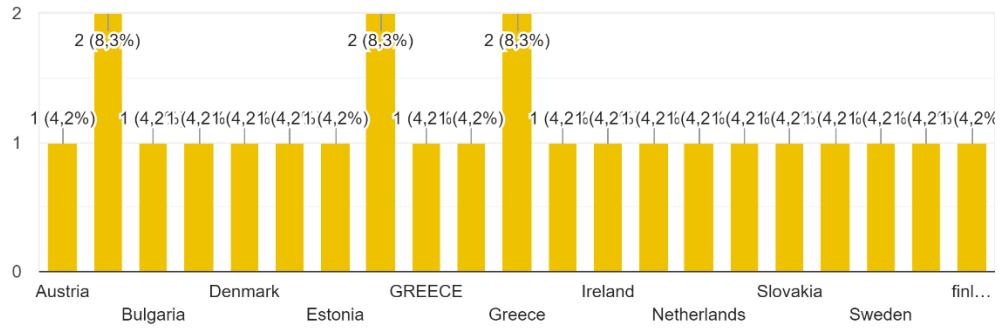


Figure 5 EU mobile Citizens' Country of Origin

Country of Residence

24 απαντήσεις

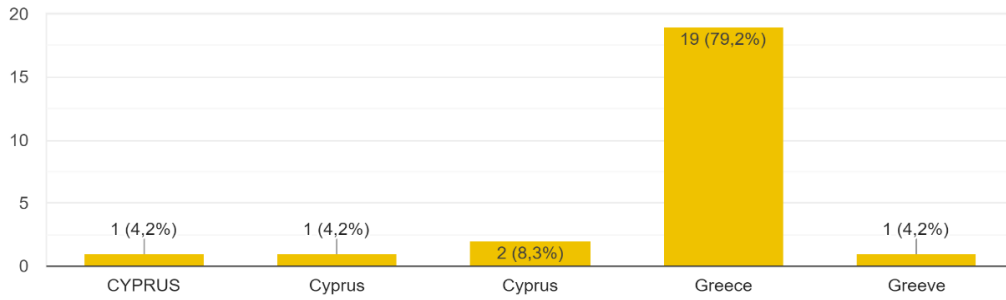


Figure 6 EU mobile Citizens' Country of Residence

Years living in the Country of residence

24 απαντήσεις

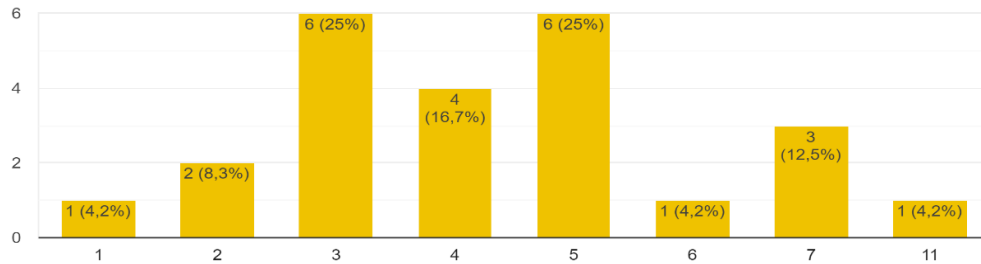


Figure 7 Years of Residence



The EU mobile citizens from Greece and Cyprus, when asked about the words that come to their mind about the Fundamental Rights they replied the following:

Which words come to your mind about Fundamental Rights?

Freedom of speech, labour rights, religious rights, property rights, access to justice
democracy,
equality,
respect for human dignity,
freedom,
Martin Luther King, Jr.
Equality
the rule of law, and
respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities.
respect for human dignity, Democracy
freedom and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to
minorities
the rule of law, and respect for human dignity,
equality and respect for human dignity
freedom,
democracy
the rule of law, and
respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities
respect for human dignity,
freedom,
democracy
Freedom and democracy
the rule of law, and
respect for human rights
respect for human dignity and equality
No discrimination and freedom
equality,
the rule of law,



democracy and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities.

Equality and freedom of speech

Figure 8 Words related to Fundamental rights according to EU citizens.

Aiming to get closer to our topic, we also posed the same question, with the distinction when it refers to women and the youth.

How about when this is specifies to Fundamental rights, focusing on women and youth?

