

Information and Public Participation in Developing Action Plans: Examples and Practical Experience

Dipl. Soz. Margit Bonacker
***konsalt* GmbH Hamburg**

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About **konsalt**

- **Interdisciplinary team of sociologists, geographers and urban planners**
- **Surveys and Consultancy in Urban and Regional planning**
- **Moderation of action planning in the process of noise mitigation**
- **Projectmanagement**

Demands of the END concerning information and participation:

The public shall have:

- 1. the opportunity to comment on proposals for action plans,**
- 2. the possibility to participate in the elaboration and reviewing of the action plans**

(Art. 8, Action Planning)

Information shall be presented as maps...

- ...showing existing situation (**before** action planning)
- ...showing future situation (**after** action planning)

- **Very important: „Information shall be clear, accessible and easily understood!“**



Definition of „public“ by the END

- a) „one or more natural or legal persons**
- b) associations, organisations or groups of these persons“**

(Art 3)

The authorities shall:

1. ...**consider the results** of the participation ...
2. ...and **inform** the public about the decisions taken...

Who is involved in the process?

Administration

Experts



Politicians



Public

Information of the public

via ...

- **Displays in public spaces (e.g. City hall)**
- **Local newspapers, radio, TV**
- **Booklets/handouts**
- **Public events**
- **Internet**



Participation in the elaboration of the action plan

via...

- Workshops
- Round Tables
- Questionnaires
- Internet Forums



Information by Internet

Interactive map in the Internet

62 dB

54 dB



Information about results

**The public shall be informed
about the results
of the participation!**

via:

**Internet
Press/Radio/Television
Public events**

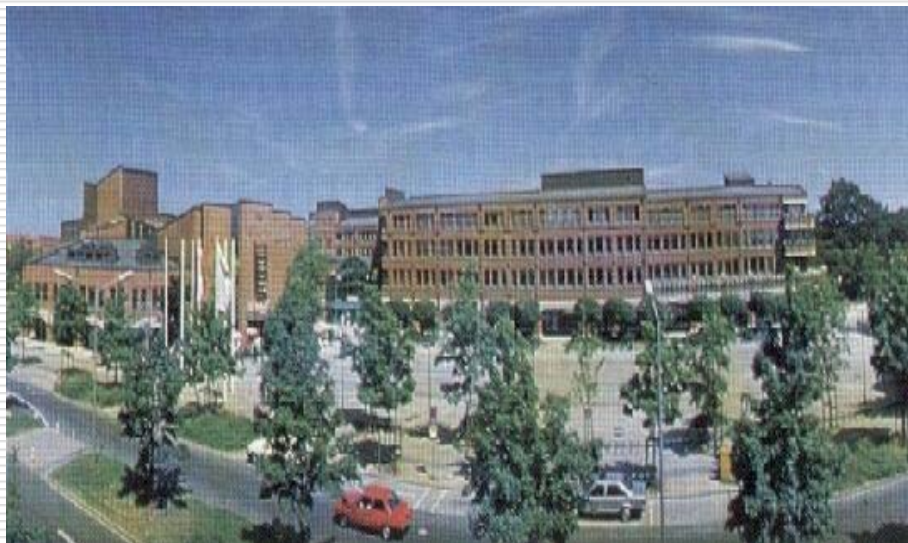


Only **one third of noise annoyance** of people is caused by the level of immission!

Two thirds are caused by subjective and situational factors, like general sensitiveness, personal situation, or attitude toward different noise sources.

Finally: An example!

**Action planning in the City of Norderstedt –
situated at the northern border of Hamburg**



City Hall

**75.000
inhabitants**

Participation of the public in four working groups:

- Public traffic and bicycle riding
- Street traffic and life quality
- Noise mitigation in old and new living areas
- Protection of quiet areas in the city

