

## What is openDCN?

The openDCN software environment -- where DCN stands for Deliberative Community Networks – provides on-line dedicated tools to support participation and deliberation.

OpenDCN is able to manage three different kinds of spaces:

- a **community space**, aimed at fostering public dialog on civic issues and facilitating the rise of mutual trust between participants through free discussions;
- a **deliberation space** to foster the creation of a shared vision position among the participants, i.e., to finalize a deliberative process in order to produce a well defined outcome. Deliberation space makes up the core of the participatory system; participatory processes consist of a series of deliberation stages, each relying on a different participatory modality and involving different participants;
- a **personal space** to manage user profile, relationships and personal objects of each user.

Each space is managed by one or more [openDCN tools](#) .

## Target Users

- Administrative bodies: local Municipalities, Provinces, Regions;
- Profit and no-profit Organizations.

## Who uses openDCN?

openDCN has been used within the [e21 project](#) in a number of Lombardy Region Municipalities (Mantova, Brescia, Como, Lecco, Pavia, ...).

[Here you can find an updated list of the openDCN instances.](#)

## Which technologies are used to develop openDCN?

openDCN has been mainly realised in [PHP](#) using [CakePHP](#) development framework and [Smarty](#) template engine.

The Certified Consultation is developed in Java.

## Which license is openDCN released with?

openDCN is released with an Open Source license, more precisely:

- The development framework has been released with MIT license;
- The application undergoes GPL license.