



Dear Reader,

Now more than ever, it's clear that involving citizens in preparedness efforts is essential to building resilient communities and improving our ability to respond to emergencies.

As disasters become more frequent and severe, the *Empower-Citizens* project aims to support and encourage communities to play an active and collaborative role in strengthening emergency Preparedness Plans.

We're excited to share some of our first results and key highlights, and we look forward to connecting with you in upcoming events!

KEY SECTIONS

[Key Results](#)[Other Highlights](#)[Next Events](#)



First Release: The Book of Methods



We're pleased to announce the release of **The Book of Methods** - a practical guide designed to help local authorities recognize, manage, and harness the knowledge and experiences that citizens gain during disasters.

By systematically mapping and analyzing existing initiatives, this booklet supports stakeholders in adopting the **CLIPP - Citizen & Authority Learning and Improving Preparedness Plans** procedure. The goal is to strengthen collaboration between citizens and authorities, ultimately enhancing community resilience and preparedness planning.

This resource is grounded in extensive desk research, literature reviews, and an in-depth analysis of methodologies from both past and ongoing EU-funded projects focused on citizen engagement and emergency preparedness. **Explore the booklet and let us know your thoughts!**

[Link to the Booklet](#)



Let the Empower-Citizens Project Begin!



© European Union, 2025

Empower-Citizens coordinators Sonia Matera and Alberto Pasquini from [Deep Blue](#) had the opportunity to meet the 12 KAPP - Knowledge for Action in Prevention and Preparedness - projects and the Directorate General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations. **Read more about the Kick-Off Meeting in Brussels on the Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network.**

[Read more](#)



News

UCPM developments, legislative and policy updates, news from the Member States and project community, and much more.

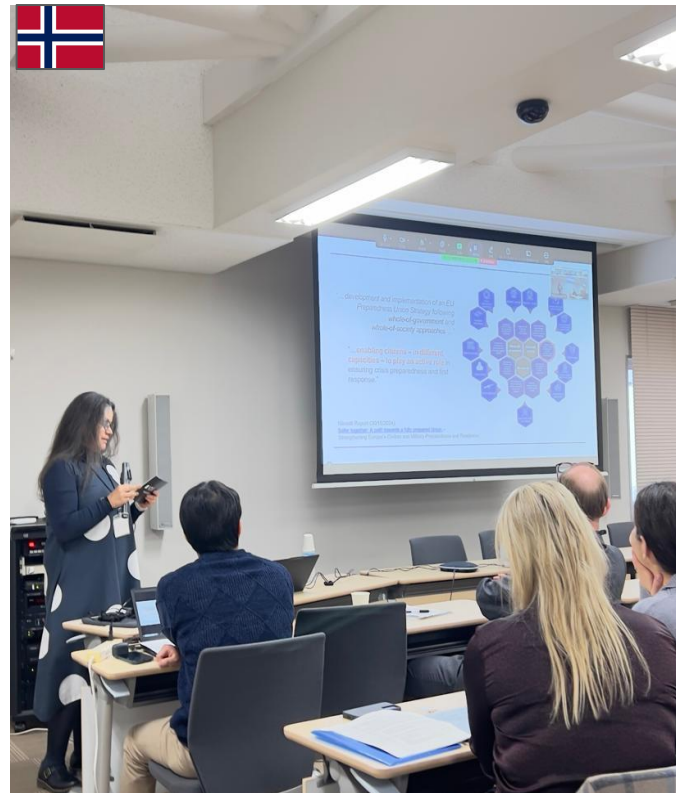
The first blog post on Empower-Citizens is now live in the News section of the Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network online platform. The Network is Europe's hub for civil protection and disaster risk management, sharing news, events, stories from the field, and updates on UCPM developments, policies, Member States, and projects like Empowerment Citizens.

Stay tuned for more!



[Read more](#)

From Plan to Practice: Test Cases Kick Off Meetings



In May and June 2025, the Empower-Citizens project has organised a local event in **Italy and Norway** to **present and officially launch the project in the areas of the Test Cases**. Relevant stakeholders joined the event, including the **local and regional authorities**, representatives of **CSOs**, and the responsables of the **civil protection groups**.

