

9 APRIL 2025

JOURNEY 1

ENGAGEMENT FOR COOPERATION

Topic

Cooperating with citizens and other local stakeholders, engaging them to develop projects, implies a change of attitude for the local authority and new participatory governance approaches. How can this be achieved? How can we draw on tried-and-tested methods?

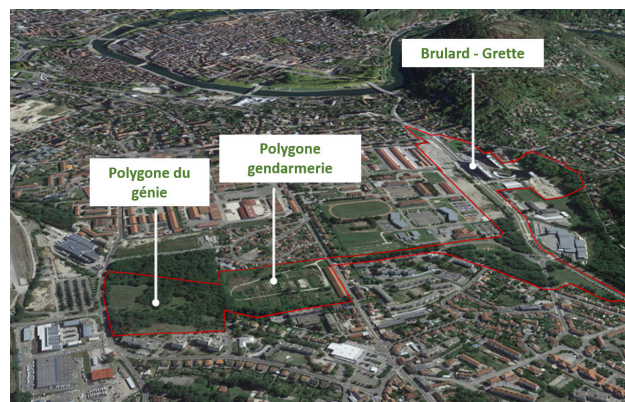
Keywords: citizen involvement – changing community's attitude – facilitating dialogues between relevant actors – supporting the change

9h45-12h30

Site visit: Grette Brulard area

Following an overview of the participatory initiatives undertaken by the city of Besançon, participants will do a visit to the Grette Brulard development project. The project aims to convert a 25-hectare site close to the historic center into 600 housing units.

The city of Besançon plans to make this district an example of the principle of rebuilding the city on top of the city, offering a new opportunity to develop alternative housing to individual homes with high environmental standards while ensuring a balanced social mix.



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12h30-14h00 *Lunch***14h-15h15** **Testimonial workshop - City Stories of citizens engagement on the energy transition**

This workshop will explore the evolution of citizen engagement as a concept: how cities have been going about it, what has changed, what are the current challenges and future rays of hope.

From less formalised to more structured forms of collaboration to involve citizens in decision making on local energy, the workshop will allow participants to analyse their evolution. Together with experts from the field we will look at engagement practices from the past and successful methods from the present time. The conversation will also lead us to reflect on the possible impacts of new technology such as artificial intelligence on these processes.

15h15-15h30 *Coffee break***15h30 -17h30** **Hold up - a collective intelligence workshop**

The session will aim at using collective intelligence from all participants to address challenges or difficulties met by some cities in developing and implementing their projects. The workshop will use the "Hold up" methodology which is based on co-development when participants help each other solve a problem with the help of facilitators.

The group of participants will split into 3 to 5 tables and, according to the "Hold up" methodology, each table will include 1 city who presents their challenges/problems to the other participants using the following steps: presentation, clarification round, formalization of a request, round of consultation and summary. The topics will be proposed by participants.

Please note that this sheet is provisional; the sheet with more technical details will be provided at the end of March.

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