



Enabling citizen's initiative to eParticipation

The TID+ project aims to develop a tool that can be made available to citizens by public and private bodies and organisations, on a local, national and international level. The tool allows to initiate ideas, to discuss them and to ensure a response.

= international, scalable, adaptable, explained

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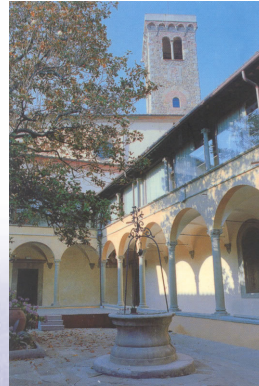


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3



TOM and TID+



The original TOM tool (since 2000) www.eesti.ee/tom/



e-participation portal project

Includes an updated TOM system ("TOM version 2"), amongst other elements

TID+ project

Builds on the updated TOM system („TOM version 2“) and adds functionalities
⇒ software available in English, adaptable and customisable, open source



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4





TID+ situated

| TOM | "TOM v2" (Ideed) | TID+ |
|---------------------------|--|---|
| ✓ Stand-alone application | ✓ Embedded in e-participation portal | ✓ Stand-alone application |
| | ✓ In Estonian language | ✓ In English, easily translatable |
| | ✓ Licensed for use within Estonia | ✓ Open license, freely adaptable and distributable |
| | ✓ Designed for use by central government | ✓ Adaptable for use by any (non)governmental entity |
| | | ✓ Added functionalities to improve user interaction, administration, publication, ... |
| | | ✓ Scalable, customisable |
| | | ✓ English practical and conceptual documentation available |

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5



Project track

① Find out what is "wrong" with TOM

Why is e-participation (via TOM) losing importance?

- ➔ Extensive and thorough **analysis** of causes and perceptions, explains why e-participation is not easy to accomplish and to keep alive

Main issue: debates are too narrow and too easily dominated

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6





Project track

② How can we create a better tool?

What kind of technical improvements can we introduce?

- Set of **technical specifications** to be developed, making full use of Web 2.0 technologies

(connections to outside discussions, quorum levels, rejected ideas, ... = towards a self-moderated system)

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7



Project track

③ How can we make better use of a new tool?

How is the e-participation tool we develop used best and most effective?

- Set of **procedural specifications** on how to use e-participation to its full relevance

(which options carry which consequences)

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8





Project track

④ Developing TID+

- Synergy with the newly developed e-participation portal
- Open source / GPL or EUPL 1.0
- Subcontracted

Vertical

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9



Project track

⑤ Testing and fine-tuning

- The core functionalities of the tool are tested as part of the Osale project track
- TID+ specific functions and options are tested by the project partners and a group of public testers
- The real test: planned activities after the project ends
 - Trial as to adaptability, scalability, localisation
 - Implementation in a EU / other country

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10





Results

- **Software**

- TID+ creates a society-driven system of entering ideas and seeing them through (a “do” participation)
- Not a consultation system: the system is not meant (but could be used) for submitting ideas by a government itself, to check for public support
- Not an e-petition system: by default, ideas are submitted for commenting before they are submitted to voting
- Easy to maintain: the system puts as little strain as possible on the implementing entity, automating as many community aspects as is efficient

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11



Results

- **Documentation**

- The compiled documentation makes the Estonian experience with e-participation internationally available
- Next to user manuals, guidance is provided on how to set policy concerning e-participation: what works and what doesn't
- ➔ Next to the software, tools are provided to put it to its best use

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12





What lies ahead...



www.tidplus.net

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13



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14

