Global Voices helps decision makers tap into the collective wisdom of citizens and stakeholders through large scale meetings, identifying shared priorities and recommendations on essential policies and plans.

Global Voices is a not-for-profit organization that supports governments, international organizations, and multinational institutions around the world to improve citizen and stakeholder participation in decision-making.

With our large-scale forums that integrate leading technology with facilitated dialogue, our clients are able to identify mutual priorities and examine policy options in a way that cannot be done in more traditional processes.

Global Voices has developed the 21st Century Town Meeting® for citizen meetings and the 21st Century Summit™ for stakeholders or member-based meetings. Through a combination of keypad polling, groupware computers, and authentic deliberation:

- The town meetings provide an effective forum for transparent, accountable, public participation.
- The summits enable a very broad range of stakeholders to develop shared priorities and joint strategies for action.

LARGE-SCALE FORUMS

Global Voices’ clients engage large numbers of general interest citizens or stakeholders – 50 to 5,000 at a single meeting – in thoughtful, outcomes-oriented discussion.

These forums begin with small group facilitated discussions. During the course of a meeting, participants submit their ideas using networked computers. These ideas are immediately synthesized into themes and recommendations, representative of the entire assembly. Each participant then votes to prioritize the recommendations using a wireless keypad. Working together, these technologies help to integrate the collective thinking of meeting participants.

Citizen Engagement & Stakeholder Participation

At Global Voices, we believe that opening strategic decisions to large-scale participation is a core value of good governance in the 21st century – and we have more than a decade of experience to prove it.

Global Voices has developed the 21st Century Town Meeting® for citizen meetings and the 21st Century Summit™ for stakeholders or member-based meetings. Through a combination of keypad polling, groupware computers, and authentic deliberation:
GLOBAL VOICES: NOTABLE PROJECTS

**BRITISH NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE**
**YOUR HEALTH, YOUR CARE, YOUR SAY**

In 2005, Global Voices joined with Opinion Leader Research, a British partner, to organize and facilitate a 1,000-person national citizens’ forum on health care in England. The 21st Century Town Meeting®, sponsored by the National Health Service, was part of an extensive citizen input process to improve the UK’s national health care system.

Your Health, Your Care, Your Say sought guidance on how health services could be better aligned with the realities of people’s everyday lives. The deliberations produced a clear roadmap for change, driving commitments from Prime Minister Tony Blair to integrate public priorities into the National Health Service.

**MEETING OF MINDS:**
**EUROPEAN CITIZENS’ DELIBERATION ON BRAIN SCIENCE**

From 2005-2006, Global Voices collaborated with IFOK, a German partner, to organize and facilitate Meeting of Minds. More than 100 people representing nine European countries (Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, and the UK) came together twice in Brussels over a nine-month period to consider the policy implications for new-found knowledge about the brain.

Meeting of Minds developed well-received recommendations for the European Parliament, providing input on brain science policy and laying the foundation for future deliberative meetings involving citizens in scientific discussions.

**WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM**
**GLOBAL TOWN HALL**

On the opening day of the 2005 World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, 700 world leaders participated in a 21st Century Summit™ to prioritize and address some of the toughest issues facing the global community. Global Voices led a Global Town Hall Meeting that helped these leaders narrow the list to six priorities for the year.

Over the following three days, World Economic Forum participants produced recommendations for action in all six areas. At the closing plenary, they determined, by vote, which action steps would be the highest priority for implementation.

**PORT PHILLIP, AUSTRALIA**
**PORT PHILLIP SPEAKS: COMMUNITY SUMMIT**

In 2007, Global Voices convened 750 residents of the City of Port Phillip, a suburb of Melbourne, Australia, to set priorities for the city’s new 10-year community plan. Over the course of the day-long 21st Century Town Meeting®, citizens set community priorities, made personal commitments and identified projects that could be taken on by neighborhood groups to move the city forward.

Neighborhood meetings, held two weeks after the summit, further developed the community plan.

The 2007-2017 Community Plan was published later in the year based on the results of the Summit and is now being implemented.

**Outcomes**

*For decision makers who are looking for an effective way to meet today’s challenges, Global Voices provides results:*

- Large-scale forums attract substantial attention from the media and political leadership, increasing momentum and interest in a proposal, process or issue.
- Citizens and stakeholders learn more about important issues, hear a diversity of perspectives and understand critical trade-offs.
- Technology provides an effective, efficient way to measure the degree of support for proposals.
- A report, distributed at the end of the day, immediately details the meeting’s priorities, areas of agreement and specific recommendations.