

DIFFUSION AND USE OF PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING IN PORTUGAL

Bratislava, Slovakia
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OFICINA
WE BELIEVE IN PEOPLE



CONTEXT

A large audience of people is seated in a hall, facing a stage area. The audience is diverse in age and appearance. In the background, there are large banners and posters. One prominent banner on the left reads 'ORÇAMENTO PARTICIPATIVO' (Participatory Budgeting). Another banner on the right reads 'CASCAIS' with the tagline 'The Charm of an Atlantic Coast'. There are also smaller signs, including one that says 'GULL'. The setting appears to be an indoor event space with a high ceiling and large windows.

DIFFUSION AND USE OF
PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING
IN PORTUGAL

PORTUGAL

10 million of inhabitants

308 municipalities

20 years of PB

138 PB active in 2019

76 PB active in 2021 (-45%)

National Network of
Participatory Municipalities
(since 2014)



Time line

20 years of PB and 5 municipal mandates



Diversity of Participatory Budgeting

- Significant number of municipal cases,
- Expansion of processes with young people,
- 2 regional PB experiences, promoted by the Governments of the Autonomous Regions of the Azores and Madeira,
- 3 national experiences, promoted by the National Government,
- 2 experiences promoted by public universities,
- 2 experiences promoted by professional associations (nurses, accountants),
- 2 experiences promoted by private companies.



Network of Participatory Municipalities

This Network was created in 2014 and currently has around 65 local governments, which are committed to promoting participatory processes.

The technical coordination is the responsibility of the Association Oficina, an NGO.



Main activities

- Promote participatory democracy at the local level
- Facilitate the exchange of experiences
- Promote the training of the various actors
- Maintain an up-to-date information system on mechanisms of participatory democracy in the country
- Promote international cooperation
-



Objectives of the network

- Regional training sessions
- National conferences
- Methodological guides
- Studies and publications
- Participation best practices award
- Internet and Facebook
- Cooperation with other networks



CASCAIS PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING

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ORÇAMENTO PARTICIPATIVO'19

AQUISIÇÃO DE 2 V... (VTCI E VTTT) PARA OS B... DE ALCABIDECHÉ

PROponente: JOSÉ G...
Nº DE VOTOS: 7151
FREGUESIA: ALCABIDECHÉ
ÁREA: SEGURANÇA E PROT...
ORÇAMENTO FINAL: 350.000

projeto OP33

CASCAIS





**CASCAIS
PARTICIPA**
A SYSTEM OF
PARTICIPATION

APPS

City Points

Geo Cascais

Cascais EDU

Agenda
Cultural

Fix Cascais

ONLINE

Ideas for
Cascais

Public
Consultations

PROJECTS

Neighbourhood
Tutors

Participatory
Budget

Youth PB

Youth Voices

POLICIES

Collective
Cooperation

Volunteering
Education for
Citizenship

9 editions
PB CASCAIS

7.711

participants in
public sessions

1.347

proposals

528.760

votes

€ 38,14

millions of
investment



Methodology

Participation Cycle



Participatory
Budgeting

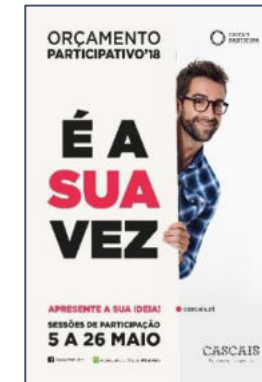
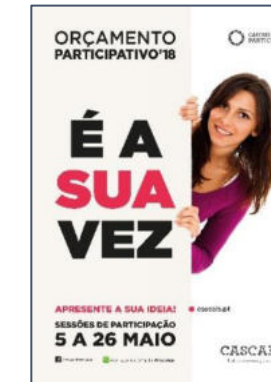


1

January - March

Preparation of the process

Rules evaluation and communication strategies



Participatory Budgeting

2

April - May

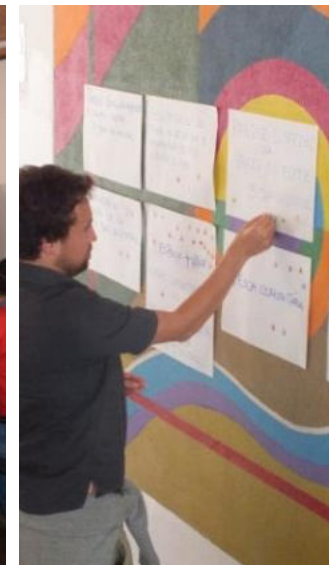
Reception of proposals

9 sessions are organized on the whole territory.

The sessions always take in account accessibilities.



Participatory
Budgeting



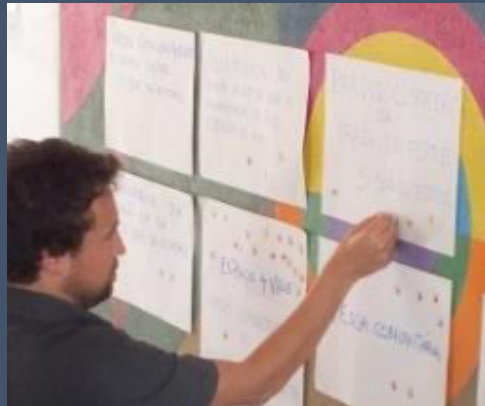
1. The participants gather around tables where they present their proposals. Each group has a moderator.



2. The participants discuss the proposals and decide, by voting, which two are considered the highest priority in each group.



3. The two winning proposals from each group are exposed on the wall of the room and presented to all the presents.



4. The participants vote on the proposals presented in plenary and approve those that go on to the next phase of the process - the technical analysis.



The number of proposals approved is proportional to the number of participants in each meeting.



3

May - September

Technical Analysis

Cost: each project cannot exceed 300.000,00 €.

Time: it should be concluded between 24 and 36 months.

Analysis: Meetings are conducted with the proponents of the proposals and visits to the implementation sites are organised.

Maintenance: The costs of maintenance and future management are also evaluated.



Participatory
Budgeting



4

October - November

Voting

Voting is done by SMS or through the Participatory Budgeting website.

Each participant has 2 votes for different projects.



Participatory
Budgeting



PB 2017

75.357 voters

PB 2018

78.449 voters

PB 2019

69.766 voters

5

December

Presentation of results

The results are presented at a public ceremony usually attended by around a thousand people.



Participatory
Budgeting



Veľká vďaka



KNOW MORE



www.oficina.org.pt



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