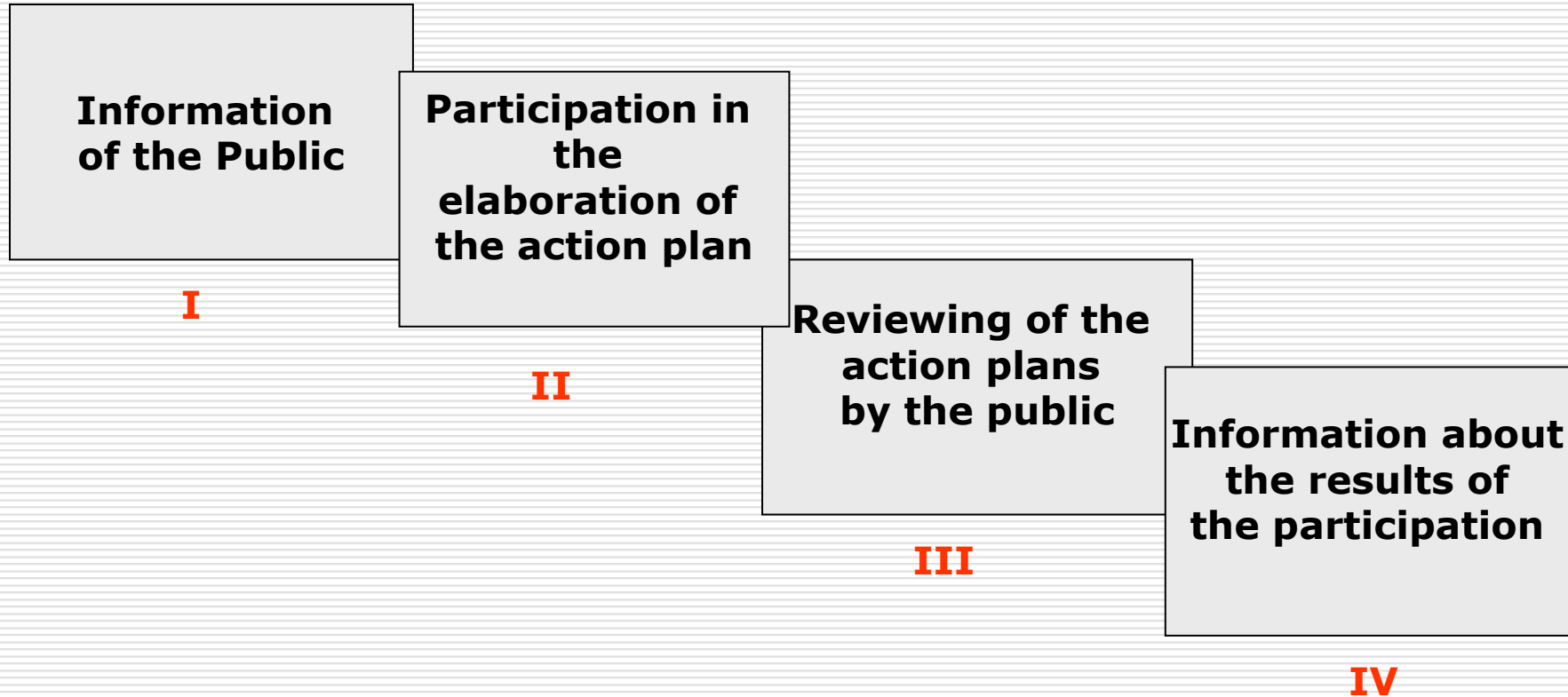


Information and Participation

- More than 100 persons working continually on a nonprofit-base
- Broad Information via Internet, TV and Press



