

**Unlocking Benefits of
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
in decision-making**

Regional Conference

Draft AGENDA

11 June 2018

*Vienna City Hall
Friedrich-Schmidt-Platz 1,
Stairs 8, 1st Floor, Room 319*





ReSPA
Regional School
of Public Administration



8:30 Registration of participants

9:00 **Welcome Statements**

Mr. Gazmend Turdiu, Deputy Secretary General of the Regional Cooperation Council

Ms. Zorana Gajic, Programme Manager, Regional School of Public Administration

Mr. Thomas Prorok, Deputy Managing Director KDZ – Center for Public Administration Research, Austria

9:15 **Public Participation that Delivers**

This panel will lead the way towards discussing all aspects of public participation during the conference day. It will deliberate on questions, such as how public participation is embedded into policy-making, what is concrete added-value of public participation for evidence-based policy-making, how can the Western Balkans Recommendation on Public Participation help in achieving Better Regulation.

Keynote speech and facilitation – **Mr. Rudi Schicker**, Priority Area Coordinator “Governance” of EU Danube Strategy – **Public Participation in the Danube Region and Vienna**

Discussions with:

Mr. Bagrat Tunyan, Senior Adviser, SIGMA/OECD

Ms. Linda Jākobsone, Deputy Director, Public Policy Centre PROVIDUS, Latvia

All participants

10:30 **Networking at a coffee**



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11:15

Unlocking the Potential of Public

Even though the regulatory framework for policy-making in all economies includes several entry points for public to participate, organisations, business associations and individuals are still generally either passive or not aware of the public participation options. The panel will, thus, explore why citizens are not interested in the decision-making process, when and how to raise their awareness on the importance of Public Participation and how to attract their interest.

Keynote speech and facilitation - **Mr. Radu Cotici**, Regional Cooperation Council

Discussions with:

Mr. Thomas Prorok, Deputy Managing Director KDZ – Center for Public Administration Research – **Building Trust through Budget Transparency**

Ms. Milena Lazarevic, Programme Director of European Policy Centre, Serbia

All participants

12:30

Lunch Break

13:45

Targeted Public Participation – How to design the most effective public participation process?

This Panel will look into prerequisites for most effective process. Which decisions need to be taken when designing the process? How to select the key stakeholders? What are the most effective communication instruments to target the right public? How to choose most appropriate consultation methods?

Keynote speech and facilitation - **Mr. Luka Ivanič**, Head of the Environment and Spatial Planning Office, Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning of Slovenia

Discussions with:

Ms. Andrea Binder – Zehetner, Managing Director of the Association of Local Agenda 21 Vienna – **Participation through the Local Agenda 21 in Vienna**

Ms. Daniela Vancic – European Programme Manager at Democracy

International

All participants

15:00

Networking at a coffee

15:30

Workshop: Unlocking Benefits of Public Participation in Decision-Making

In a final workshop, the lessons learned of the Regional Conference “Unlocking Benefits of Public Participation in decision-making” will be compiled. Together with the participants, the two main aspects of public participation in will be elaborated and documented:

- *What are the main obstacles for public participation?*
- *What are the next steps to be done?*

Keynote speech and facilitation - **Mr. Goran Forbici, CNVOS Slovenia – Western Balkans Recommendation on Public Participation**

All participants

16:45

Closing Statements

19:30

Official Dinner