

5th Joint Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America and the Acoustical Society of Japan in Honolulu, HI, 28 November - 2 December 2016

TITLE: E-participation in the context of the evaluation of the sonic environment

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**ABSTRACT BODY:**

E-participation methods are increasingly applied to promote public participation and to achieve greater awareness and involvement by citizen by providing the opportunity to directly report to e.g. governmental organizations.

Within the framework of the German Year of Science 2015, a special initiative, called "Sound of the City", was carried out to encourage the public to report on how their cities typically sound. Participants could upload audio recordings of acoustical environments and had to relate the respective audio files to the corresponding places. Moreover, the participants could additionally describe the uploaded sounds. This action lasting several months led to a comprehensive data base of audio files including related places, descriptions and ratings. The database was systematically analyzed with respect to several issues, such as general participation level, hot spot identification, and common features of uploaded sounds.

The paper will highlight the benefit and limitations of such actions and initiatives applying e-participation with respect to community noise issues and urban planning. The "Sound of the City" initiative took place within the framework of the Year of Science 2015 and was organized and supported by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).

CURRENT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE: Noise

CURRENT SPECIAL SESSION: Noise Impacts and Soundscapes at Outdoor Gathering Spaces

PRESENTATION TYPE: Invited Submission: Lecture

PRESENTER: André Fiebig

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