Phases of Information and Participation



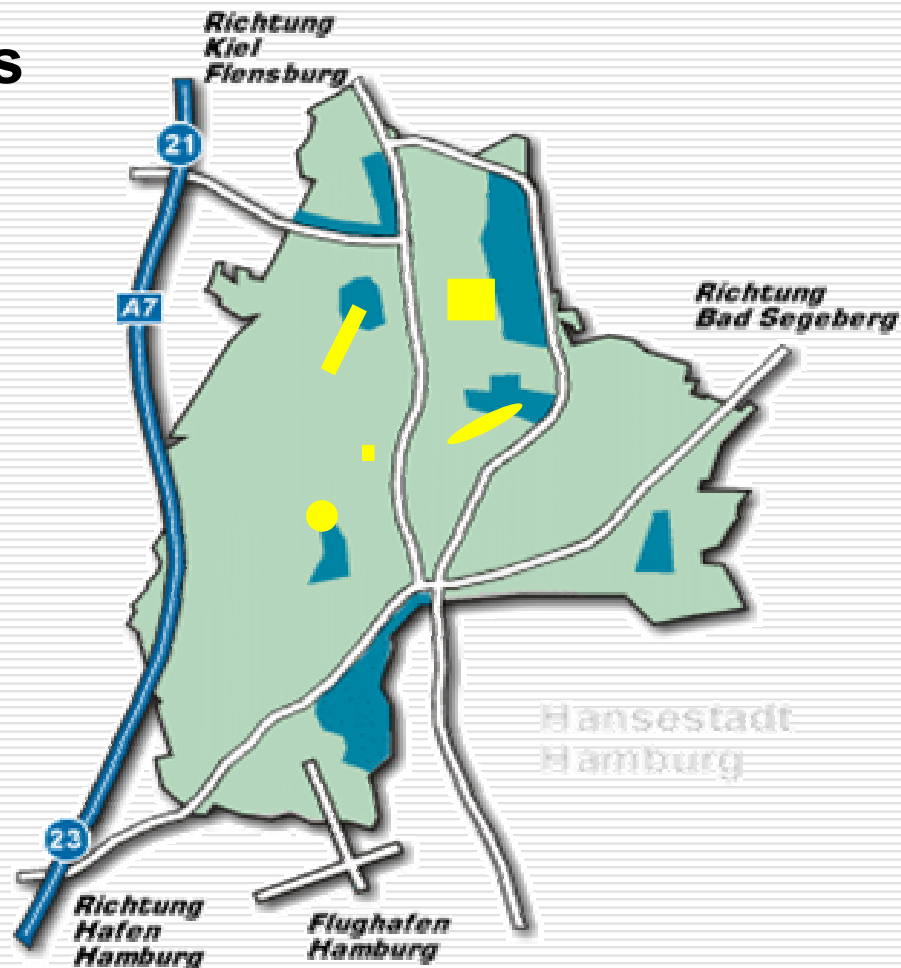
At least 12 to 15 monthes!