It was incredibly valuable to meet in-person with the local stakeholders as it prepared the ground for the next steps. **Congratulations to the Test Cases team!**

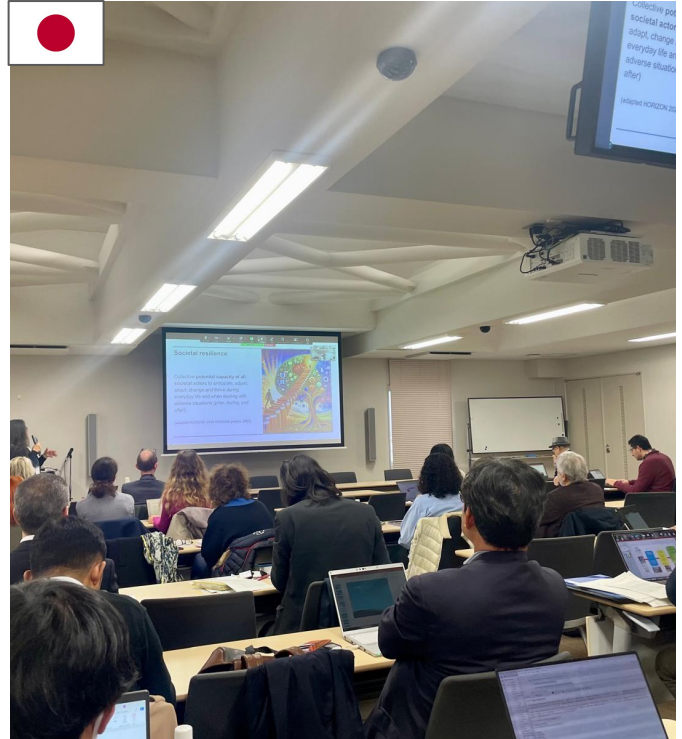


The Project Across Europe and Beyond 🌍



On the 22nd of May 2025, the **Romanian Department for Emergency Situations (DSU)** hosted a key stakeholder dissemination event at the **Ministry of Internal Affairs** as part of the EU-funded Empower-Citizens project. The event gathered representatives from DSU, IGSU, ISU, and other civil protection stakeholders to discuss the importance of incorporating citizens' insights into preparedness planning, advancing more inclusive and resilient emergency management in Romania.

[Read more](#)

