

# RECRUITMENT

**Fair representation**  
**Two staged random selection**

1. creating a pool
2. sampling



# RECRUITMENT

## 1) How do you reach out to citizens?

Different recruitments techniques

- a) Traditional mails
  - Households
  - Individuals
- b) Phone calls
- c) SMS/email
- d) Door to door
- e) Mixed methods



# RECRUITMENT

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## 2) Who do you 'select' as CA members? (Who do you want to be in the room?)

Self-selection bias (oversampling?)

Overrepresentation

Filter questions

- a) Basic demographic criteria (gender, age, geographical area, level of education / socio-economic status, ethnicity....)
- b) Attitudinal questions?

+: substitute members

# LEARNING PHASE



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## WHAT KNOWLEDGE?

What is it that participants to a Citizen Assembly need to « learn »?

- Three types of Knowledge
  - Knowledge within the group: learn from each others' experiences and life stories
  - Knowledge about the topic: learn from external experts
  - Procedural knowledge: learn to be active listener, deliberate respectfully, and about their own cognitive biases
- One important « knowledge reflexe » to acquire:
  - Capacity to debunk dis/mis-information: with the support of a fact-checking team

# LEARNING PHASE

## WHO?

- Who is the « expert » ?
  - Importance of acknowledging that **there are different types of expertise** (academia, think tank, NGOs, businesses, public authorities, witnesses, trade unions, religious authorities...)
    - *Seek to have an inclusive pool of experts, and do not shy away from inviting all stakeholders*
- Who is the neutral expert ?
  - Importance of acknowledging that **we all have interests, viewpoints and background stories** (and that's OK!)
    - *Do not try to hide disagreements and dissensus: seek the inclusion of a widest practical range of perspectives*
- Who selects the experts ?
  - Importance of acknowledging that the **coordination team / Advisory Committee have biases too!**
    - *Never hesitate to include citizens in the decisions and ask them what their needs are*

# LEARNING PHASE

## HOW?

- **TIME:** Participants need sufficient time for reflection
  - When is it the right time to gain and exploit different types of knowledge ?
  - How much time is enough time ?
- **KNOWLEDGE CURATION:** both content and formats need to be carefully curated
  - Different formats speak to different people (learning by reading, listening, experiencing, playing, asking, seeing...)
  - Who is a good science communicator? Someone who prepares !
- **TRANSPARENCY:** who you invite influences your process and its outcomes
  - The learning phase is a delicate and scrutinized phase of a CA process.
  - Open it up to observers and external viewers so they can play their role in legitimising your process

