

Enhancing crime prevention through community engagement

Conference on citizen participation in safety and security

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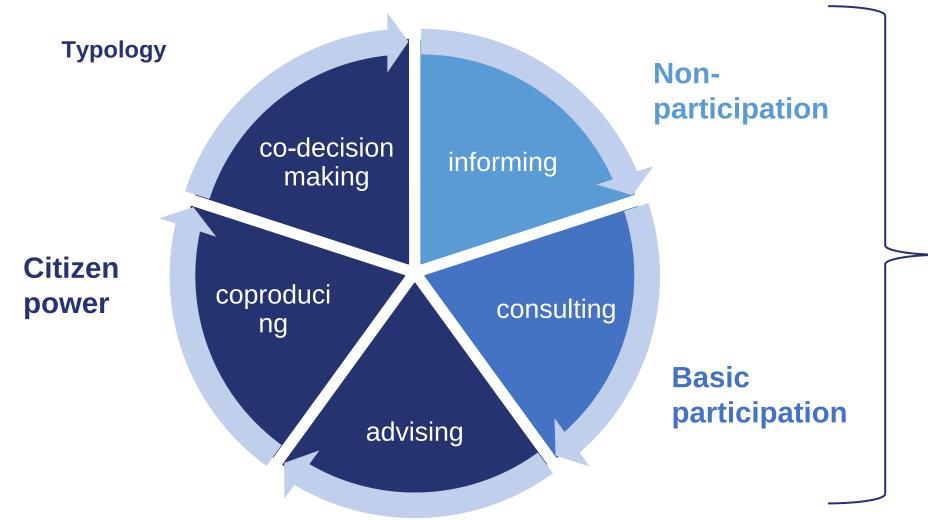
European Crime Prevention Network

- Aim = offer a platform where MS can exchange information & good practices on crime prevention
- BE Presidency

Community engagement

- Participatory approach
- Citizens get the opportunity, capacity or willingness to collectively work towards long-term political & social changes
- Citzens = coproducers of public safety
- Many forms & types depending on context

What is community engagement?



- 1. Surveillance
- 2. Detection
- 3. Care for public spaces
- 4. Conflict mediation
- 5. Contact promotion
- 6. Information mediation
- 7. Policy influencing

6 Challenges

Challenges of community engagement

Recruitment

- Depends on context
- Leaflets, election, (self-) nomination
- Strong framework

Organisational barriers

- Well-defined roles and placement
- Capable frontline workers
- Managerial support

Lack of training

- Training based on the position
- Relevant delivery
- Ongoing training moments

Unequal representation

- Neighbourhood drivers
- Absence of (minority) groups
- Capability & accessibility

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Guiding principles to effective engagement

Effective community engagement

- No one-size-fits-all solution
- Consider:
 - Characteristics of the neighbourhood
 - Citizens perceptions & needs
 - Organisational resources
- Guidelines for policymakers & frontline workers:
 - 1. Check the relevance
 - 2. Choose the goal(s)
 - 3. Design the initiative
 - 4. Create a framework
 - 5. Plan the initiative
 - 6. Execution and evaluation



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