

Launch of the TeRRIFICA Policy Brief I

Citizen participation matters: Recommendations for fostering co-creation for climate change mitigation and adaptation

- The TeRRIFICA project launches its first Policy Brief directed at the European Commission and national policy-makers. It integrates guidelines and recommendations on enabling participatory processes through policy.
- The TeRRIFICA project has implemented a bottom-up Citizen Science approach and evaluated co-creation events in pilot regions across Europe. These case studies have brought forward the policy recommendations included in the Policy Brief.
- The full Policy Brief is available [here](#).

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Climate change mitigation and adaptation are increasingly receiving attention not only from researchers and sustainable development practitioners, but also policymakers and a range of publics. The EU funded project TeRRIFICA (Territorial Responsible Research and Innovation Fostering Innovative Climate Action) aims to influence climate change mitigation and adaptation with a specific focus on Responsible Research and Innovation and the co-creation of knowledge. Without appropriate actions on the regulatory level, sustainable systemic and societal change is impeded. The newly launched TeRRIFICA Policy Brief lays out policy recommendations for fostering effective climate change mitigation and adaptation by means of participatory processes.

With calls for dialogic practices on the EU and national levels, initiatives such as public consultations have increasingly become means of involving citizens in policymaking. Especially in the face of global yet highly contextual and local climate change, participatory approaches are crucial as they introduce the social responsible dimension and therefore make climate action more sustainable. However, the EU predominantly employs top-down methods (including public consultations), limiting citizens' power and influence over decision-making processes.

The TeRRIFICA project has brought forward policy recommendations originating from case studies on bottom-up approaches in pilot regions across Europe. Under the overarching theme *Citizen Participation Matters*, the recommendations focus on

participatory climate change mitigation and adaptation, as well as general participatory framework conditions.



The former cluster includes aspects related to formalisation and accreditation of climate change education, capacity-building for science communication practitioners to employ participatory formats, and incentivising co-creation within scientific processes instead of research output quantity. The latter group of recommendations starts by suggesting the promotion of multi-regional climate hubs for sharing local and contextualised expertise. It also proposes to apply a range of efficiency-increasing funding requirements for participatory EU-funded projects and supporting Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) as powerful facilitators in co-creative activities. As part of the same recommendations cluster, a set of general guidelines has been provided for participatory activities, which should be adopted and released by an official EU entity so as to share best practice and enhance the impact of co-creative projects. Policymaking itself, however, should also shift towards participation beyond consultations, for instance, by means of multi-stakeholder panels and citizen councils/conventions.

Read more here:

https://terrifica.eu/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/TeRRIFICA_D5.1_Policy_Brief_I_2021-02-09_def.pdf

Download Policy Brief here:

https://terrifica.eu/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Policy-Brief-I-TeRRIFICA_Citizen-Participation-Matters-Fostering-Co-Creation-for-Climate-Change-Mitigation-and-Adaptation.pdf

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