Planning a CE exercise

Where do we start?

Competence Centre on Participatory and Deliberative Democracy

Ângela Guimarães Pereira

16 October 2024

European Commission

General Objectives

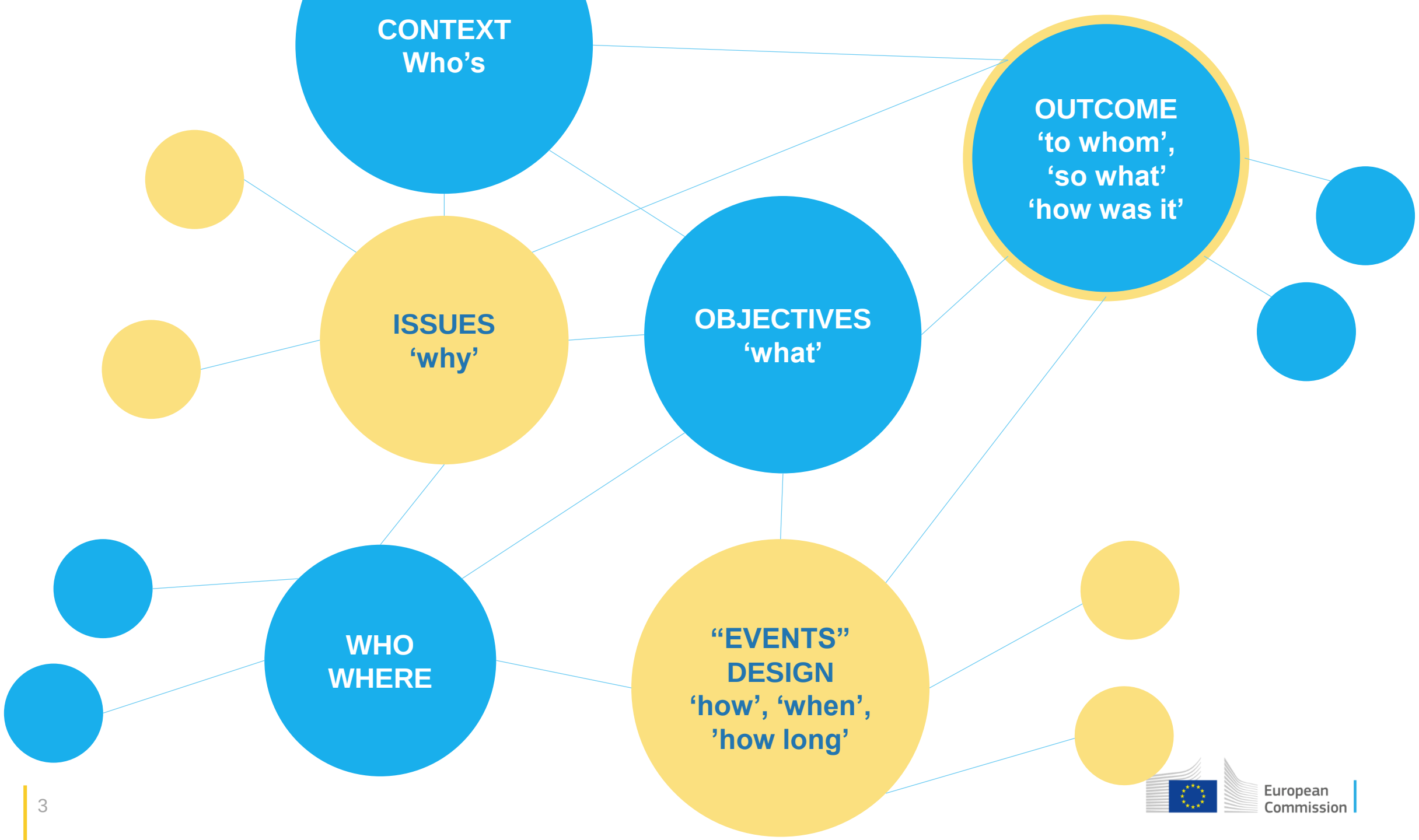
invited citizen engagement: should allow the structuring of participants knowledge, values, expectations, discomforts, ideas, etc. into relevant input to a

