

Resource list for Practitioners Putting Participatory Values into Practice

The websites in this resource list are separated into three categories:

- Libraries, Networks, and Discussion Groups
- Professional Associations
- Organizations that Promote Participatory Values.

The descriptions come from the websites themselves. Their inclusion doesn't constitute a review or endorsement.

This list is updated regularly. If you have any other favorite sites that you'd like to see included in the next round, please contact Duane@CommunityAtWork.com

Libraries, Networks, And Discussion Groups

AI Practitioner Journal

The online journal of Appreciative Inquiry practitioners. Articles, special issues, and subscriptions for this online journal are available from this website.

<http://www.aipractitioner.com>

Capacity.org

A web magazine-cum-portal intended for practitioners and policy makers who work in or on capacity development in international cooperations. Lots of great articles

<http://www.capacity.org>

Change Management Toolbox

The Change Management Toolbox is a platform on which you can find information and tools related to change in organizations, teams, communities and individuals and meet with other people who are involved in change processes.

<http://www.change-management-toolbook.com>

Community Problem-Solving Project @ MIT

A learning space for people and institutions worldwide. The users of this site work in all three sectors -- public, nonprofit (or non-governmental), and private -- and across them. They work on a wide variety of issues, from housing and health care to education and the environment, from labor and economic development to crime and public safety and “comprehensive” community change.

<http://www.community-problem-solving.net>

The Facilitator

Newsletter available on-line. Provides articles, tips and techniques, events, and resources.

<http://www.TheFacilitator.com>

Future Search Network

This network initiates future search conferences that enable organizations and communities to transform and sustain their capability for cooperative action.

<http://www.futuresearch.net>

Group Facilitation Electronic Discussion (Grp-Fac)

Group Facilitation is a moderated discussion on the practice and theory of group facilitation. Participants share ideas, questions, and advice on group problem solving and decision making, group development, running meetings, and related topics. Group Facilitation was started in 1995 and was adopted in 1997 as the official electronic discussion group of the International Association of Facilitators.

<http://www.albany.edu/cpr/gf>

Group Relations

A resource for people who are interested in the dynamics of people and organisations. It provides accurate and up-to-date information about the theory behind group relations, people and organisations around the world who practise group relations, and group relations conferences and publications.

<http://grouprelations.com>

Harvard Business School's Working Knowledge

HBS Working Knowledge is a forum for innovation in business practice, offering readers a first look at cutting-edge thinking and the opportunity to both influence and use these concepts before they enter mainstream management practice.

<http://hbswk.hbs.edu>

The Innovation Journal

An independent Internet-based Journal devoted to sharing ideas and discussion of public sector innovation. It includes both peer reviewed and non-peer reviewed material. It also keeps you up to date on upcoming seminars, publications, and other sites about innovation in government.

<http://www.innovation.cc>

The Innovation Network

Professional association whose mission is to assist and support members in their efforts to revitalize organizations through the powerful use of innovation, creativity and group thinking skills. Articles, links, self and organizational assessments, and discussion forums.

<http://www.thinksmart.com>

Involve

A nonpartisan organization to put public participation at the heart of decision-making. It provides a comprehensive methods database, covering traditional and innovative approaches to public participation from around the world.

<http://www.involve.org.uk/home>

Managing Change Library

A collection of monthly FAQs and Hot Topics on managing change.

<http://www.hdinc.com/library.html>

Management Library

Community resource providing basic, how-to management information to managers—particularly those with very limited resources. Categories of information on topics ranging from conflict management to valuing diversity. Also includes links and on-line discussion groups.

<http://www.managementhelp.org>

Many Worlds

The knowledge network for business thought leaders. Over 5,000 articles on all aspects of business and organization development.

<http://www.manyworlds.com>

People and Participation

An interactive encyclopedia of public participation methods and ideas. The site provides practical information for those working to involve people.

<http://www.peopleandparticipation.net>

Progressive Consultant's Network

Provides a forum for East Bay Consultants committed to social justice work to: collaborate; reduce isolation; channel work to one another; discuss challenges in a peer forum; and support new consultants to get a practice off the ground. Sign up for the list-serve at:

<http://finance.groups.yahoo.com/group/ProgressiveConsultantsNetwork>

Vernal Project

The Vernal Education Project is a long-term effort to create an education and support network that can bolster and sustain grassroots progressive social change movements in the United States. Provides notes, handouts, and sample agendas for facilitating workshops on nonviolent direct action, cooperative decision-making and consensus with permission to download them, print them, and distribute them.

<http://www.vernalproject.org>

Thinking Page

Information and links for improving individual and organizational thinking in five areas: systems thinking, creativity, cybernetics, cognition, and "reflexions".

