IOPD workshop information

I've recorded here what information they require, a draft response for this, and a list of what needs sorting. They need this information by 31st August at the latest.

Required information

- 1. To confirm who will exactly talk in the standard workshop
- 2. Final title of the workshop
- 3. Description of the workshop (100 words)
- 4. Methodology of the workshop (500 words)
- 5. A short biography of each of the speakers of the workshop (80 words) + a photo of each of them (with a normal/good quality) + a link to their twitter or webpage. We will add this information in the speakers section of our webpage.

What is still needed

- A bio and photo for Hanne.
- Book travel and accommodation and sign-up to conference for those participating.

Our responses

1. Speaker:

Hanne Bastiaensen

(With facilitation support from Mat Basford)

2. Title:

Where next for Participatory Budgeting?

3. Description:

Participatory budgeting is increasingly mainstream. As more and more cities and localities adopt it, where can it go from here? What do we learn from the suspension of PB in its spiritual home of Porto Alegre? Is traditional politics reasserting itself? Must PB evolve, or die?

In this workshop we'll discuss some diverse examples of how PB has been used around the world before handing over to you. In small groups our participants will explore the merits and challenges of PB, what its role should be in our democracy, and how it can best be used in the future.

4. Methodology:

Introduction

Participants will be invited to sit in groups of up to 5 and introduce each other and what previous experience they have around improving participation in democracy, and of PB in particular.

We'll kick-off by introducing the session and giving an overview of PB, and how it has been used in different ways around the world.

What's PB for?

Following from this talk we'll ask our groups to brainstorm what they think the key merits of using PB, and the key risks, may be. Through this we'll ask them to reflect on what the role of this approach should be within our wider democratic system. Groups will have a chance to share a couple of key points from their discussion with the room.

Barriers and Opportunities

We'll next ask participants to reflect in their groups on potential barriers to achieving effective use of PB, and what opportunities are out there for developing this – drawing on their own experiences where relevant.

Dreaming and Applying

Next, we'll ask participants to dream up new ways that PB could be applied within local government. This could be new settings for using PB, or ways of building upon how PB is already being used.

During this discussion we'll present our groups with a template for starting to think through how they'd apply PB in one or two of these settings dreamed up, including key considerations to think about. We'll ask participants to fill these in, drawing, where possible, from their own experiences of what has worked well and less well. They'll also be asked to reflect upon what key considerations are missing from our template.

Evaluating

Finally, our groups will evaluate their plans. We will provide prompts for thinking about this but will ask participants to also think about what we may have missed. Each group will then have a chance to share an application of PB that they've planned and how and why this application would work well.

Taking Things Online

In wrapping up the session we'll also invite people to fill in the online component of our session which will be open for wider public input after the session ends. We will leave aside 10mins at the end of the session to allow participants to input into these online forums.

One online forum will allow participants and others to discuss the benefits and risks of using PB. In another we'll allow people to share key considerations for effectively applying PB. We'll pre-populate this forum with some ideas and allow people to add their own. In our third forum we'll upload the ideas for applying PB that participants came up with and allow people to comment with pros and cons of these applications, as well as adding their own ideas.

5. Speaker bios:

Hanne is a sociologist, working for Demsoc since October. She leads Demsoc's thinking on Participatory Budgeting (PB) and participative processes, and our local and national project work in Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg.

After working for a few years as a researcher, she started working on participation for the city of Antwerp in 2011. Between 2013 and 2018 she was Project Manager for the PB process in Antwerp. She designed the process and was responsible for the implementation in the city.