policymaking/research/planning/decision process/evaluation/…
PROCESS

→ **ORGANISED** PROCESS←

→ *happens within a context*←

European Commission



European Commission

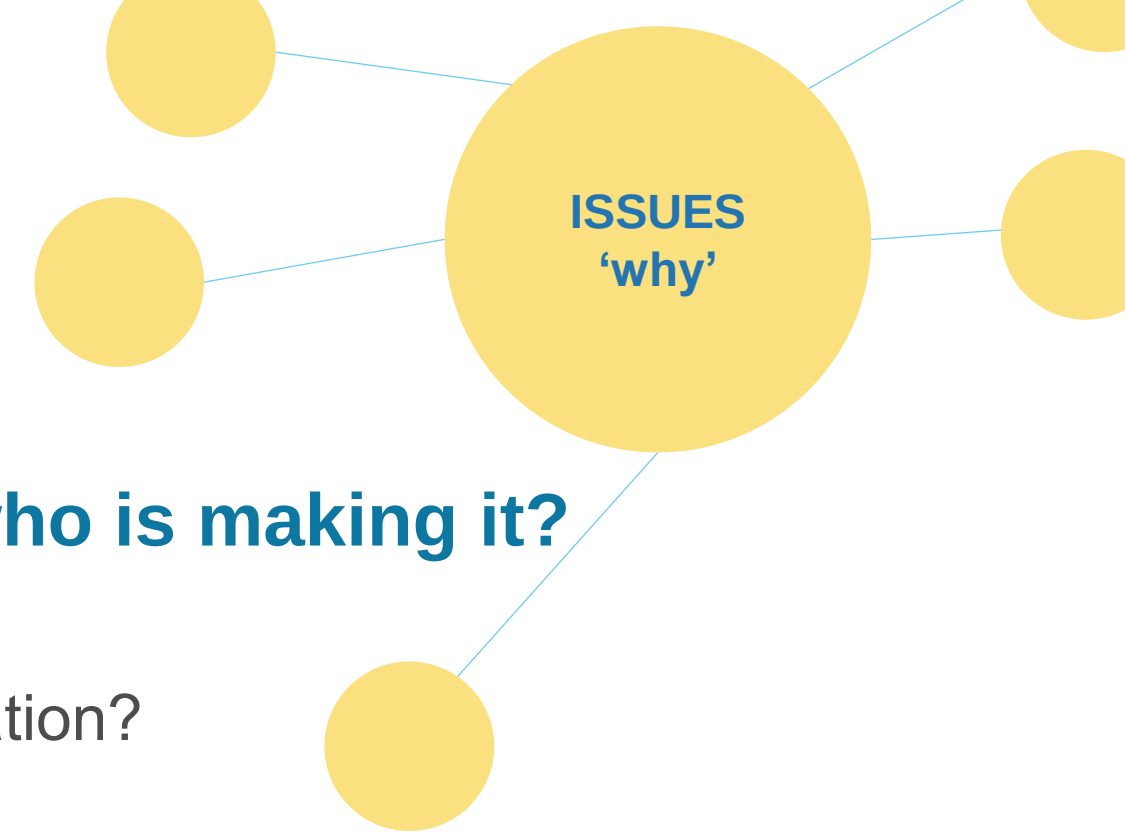
Who is asking for a CE exercise?

- Public administration at regional or local level
- Directorate General in the Commission
- Member of the European Parliament
- National Government
- Municipality…

What is the political commitment and the anchorage of the exercise in the policymaking or planning process? [expected impact, influence]

European Commission

stock taking | framings



What is the issue and who is making it?