Feminism

Equal treatment of men and woman

Rosa Parks

Equality, same chances same respect

Equality, same respect no sexism or racism chances to evolve

Equality respect chances in work

Every woman must be treated equal to a man

Youth development centre

Equality among all

Universal adult franchise

There must be no discrimination based on gender.

All women and children must be respected

equality across genders

women must be given the same status of a man

All are equal in the eyes of law

freedom of speech

asking for women's opinion on laws of society.

Women must be treated equal.

Women must be treated equal to men

Views of women and youth must be taken into consideration.

There must be no discrimination on the basis of gender, age, etc.

Figure 9 Words related to Fundamental rights focusing on women and youth, according to EU citizens

The majority of the participants believe that they are fully aware of their fundamental rights.



Do you believe that you are fully aware of your fundamental rights?

24 απαντήσεις

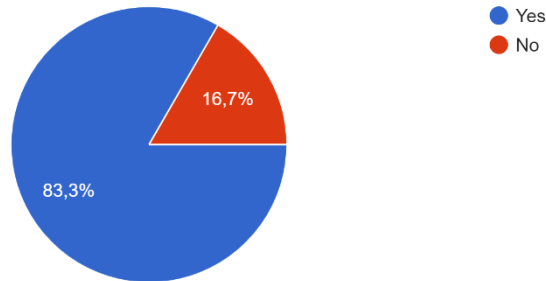


Figure 10 Participants' Awareness on fundamental rights

When we asked our participants to mention these rights, we received the following responses:

respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, right to education and labour
 Working abroad
 Working abroad, access to education and health abroad
 Labour rights abroad, access to education and health abroad
 the rule of law, and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities.
 respect for human dignity, Democracy
 freedom and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities
 the rule of law, and respect for human dignity, equality and respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy
 the rule of law, and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities
 respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy
 Freedom and democracy
 the rule of law, and respect for human rights
 respect for human dignity and equality
 respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality
 equality, the rule of law,
 democracy and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities.
 Equality and freedom of speech



Do you agree to publish your opinion in a poster created under the Envision Project?

24 απαντήσεις

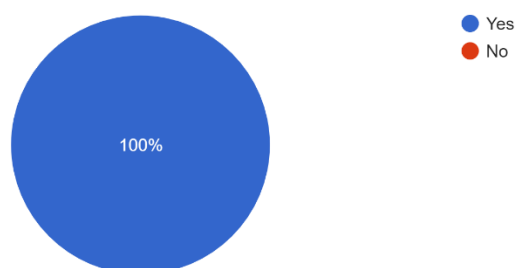
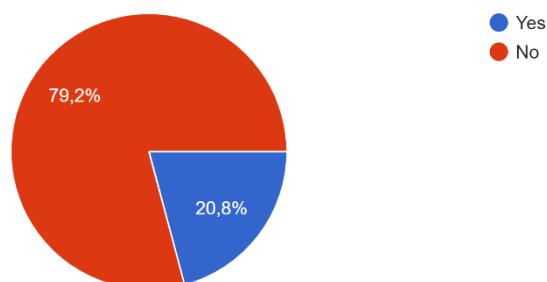


Figure 11 Agreement to use their opinion in a Poster

If you want to share it anonymously and share just your feedback, please declare so

24 απαντήσεις



We also asked to identify another activity not included in the above list describing how it should be implemented and whom it should target and we received the following replies:

The participants' input and valuable feedback was taken into consideration. We proposed them to interact in the common space, the facebook page: Humans on move. Envision Community and share more ideas on this topic, and in general all topics under the Activity A.2.7: Design of 5 Social Inclusion Activities that foster active participation.



5. Additional Resources

For the Stakeholders identification, the Excel of our network is provided as a supplementary document. The link is available only to the Project Officer and the Envision Consortium, at: <https://www.project-envision.eu/space/index.php/f/1604> .

The PowerPoint Presentation which provides the main theoretical aspects related to this topic and the Presentation about the Public Consultation Methods are available to any interested person at: <https://www.project-envision.eu/space/index.php/s/5MsKNQZN6zYnPxn> .

The invitation for the first pilot in Greece was sent to the participants, via the Moodle Platform that hosted the Envision Learning.

The invitation about the pilot of January 2021, is available at: <https://www.project-envision.eu/space/index.php/s/K5eXiciCE26MWxd> .

The online forms shared with the participants to receive their input, along with the Participants consent form are shared with the Project Officer at: <https://www.project-envision.eu/space/index.php/f/1695>

