

# Module 3: Approaches and methods

Co-creation and deliberative approaches  
Case study examples

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JRC, S.2*



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# Step n°1: making sense



**Outreach:** Interviews & focus groups organized with different social groups & stakeholders.

## Step n° 2: making space



**Co-analysis: community mapping** with students, local farmers, citizens, carried out in schools, squares and faith-based centers.



**Outreach:** Interviews and focus groups organized with different social groups & stakeholders.

# Step n°3: remaking



**Outreach:** Interviews & focus groups organized with different social groups & stakeholders.



**Co-analysis: community mapping** with students, local farmers, citizens, carried out in schools, squares and faith-based centers.



**Collaborative workshops and final events:** cocreating options for transformative scenarios & presentation of the visions collected.



**Outreach:** Interviews & focus groups organized with different social groups & stakeholders.



**Co-analysis: community mapping** with students, local farmers, citizens, carried out in schools, squares and faith-based centers.



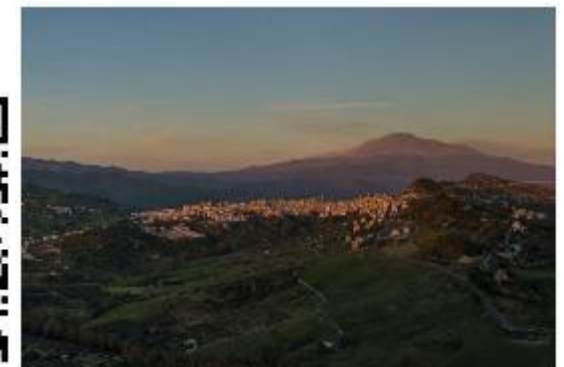
**Collaborative workshops and final events:** cocreating options for transformative scenarios & presentation of the visions collected.

**Policy outcome:** Strategic Development Plan

NEWS ANNOUNCEMENT | 19 October 2022 | Joint Research Centre

**Remote town in Sicily pioneers new ways of democracy**

Regalbuto, a town below Mount Etna, sets an example by involving locals in new ways to rethink the town's future, address its demographic decline and prepare for wildfires.



# BIO DIVER CITIES ATLAS

A PARTICIPATORY  
GUIDE TO BUILDING  
BIODIVERSE  
URBAN FUTURES





# Key aspects of co-creation approaches

**Citizens as resourceful partners**

Issue-centred approach

**Joint** creation of outcomes

Actively involved in a respectful and equal way

Not just opinions

What is it that we want to create **together**?

- Bring into the decision making-process what citizens need, what they are concerned about and what they care for

Citizens as  
resourceful  
partners

Issue-centred  
approach

**Joint** creation of  
outcomes

**Actively  
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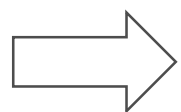
Issue-centred approach

**Joint creation of outcomes**

Actively involved in a respectful and equal way

Not just opinions

..material, process, service, policy...



Design  
Urban & territorial planning  
Public policy

Ansell, C., and Torfing, J. (2021). Public Governance as Co-creation: A Strategy for Revitalizing the Public Sector and Rejuvenating Democracy. (1 ed.) Cambridge University Press. Cambridge Studies in Comparative Public Policy

<https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108765381>

# Making and creating



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# Citizen engagement methods

Co-creation

Deliberation

Individual settings

Group settings



In-person

Online

Discursive

Experiential

# What are citizen engagement methods?

- Define the requirements for the settings, the rules of interaction, the actors involved and their roles, the timing and sequence of activities
- Objectives and types of outputs are known upfront
- Grounded in social sciences
- Consistency across implementation, but flexibility and adaptation – and innovation – are possible!
- Integrated into the participatory process