Framings

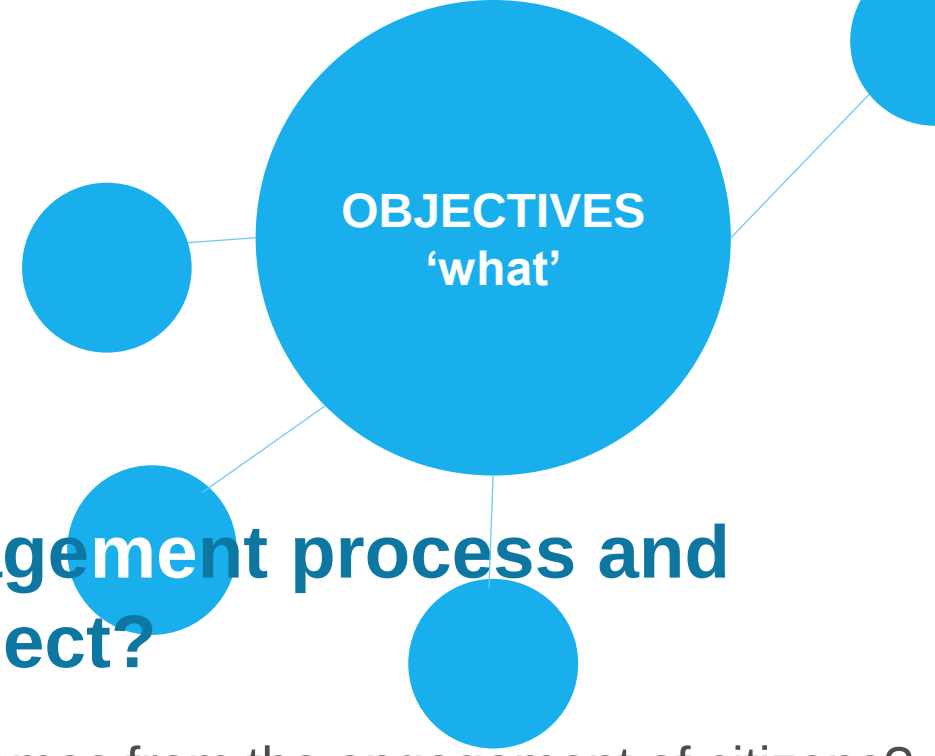
- What's the context | situation?
- Public narratives

Taking stock

- Were there other exercises of citizen engagement on this issue?
- How have citizens been engaged with the issue?
- What's the added value from engaging citizens in the issue of concern?

European Commission

objectives | scope



Expectations

Commitments

Request

What to expect from the engagement process and what can the participants expect?

What do we expect to achieve with the outcomes from the engagement of citizens? [*Issues of concern? # Explore trade-offs? # Visions? # Recommendations?]*

What **'contract'** can be reasonably established with participants? [*this is related to what they are expected to do and deliver, and what the institution will do with the results]*

What is the 'building' question?

European Commission

BREAK

European Commission

break

European Commission

participants | who?

Sampling: depending on what you want: demographic representativeness is not necessarily the only criterion.

→ KEY in Deliberative Processes

Who is the citizen?

Target any person/specific communities?

Sampling. Representative, Purposive, Opportunistic

Selection: criteria and number

Who is excluded and what do you do about that?

Tokens.