# LEARNING PHASE

## EXAMPLES



Brussels Climate Assembly ●

# LEARNING PHASE EXAMPLES



*Est Ensemble - Climate Convention*

# LEARNING PHASE

## EXAMPLES



*Democratic Odyssey - Athens*

# LEARNING PHASE EXAMPLES



*European Citizens Panel on Virtual Worlds*

# LEARNING PHASE

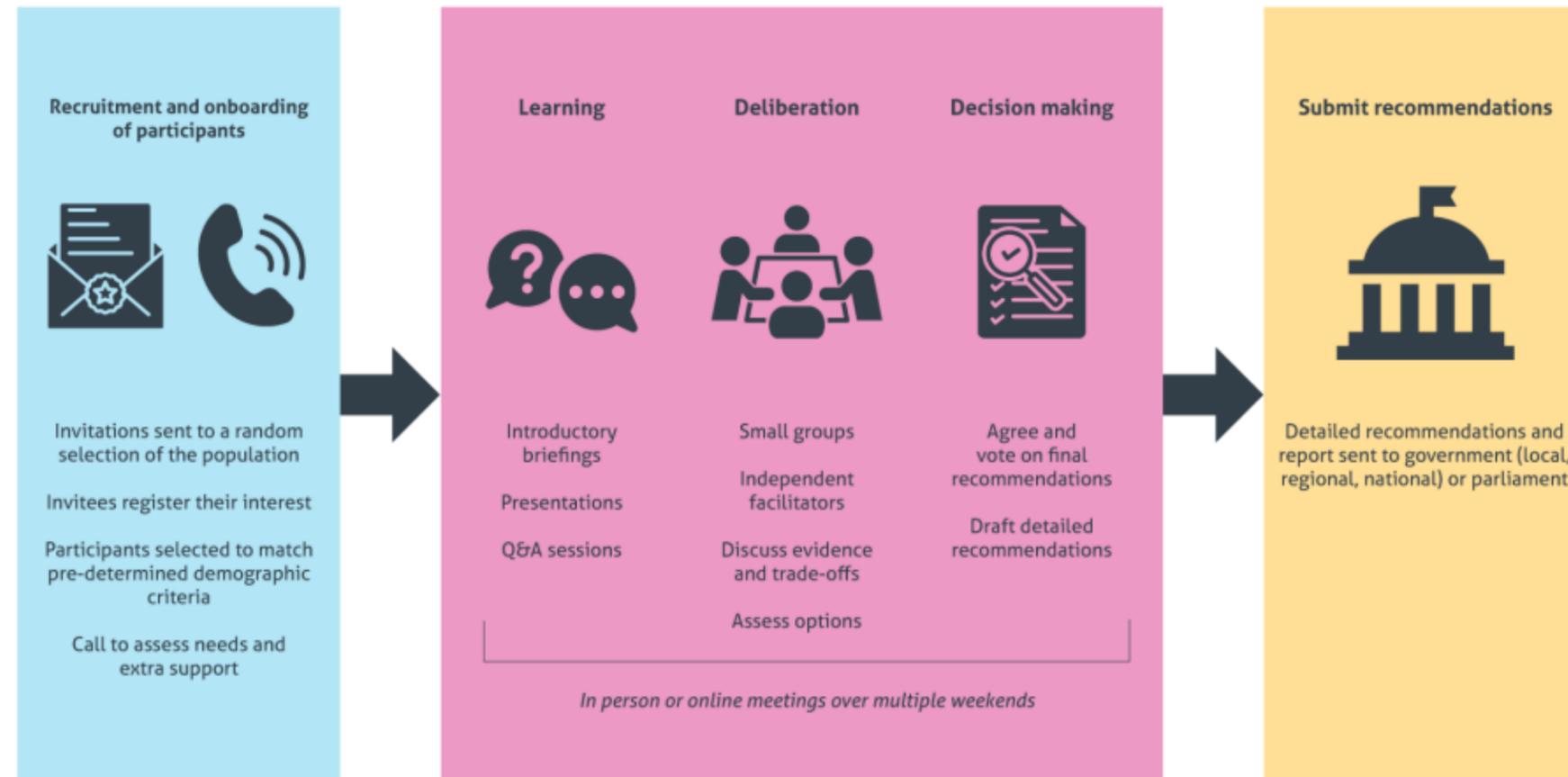
QUESTIONS?

# IMPLEMENTATION PHASE

## DELIBERATION

Stages in the citizens' assemblies process

IfG



Source: Institute for Government analysis.

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# IMPLEMENTATION PHASE DELIBERATION