# Focus groups



USUALLY 6 TO 12  
PARTICIPANTS DISCUSS  
PREDEFINED TOPICS  
GUIDED BY A  
MODERATOR



FIRST USED FOR  
MARKETING PURPOSES  
AND NOW HIGHLY  
DIFFUSED FOR  
RESEARCH PURPOSES



GATHER INFORMATION  
THROUGH GROUP  
DISCUSSION AND  
INTERACTION



PRESENCE OR NOT OF  
INVITED EXPERTS, USE  
OF DIFFERENT PROPS TO  
STIMULATE THE  
DISCUSSION



COULD BE USED AS  
FOUNDATION FOR  
VARIOUS ENGAGEMENT  
FORMATS

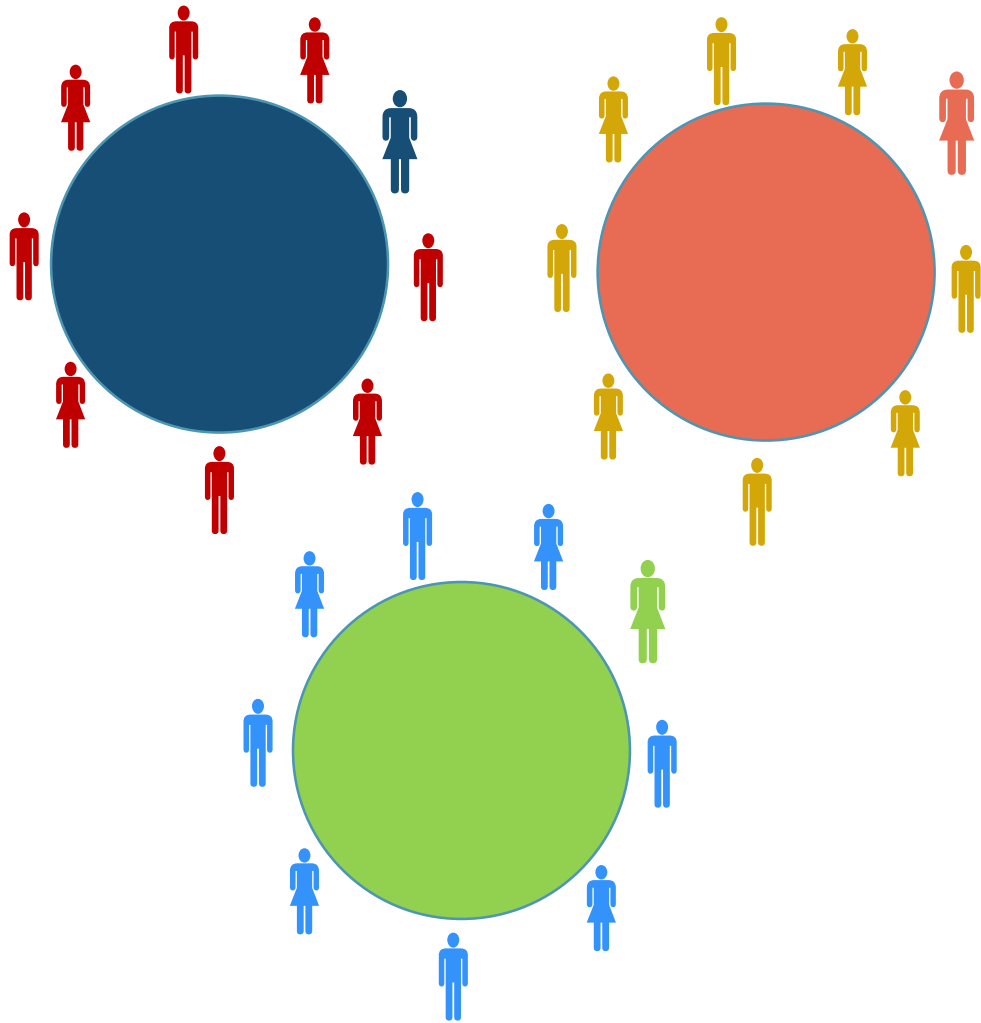
# World Café

- Creates a space for relaxed and open conversation around a question, theme, issue
- Rounds of small group discussions – 15-20 minutes each, exploring a theme through discussion
- Between rounds, participants move from one table to the next. Table host stays, briefs each group
- After last round – *harvesting, pattern searching, and conclusion*
- *Easy to customise – based on settings, purpose, theme*