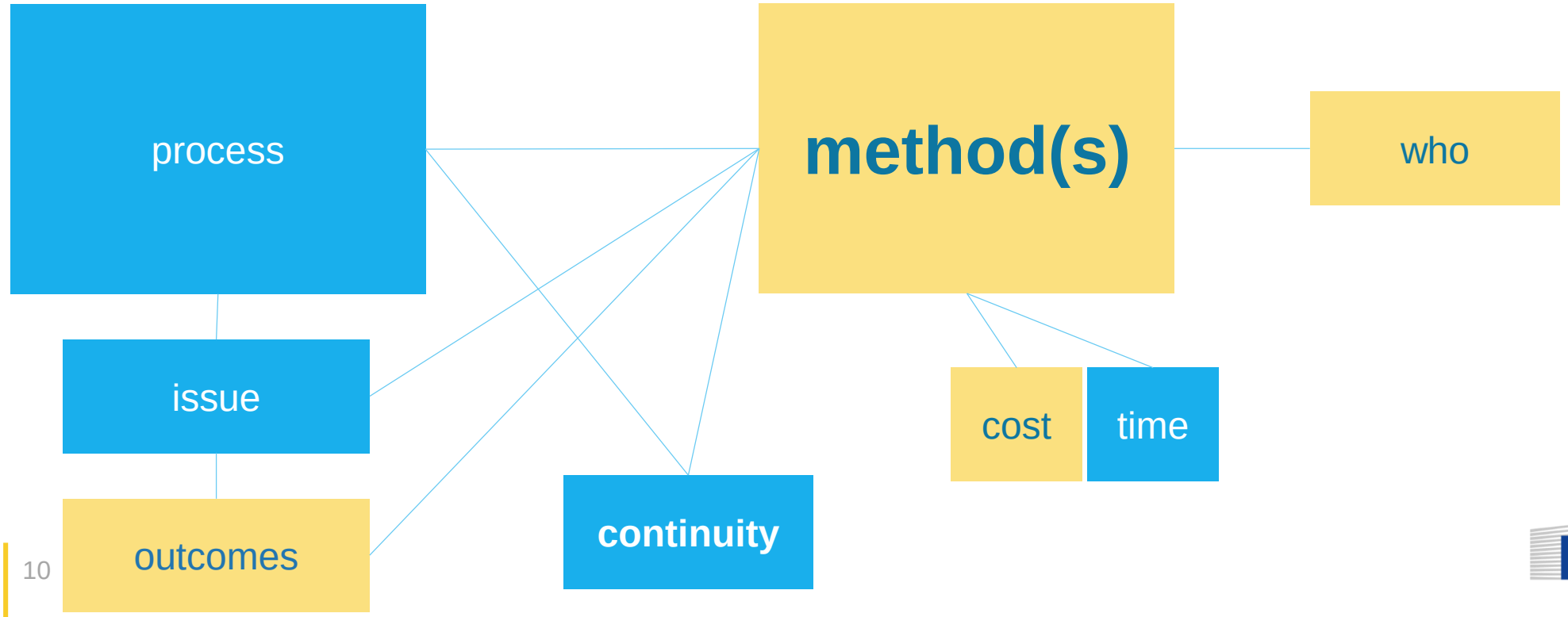
Where (geographically speaking)

European Commission

The Process & Method(s)

“EVENTS” DESIGN ‘how’, ‘where’, ‘when’

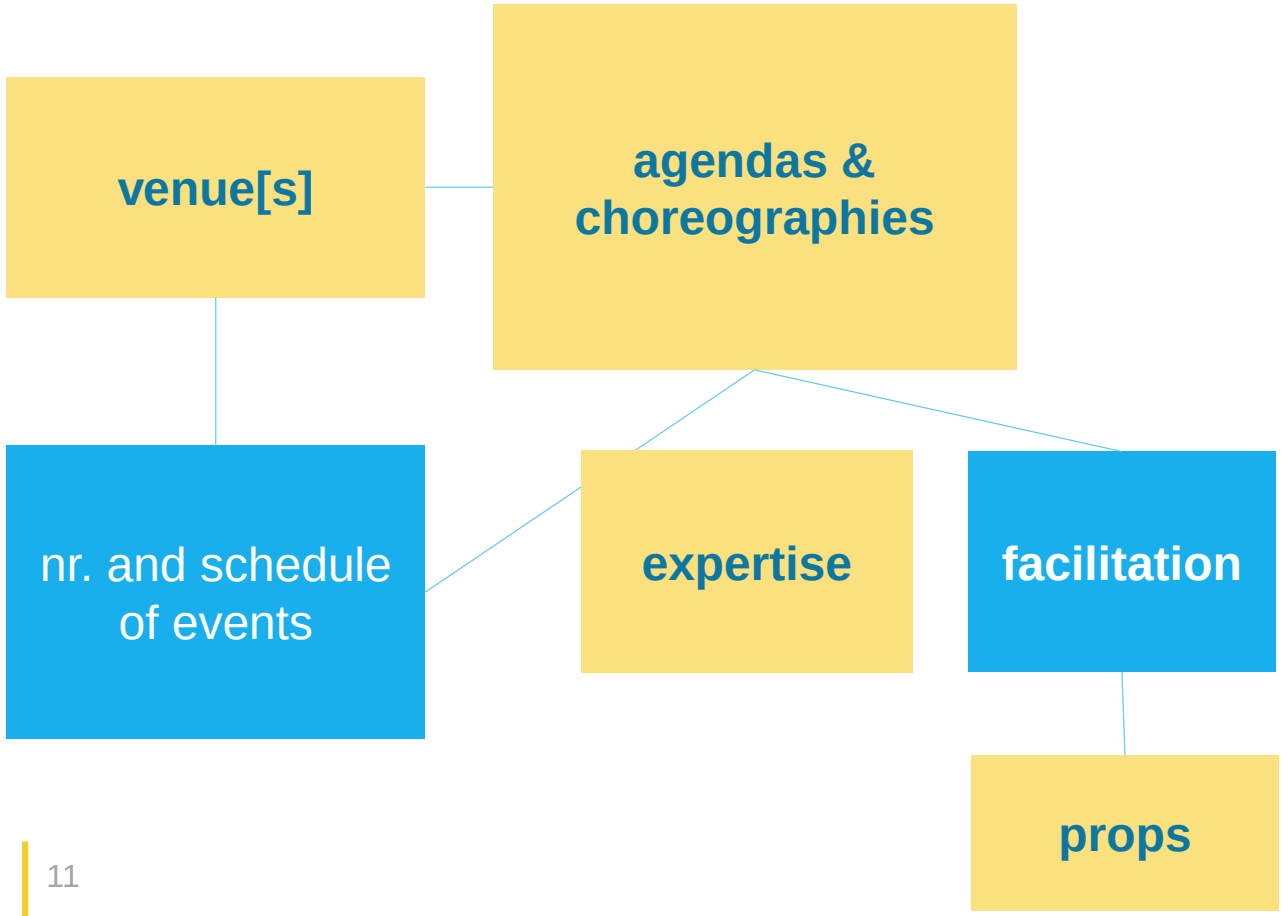
What process and methods suit better the request and political commitment?