<http://www.thinking.net>

Professional Associations For Consultants, Facilitators, And Mediators

Alliance for Nonprofit Management

A professional association of individuals and organizations devoted to improving the management and governance capacity of nonprofits - to assist nonprofits in fulfilling their mission.

<http://www.allianceonline.org>

Association for Conflict Resolution

Professional association aimed at helping members develop integrated organizational conflict management systems, so that organizations improve their ability to deal with conflict. And through such organizations, spread the principles of conflict prevention and management into their communities so that society improves its ability to deal with conflict. Offers forum discussion, listserv, and educational opportunities.

<http://www.acrnet.org>

Bay Area OD Network

Professional organization serving the professional needs of practitioners, managers, researchers, and educators in the field of Organization Development. Site offers resources, newsletter and journal.

<http://www.baodn.org/>

Business for Social Responsibility

A global organization that helps member companies achieve success in ways that respect ethical values, people, communities and the environment. BSR provides information, tools, training and advisory services to make corporate social responsibility an integral part of business operations and strategies. A nonprofit organization, BSR promotes cross sector collaboration and contributes to global efforts to advance the field of corporate social responsibility.

<http://www.bsr.org>

International Association of Facilitators

Professional organization: newsletter, journal, annual conference, methods database, and electronic discussion on group facilitation.

<http://iaf-world.org>

International Coach Federation

Nonprofit, professional organization of personal and business coaches offering resources for those in the field. Offers Coach Referral Service and conferences.

<http://www.coachfederation.org>

International Association for Public Participation (IAP2)

Nonprofit association of members designed to promote and improve the practice of public participation. Offers events, conferences, publications, and communication technology.

<http://www.iap2.org>

National American Society of Training & Development (ASTD)

Professional association: conferences, career center, learning communities, publications and services.

<http://www.astd.org/>

National Coalition for Dialogue and Deliberation

A dynamic network of practitioners, scholars and activists working throughout the dialogue & deliberation community. Resources for understanding, practicing & exploring Dialogue and Deliberation. Over 80 pages of resources and more in the works.

<http://www.thataway.org>

National Organization Development Network (ODN)

Professional organization: journal and annual conference. Provides e-mail lists, event calendar, OD resource directory, conference information, and discussion list.

<http://www.ODNetwork.org/>

Organization Development Institute

A non-profit educational association organized to promote an understanding of the field of Organization Development. Publishes the International Registry of O.D. Professionals and O.D. Handbook.

www.odinstitute.org

Social Venture Network

Founded in 1987 by some of the nation's most visionary leaders in socially responsible entrepreneurship and investment, Social Venture Network (SVN) is a nonprofit network committed to building a just and sustainable world through business.

<http://www.svn.org>

Organizations And Individuals That Promote Participatory Values

A Better Workplace

Dedicated to helping make workplaces work better by providing practical tools, new strategies and inspiration for approaching challenging professional situations. This site offers resources and ideas to guide innovative solutions to sticky workplace, business and people problems.

<http://www.abetterworkplace.com>

AmericaSpeaks

AmericaSpeaks develops innovative deliberative tools that work for both citizens and decision makers. These tools give citizens an opportunity to have a strong voice in public decision making within the increasingly short timeframes required of decision makers.

<http://www.americaspeaks.org>

Action Without Borders

Global coalition of individuals and organizations working to build a world where all people can live free, dignified and productive lives. Offers action guide, directory of organizations, publications, listing of events, tools for nonprofits, and career center.

<http://www.idealists.org>

The Berkana Institute

Berkana supports life-affirming leaders around the globe. Berkana intentionally supports those who are giving birth to the new forms, processes, and leadership that will restore hope to the future. Over a dozen thoughtful articles.

<http://www.berkana.org>

BoardSource

Nonprofit organization dedicated to building stronger nonprofit boards and stronger nonprofit organizations. Offers publications, consulting, and training.

<http://www.boardsource.org>

Center for Collaborative Policy

The mission of the Center is to build the capacity of public agencies, stakeholder groups, and the public to use collaborative strategies to improve policy outcomes.

<http://www.csus.edu/ccp>

The Center for Visionary Leadership

Non-profit educational center focused on developing values-based leadership development and consulting. Offers training programs, activities, books, links.

<http://www.visionarylead.org>

Centre for Strategic Management

A leading edge, global alliance of diverse master consultants and trainers, who are recognized and sought after for their unique Systems Thinking Approach™ to Strategic Management and Change. They send a monthly newsletter which includes tools, tips, and techniques on the practical application of their model.