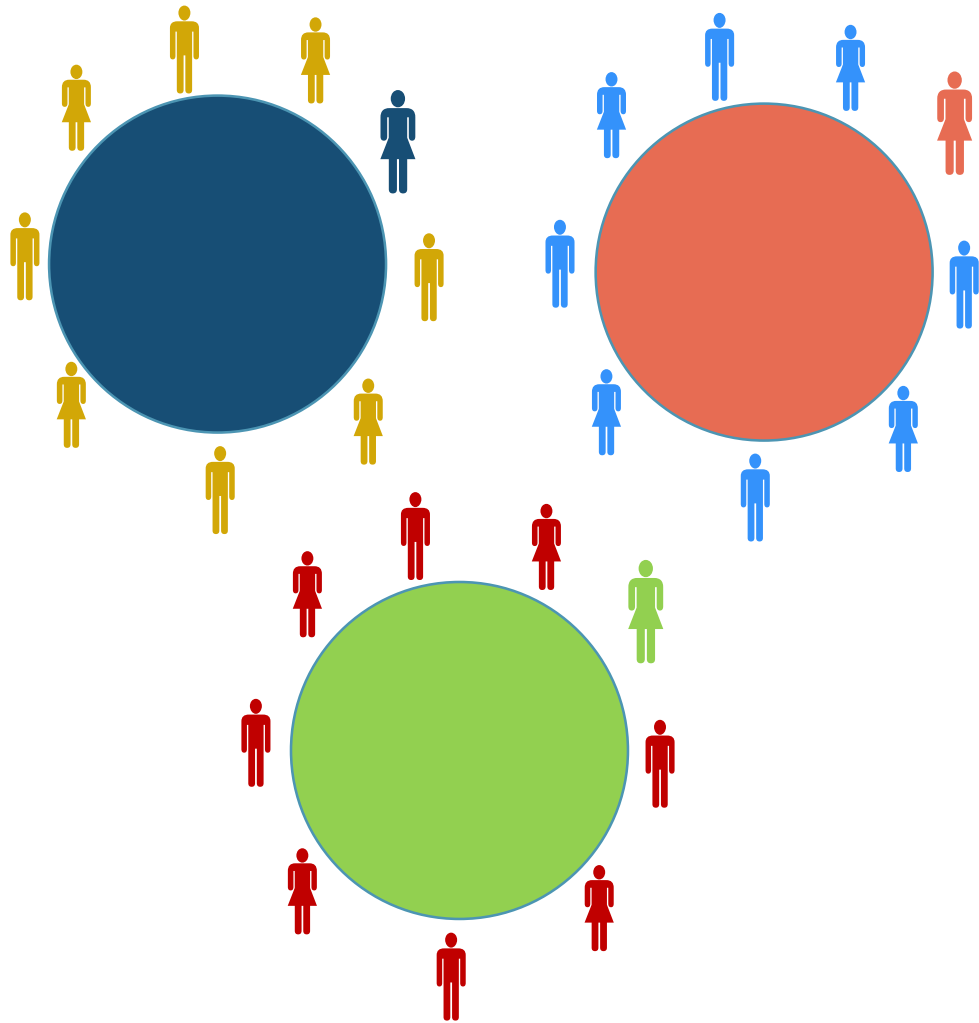
To learn more <http://www.theworldcafe.com/>

# World café example



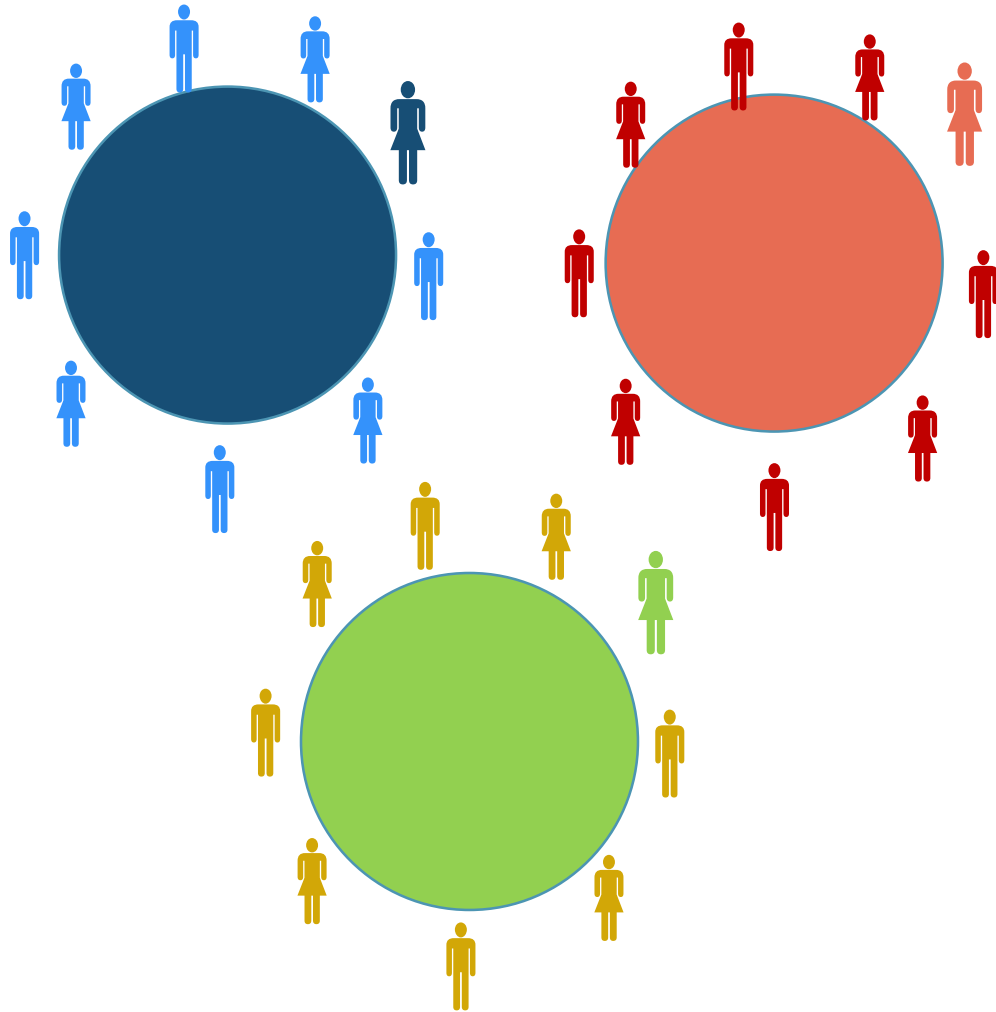
- **Round 1** – pose first question
- Participants discuss the question in small groups around each table
- Table host may take notes of ideas
- End of round after 15-20 minutes
- 5 minutes break before next round