European Commission

Implementation

How will this look like?



“EVENTS” DESIGN ‘how’, ‘where’, ‘when’, 'how long'

invitation

token

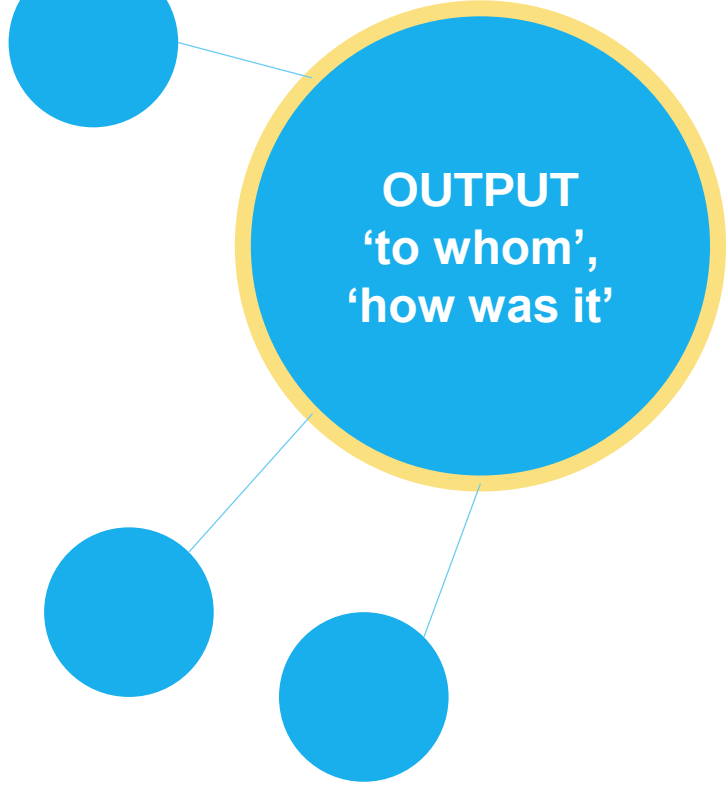
European Commission

METHODS

Ventseslav Kozarev, Elisa Vecchione, Anna Paola Quaglia

European Commission

reporting | communication | feedback



What are the outcomes?

How will the world know about it?

How will the process be continued?