<http://www.csmintl.com>

Cognexus Institute

The brainchild of Jeffrey Conklin, Cognexus offers tools and skills for groups dealing with complex and ill-structured situations. The Institute's mission is to create organizational coherence in the service of world peace and healing. They specialize in teaching the Dialogue Mapping technique.

<http://cognexus.org>

Co-Vision

Offers interactive group process tools and expertise in order to help facilitators and executives produce the world's most productive meetings and conferences.

<http://www.covision.com>

Creative Thinking

Creativity site sponsored by Michael Michalko, a leading creativity expert. This site has lots of resources and tools on creative thinking.

<http://www.creativethinking.net>

Developing Human Systems

An ongoing blog created by Saul Eisen. The initial topic is called "Nine Assumptions and Ten Realities." His intention is to explore topics like this that are relevant to professional practice and everyday living.

"I want this to be an interactive dialogue, so click on Comments to post your further thoughts, questions, and stories that illustrate what we're talking about."

<http://human-systems.blogspot.com>

Global Facilitator Service Corps

Through the development and support of local networks of volunteer facilitators worldwide, Global Facilitator Service Corps helps build the capacity of communities to work through their challenges and create sustainable solutions.

<http://www.globalfacilitators.org>

Good Group Decisions

Run by Craig Freshley, this website has many free resources to help groups make good decisions. Craig's organization offers meeting facilitation, training, team building, strategic planning, mediation and organizational development - all things that help groups make good decisions.

<http://www.goodgroupdecisions.com>

The Grove Consultants International

Offers consulting services as well as workshops in the art of using group graphics in the development of group processes. They also have an entire catalog of products for the graphic facilitator.

<http://www.grove.com>

Institute of Cultural Affairs

Non-profit organization dedicated to promoting social innovation through participation and community building. Offers training in Group Facilitation Methods, Participatory Strategic Planning, Philosophy of Participation, etc. Offers facilitation and strategic planning services and books describing the 'Technology of Participation'.TM

<http://www.ica-usa.org>

The International Institute for Facilitation and Consensus

A professional team of facilitators, trainers and consultants who specialize in participatory processes. Headquartered in Mexico, IIFAC relies on a group of skilled colleagues around the world to provide customized services designed to meet our clients' training and facilitation needs.

<http://iifac.org>

Juanita Brown's World Cafe

People around the world are finding the World Café principles and process easy to use, exciting and inspiring.

<http://www.theworldcafe.com>

Leader to Leader Institute

Established in 1990 as the Peter F. Drucker Foundation for Nonprofit Management, the Institute provides leaders with the wisdom, inspiration and resources to lead for innovation and to build vibrant social sector nonprofit organizations.

<http://www.pfdf.org>

The Long Now Institute

Providing a counterpoint to today's "faster/cheaper" mind set and promote "slower/better" thinking. We hope to creatively foster responsibility in the framework of the next 10,000 years. Has over 20 MP3 files from their monthly seminars.

<http://www.longnow.org>

Margaret Wheatley

Applies the lens of living systems theory to organizations and communities. She explores the question: “How might we organize differently if we understood how Life organizes?”
Over 30 articles free to download.

<http://www.margaretwheatley.com>

Mediate.com

Forums, articles, links, resources, calendar of events, and trainings.

<http://www.mediate.com>

Mediation Training Institute / Dana Mediation Institute

Resources for the prevention, management, and resolution of workplace conflicts and disputes in business, government, health care, and non-profit organizations.

<http://www.mediationworks.com>

National Civic League

Advocacy organization promoting the principles of collaborative problem-solving and consensus-based decision making in local community building. Offers programs, and publications.

<http://www.ncl.org>

NTL Institute

Not-for-profit organization that offers programs for trainers and group facilitators with an emphasis on social change. Provides publications and training products.

<http://www.ntl.org>

Playfair

Innovative programs in the areas of team building, stress management, internal customer service, reward and recognition, and fun at work.

<http://www.playfair.com/>

Society for Organizational Learning

An intentional learning community composed of organizations, individuals, and local SoL communities around the world. A not-for-profit, member-governed corporation.

<http://www.solonline.org>

Tavistock Institute

A non-profit organization dedicated to the study of inter-organisational relations, the emergence of the knowledge society, and problems of organisation, particularly in the delivery of public policy.

<http://www.tav institute.org>

Tree Bressen's Group Facilitation Site

Tree Bressen is an experienced facilitator working with nonprofits, cohousing groups, activists, schools, and a wide variety of other organizations. Her base is in intentional communities -- groups of people who live together and have to deal with each other every day! Her website provides lots of free articles and tools.

<http://treegroup.info/topics>