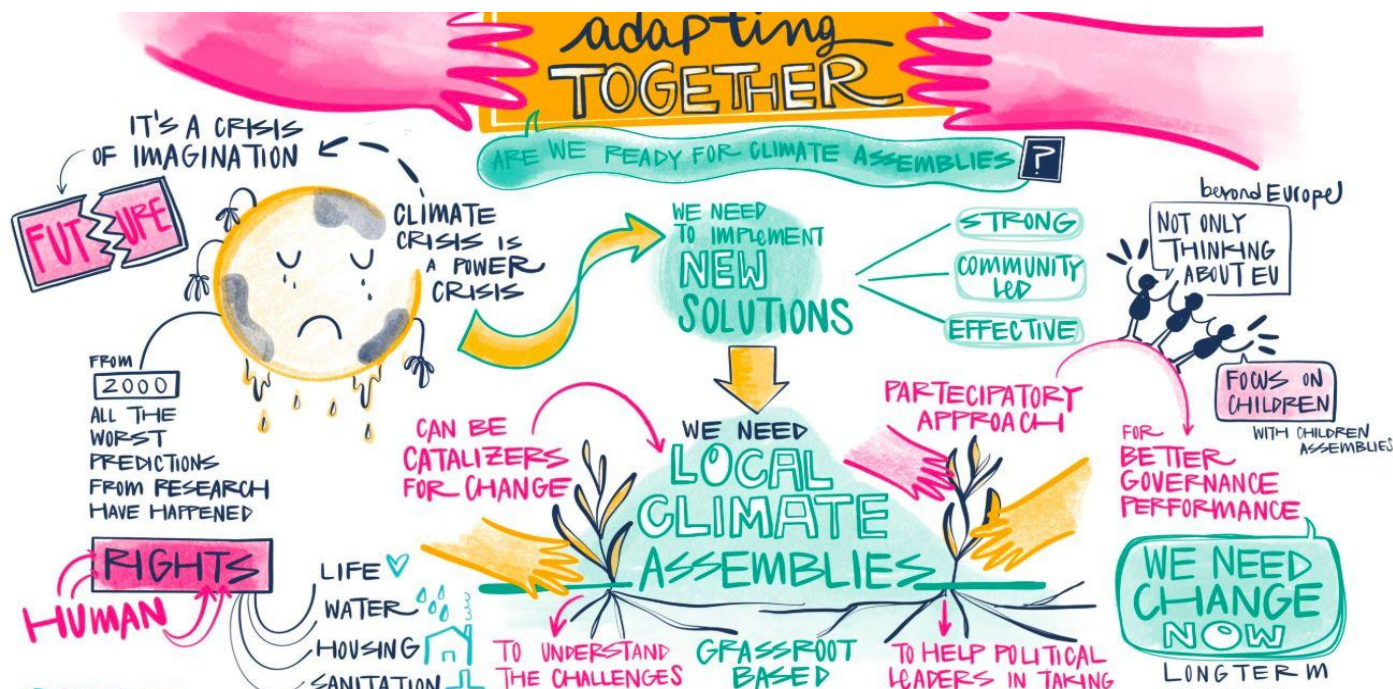


On the 3d and 4th of March, the **EU–Japan Workshop on Disaster Risk Reduction** took place. **NTNU Samfunnsforskning AS**, represented by Ivonne Herrera, presented the **Empower-Citizens Project** to a diverse audience, highlighting our shared goals with innovative Japanese initiatives. The workshop brought together 75 in-person and around 50 online participants to discuss resilience, technology, and risk management — bridging real-world practice and research.

[Read more](#)



Collaboration with other EU funded Projects



Our colleague Raniero Maggini from Cittadinanzattiva APS recently participated in the public event of the CLIMAS_EU project, held in Bologna on the 20th of June 2025, and facilitated a roundtable with authorities and the general public.

The event brought together experts, researchers, activists, and citizens to present the **CLIMAS Toolbox**, a comprehensive set of tools designed to support the development of inclusive Citizen Assemblies.

We look forward to drawing valuable insights from the CLIMAS_EU project to inform the development of the *Citizen and Authority Learning and Improving Preparedness Plans (#CLIPP)* procedure.



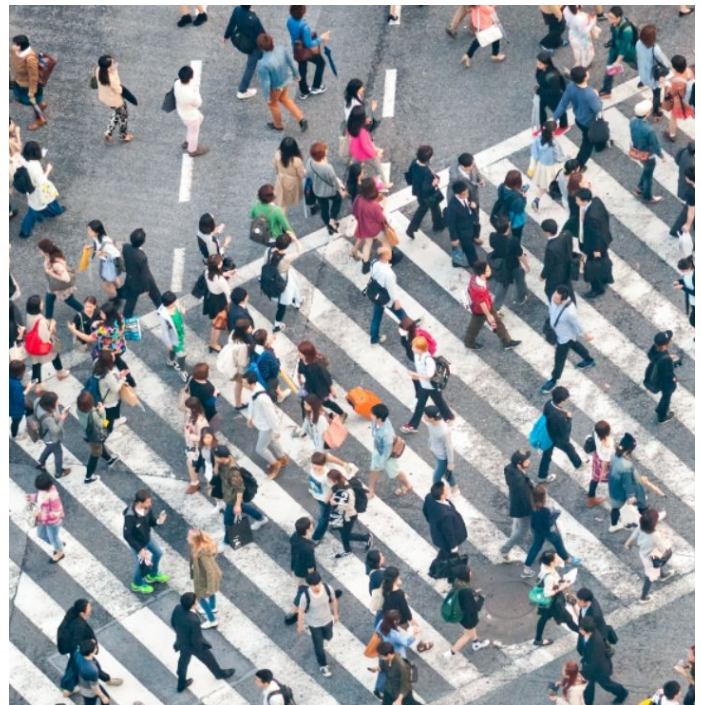


TRANSCEND Final Summit – Unlocking Voices: Methods for Engaging Citizens in Security Research

Brussels, 10 September 2025

Experience dynamic panel discussions, taster sessions, and interactive activities, all designed to **showcase real-world citizen engagement practices in security research**. Explore our final Toolbox, training modules, and policy briefs, and connect with industry, government, civil society, and academia.

