



University of Macedonia

eParticipation Research and Practice

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eP Research: DEMO-net

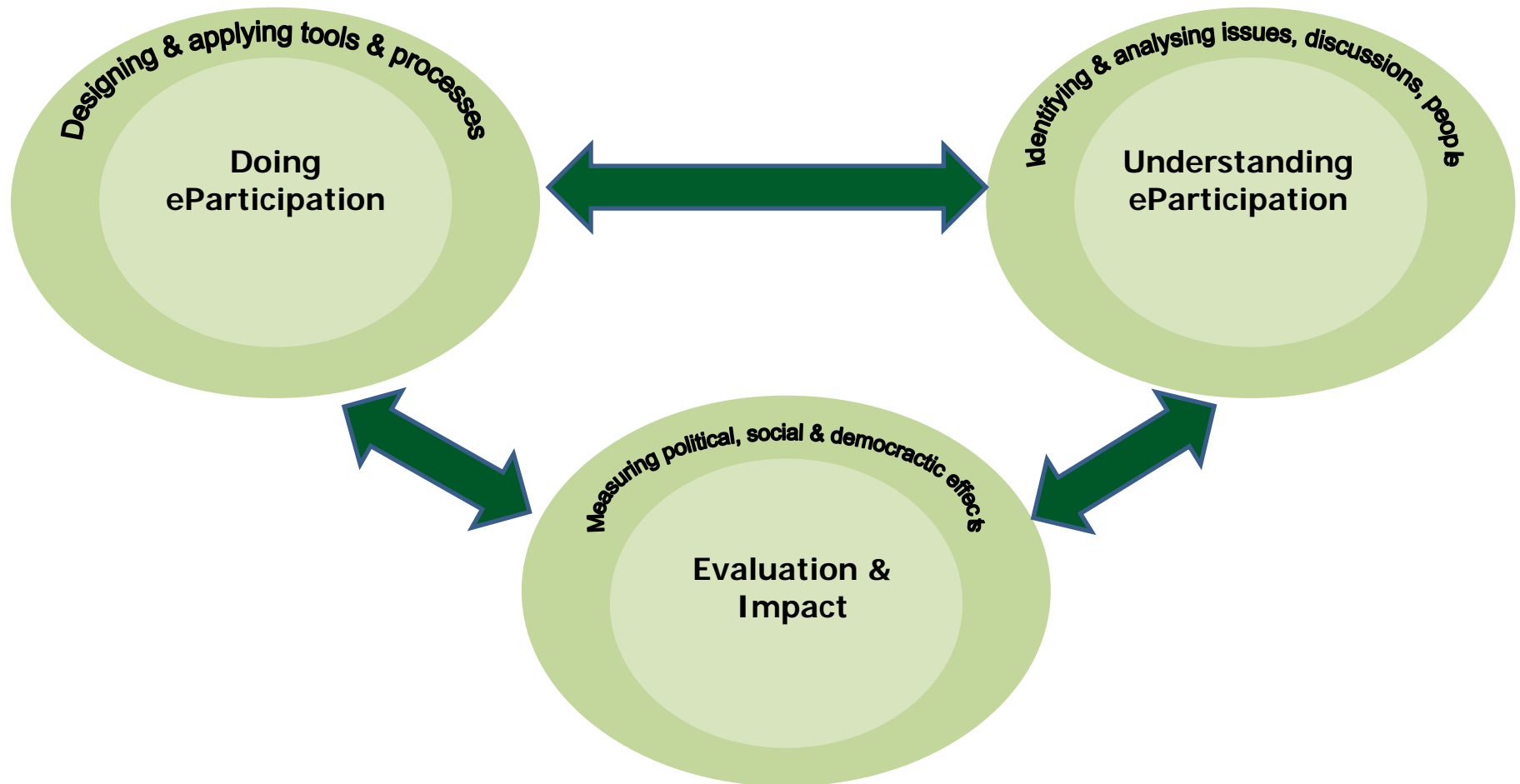
- DEMO-net is a Network of Excellence, funded by the EC
- Coordinator is the University of Leeds, Uni of Macedonia is partner
- It brings together a number of European organisations and researchers
- The aim of an NoE is to “to **strengthen** scientific and technological **excellence** on a particular research topic by **integrating** at European level the critical mass of resources and expertise needed to provide **European leadership** and to be a **world force** in that topic”
- See <http://www.demonet.org>



Main Results so far

- Research to understand eParticipation, e.g.:
 - eP areas, tools, technologies, socio-technical issues etc.
 - eP tools and their use in eP; review of eP research projects
 - eP research methods
- Contribution towards building an eP community, e.g.:
 - The DEMO-net members are now more than 130
 - A Community of Practice has been established. It includes four Special Interest Groups (SIGs) in Industry, Government executives, politicians, NGOs.
- Training of young researchers and other stakeholders, e.g.:
 - Two PhD colloquiums organised within DEXA/EGOV conference
 - Training material is under preparation; it will be soon available through an online eLearning System (based on moodle)
- The website www.demonet.org is a valuable resource for researchers (see Researchers Corner) and other stakeholders alike
- Monthly and 6-monthly newsletter with all eP events (subscribe now!)

Next Steps: Research Areas of Interest



Next Steps

- An International Conference on eParticipation will be launched in 2009. It will be organised within the DEXA umbrella of events.
- An International Journal on eParticipation will be launched in 2009.
- Training Material on eP will be soon available
- The eParticipation Network (ePN) has been legally established to continue work after EC funding
- Check our website or newsletter for more details on conference, journal and ePN!!



eP Practice: The European eParticipation Study

- A service contract by the European Commission
- Contractors are DTI (coordinator), Uni of Leeds and Uni of Macedonia
- The objectives are to **construct an analytical framework for eP**, to **study good practice**, to **discuss with stakeholders** (in workshops) and to **prepare recommendations** for the EC
- A first round of relevant studies has been issued and is available online
- Check: www.European-eParticipation.eu





Thank you for your attention!!

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