



The
Democratic
Society



Incubator meeting, Sunday 18th November, Strasbourg

The incubator for participatory democracy is based on an alliance of democracy innovators, brought together by the Council of Europe at the World Forum for Democracy and co-ordinated by The Democratic Society. Its purpose is to connect city governments in Europe and beyond with democracy innovators to replicate and scale up democratic innovations.

It is made up of local government institutions, mostly city councils, interested in developing or further developing their practice on participatory democracy. Alongside them, a number of innovation partners support and accelerate the development of ideas. The Incubator members collectively hold the vision and work to support its development.

Purpose of the day

To reconnect with each other, to develop practical actions that we can take as a community of innovators and cities during 2019 and to think about how to expand our community.

Theme

From project work to system change

Agenda

10.00 Welcome

10.30- 11.30: Session 1 (plenary): Where we are

Moving participation from a series of disconnected experiments into something more systemic and sustainable. What are the current opportunities and blockages? Cities and innovators share their experiences.

Coffee break

11.45 - 13.00: Session 2 (Group work): Pathways to system change.

In small groups, participants develop the three common opportunities and three common challenges that help/prevent a systemic shift in participation and share back into the whole group.

Lunch Break

14.00- 15.30 Session 3 (Changed groups): building on opportunities, overcoming challenges.

In small groups, cities and innovators work on a plan for individual and shared action.

Coffee break

Session 4: 15.45 - 17.00: (plenary) What's next?

Cities and innovators think on how they would like to see the network in the medium term and how the network can be expanded.