Strategic partnership funded by Interreg Baltic Sea Region Programme

Project: "Empowering Participatory Budgeting in the Baltic Sea Region – EmPaci"

Documentation of 1st PB pilot

Bützow (Germany)

(for the full report of all pilot municipalities, see main document)

GoA 2.3 Output 2

December 2021



EmPaci

Status: Final

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Bützow/Germany

1. Situation before the PB implementation

Mun	icipali	ty-related factors	5					
1. Th	e PB is	implemented for						
		District		X	Municipality		Plann	ing region
2. Th	e budg	et cycle of the pub	lic aut	hority	is			
		Annual		X	Bi-annual			
3. Th	e finan	icial situation of th	e publ	ic auth	ority characterised by			
		Excess revenues			Nearly balanced revenue and expenses	es	X	Excess expenses
4. W i	th res	ect to the repaym	ent of	incurr	ed debt, the public autho	ority is	confro	onted with
	X	No difficulties			Difficulties to repay deb	ts over	an ext	ended period of time
5. In	the p	ublic authority, the	e coun	cil alw	ays has the final decision	on righ	ıt aboı	ut the implementation of
vote	d PB pr	ojects (by local/na	tional	laws	and regulations:			
		Yes	X	No				
Citiz	en-rela	ated factors						
6. Th	e citize	enry is composed a	s follo	ws:				
6a. N	umbei	of citizens:				7.800)	
6b. S	6b. Share of females (% of citizens): 51 %							
6c. Sl	6c. Share of persons aged below 18 (% of citizens): 13 %							
6d. S	6d. Share of persons aged 66 and above (% of citizens): 32 %							
6e. S	6e. Share of unemployed persons (% of citizens): 8 %							
6f. Sł	6f. Share of unemployed females (% of unemployed persons): not specified							

6g. Particularities of the population are the following

The unemployment rate is about 6 %. Bützow offers approx. 2 500 jobs subject to social security contributions, excluding mini-jobs. Since 2014 there has been a significant surplus of commuters for Bützow. Bützow registers approx. 1 300 – 1 400 commuters, who leave Bützow to work in the direction of the district of Rostock, the Hanseatic City of Rostock or with a share of 18% beyond the state border of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania and approx. 1 600 commuters, who come from the district and



predominantly Rostock to work in Bützow. Added to this, there are approx. 15 % civil servants, doctors and freelancers who are not subject to social security insurance and are calculated separately.

30 % of the jobs are in the health and social sector. Bützow has a hospital, various day care facilities, and apartments for the elderly and five nursing homes. Another 25 % of jobs are in the repair, motor vehicle trade, transport and freight forwarding sectors, followed by 10 % construction and 10 % education. The disposable income of the population is around EUR 19 200. This value applies to the District of Rostock. This is 54 % of the available income of the richest administrative district and 18 % more than the average value of the poorest administrative district in Germany.

PB process-related factors

7. PB is prescribed by law in the country / public authority:						
		Yes	X	No		
8. PB	8. PB was implemented before the EmPaci PB pilot:					
		Yes	X	No		

2. Development of the 1st PB pilot

Citizen- and PB process-related factors

9. PB is implemented to realize the following objectives:

The idea of implementing a participatory budget/an attractive form of citizen participation arose in discussions between the mayor of the city of Bützow and the project members at University of Rostock. The project members at University of Rostock developed the project idea of PB for several years, writing the project outlines and applications. Together with the project partner PferdemarktQuartier (a voluntary citizens' association), the city's project team implemented what is currently the only participatory budget in the German federal state Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania under the leadership of the University of Rostock project partners.

PB as a form of direct citizen participation was implemented in order to find a practicable and implementation-strong format in which the numerous ideas and visions of citizens find space and justification. In addition to the direct participation and realization of projects, the PB format serves further downstream goals: 1. increasing the transparency of municipal processes and responsibilities, 2. creating a perceptible value of a local government for the citizens, and 3. strengthening the cohesion and value of the individual citizen.