# World café example



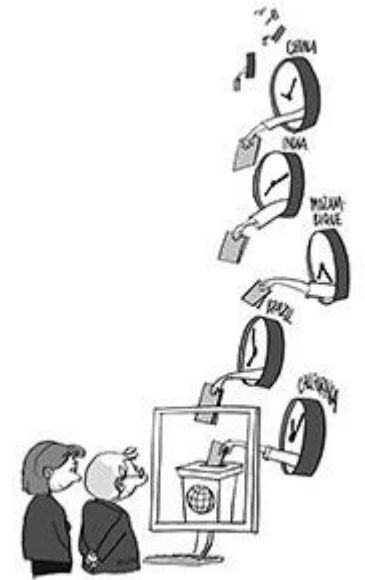
- **Round 2** – pose second question, or go deeper on an aspect
- All participants move to another table to meet and interact with the others
- Table host stays. Gives a brief overview of the ideas discussed in the previous round
- Ends after 15-20 minutes
- 5 minutes break before next round

# World café example



- **Round 3** – pose third question, often a “harvesting” or a “so-what”, action-oriented question
- Participants move to another table
- Table host stays, presenting a brief overview of previous discussions
- Last round of discussion 15-20 minutes
- Additional 10 minutes to harvest and organise ideas per table

# Merging methods together - World Wide Views



Participants

Information

Deliberation

Voting

Appreciation

Global results

# A curious case – Participatory Budgeting

- Members of a community decide directly how to spend part of a public budget
- Relatively recent, spurring globally and across some EU Member States over the past 15-20 years
- Not standardised as a method, variations tailored to local contexts and needs
- Can use both randomised sampling or convenience sampling to target relevant populations
- Realised through guided deliberation and negotiation over the allocation of public resources between citizens (or other civic actors) and government actors
- Factors in both deliberation and voting

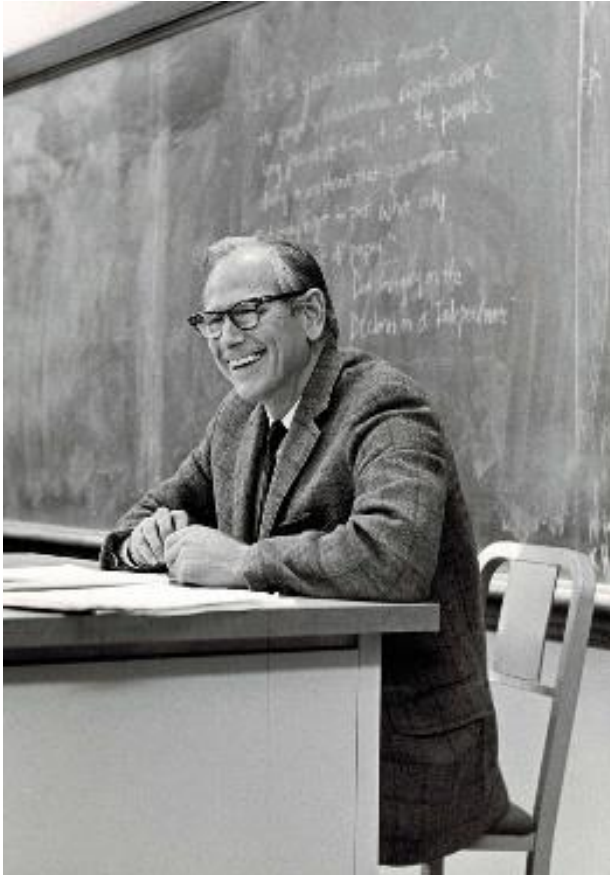


Participatory budgeting in Paris, France, 2017. Original image at <https://urbact.eu/good-practices/participatory-budget>

# “Deliberation”



# Deliberative democracy and the “mini-public”



« [...]‘**minipopulus**’ consisting of perhaps a thousand citizens **randomly selected** out of the entire demos (Dahl 1989: 340) »

- An assembly of citizens, demographically representative of the larger population
- Everyone should have an equal chance to be selected

“Its task would be to *deliberate*, for a year perhaps, on an issue and then to announce its choices”

“It could be attended... by an advisory committee of scholars and specialists”

“It could hold hearings, commission research, and engage in debate and discussion”

# Deliberative mini-publics

- Deliberative polls
- Planning cells
- Citizens' Juries
- Consensus Conferences
- Citizens' Panels
- Citizens' Assemblies
- Deliberative Committees
- Citizens' Initiative Review
- ...

