

Case study of piloting Participatory Budgeting in Georgian cities

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Agenda

- Project & background story
- Participatory Budgeting in Georgian cities
- Results & Impact
- Challenges & Lessons learned



Project „New e-Governance Initiatives in Kutaisi, Batumi, Akhaltsikhe and the Ministries of Finance and of Health)“



Background

- Experience with Estonian local governments since 2013
- OGP at local level: transparency, dialogue, partnership, crowdsourcing
- **Participatory Budgeting (PB)**
- **Tools for local e-democracy**

Bike-friendly sidewalks



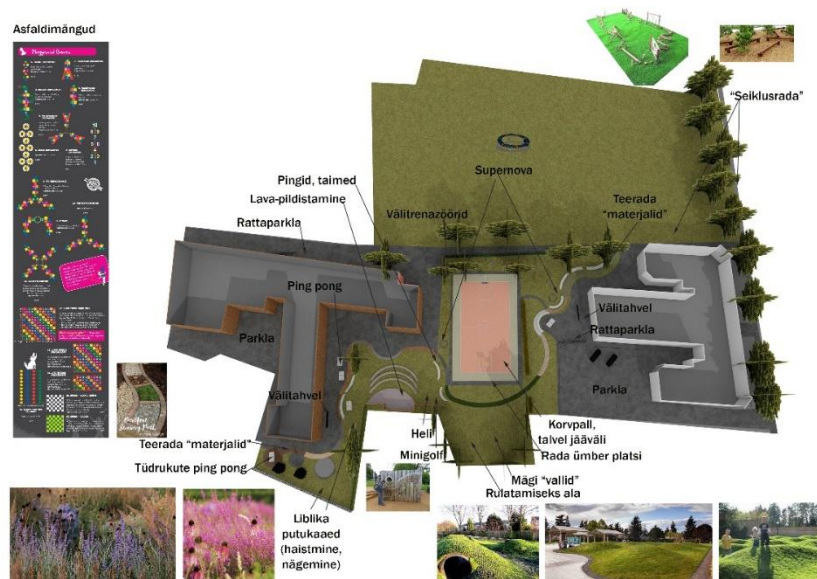
Safe barriers on the banks of river Emajõgi



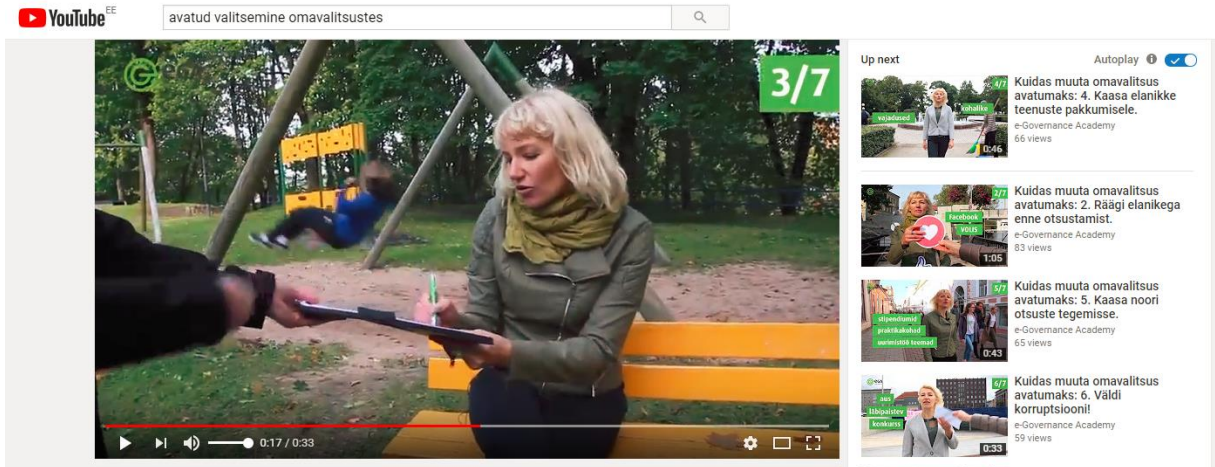
New community garden in old widget factory area



Exercise-friendly school yard



How to implement OGP at local level?



The video clip "How to make local life better with open governance"



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2g6inZquoV0&feature=youtu.be>




E-Tools: VOLIS



VOLIS

← → ↺


https://www.volis.ee/gvolis/?lang=en&kid=

☆ id Paused K

 **VOLIS**
Kohalike omavalitsuste istungite infosüsteem

EN EE RU SE NL UA A+ A-   Sign in

Memberships | Sitting | Legislations | Citizen's Initiatives |

There are **18** guests in VOLIS Search  Advanced search

Municipalities

Harju county

AKTSIASELTS ANDMEVARA

Harku vald

Jõelähtme vald

Keila linn

Kiili vald

Kuusalu vald

Maardu linn

Rae vald

Saue vald

Ida-Viru county

Jõhvi vald

Narva-Jõesuu linn

Jõgeva county

Jõgeva vald

Mustvee vald

Põltsamaa vald

Lääne county

Haapsalu linn

Introduction to VOLIS

Welcome to VOLIS!