The outstanding advantage of PB is that it is binding and easy to use. The statute of PB stipulates that the citizens' vote on the proposals is binding and final. There is no need for approval and decision-making by the city council and/or the mayor. Consequently, only the citizen's votes decide on the realization of ideas. One of the goals is that the proposals submitted and the projects to be implemented after voting appeal to as many generations of the city's society as possible. With the projects of the 1st participatory budget, we can consider this goal achieved. We also set the goal of a 10% participation rate. This goal was not achieved. Just less than 6% of citizens participated in the vote. For the 2nd participatory budget, we will continue to pursue the goal of a 10% participation rate.



10. The following target groups are aimed to be involved in PB:

- Children till 12 years
- Teenagers till 18 years
- Young adults up to 25 years
- Young families
- Couples in best age
- Seniors
- Volunteers

10a. Reasons, why these specific target groups were selected:

The diversity of a city is based on the diversity of generations and interest groups. In order to make this diversity visible in PB, it is necessary to define and specifically address the relevant target groups. The first six target groups (children till 12 years, teenagers till 18 years, young



adults up to 25 years, young families, couples in best age and seniors) have been included, since the citizens` needs analysis conducted previous to the 1st PB pilot showed that citizens of these age groups and/or family status have specific needs for the implementation of PB (more online vs. offline formats, specific topics such as leisure and sports). Volunteers have been specifically addressed since these are seen as important multipliers in the city.

11. Based on the analysis of the citizen survey, the following needs of citizens were taken into account for PB implementation:

To make the possible variety of topics visible, categories were assigned on the proposal cards and in the online form: New construction, order and safety, planting, events, tourism, streets and roads, projects and equipment city. This bandwidth can open the space for ideas and meet the wishes of the citizens. It was also created as desired in each case an online possibility and offline possibility for the submission of proposals as well as for the vote.

PB process-related factors

12. The following steps were undertaken to develop ideas and concepts for the PB process:

The design of the first participatory budget and the design of the process steps for the best possible implementation took place in the first step in the team of the city administration of Bützow. With the experiences from other cities in connection with the individual goals and the goals of the project, the process steps were suggested in common rounds and the periods and involved persons were determined, in order to discuss these afterwards with PP1 and PP3 on feasibility, logical sequence and meaningful regarding the goals. At the same time, the City of Bützow administration produced a draft statute that was closely oriented to successful PB. This draft was discussed in the committees and in the meeting of the city representatives, changes were incorporated and the final version was presented for decision and resolution. A separate statute was adopted: Every citizen has the opportunity to submit proposals for the participatory budget throughout the year. The deadline for the participatory budget is 30. April in each year. All proposals submitted by 30. April will be considered for the current year. After the deadline, all proposals are checked for compliance with the statutes, commented on and budgeted by the administration, and then published in a proposal booklet. After publication of the proposals, there are two election phases. An online election and an offline election in the city hall. It is expected that these two phases will last 2 - 3 weeks each. After the voting, the winners will be announced and the implementation of the proposals will start.

12a. Internal training activities were organised:



□ Yes	X	No
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13. Citizens were involved in the development of the PB cycle the following way

No.

14. Citizens were informed about PB initiation in the following way:

After the resolution of the statute and the parallel resolutions of the budgets for the participatory budget in the biannual budget of the city, the announcement took place in the official announcement organ the "Bützower Landkurier". Since January 2020, a report on the progress of the project and the participatory budget has been published every month. Also the supporting distribution of the proposal cards took place through the monthly newspaper. The first proposal phase was exceptionally extended by six weeks due to the pandemic last year. We hung highly visible banners in the downtown area to promote participatory budgeting due to the lack of events. Everyone, who drove through Bützow, could see at least two banners for the participatory budget. In May and June, there was also intensive reporting in the daily newspapers. For animation and ease of use, PP3 distributed suggestion cards to almost every one of the 4 000 households. After the end of the proposal phase, the number of proposals was published on banners and, from August until the voting phase, it was reported intensively on the available proposals and their classification and evaluation. In the course of the preparation of the voting phase, all proposals were printed in a proposal booklet, which was published in high quality. It included information about information events organized by PP3, a map of the city of Bützow showing were the proposals are highlighted and a greeting from the mayor. In preparation for the voting, each proposer was directly and personally contacted, pointing to the voting procedures. Also during this period (mid to late October) there was close coverage of the daily press. Also social media campaigns were initiated and the status of the project and the participatory budget in committees and the city council was reported on.