## Common characteristics

- *Randomly selection, for equal chances*
- *Stratified sampling, for representation*
- *Remuneration of participants*
- *Facilitation of discussions*
- *Evidence and advocacy cross-examined by citizens*

# Recruitment

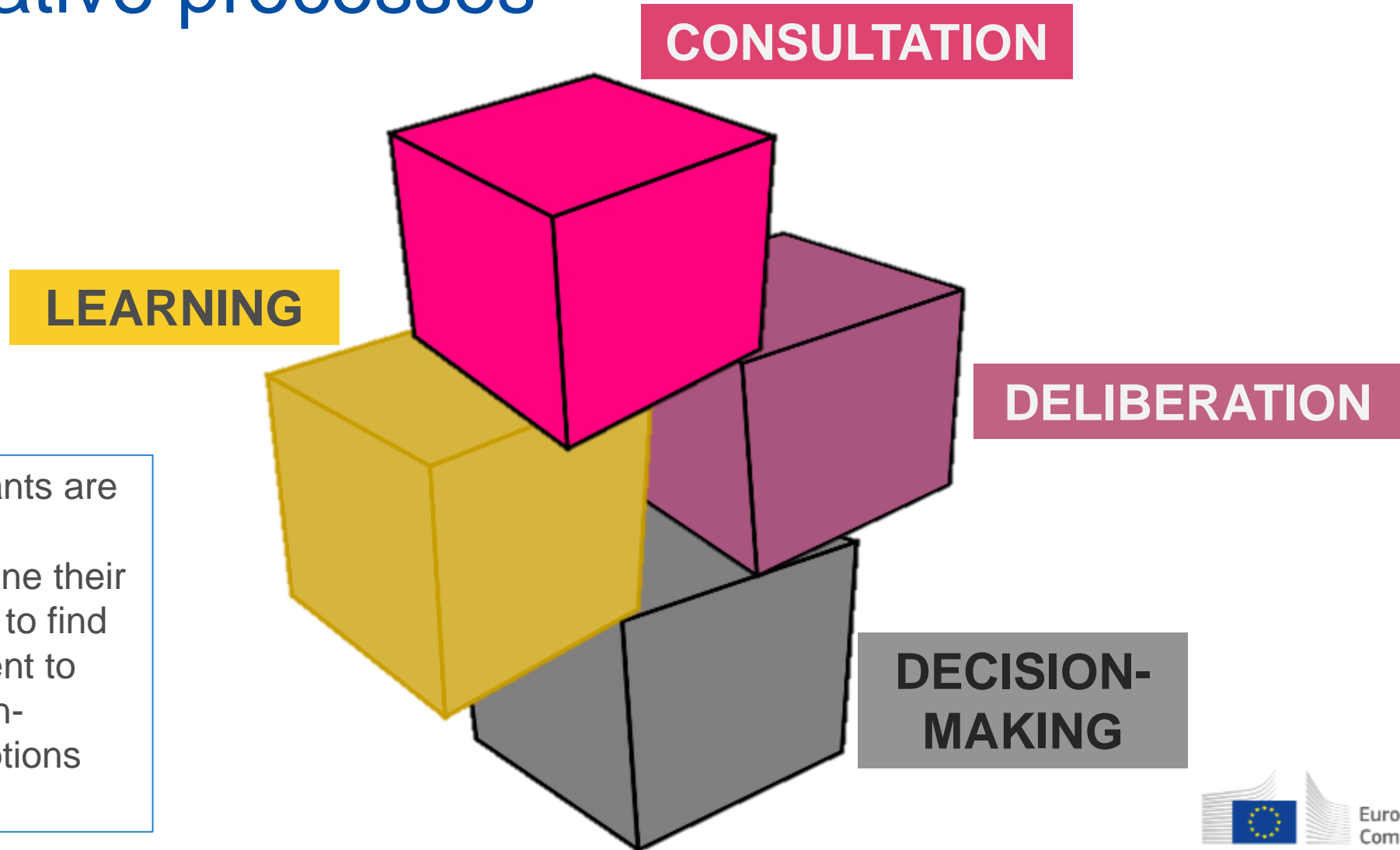
**Sortition: Invite and select so that the participants fit the composition of the population**



