

Attachment 8: Abstract of the project:

Model for early public participation supporting public administration and private investors for conflict management within construction and infrastructure projects at municipal level

SWD-10.08.18.7-16.45

Research project of the Institute of Technology and Management in Construction
as part of the research initiative “Zukunft Bau”
(Topic F: “Improvement of the construction and planning processes“)

Funding: Federal Institute of Building, Urban and Spatial Research (BBSR) in the Federal Office for
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Motivation

In Germany, citizens have recently expressed a growing desire for more direct democratic participation in construction projects. Public participation which is proceeded within a legal framework like the urban land-use planning proceeding (in Germany) is not conducive, especially in the case of conflict-prone construction projects. In order to support municipalities and private investors in the planning and implementation of informal public participation in construction and infrastructure projects, a model for public participation is to be developed. For this purpose, proven methods and instruments as well as basic principles of public participation are to be identified and analysed.

Research topicsObject

The project is divided into six work packages (WP) (see Figure 1), which were processed chronologically or partially in parallel. The individual work packages 0 to 5 are described in detail below.

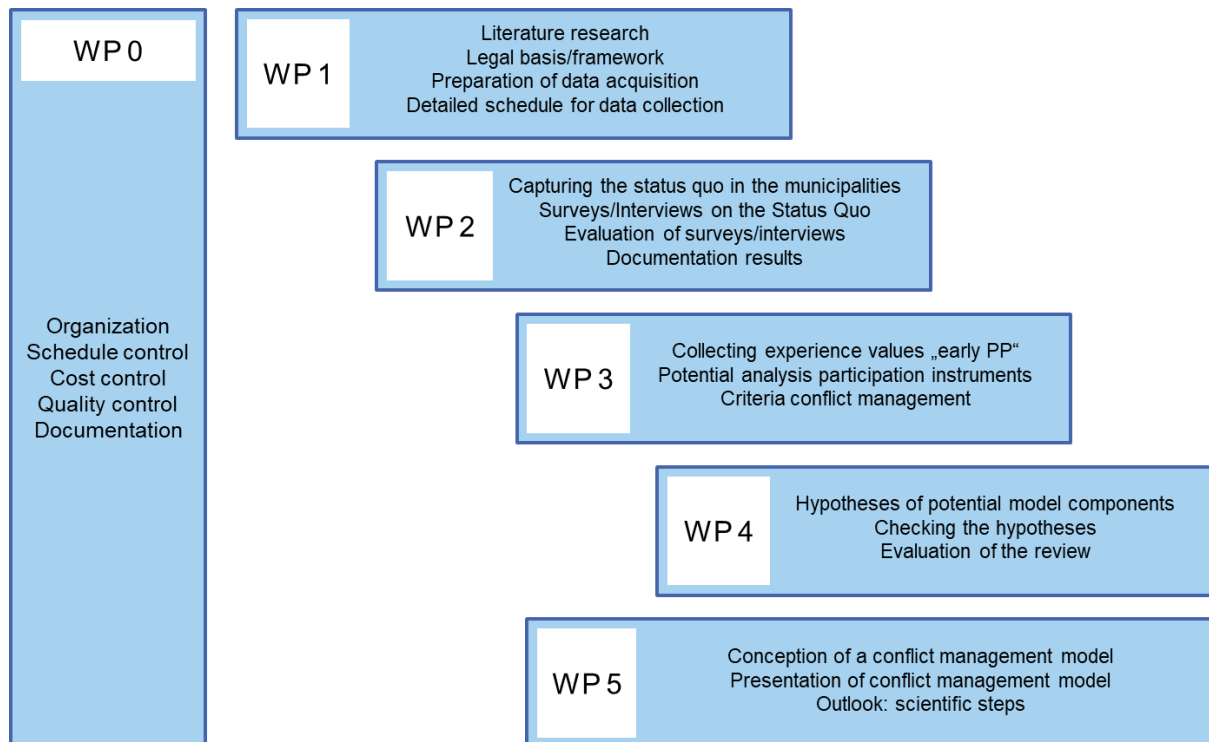


Figure 1: Work Packages (WP) of the project

Work Package 0: Project Management

WP 0 contained the organization, the schedule, cost and quality control as well as the documentation of the project and was therefore processed over the entire project duration.

Work Package 1: Basic Analysis

WP 1 included an extensive literature study on public participation in construction projects and on conflict management in general. Terms and definitions were clarified and the theoretical and legal

foundations for the implementation of early public participation as well as the theoretical foundations for conflict management were presented. Furthermore, two surveys and interviews were prepared for data collection.

Work Package 2: Descriptive Analysis

WP 2 included the status quo for early public participation in municipalities. For this purpose, existing guidelines were identified and negative or positive empirical values as well as proven methods and instruments were analysed. In order to identify effective components of early public participation, hypotheses were developed and formulated in WP 4.