14a. An	own o	lissemination &	communi	ication plan	was develo	ped for this
X	Yes			No		



15. These were the (internal and external) main promoters and success factors in the development of PB:

The successful development of the PB process is largely due to knowledge of the networks and structures of urban society. In addition, existing and successful participatory budgets were analyzed and adapted to the city of Bützow. The city administration basically has tried and tested channels for distributing information that are regularly used and satisfactorily consumed. Thus, with the results of the citizen survey evaluated by the university (PP1) and the project partner PferdemarktQuartier, the internal team of PP2 was able to adapt the processes to Bützow and implement them successfully.

Also, the success factors are based on the high penetration of the population. The population was divided into target groups and defined according to corresponding channels and locations on how these can be reached most appropriately and comprehensively. Reaching them by means of addressing, personal invitations, distribution of products and talks was supported by the PferdemarktQuartier association. Due to the many networks in the urban society, many generations can be reached easily.

The organized and well-used communication culture via social media, print media, the municipal announcement organ and a present public relations work in the form of posters and banners are also to be named as success factors. Last but not least, demand itself is of course also a success factor. Codetermination and co-design are a real concern for many citizens.

16. These were the main opponents and hindrances in the development of PB and it was coped with these in the following way:

The main difficulty were the restrictions imposed by the pandemic. Meetings in both private and public spaces were heavily regulated, so that conversations to develop ideas and disseminate PB could hardly take place. Above all, the intensity of education for this new possibility of direct participation with alternative communication channels had to be maintained in order to clarify the benefits and advantages for citizens. In addition, there was the inexperience of the PB processes about the time frames necessary to get the necessary attention and enable participation but without becoming arbitrary and uninteresting.

The constitutionally assured right of the City Council to have the last say on all budgetary affairs and the two year budget cycle of the city were coped with by the release of a Participatory Budget statute.

17. A project team for the PB development was formed:

$\overline{\mathbf{X}}$	Yes	Nc

17a. The project team was composed of the following functions and it was organized as follows:



The City of Bützow's project team consists of the mayor Christian Grüschow, who is involved in the project and the participatory budget on a pro-rata basis, and Katja Voß as a consultant, who also works on and is responsible for the project and the participatory budget on a pro-rata basis.

17b. When and where are different types of resources (people, knowledge, funding) needed and made available in the pilot cases:

Human resources and financial budgets were provided from the city administration. The work force is coordinative and executive provided by the project staff. At this position the planning and implementation of the participatory budgets as well as the work in the project takes place. The implementation includes the design of the formats for publication and participation in the participatory budget, communication, the placement of this format of citizen participation in the form of banners, postcards, articles, homepage publication and social media. The project work and the work on the participatory budget are done with an average of 20 hours a week. The city of Bützow bears a proportion of the costs for the staff position as its own contribution. The costs for the formats and purchases are currently still borne by the project.

18. For the IT part / online implementation of the PB, the following considerations and steps were taken: IT tools have been implemented for two different functions:

- 1. The presentation of the participatory budget and the project on the homepage including the suggestion system: The presentation was done in the existing Content Management System (CMS) and also the form system for submitting the proposals was created from existing resources.
- 2. The voting tool: There was a lively exchange with the staff of the Chair of Business Informatics of the University of Rostock and the development of a concept within the framework of a student research project for the requirements, prerequisites and technical components as well as the data protection requirements of a voting tool. After evaluating the concept and with regard to data protection requirements and ensuring the validity of the election/vote, it was decided that the two voting processes (online and offline) should be carried out separately in terms of time in order to prevent from double voting.

Voting via online tools was carried out in the first participatory budget with an external partner. Due to the short time available and the lack of capacity on the part of our system provider, it was not possible to implement our own solution. This year, it is planned to implement our own website, including reporting on past participatory budgets, the proposal forms and the voting tool.