*KNOCA copyright*

- “The art of sortition”: factual vs attitudinal data, number of people, recruitment invitation
- **Decision over the population you are ultimately working to represent through the civic lottery**

# Typical structure of deliberative processes



**Deliberation:** participants are exposed to different perspectives, re-examine their preferences, and seek to find some level of agreement to inform political decision-making → weighing options and making choices

# Examples

# The Spanish Citizens' Assembly for the Climate - the governance structure

- Initiated by the **Spanish Government**: “A safer and fairer Spain in the face of climate change” How do we do it?
- Coordinated by an **Independent Coordination Panel**:
  - Composed of two organisations (the Red Española para el Desarrollo Sostenible” (REDS) and the Basque Centre for Climate Change (BC3)
  - Responsible for supporting preparation and logistical support
  - Supporting the work of the Independent Group of Experts
- **Independent Group of Experts** deciding on knowledge provision for the sessions (content and speakers) and thematic areas to be submitted via online survey prior to the Assembly
- Facilitation Team (Grupo Cooperativo Tangente) responsible for design and implementation of the sessions

# The Spanish Citizens' Assembly for the Climate – the structure

- 5 online sessions and final in-person session
- Parallel use of Decidim (digital platform)
- 100 citizens
- Group work: 5 areas (consumption, food systems and land use, work, community, health care, ecosystems), 20 citizens per area, table facilitation of 10 citizens
- 172 recommendations based on voting (the decision-making method was adopted during the sessions)
- Follow up by Coordination Panel

# Deliberative methods are not fixed

## Spanish Climate Assembly

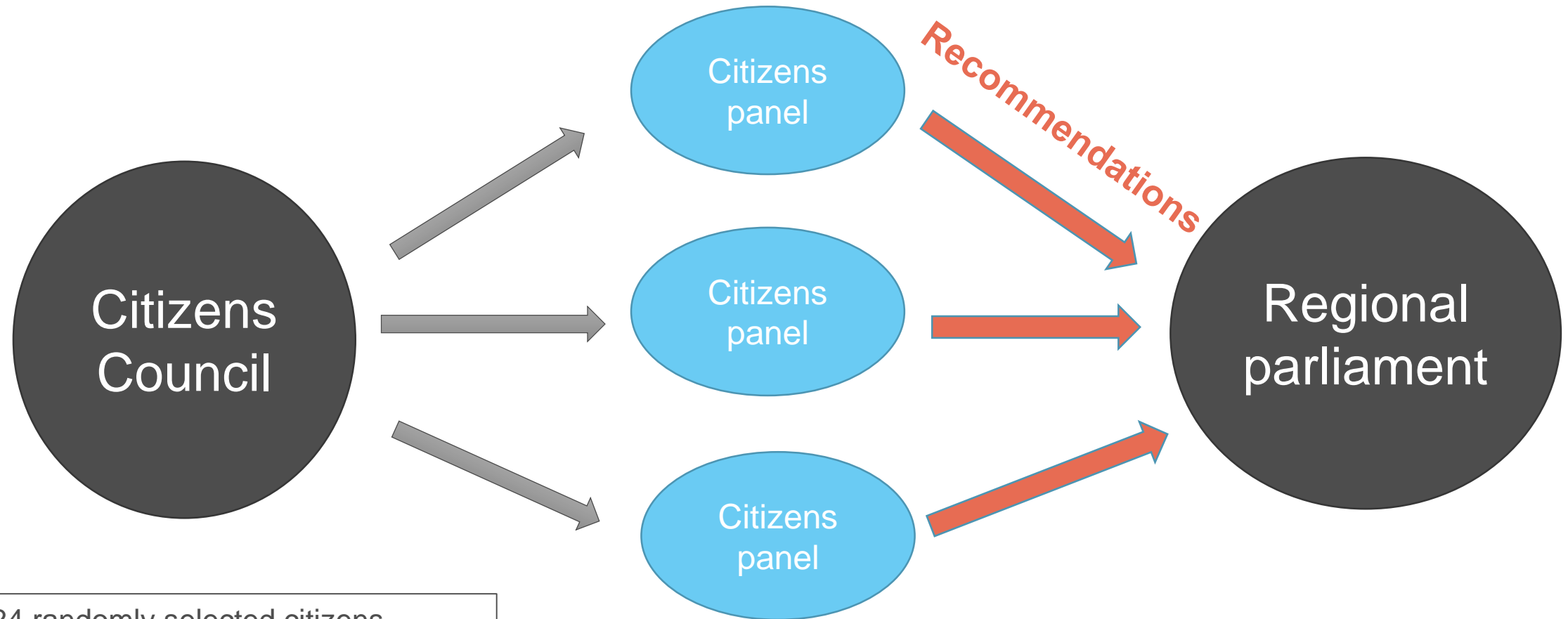
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- 172 recommendations
- Oversight by Coordination Panel and public engagement by 12 selected members of the Assembly

