The Ladder of Participation 8. Child-initiated, shared decisions with adults 7. Child-initiated Degrees of participation and directed Adult-initiated. shared decisions with children 5. Consulted and informed 4. Assigned but informed 3. Tokenism Non-participation 2. Decoration 1. Manipulation Eight levels of young people's participation in projects. (The ladder metaphor is borrowed from the well-known essay on adult participation by Sherry Arnstein (1969); the categories are new).