20. The following documents, manuals, regulations were developed and used during the development of the PB process:

- Statutes
- Decision of the city council / budget for budgets
- Proposal card 1st participatory budget
- Posters 1st participatory budget
- Banner 1st participatory budget
- Design for announcement newspaper "Bützower Landkurier"
- Proposal booklet
- Design on website www.buetzow.de
- Sketches for project implementation
- Proposal card for 2nd participatory budget
- Posters 2nd participatory budget
- Banner 2nd participatory budget
- Design for announcement newspaper "Bützower Landkurier"
- Design for website <u>www.buetzow.de</u>
- Video informing about the 2nd participatory budget

3. Implementation of the 1st PB pilot

21. These are the general steps of the PB process after final approval:

- Information phase/preparation
- Proposal phase
- Check for compliance with the statutes
- Cost estimate
- Commenting and summary
- Publication of proposals
- Voting phase
- Implementation phase for the projects (including feedback reporting on status/progress)

21a. Total annual PB budget (city + district projects)

2020: 30 000 EUR 2021: 40 000 EUR

21b. Annual PB budget per citizen:

2020: 3,85 EUR 2021: 5,13EUR



21c. If	f applicable, budget earmarked	l for rela	ited internal work, comn	nunicati	ions etc.: /
21d. 1	The PB has been designed as di	irect der	mocratic tool (citizens' vo	ote = fina	al decision)
\boxtimes	Yes		No		
21e. T	The PB is designed for				
\boxtimes	Region/City projects only		District projects only		Both
21f.	Persons eligible participating	g in the I	PB:		
Age li	mits:				
Defini	ition of:				
Propo	sals: Participation without age	restricti	on, only residents of Bütz	zow adn	nitted
Numb	per of persons (in total): about ?	7 800			
Numb	per of person (% of citizens): 10	0 %			
Votes	: Participation from 12 years or	nwards,	only residents of Bützow	admitte	ed
Numb	per of persons eligible to vote (i	n total):	about 7 100		
Numb	per of persons eligible to vote (9	% of citiz	ens): 91 %		

21g. The following actions were taken to ensure that only eligible persons made proposals / voted:

In the online voting, citizens were asked to provide relevant data for unique assignment (first and last name, address data, date of birth and place of birth). With the sum of this information, the participants could be clearly assigned to the data from the residents' registration office. Duplicate voting (e.g. online and offline) could be ruled out by almost 100 %. In case of doubt, a manual reconciliation of the data could be performed downstream.

In the context of offline voting, reconciliation was carried out directly with the reported data and, if approved, the citizen received a ballot paper.

22. These were the specific dates planned for the PB process after final approval of the PB development:

05.06.2020 End of the proposal phase

19.10.2020 Start of online voting

26.10.2020 Start of offline voting

02.11.2020 Announcement of the winning projects

15.01.2021 Start of implementation of the winning projects

30.04.2021 End of the proposal phase 2nd participatory budget



31.07.2021 Publication of proposal booklet

01.08.2021 Start of online voting

15.08.2021 Start of offline voting

01.09.2021 Announcement of winning projects with handover of winning projects from 1st PB process

23. These amendments were made to the plan due to the COVID-19 pandemic:

The plan was already designed having the constraints of the pandemic in mind.

24. For citizen involvement in the PB-phases (e.g. information, proposal, co-creation, voting phase), the following steps were taken and events organized:

During the coordination phase, only three events could be offered due to the pandemic. The events were organized and carried out by a NGO/the citizen association PferdemarktQuartier.

The events took place on the following dates: 19.10.2020, 22.10.2020, 26.10.2020

Additionally, we held an online event for interested citizens on 31.03.2021 together with the project partners from University of Rostock and the citizen association PferdemarktQuartier. In this event we informed about the 1st participatory budget, about the realization of the projects as well as about the planning for the 2nd participatory budget. It was recorded for further dissemination.

25. For the activation of specific target groups of the PB, the following steps were taken and events organized:

In order to specifically address children and young people, we published information on PB directly in the facilities. Also schools were approached directly. In order to address residents who generally like to get involved, information was sent directly by mail and e-mail to the local associations and via the association network.

In addition, we always displayed up-to-date information, posters and, during the proposal phase, proposal cards in the foyer of the town hall.

25a. For the activation of <u>women</u> into the PB, the following steps were taken and events organized:

No explicit steps have been taken to activate women. The gender mix in volunteer work and in the associations is at a good level, so that the participation of women in the participatory budget was acceptable to good.

