





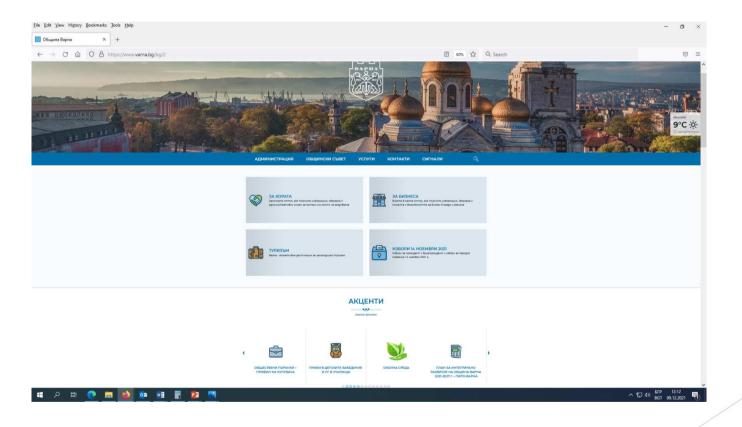
«Local communication, digital tools and citizenship»











% Men: 42 % % Women: 58 %

Number of experts (local stakeholders, cities staff): 8
Number of attendees (citizens): 4







Expert committee stakeholders



- Action/Project n°1: Communication channels
 - Internet sites of the municipality: varna.bg (main), livevarna.bg, visit.varna.bg, varnaculture.bg, youth, social activities, prevention, urban development, municipal council
 - Social media: Facebook, Instagram, YouTube
- Action/Project n°2: Communication with citizens
 - Electronic system for feedback and submission of signals by citizens
 - Public opinion survey on the Integrated development plan of Varna (2021-2027)
- Action/Project n°3: Digital services
 - Electronic administrative services
 - Electronic submission of documents for admission to nurseries, kindergartens and first grade; documents for financial support for projects developed by citizens and NGOs in the field of culture and youth
 - Digital applications for payment of local taxes, parking tickets in the city, bus tickets for the public transport
 - Free internet in public areas of Varna
- Action/Project n°4: Communication with civil society organizations and civic participation
 - Draft Ordinance on public consultations and discussions within project "Democratization of policy-making and implementation processes in cities with districts"



Citizens committee



Main reactions, lessons learned, expressed needs and proposals "from the field":

- Sometimes the information, the municipality provides is difficult to understand by the regular citizens: it looks like they speak different languages; lack of effective communication between the municipality and the citizens;
- Active citizens are not always positive and focused on the concrete topic;
- The existing opportunities for civic participation are not effective enough and are not fully used by the citizens. New forms of civic participation will stimulate collaborative participation;
- The most appropriate forms of citizen involvement are based on new technologies electronic platforms for direct communication;
- The use of many digital services is complicated by the requirement of an electronic signature, because not all citizens have it, especially the elderly







Best practices



Among all actions/projects, please identify some best practices:

- 1. System for electronic submission of documents for admission to nurseries, kindergartens and first grade
- 2. Elaboration of the Integrated Development Plan of the Municipality of Varna with citizens' participation







Relevance of selected best practices Link with EUDIGIT'S objectives



EUDIGIT's objectives	n°	Action/ project
Strengthening EU citizenship and citizens awareness	4	Elaboration of the Integrated Development Plan of the Municipality of Varna with citizens' participation The project "Democratization of policy- making and implementation processes in cities with districts"
Contributing to reduce the digital gap in cities	3	Digital services provided by the municipality Providing free internet in public areas
Co-building digital policies with citizens	2	Elaboration of the Integrated Development Plan of the Municipality of Varna with citizens' participation

Thank you for your attention!





