

Citizen`s Jury (Citizen`s Jury)

Table of Contents

<u>Citizen`s Jury</u>	1/1
<u>Summary</u>	1/1
<u>References</u>	1/1

Citizen`s Jury

Ângela Guimarães Pereira (angela.pereira@jrc.it); Tiago Pedrosa (tiago.pedrosa@jrc.it)

Summary

The citizens' jury method is a means for obtaining informed citizen input into policy decisions. The jury is composed of 12–24 persons who are either randomly selected or otherwise representative of a given public or set of stakeholders. The jurors then go through a process of deliberation and subgroups are often formed to focus on different aspects of the issue. Finally, the jurors produce a decision or provide recommendations to direct decision making in the form of a citizens' report. Juries are not designed to create a consensus amongst the jurors, but there does tend to be a momentum towards consensus. The sponsoring body (e.g. government department, local authority) is required to respond to the report either by acting on it or by explaining why it disagrees with it. Usually a 4–5 day process, the citizens' jury is intended to provide decision-making processes that better reflects the public's views and a high profile example of public engagement. The conclusions or recommendations the jury reaches are considered to represent what any member of the public would put forward if she or he had the time to investigate the issue in some depth. . In a four-day process, day one is largely about bringing jurors up to speed on the issue. Days two and three tend to focus on witness presentations about different ways of dealing with the issue. Most of the fourth day is spent by the Jury developing its recommendations.

Citizens' Jury can take between two to four months to set up costing between 60 000–120 000 Euro, depending on how long the process is designed to last and the exact nature of the methodology (see: Steyaert and Lisoir (2005), CPRN (2000), ICIS, Crosby (1995), Armour (1995)).

References

Steyaert, S and Lisoir, H (2005) Participatory methods toolkit – A practitioner's manual, King Baudouin Foundation and Flemish Institute for Science and Technology Assessment

CPRN (2000), Public Dialogue: A tool for Citizen Engagement, The Society We Want project, Canadian Policy Research Networks

ICIS Building Blocks for Participation in Integrated Assessment: A review of participatory methods.

Crosby, N. (1995). Citizens Juries: One Solution for Difficult Environmental Questions. In O. Renn, T. Webler and P. Wiedemann (Eds), *Fairness and Competence in Citizen Participation*, pp. 157–174. London: Kluwer Academic Publishers.

Armour, A. (1995). The Citizens' Jury Model of Public Participation: A Critical Evaluation. In O. Renn, T. Webler and P. Wiedemann (Eds), *Fairness and Competence in Citizen Participation*, pp. 175–187. London: Kluwer Academic Publishers.