VOLIS (System for Local Democracy Procedures) was created for: - to change decision making of the local authorities faster, simpler and also cheaper, using software solution for that; - to share all information regarding of the local decision-making with the public and also encouraging people to participate in these processes. VOLIS creates operating environments for the members of councils and local governments and shows the public what is happening at the sessions along with the agenda, voting results and automatically-writing protocol through the Internet.

Information system key features:


- Paperless document management and processing
- Different possibilities for participation in meetings including virtual participation
- E-voting ID card
- Automatic self-writing session protocol
- Session Webcast and recordings archive
- Participatory Democracy – including possibility to do paperless all participatory budgeting processes and use polls where secure voting by e population is provided

VOLIS developer and provider is Andmevara Ltd.

Original version of VOLIS was financed from the EU funds, from the European Regional Development Foundation. VOLIS is a freeware-based and license-free!


TARTU VALLA
KAASAV EELARVE 2019

SINU HÄÄL
KO GÜROONA HEAKS!

 ega.ee

Implementation of PB



Results & impact

Akhaltzikhe PB: 78 proposals submitted, budget increased

Kutaisi PB: 30 ideas submitted and presented to the Council; 3 ideas voted and the rest added as recommendations for the Budget Strategy

Batumi PB: Inspiration from the project, another tool selected

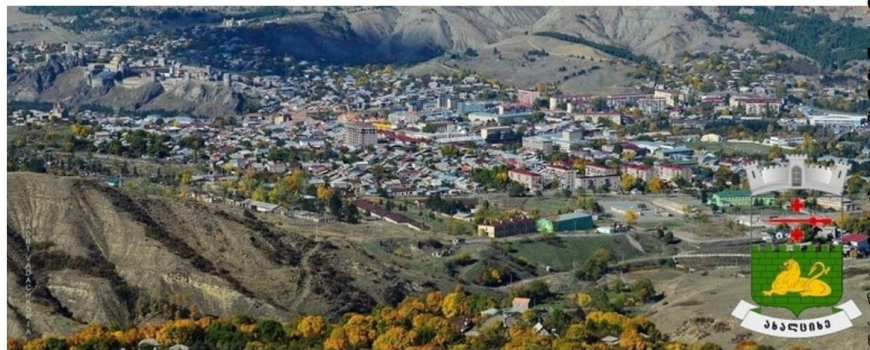
- Participation institutionalized
- Learning-by-doing exercise, easily replicable

Greening the City of Akhaltsikhe



← → ↺ <https://volis.ega.ee/gvolis/osale/index/81?kid=35494>

უკან



ყველაზე პოპულარული

1. ქალაქში ფართო ქუჩებზე უსაფრთხოების კუნძულების გაკეთება
2. ქალაქის გაწმენდა, სანიაღვროების მოწესრიგება
3. გამწვანება ქალაქში
4. ახალგაზრდული ცენტრის რეაბილიტაცია ქ. ახალციხეში

3

1

44

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დაგეგმვა შ.
წლის ბიუჯეტის

ხმის მიცემა დ.
მონაწილეობის
წინადადება გ.
მუნიციპალიტეტის

შემოსული წილი
ფულზეამოსი
იქნა შემდეგი

1 - „9 აპრილის გ.
წინადადების ა.
აგაყოფილებს
ხმის მიცემის რ.

2 - „ფუტკრის მ.
საქართველოს
სახელმწიფო პ.
აფინანსებს მსგ.
განთავსებული

3 - „N 2 საჯარო
სანიაღვრე არხ.
გეორგაძე - პრ.
შისაბრძოლო წ.

Challenges & Lessons learned

- Lack of secure identification
- Low awareness and usage of e-solutions
- Political unsustainability
- Administrative support
- Timing matters

Takeaways

- **E-tools are not miraculous PR-weapons** but technology has great potential for open, transparent and accountable governance
- **Start small, start now.**
- Engage only when **possible**, needed and **meaningful**
- **Youth engagement** is a big challenge – invent something new!

Our toolbox

- Development of new community tool – **Online-Platform for Anticorruption fight** ([Anticor Moldova](#))
- Design of local **e-engagement strategies** and implementation of e-engagement **initiatives, models and tools** ([PB](#))
- **Awareness rising and capacity building** of local administrators/politicians and communities ([OGP methodology](#))
- Supporting different countries in **implementation of e-democracy related actions** stated in **OGP action plans** ([Good e-Gov in Georgia](#))
-  [ega.ee](#) (Co)-creation of **E-Democracy and e-Government communication**



Thank you!

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More on our website <https://www.ega.ee>

NB! Watch the video <https://vimeo.com/311685097>