26. The following actions were taken to provide information about PB in a citizen-friendly manner:



Basically, we have designed the products (posters, banners, cards and proposal booklet) to be as simple and clear as possible. The products contain the essential information. The rules for PB are easy to grasp and the design appeals to many generations. We have also placed posters in many public areas and large banners in the city center. Regular coverage in the newspaper and also in the social media channels as well as monthly in the announcement magazine kept the threshold and hurdle for citizens relatively low.







Bützow



27. The following actions were especially taken to achieve a high participation rate:

Directly addressing target groups, using a wide variety of channels and formats to enable the visibility of participatory budgeting to all segments of the population.

28. The following steps were taken to train the own actors for PB

No training of other actors from the participatory budget took place.

29. If applicable, the following steps were taken to train actors in other municipalities (outside EmPaciproject):

No steps were taken to train staff in the communities.

4. Results of 1st PB pilot

Proposal phase:

32a. The proposal phase was implemented in the following way:

Every citizen has the opportunity to submit proposals for the participatory budget throughout the year. The deadline for the participatory budget is 30th of April in each year. All proposals submitted by the 30th of April will be considered for the current year. Delayed proposals were assigned to the next PB cycle. Proposals could be submitted online via a form placed on the city's homepage but also offline in written on "proposal cards" or by telephone calling the city administration.



2. Bürgerhaushalt: Jetzt Vorschläge einreichen

Die gewählten Ideen des 1. Bürgerhaushaltes werden verwirklicht und wir suchen die nächsten Ideen...

Zum 1. Bürgerhaushalt wurden über 150 Ideen eingereicht, von denen 54 zur Wahl zugelassen werden konnten. 4 Ideen wurden gewählt und werden bis Sommer verwirklicht.

Finden Sie, dass noch andere Ideen umgesetzt werden sollten? Reichen Sie sie gerne wieder ein.

Haben Sie eine neue, andere Idee für Bützow? Reichen Sie auch diese gerne ein.

Wie das geht?

Online - per Formular: Link zum Vorschlagsformular

Als Erinnerung und Inspiration finden Sie hier das Vorschlagsheft mit allen Vorschlägen und Ideen aus dem 1. Bürgerhaushalt. -> zum Vorschlagsheft

oder schriftlich per Brief oder Karte, die ab Ostern an vielen öffentlichen Orten in Bützow zu finden sind.

Informationen zum 1. Bürgerhaushalt und zum Projekthintergrund EmPaci finden Sie hier.



Kontakt

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Dokumente

Vorschlagskarte 2. Bürgerhaushalt (PDF, 1,7 MB, 04.05.2021)

32b. Number of citizens participating: about 140

32c. Participation rate (% of citizens): 1,8 %

32d. Number of proposals received in total: 160

32e. Main categories of proposals:

Most of the proposals concern the construction area and were submitted for planting, greening and repair of paths and sidewalks, as well as for the installation of benches.

32f. Information provided to citizens after completion of the proposal phase:

After the end of the proposal phase, an overview of all proposals was made public by also naming one or two proposals as examples. After reviewing the proposals, these were published in the proposal booklet and sent to all proposers and distributed to 75 % of the households in Bützow: Due to a lack of available time, the households/streets from which the proposals were predominantly submitted were selected, as participation in the voting is likely here. Subsequently, other households and streets were selected, which are mainly inhabited by families, children, cohabitants and seniors. In the short time available, it was not possible to reach more than 75 % of the households. A reporting as already named by means of press, webpage etc. took place likewise.

Ergebnisse Bürgerhaushalt 2020





BÜTZOWER BÜRGERHAUSHALT 1010

30.000 EUR stehen in diesem Jahr für die Umsetzung der Vorschläge aus dem Bürger-

1921 Stimmen wurden im Rahmen der Abstimmung für die Vorschläge vergeben und die meist gewählten Vorschläge sind:

Vorschlag 1 "Verkehrskonzept Wallstraßen" 5.000 EUR 357 Stimmen

Vorschlag 10 "Skateranlage Bützow" 10.000 EUR 157 Stimmen

Vorschlag 11 "Ein Ort in Bützow,...." 10.000 EUR 154 Stimmen

Vorschlag 52 "Ausbau eines Wanderweges..." 5.000 EUR 70 Stimmen

Der Vorschlag 52 wird umgesetzt werden, da das Budget für diesen Vorschlag dem Restbudget entspricht.