What to **report**

Outputs formats

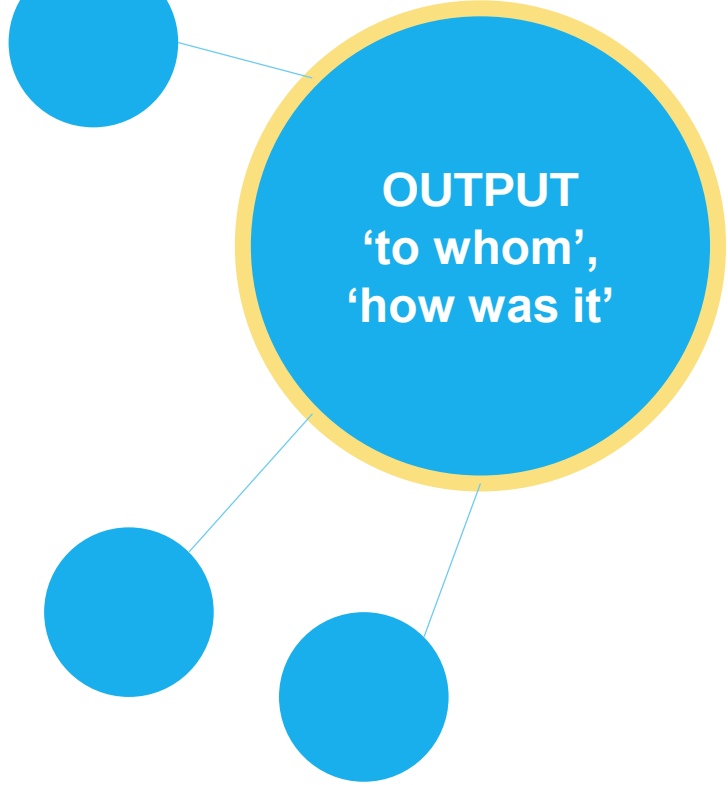
Feedback participants

European Commission

evaluation

- **About what,**
- **how and**
- **who**

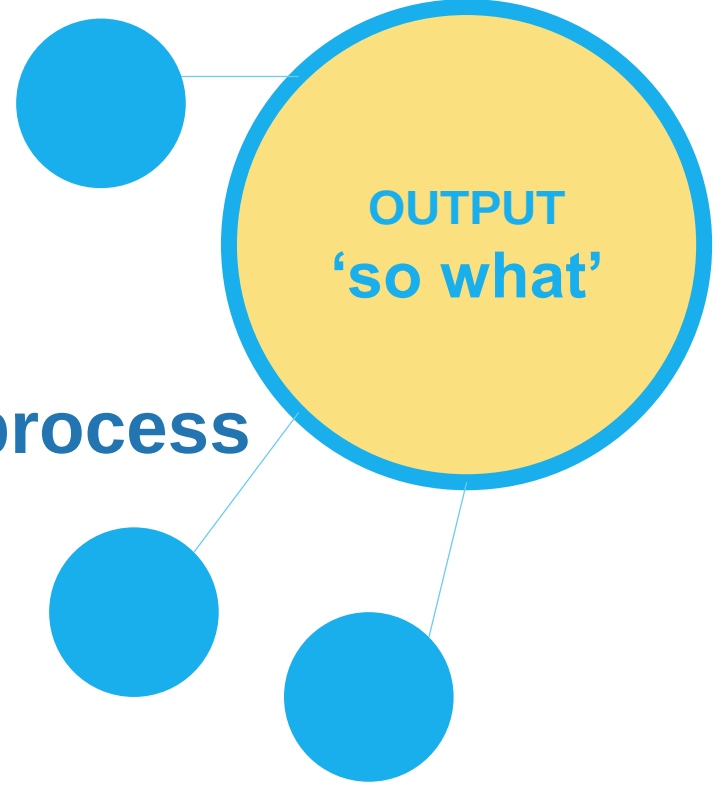
will evaluate the exercise?



Evaluation

European Commission

follow-up



How the outcomes will be used? How will the process be continued?

Follow-up

How will outcomes be used by the institution?