## Finland Citizen Jury on Climate Actions

- Commissioned by Ministry of Environment for gathering informed views on fairness and impact of 14 potentially controversial measures in the new CC Policy Plan
- 14 measures identified via public survey
- Governance: academics associated to public policy projects
- Evidence by representative of the Ministry and academic researchers
- 3 consecutive sessions, online
- 37 citizens
- Jurors formulating questions for the experts; deliberation in 5 small groups each drafting a declaration on fairness and impact of each measure and passing it on to the next group
- No oversight



# A permanent Citizens' Assembly: the Ostbelgien model

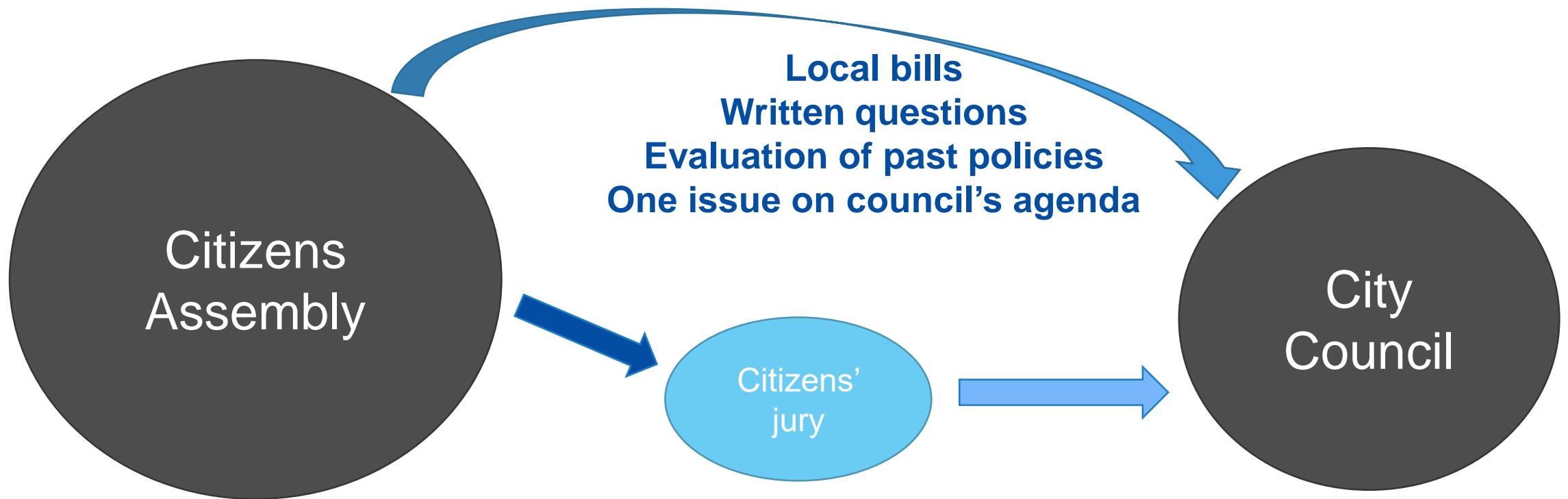


- 24 randomly selected citizens
- Permanent body serving for 18 months
- Agenda setting
- Initiating Citizens Panels
- Monitoring Implementation

- 25-50 randomly selected citizens
- Temporary but regular
- Invitation of experts

- Joint committee
- At least three rounds of discussions
- Motivated (negative) opinion

# Paris Citizens' Assembly



- 100 randomly selected citizens
- Permanent body serving 1 year (+ 6 months)
- Agenda setting (also by other citizens)
- Evaluation of past policies
- Participatory budgeting

- 1 jury a year (17 randomly selected citizens)
- Invitation of experts

- Direct transmission to the city council
- At least one year for council opinion

# Further inspiration on methods

A global network and crowdsourcing platform for researchers, educators, practitioners, policymakers, activists, and anyone interested in public participation and democratic innovations

2392	377	872	19	158
CASES	METHODS	ORGANIZATIONS	COLLECTIONS	COUNTRIES

Q Search  All  Browse all Cases

**Participatory Research on the Decommissioning of South African Social Services**  
South Africa  
Image credit: Research Team, University of the Western Cape; Professor Laurence Piper, Robyn Parsons and Schorre Bailey

FEEDBACK

Source: <https://participedia.net/>

# Further inspiration on methods

OECD Database of Representative Delib... | Copy base | Airtable

Full OECD Database of Representative Deliberative Processes and Institutions | New cases added since October 2019 | How to cite this database