*Belgium Citizens Assembly on Artificial Intelligence*

# IMPLEMENTATION PHASE

## DELIBERATION



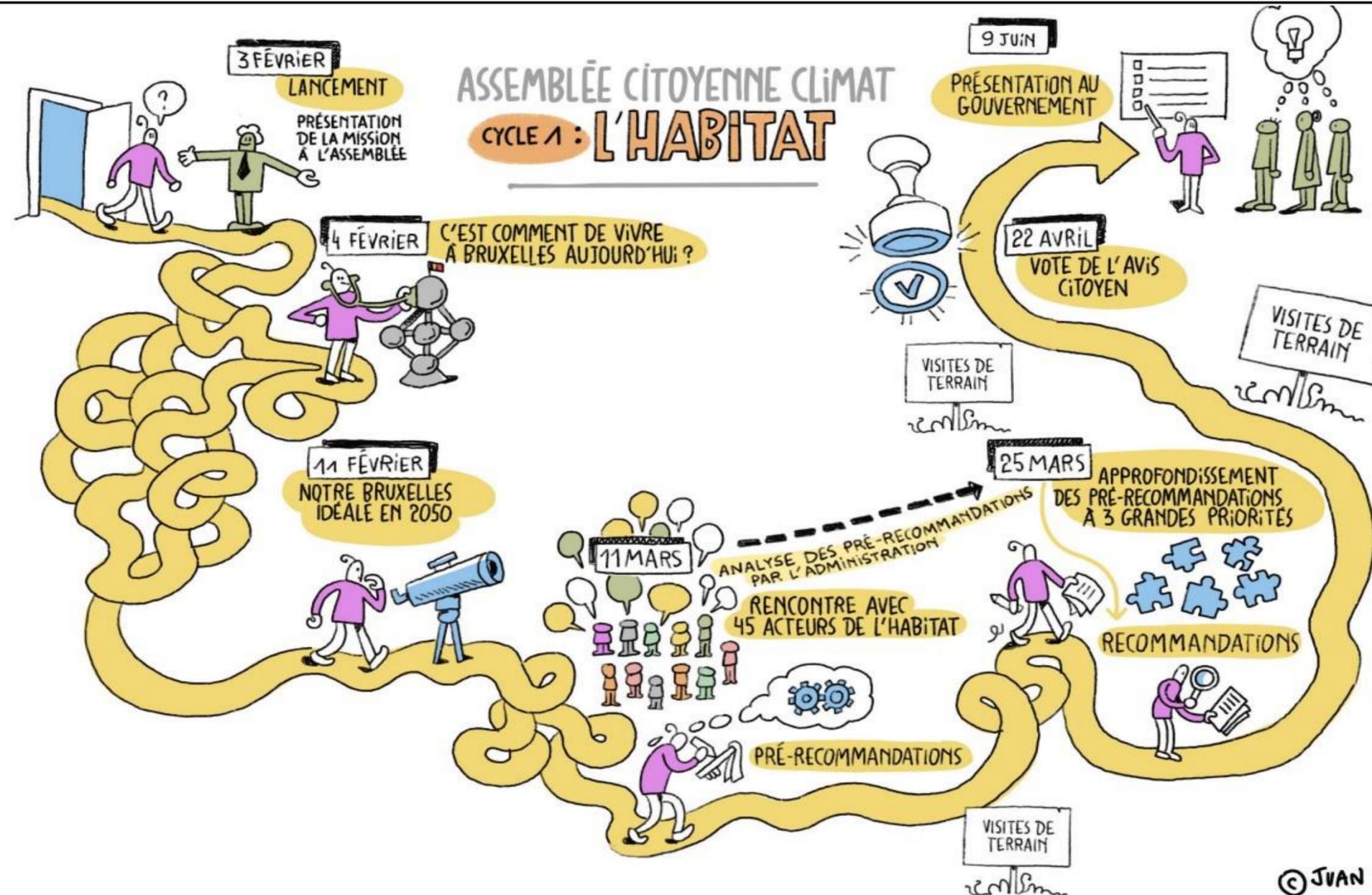
● *French Climate Assembly*



*Democratic Odyssey Athens* ●

# IMPLEMENTATION PHASE

## PROCESS: Brussels Climate Assembly (I)



## IMPLEMENTATION PHASE INCLUSIVE DELIBERATION

### The PROMISE:

- Deliberative democracy is based on the premise that **all voices matter** and that we can equally participate in decision-making.
- **Structural inequalities** do prevent certain groups from participating, skewing processes towards the socially privileged.
- Those structural inequalities are present at both the critical phases of the recruitment and **deliberation**

## IMPLEMENTATION PHASE INCLUSIVE DELIBERATION

### To keep in mind:

- Equalising access does not mean that the conversation equalizes.
  - Acknowledge **diversity of communication methods**
    - Importance of varying between formats for exchanging
    - Not all communication is verbal
  - Be aware of any **power imbalances**:
    - Importance of unboarding marginalized voices
    - Create a safe, fair and brave space
    - Rely on professional facilitators
- Acknowledge the **emotional work deliberation requires**, both for participants and your team
  - Importance of welcoming and processing emotions.