

**REPORT OF THE SESSION “Face a Face Participação presencial e digital no processo orçamentário: Sinergias e conflitos”**  
**22nd IOPD Conference Rio de Janeiro, 6 - 8 November 2023**

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Face a Face Participação presencial e digital no processo orçamentário: Sinergias e conflitos</b>
<b>Participating Institutions</b>	Instituto de Pesquisa Econômica Aplicada – IPEA Universidade de Coimbra Secretaria-Geral da Presidência da República do Brasil University of Southampton
<b>Lists of the speakers</b>	<p>Name: Giovanni Allegretti: Position and Affiliation: Arquiteto, urbanista e pesquisador sênior da Universidade de Coimbra. Projeto Phoenix, Centro de Estudos Sociais, Universidade de Coimbra (Portugal)</p> <p>Name: Igor Ferraz da Fonseca Position and Affiliation: pesquisador sênior do Instituto de Pesquisa Econômica Aplicada - IPEA e professor de Gestão de Políticas Públicas da Universidade do Distrito Federal - UNDF</p> <p>Name: Carla de Paiva Bezerra Position and Affiliation: Diretora de Participação Digital e Comunicação em Rede da Secretaria-Geral da Presidência da República do Brasil, sendo responsável pela Plataforma Brasil Participativo</p> <p>Name: Marco Meloni Position and Affiliation: Pesquisador da Universidade de Southampton (Reino Unido), Faculdade de Ciências Sociais, no âmbito do projeto Horizon 2020 PHOENIX - The Rise of Citizens' Voices for a Greener Europe</p>
<p><b>Summary of the session</b></p> <p><i>Please share in a maximum of 500 words a summary of the session: what was the discussion, the experiences presented and the most important messages that were shared during the session.</i></p>	<p>We consider this session a resounding success in terms of content, participation, and relevance. The panel commenced with Marco Meloni (University of Southampton) introducing the session’s topic: the interplay between in-person and digital participation within the budgeting process (and beyond). He highlighted a shift in tendencies, moving from conflict towards collaboration and hybridisation, categorising the role of digital technologies into facilitating, enhancing, and innovating. Subsequently, he introduced the other speakers, allowing them the platform to present.</p> <p>Giovanni Allegretti (University of Coimbra) delved into the evolution of digital technology usage within participatory processes in the European context. He provided an overview of tools and methodologies centred on digital participation, exploring recent innovations such as artificial intelligence for public engagement (e.g., bots for detailed process organization) and gamification for increased engagement and interactivity.</p> <p>Igor Ferraz da Fonseca (Institute for Applied Economic Research) concentrated on digital participation in Brazil. He described and shared data on some of the most interesting and advanced uses of digital technologies in participatory processes in Brazil, focusing on the PPA at the national level and the Consulta Popular in the state of Rio Grande do Sul. He concluded by examining these</p>

	<p>cases, offering a sort of SWOT analysis of the digitalisation of participatory processes.</p> <p>Carla Bezerra (General Secretariat of the Presidency of the Republic of Brazil) provided a detailed analysis of the Participatory Multi-Year Plan, an innovative social participation process at the national level in Brazil. Her discussion included data, analysis, and reflections on this ongoing process, emphasising its results, including the involvement of more than 1.4 million citizens. She highlighted the mutual reinforcement of in-person and offline participation, demonstrating a positive path-dependency.</p> <p>Lastly, the session was opened to audience contributions, adding depth to the discussions. In conclusion, it was evident that the shift towards digitalisation was influenced by various factors. Three stand out: 1) technological advancements in software and methodologies fostering online interaction, exemplified by platforms like DECIDIM, developed in Barcelona and now utilized by numerous governments and institutions worldwide; 2) the realization that technology can surmount the scale dilemma, a fundamental constraint in the initial formulations of participatory and deliberative theories that primarily focused on local-level social participation; and 3) the diffusion, circulation, and scaling-up of PB, leading to supralocal processes, particularly at regional and national levels.</p>
<p><b>Conclusions</b> <i>In a single sentence, state the element that stands out in your session.</i></p>	<p>The prominent feature of our session is the symbiotic relationship between digital and in-person processes, tools, and channels, fostering democratic innovations and enhancing inclusive participation.</p>
<p><b>Recommendations for IOPD</b> <i>Share with IOPD your priorities and recommendations in order to advance in the topic of your session</i></p>	<p>We thank the IOPD organisation for the opportunity and its keen interest in exploring the dynamic between digital and in-person participation. We strongly encourage the organisation and its members to champion collaborative processes that bridge the gap between digitally-driven initiatives and in-person participation (and their communities). Embracing inclusivity, effectiveness, and openness, we advocate for responsible and harmonious hybrid processes utilising digital technologies.</p>