

## Engaging Public Participation

Most think tanks will at some point want to engage in a public consultation or engagement process. The International Association for Public Participation provides a set of core values which it feels such processes should benchmark themselves.

### IAP2 core values of public participation

The public participation process should:

- Include the promise that the public's contribution will influence the decision;
- Communicate the interests and meets the needs of all participants;
- Seek out and facilitate the involvement of those potentially affected;
- Involve participants in defining how they participate;
- Provide participants with the information they need to participate in a meaningful way;
- Communicate to participants how their input affected the decision.

*Source: International Association for Public Participation (Meaningful Participation p16)*

### Resources

- InterAct: [www.interactweb.org.uk](http://www.interactweb.org.uk) and InterAct Networks: [www.interactnetworks.co.uk](http://www.interactnetworks.co.uk)
- David Wilcox's website [www.partnerships.org.uk](http://www.partnerships.org.uk) and [www.makingthenetwork.org](http://www.makingthenetwork.org)
- Brock K., A. Cornwall and J. Gaventa (2001) Power Knowledge and Political Spaces in the Framing of Poverty Policy, Draft report
- IDS (2000) *Making Change Happen: Advocacy and Citizen Participation*