Views | Grid view | Hide fields | Filter | Group | Sort


Name	Deliberative model (cat...)	Deliberative model (na...)	Ad hoc or Institutional...	If institutionalised, is th...	Institutionalisation regu...	Project name	Projec
72 Citizens' panel on genetically modified crops (Beernem & Gembloux)	Citizens' Jury	Citizens' panel	Ad hoc			GMOs in the field?	Feed t
73 STADT+UM+LAND 2030 Brunswick Region	Planning Cell	Planning Cell	Ad hoc			STADT+UM+LAND 2030 B...	To dev
74 Neutorgasse citizens' panel	Citizens' Jury	Citizens' Panel	Ad hoc			Neutorgasse citizens' panel	To dis
75 Consensus conference on genetic data	Consensus Conference	Consensus Conference	Ad hoc			Consensus conference on ...	To dis
76 Food safety : at what cost?	Consensus Conference	Citizens' panel	Ad hoc			Food safety: at what cost?	Collec
77 Planning cells on population aging in Rhineland-Palatinate	Planning Cell	Planning cell	Ad hoc			Bürgergutachten: Miteinan...	In 200
78 British Columbia citizens' assembly on electoral reform	Citizens' Assembly	Citizens' Assembly	Ad hoc			British Columbia citizens' a...	The As
79 Netherley Valley Citizens' Jury	Citizens' Jury	Citizens' Jury	Ad hoc			Netherley Valley Citizens' J...	The ju
80 Citizens' hearing in Gentoft on children and young people	Citizens' Dialogues	Citizens' Hearing	Ad hoc			Citizens' hearing in Gentoft...	To pro
81 Planning Cells on health	Planning Cell	Planning Cell	Ad hoc			Planning Cells on health	To pro
82 Scarborough Beach Deliberative Survey	Deliberative poll	Deliberative survey	Ad hoc			Scarborough Beach Delibe...	Follow
83 Local Environmental Plan Review Panel	Citizens' Jury	Citizens' Panel	Ad hoc			Local Environmental Plan ...	Delibe
84 Consensus conference on brain research	Consensus Conference	Consensus Conference	Ad hoc			Consensus conference on ...	To ass
85 Citizens' Jury on Community Engagement and Deliberative Democracy	Citizens' Jury	Citizens' Jury	Ad hoc			Citizens' Jury on Communit...	Run as
86 Citizens' Dialogue on Public Health Goals in Canada	Citizens' Jury	Citizens' dialogues	Ad hoc			Citizens' Dialogue on Publi...	To det
87 Citizens' Panel on child-friendly Vorarlberg	Citizens' Jury	Citizens' Panel	Ad hoc			Citizens' Panel on child-frie...	To pro
88 Citizens' jury on genetically modified plants	Citizens' Jury	Citizens' Jury	Ad hoc			Citizens' jury on geneticall...	To pro
89 Deliberative poll in Zenguo township, China	Deliberative poll		Ad hoc			Deliberative poll in Zenguo...	To cor

574 records

Source: OECD, Deliberative wave database, <https://www.oecd.org/gov/innovative-citizen-participation-and-new-democratic-institutions-339306da-en.htm>

# For further inspiration on methods


ActionCatalogue *Methods* Contact About

Search/Filter  Clear filters


Search for text...

Objective of application of the method 


- Policy formulation
- Programme development
- Project definition
- Research activity
- Political empowerment of people

Level of stakeholder/public involvement, i.e. objective of public participation through the method's application 

- Dialogue
- Consulting
- Involving
- Collaborating
- Empowering
- Direct decision

Geographical scope of application 

- International
- EU
- National
- Regional
- Local



The bubble chart displays a variety of participatory methods, including: World Café, Citizen Hearing, Consensus Confer, Participatory Budgeting, Science Café, Resource P, Reflex, Open Spec, Group II, Deliberative P, Q one, Participa, Science T, Science, Participa, Citizen summit, French try, Carevan, Consensus Wo, Science T, Science, Participa, Civic dial, Scenario W, Science Week, Consensus Confer, Group Interv, Participatory Ba, Participa, Crowd Wk, Challenges, Future Plans, Citizen Hearing, Citizen Voice, Stakeholder, Multi Criteria D, Needs, Deep Dive, Deliber, Future Saw, Intertac, Perspective Wo, Research Age, Knowledge, Deliber, F conferences, Deliberative Map, Deliberative C, Future Workshop, Hardball, Imok, Focus C, Distributed Dial, Community-Ba, Action Resca, Citizen compass, Citizens D, Osmeta, and Citizen Jam.

Source: [actioncatalogue.eu](http://actioncatalogue.eu)

# Thank you



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