Today, I would like to introduce you to a new platform.

Communities felt it was high time to find an efficient way where people can express their opinions about the outsourcing of their budget. This platform not only makes this happen, but all residents can easily get more information about their commune and calculate their very own council tax.

The assigned administrator of a commune can create a project and marks what could be changed in the current budget, such as which categories may be changed from the current budget. It is also immediately clear whether the project is about redistribution within the budget, about money that still needs to be distributed or if there needs to be money cut from the budget. Once this project has been published, logged-in users enter a proposition with their idea of ​​what should be done with that money and a little motivation for their choice. All users of the platform can see this proposition and are able to comment with their own thoughts about the proposition and even vote if they agree.

Even though you had to enter your postal code when registering, it is possible for anyone to enter a proposition for other communities. When starting the platform you are obligated to enter a postal code and are then immediately sent to a summary page of your chosen commune. Here you can easily find information about the commune and all its projects. Through the whole website, you are able to change your commune by using the button at the top of the navigation.

The platform also offers the opportunity to compare the budget of your chosen commune to those of other communes. On this page you also have the ability to compare budgets of two different years, from the same commune or two different communes. Budgets are shown with a graph where you are able to view each category and its budget. You are able to view each category separately by clicking on the category that you wish to see. A new graph will appear with its subdivisions and budget.

If you’re curious about how much of your taxes are spent by the commune, you are definitely on the right platform. All you have to do is enter your monthly salary and tell us of you’re a laborer or a clerk and the platform gives you a nice overview of how much of your annual salary goes to which category and how much you actually spent on council taxes.

Users who are not logged in can also view the platform but don’t have the opportunity to give their input, like entering a proposition or to comment or vote on a proposition. There is also a possibility to log in using your Facebook account. Once you are registered, you’ll get an email with a confirmation and a link to go back to the platform.

For the user, this platform is a whole new way to successfully publish his or her opinion about outsourcing the budget. Would you as a resident prefer that money goes to investing in road maintenance or preserving nature, then this platform is the ideal way to transfer it to the community. In addition, you can easily promote your own proposition on the social channel Facebook.

This new platform will only help communes and their citizens with creating a great environment that everybody is striving towards by creating a great way of communication.