Die komplette Übersicht finden Sie hier.

haushalt zur Verfügung.

Und wenn Sie bereits Ideen für den nächsten Bürgerhaushalt haben, reichen Sie sie gerne jetzt schon mittels unseres Formulars ein --> hier geht's zum Formular



Katja Voß

Referentin Projekte und Öffentlichkeitsarbeit

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Feasibility check:

33a. A feasibility check of proposals or voted projects was implemented:

X	Yes, of the proposals	Yes, of the voted projects	No

33b. The feasibility check was implemented in the following way

The feasibility study was conducted in two stages. In the first step, the proposals were examined with regard to the following criteria:

- 1. Compliance with the applicable law/Participatory Budget statute
- 2. No double funding
- 3. Benefiting the general public
- 4. Multiple submissions
- 5. No follow-up costs

Baltic Sea Region EUROPEAN UNION EUROPEAN PROJONAL DEVELOPMENT FIND

After this first step, the proposals were partly summarized and concretized (Among other things, with consultations with the proposing persons). Subsequently, the proposals were assigned to the departments.

In the second step, the assessment was carried out in cooperation with the departments with regard to the following points:

- 1. Cost estimation
- 2. Assessment of follow-up costs
- 3. Assessment of responsibility
- 4. Examination of whether resolutions oppose the proposal
- 5. Check if proposals are already planned in the administration

With this information, the proposals were commented and published accordingly.

33d. If applicable, citizens making specific proposals were involved in the following way:

In some cases, proposers were consulted to clarify outstanding issues.

33e. The difficulties that became apparent through the feasibility check:

Essentially, no difficulties have been encountered or have occurred.

33f. As a result of the feasibility check, the PB process should be changed as follows:

Changes not necessary.

33g. Ratio of ideas given vrs. plans that make it to voting stage: $40\,\%$

Voting phase:

34a. The voting phase was implemented in the following way:

The voting phase has already been announced in the proposal booklet, accompanied by the daily press, announced in the announcement magazine, and promoted via social media. In addition, we encouraged and motivated citizens directly and also networks and associations to vote. The information was also distributed via various private WhatsApp accounts.

The link to the online tool was published on the home page of the municipal website. The voting period was one week. Afterwards, citizens could vote offline in the city hall. The proposal period was also one week.

34b. Each citizen was given the following number of votes: 3

34b. Number of citizens voting: 399



34c. Participation rate (% of citizens): 6,4 %

34c. Number of votes received in total: 500 votes were received, but 101 had to be counted as invalid. Each citizen had 5 votes at their disposal. The total number of votes cast is 1 921

34d. Results of the votes (which projects with which amounts and votes were winning):

Proposal 1 "Traffic concept Wallstraßen"	5 000 EUR	357 votes
Proposal 10 "Skater park Bützow"	10 000 EUR	157 votes
Proposal 11 "A place in Bützow,"	10 000 EUR	154 votes
Proposal 52 "Extension of a hiking trail"	5 000 EUR	70 votes

34e. Total PB budget realized / implemented: Not yet final

34f. Was part of the total PB budget unused?

 $oxed{\boxtimes}$ No $oxed{\square}$ Yes, unused

34g. Information provided to citizens after completion of the voting phase:

Immediately after the voting phase, the winning projects were announced and published on the website buetzow.de.

34h. Extent to which the approved projects can be realized:

Three projects can be implemented as proposed or as planned. One project has the challenge that the city is responsible but approval of another authority is required as prerequisite of implementation. Thus, the degree of feasibility is not yet known.



34i. Timeframe planned to realize the approved projects:

The Skater park

The idea for a Skater park was submitted three times as a proposal. The open space of the basketball area at the youth club "Domizil" is well suited for the installation of various skating elements such as a half pipe, a quarter and others. The selection of the best possible elements took place together with the young people.

Currently the offers are being compared so that it is planned that the elements can be built up in summer 2021.

Wie Ideen des Bürgerhaushaltes wahr werden...

