

# Catalyst

## In a few words...

Online communities have been playing an increasingly important role in supporting grassroots initiatives in the area of social innovation and sustainability. However, as such platforms go larger and larger, it is more and more difficult for community managers to ensure efficient debates among citizens, i.e. to ensure collective ideation, decision and action.

End of 2013, major community networks and leading research institutes have teamed up to tackle this issue with the support of the European Commission's research funding programme. Over 2 years, through their CATALYST project, they will develop and test collective intelligence tools and make them available, as open source solutions, to any interested communities.

Use cases planned in the short term should demonstrate how CATALYST developments can boost local initiatives in the area of social innovation, increase awareness on new sustainable lifestyles, support eGovernance efforts of European cities and even empower citizens and the civil society in debating emerging issues for the new European Constitution.

An open competition will be launched in July 2014, inviting online communities to undertake early validation of CATALYST tools and receive funding for their contribution to the success of this project that can be seen one of the flagship research projects supported by the European Commission in the ICT area.



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PURPOSE



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