Work Package 3: Identification of Methods and Instruments

With the help of the analysis of the existing guidelines and the experience of the municipalities, proven participation instruments were identified. In addition, relevant criteria for the effectiveness of the model were identified. The hypotheses on public participation in construction and infrastructure projects were derived from this.

Work package 4: Hypotheses on Public Participation

WP 4 dealt with the establishment of the hypotheses on potential components of best practices in public participation. These were verified by means of the surveys carried out amongst the users of the guidelines.

Work Package 5: Public Participation Model

Lastly, in WP 5, a model for early public participation was developed. The model consists of proven methods and instruments, as well as basic principles of public participation and conflict management.

Research Methodology

Various research methods were used to determine and analyse components of public participation in construction projects. The identification of methods and instruments, as well as criteria for public participation in construction projects were based on the data gathered from previously proven guidelines from municipalities as well as from surveys. In the course of this survey, the methods and instruments were also analysed with regard to their application and suitability. Construction projects with public participation were examined using the identified guidelines with regard to the boundary conditions for the use of different methods and instruments. Existing causes of conflict were identified and analysed. In addition, a further survey served to test the hypotheses on public participation in construction and infrastructure projects. The findings of the various studies were then incorporated into the model for public participation in construction and infrastructure projects. Figure 2 below summarises the individual steps.

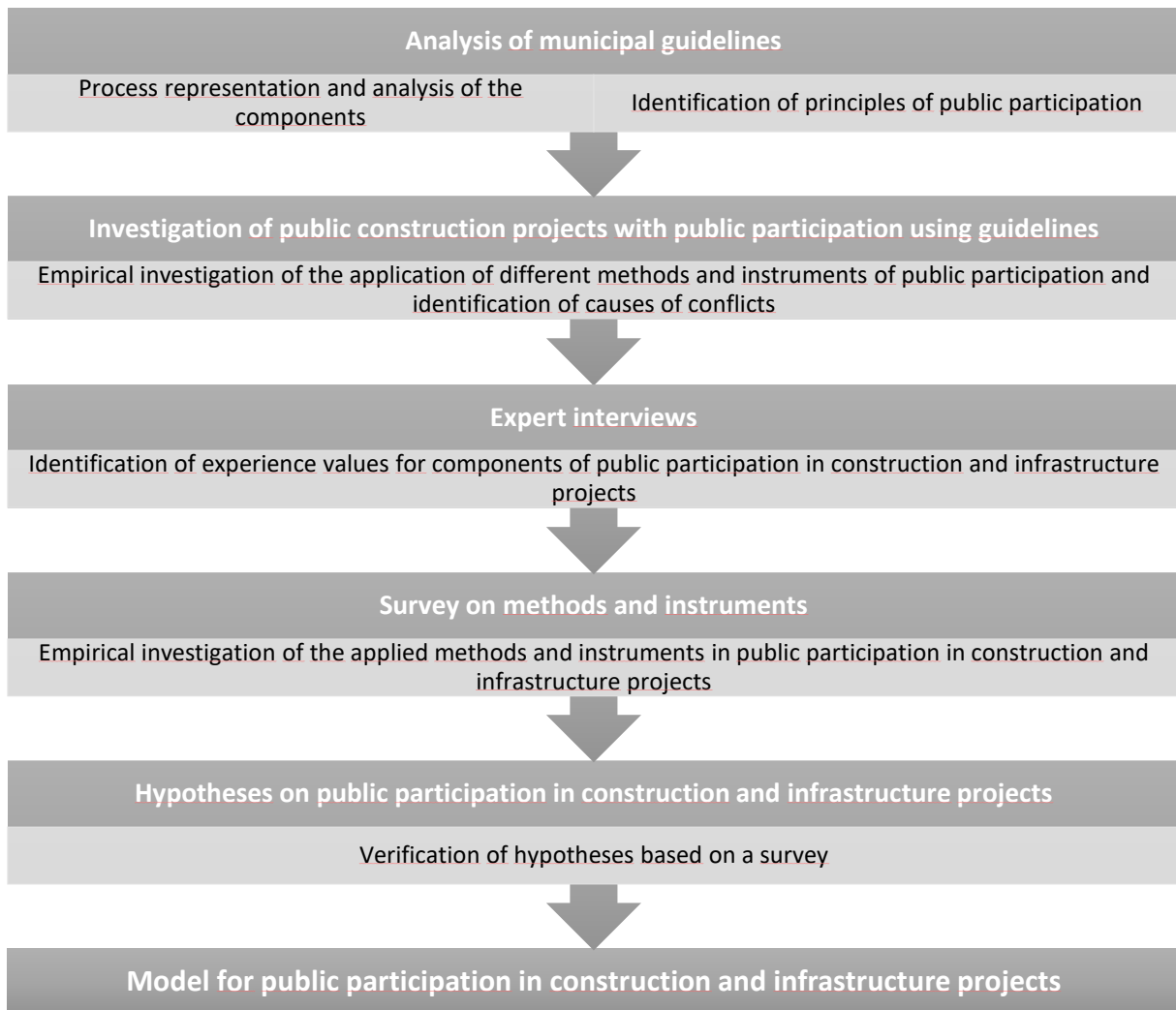


Figure 2: Procedure for creating a model for early public participation in construction and infrastructure projects.