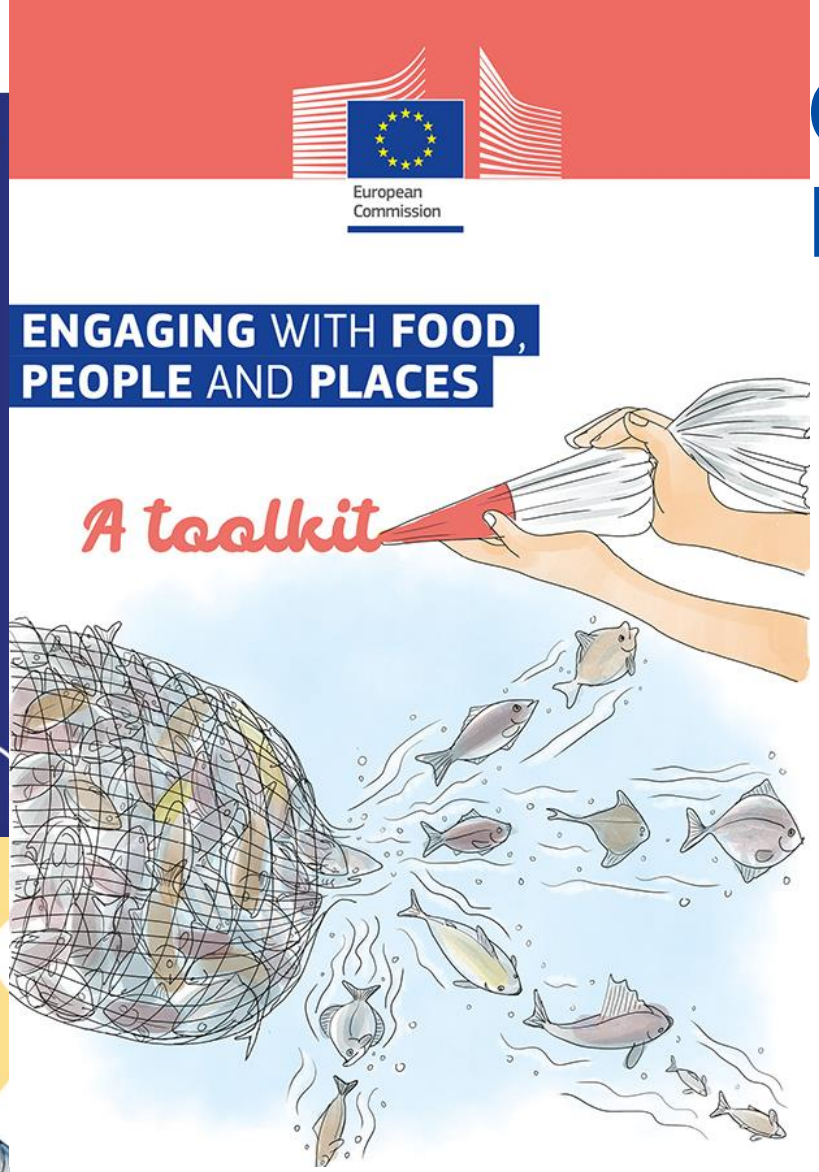
[to be] Continue[d]… engagement of citizens is not a 1 shot event; it is a relationship!!

European Commission

(some) Principles

- No tabula rasa [knowledge and engagements out there]
- Respectful relationship: ‘Contract’ | Ensure follow up
- Engage people where people go
- Work locally: there is always a tangible element
- Professional facilitation

European Commission



Guidance & Capacity Building

- Protocols and toolkits
- Coaching corners (in selected cases)
- Trainings, basic, advanced and train of trainers
- Piloting of citizen engagement (internal to the Commission)
- Evaluation

#EU_CitizenEngagement

EU-CITIZEN-ENGAGEMENT@EC.EUROPA.EU

https://knowledge4policy.ec.europa.eu/participatory-democracy/about-competence-centre-participatory-deliberative-democracy_en

https://cop-demos.jrc.ec.europa.eu/

Thank you!

© European Union 2020

Unless otherwise noted the reuse of this presentation is authorised under the CC BY 4.0 license. For any use or reproduction of elements that are not owned by the EU, permission may need to be sought directly from the respective right holders.

European Commission