Working group „Quiet areas“

Defining quiet urban parks

- Stadtpark
- Moorbekpark
- Ossenmoorpark
- Willy-Brandt-Park
- Scharpenmoorpark

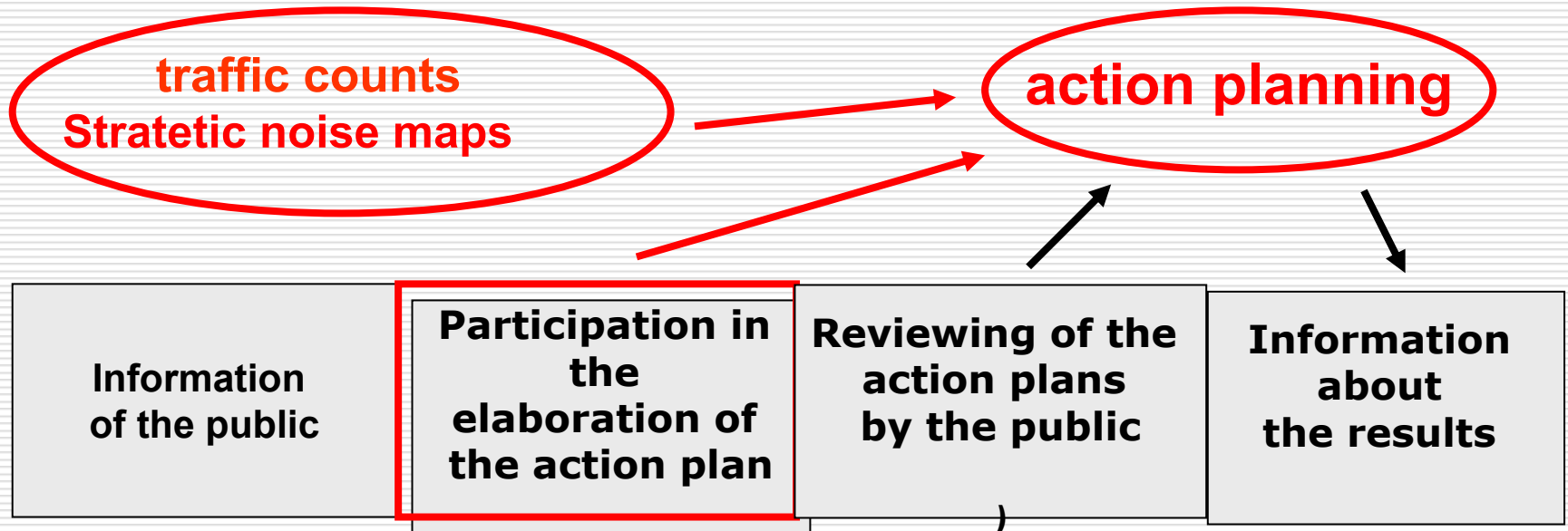


Documentation to the Commission of ...

- **the process itself**
- **the people involved**
- **contents and measures**
- **timetables**
- **further agreements**



Process of Information and Participation in Action planning



Project management / moderation

Interdisziplinäre steering group

Good practice I

Establishing an interdisciplinary steering group

- for exchanging information
- Having regular meetings
- Fixing results



Good practice II

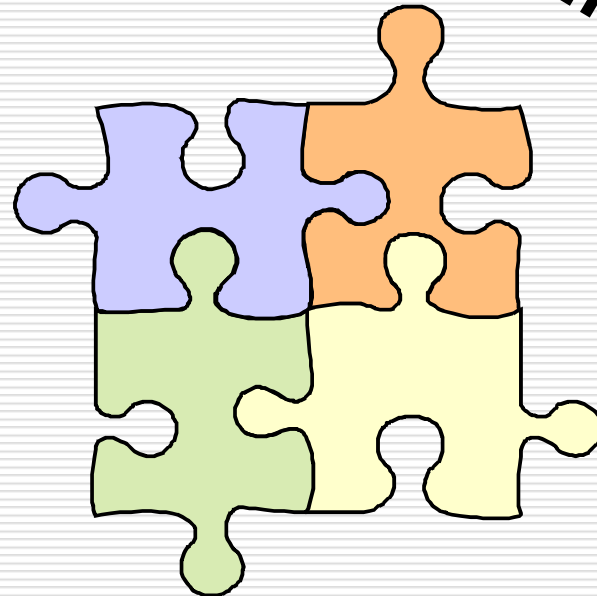
Efficient Project management needed!

Tasks

Time planning

Information

Coordination



Good practice III:

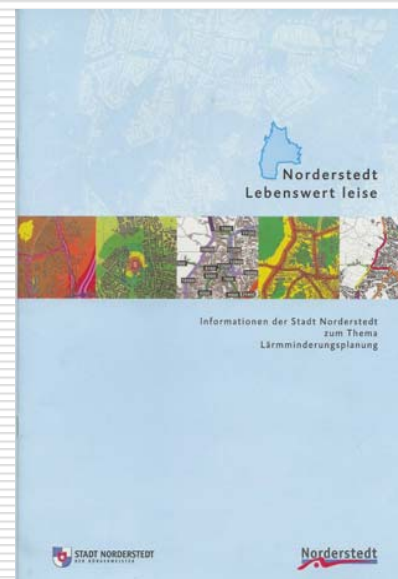
Moderation of workshops, public events etc. by experienced experts!



Good practice IV:

Providing clear and accessible information which is easily understood

www.norderstedt.de



Good practice V

Informing politicians from the very beginning to find acceptance for results of action planning



Steps to take

- (1) **Budget**
- (2) **Who is responsible? (Project management)**
- (3) **Expert Know-how: noise mapping, traffic planning, moderation**
- (4) **Establishing interdisciplinary steering group**
- (5) **Setting up time table**
- (6) **Planning information (which media?)**
- (7) **Planning participation (who? how? when?)**
- (8) **Planning reviewing (who? how? when?)**
- (9) **Politics!**

**Thank you for your
attention!**