Conclusion

The aim of the research project was to develop a model for conflict management in public participation. The research of the existing guidelines for public participation in municipalities and their application, the evaluation of surveys on components of public participation as well as the identification of the causes of conflicts could contribute to the development of a conflict management model. This model can support municipalities and private investors in planning public participation and in choosing appropriate formats, methods and instruments for public participation as shown in Figure 3.

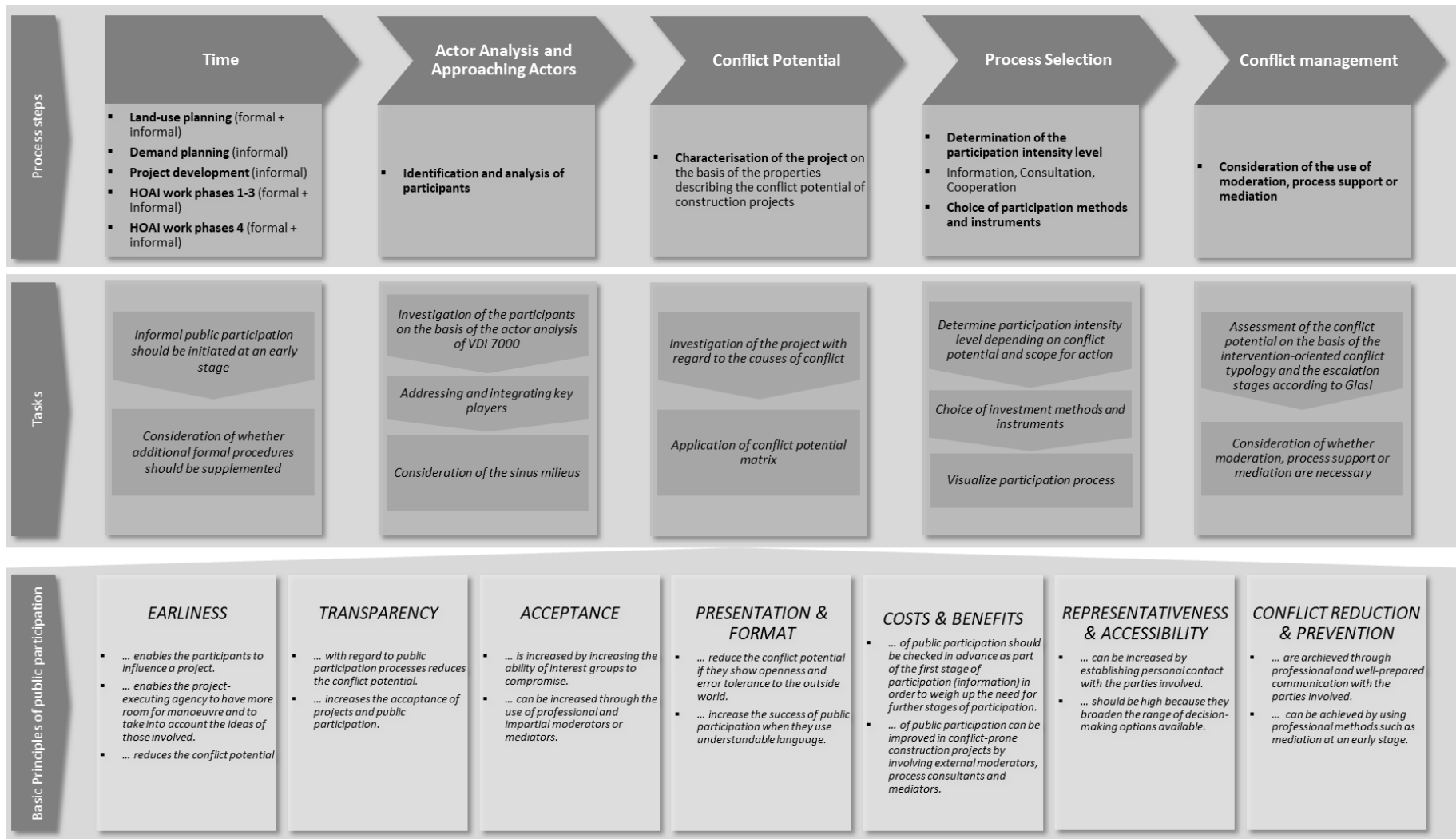


Figure 3: Model of early public participation in construction and infrastructure projects

Basic Data

Short title:	Conflict management for construction and infrastructure projects at municipal level
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Project Manager:	Prof. Dr.-Ing. Dipl.-Kfm. Shervin Haghsheno
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Share of federal subsidy:	155.101,28 €
Project duration:	24 month (+ 5 month cost-neutral extension)