[Register](#)



Participation Festival

Bologna, 12-14 September 2025



The Participation Festival is a public event promoted by ActionAid Italy and Cittadinanzattiva. This year, **the festival will focus on giving voice to underrepresented and underserved individuals and communities asking a crucial question: “Who is missing?”**. The festival will reflect on which voices, perspectives, and viewpoints are excluded from public debate—and consider what everyone can do to make public spaces truly democratic and representative.

[Register](#)

Next Events



Co-Creating Resilient Cities: Citizens, Data and Participatory Action Brussels, 14 October 2025

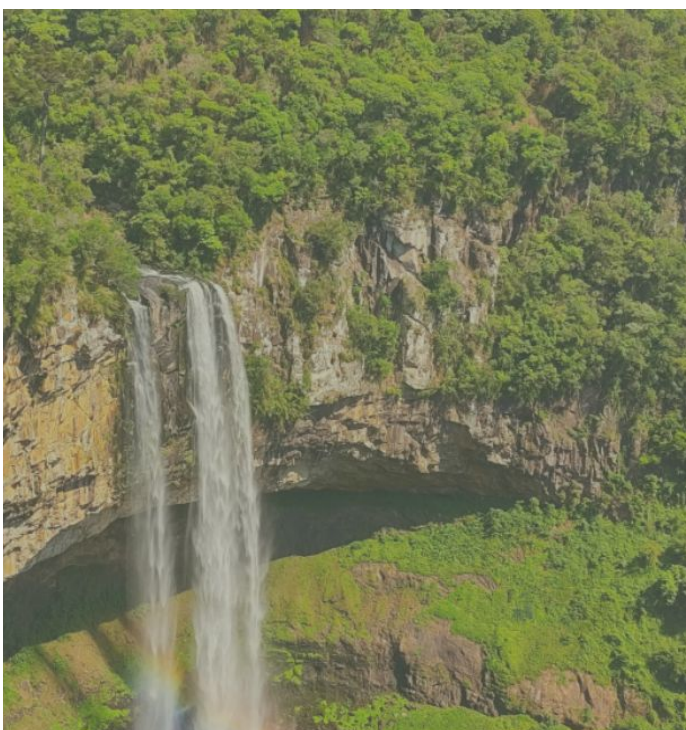
Join our workshop at the **EU Week of Regions and Cities** to get to know real-world examples and tools from the experiences and lessons learned in co-designing **inclusive, participatory approaches to tackle air pollution, climate change, and disaster preparedness**. Sonia Matera, coordinator of Empower-Citizens, Pablo Garcia Arcos, coordinator of the Catalan Climate Assembly, and Nuria Castell, coordinator of CitiObs, will be among the speakers.

[Register](#)



credits: Government of Catalonia

Joint 11th biannual REA Symposium and 14th annual Resilient Health Care Society Meeting Canela (BR), 20-24 October 2025



We're excited to share that **Empower-Citizens** submitted an abstract that has been accepted for the Joint 11th Biennial Symposium that will be held in Canela, Brasil. This will be the first conference of REA and RHCS in Latin America. Guest speakers from industry and academia will present practical experiences of applying **resilience engineering**, offering valuable insights and real-world examples. Stay tuned for more updates!

[Register](#)

The Empower-Citizens project is funded by the EU in Emergencies as part of the Knowledge for Action in Prevention and Preparedness #KAPP call of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism #UCPM, and will last 2 years, until January 2027.

 Read more about the project in our first blog post and follow us on LinkedIn and Facebook to stay updated on the latest activities!

Next issue: January 2026

CONSORTIUM



Statsforvalteren i Innlandet



Are you interested in citizen engagement in emergency preparedness actions?

To understand how you can get involved, [contact us at:](#)

empower-citizens@dblue.it



Co-funded by
the European Union



This project has received funding from the Union Civil Protection Mechanism 2024 Knowledge for Action in Prevention & Preparedness (KAPP) programme under the grant agreement No.101193397