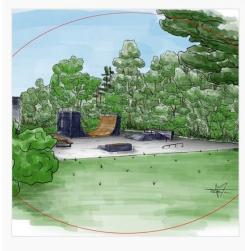
Vier spannende Ideen wurden von den Bützower*innen gewählt. Hier finden Sie den aktuellen Stand der Umsetzung dieser Ideen:

Der Skatepark

Die Idee für einen Skatepark wurde dreimal als Vorschlag eingereicht. Das **Freigelände der Basketballfläche am Jugendclub Domizil** eignet sich gut für das Aufstellen verschiedener Skatingelemente wie z.Bsp. eine Half-Pipe, ein Quarter und andere. Die Auswahl der bestmöglichen Elemente erfolgte gemeinsam mit den Jugendlichen.

Aktuell vergleichen wir die Angebote und planen, dass die Elemente im Sommer aufgebaut werden können.





Verkehrskonzept Wallstraßen

Hiking trail Vierburg

The "Vierburg", a well-known and popular local recreation area, is being made usable again with the expansion of the hiking trail. Benches will be placed along the circular trail and new nature trail signs will also be installed. The hiking trail will be completed in May 2021.



A place to arrive - the "Elephant Square".

The Elephant Bridge is already almost legendary, but a place of a former garden at the bridge was still without an idea. Now, we implement the idea of the "Elephant Square" and develop a place to arrive. In the first step the square will be levelled, filled up and grass will be sown. Trees will be planted, a bicycle stand and an information board will be installed, as well as rotating sun loungers and benches. The project is to be completed in summer 2021.

34j. Extent to which citizens were involved in the realization of the approved projects:

Residents, who submitted proposal were involved to seek further input during the preliminary design of projects.

35. Citizens were informed about the completion of the 1st PB pilot in the following ways:

Please post link to accountability report: Not yet finished.

36. Other actors involved (e.g. local council) were informed about the completion of the 1st PB pilot in the following ways:

Not yet finished.



5. Assessment of 1st PB pilot and enhancement for 2nd PB pilot

37. Objectives for PB as specified in Question 9 were reached as follows:

The target of 10 % participation in the voting process was not achieved, since the participation rate was 6.4 %. This was probably due to the effects and restrictions of the COVID-19 pandemic, but also to the short timeframe for the voting process.

The goal of reaching as many of the aforementioned target groups as possible is considered to have been achieved. The analysis of the age groups of the proposers but also the contents of the proposals as well as the analysis of the data of the voters showed a distribution across all age groups and it can also be assumed that groups like engaged citizens were also reached.

38. Besides the objectives for PB as specified in Question 9, the following additional issues can be seen as a success for the PB pilot:

The diversity of ideas can definitely be considered a success, as well as the individual opinions and feedback from citizens, which were consistently positive. Also, the general communication between the city and its residents has been increased as well as the citizen's awareness and understanding of budgetary restriction of the city. Participatory budgeting enables uncomplicated participation. Regardless of how long one has lived or will live in Bützow, ideas and suggestions for improvement can be contributed. The transparent communication and the reliability of the statements or the power of a statement in the format of the participatory budget can strengthen the identification with the city and the administration.

39. Some objectives for PB as specified in Question 9 were not reached due to the following reasons: See 37.

40. To our knowledge, the following elements of the PB process are innovative compared to other PB initiatives in the BSR:

This is the first kind of direct democratic PB process in the German federal state of Mecklenburg Western Pomerania.

41. The PB benefitted from the transnational approach of the EmPaci project in the following way:

The pool of ideas and the different approaches, the exchange of the project partners from the participating regions repeatedly were input and possibility to be inspired.

42. These changes are already planned for the 2nd PB pilot to better reach objectives of PB:



We plan to give citizens more time to select proposals and to better prepare, communicate and also allow more time for voting. In addition, we hope that with more time available, more citizens will be encouraged to vote, thus achieving the goal of a 10 % participation rate.

43. These changes are already planned for the 2nd PB pilot to better involve target groups:

Eventually it will be possible to realize face-to-face events again to reach residents, who are not actively involved in PB yet, but are not hostile to this type of citizen participation. In personal conversations it can be possible to talk about doubts and to convey further information in conversation.