

e-Democracy & e-Participation

Empowering citizens



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Municipality of Trikala initiative...



...since 2007



Citizens' opinion is the leading power !

Project's description



- A leading e-democracy project, for the Greek as much as for the European standards
- It is utilized by the Prefecture of Thessaly, with a pilot application within the City of Trikala, through “Politia” program.
- Aim: the use of New Technologies in order for the citizens to have active role in Municipality's decision making.

The scope...



Great chance for the citizens who feel “distanced” from ongoing matters to engage and actively participate in the City’s decision making processes. Especially so, for the following people:

- Young people who feel left-out out of the traditional structures and forms of participation
- Citizens who live in far-out villages
- Working citizens, who have limited time to participate in off-line discussions
- Citizens of the city who live in other places all over Greece or even abroad but have a strong affinity with their hometown

The scope...



- The e-dialogos platform also offers a great opportunity to the City Council to creatively cooperate with all citizens in order to trace and utilize useful policies and courses of action.
- The project builds upon novel and significant efforts by the City to minimize the digital divide by offering Local Access/Education Centers, Wireless Mountain Networks and Broadband infrastructure.

eDialogos tools & applications...



These debate tools are included in eDialogos:

- An **e-poll** which allows citizens to set the agenda of the discussion;
- an **e-Survey** system, where the City Council can ask citizens to respond to specific issues of interest;
- an **e-forum** for direct moderated dialogue;
- a bottom-up **e-Petition** system (collection of signatures) where citizens act on their own initiative;

and most importantly...

eDialogos tools & applications...



...a fully fledged **e-deliberation process**, where the innovation of the project lies.

- This is a **‘serial process’** with a specific time-frame with several well defined and concrete steps embedded in the deliberative cycle, a process where all the above e-tools are put to particular use.
- It requires close cooperation between the Municipality and the citizens and is based on:
 - Transparent and secure democratic procedures
 - Municipality’s commitment to openly discuss with the citizen and take under serious consideration his/her opinion

e-Deliberation process



All the e-Tools deployed:

- E-Poll for agenda setting
- E-Forum (moderated)
- E-Survey questionnaires
- Interactive City Council
- City Council's Decisions

....the process looks like this:

eGov Awards finalist



e-dialogos is nominated by the European Commission, as a finalist project for the European eGovernment Awards 2009.

The Awards will be announced during the 5th Ministerial eGovernment Conference, taking place between 18-20 November '09 in Malmö, Sweden.



Thank you for your attention!

Visit our sites:

www.edialogos.gr

www.e-trikala.gr