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Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service

Consortium led by DAAD

EU4Dialogue

Improving exchanges
across the divide through
education and culture

COMPONENT 3

Methods of community involvement in
library work

Cēsis, 29.08. 2023





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Zinta Miezaine, Capacity building expert

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Zinta Miezaine

Experience in Library and a museum (1984; 1987)

Working for government and then – for NGO

Putting the experiences together – «Workshop of Solutions»
2005.

- How to work with institutions in power;
- How to involve people.

Finding ways to cooperate based on joint interests.

Workshop of Solutions

Methods of work:

- education, trainings (opening black boxes)
- research; policy analysis
- discussions
- other.

WHY shall we involve community?

Library; Museum; Arts Centre

Initial thoughts?

Some assumptions

We care more for people, projects, institutions we had supported. . (Dan Arieli)

It is easier to befriend someone if to ask for a service (not giving a present).
(Emperess of Austria)

If 300 people are in the room, all the dreams can be fulfilled. (Barbara Sher)
Dream, Obstacles.

Resources are out there, and people are willing to contribute.

People are everywhere – also in management, local or central government, in a bank, in businesses, on streets...

From time to time we shall let go control...

Levels of involvement

Informing (We decide and inform on the decision)

Consulting (We propose draft decision, learn reactions, finalise decision)

Listening (we learn opinions, then design decision, consult, finalise, inform)

Co-creation (we plan together, consult, inform)

Task No1.

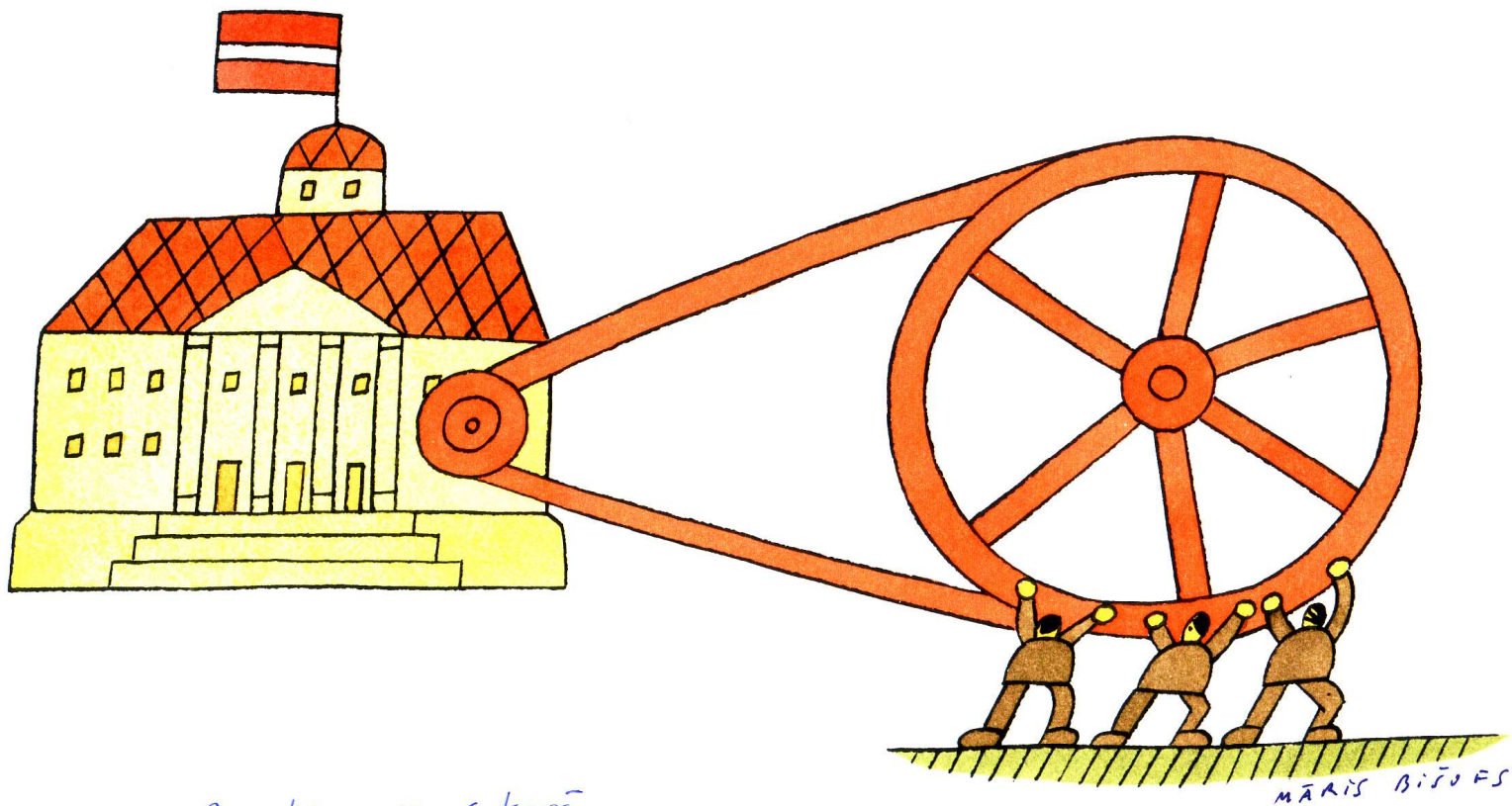
Divide in 4 groups.

Make a drawing.

Library/Museum/Arts Centre within community.

Most important groups.

How are they related to the institution? (give and get)



Ceru, ka mums kopā
Viss izdosies!
Nils Ļuņģis

Mēs... Kopā!
Māris Bišofs

Are we in power?

Managing public resources

Decide what to acquire and keep safe

Decide what is accessible

Decide how to interpret the facts.

Decide what to promote.

Principles

We shall strive involving those not organised

Safe environment. Somatibes anonymous. Method choosed must give the floor also to a shy, not loud person.

Accessible

Timely informing

...

Task No 2

A tool to gather opinions and choose the best solutions DELFI (everyone can express ideas and take part in decision making)

- Divide in groups (up to 12 people)
- Prepare lists
- Each participant shares 3 ideas
- Everyone votes for the best
- Authors calculate votes
- Most popular are announced.

Which groups are most important to enrich the collection of the library/museum.



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PART II

Planning the future steps. (involving the beneficiaries 😊)

1st step

List the highlights of the visit
(individual)

2nd step

Wich of the highlights I wish to be introduced in my Library
(museum)

(Dreams are allowed. Still individual)

3rd step

Discuss the ideas with your colleague (s)
(with an imaginary colleague/boss)

4th step

Choose the idea you may want to implement with assistance of a mentor from Latvia

5th step

Write one or two of those on post-it.
Write name of your institution on it,
(in a readable handwriting)

6th step

Add the post it to one of the following lists:

- 1) Library information resources and their management;
- 2) Digitization and preservation of cultural heritage;
- 3) Planning and development of services of libraries and cultural institutions;
- 4) Cooperation with various organizations, institutions and local communities in the field of culture.
- 5) Other



Keep your notes for evaluation form.



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THANK YOU!
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