

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

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



LEARNING PHASE



LEARNING PHASE

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' expériences 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

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Source: Institute for Government analysis.

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IMPLEMENTATION PHASE

DELIBERATION



Belgium Citizens Assembly on Artificial Intelligence

IMPLEMENTATION PHASE

DELIBERATION



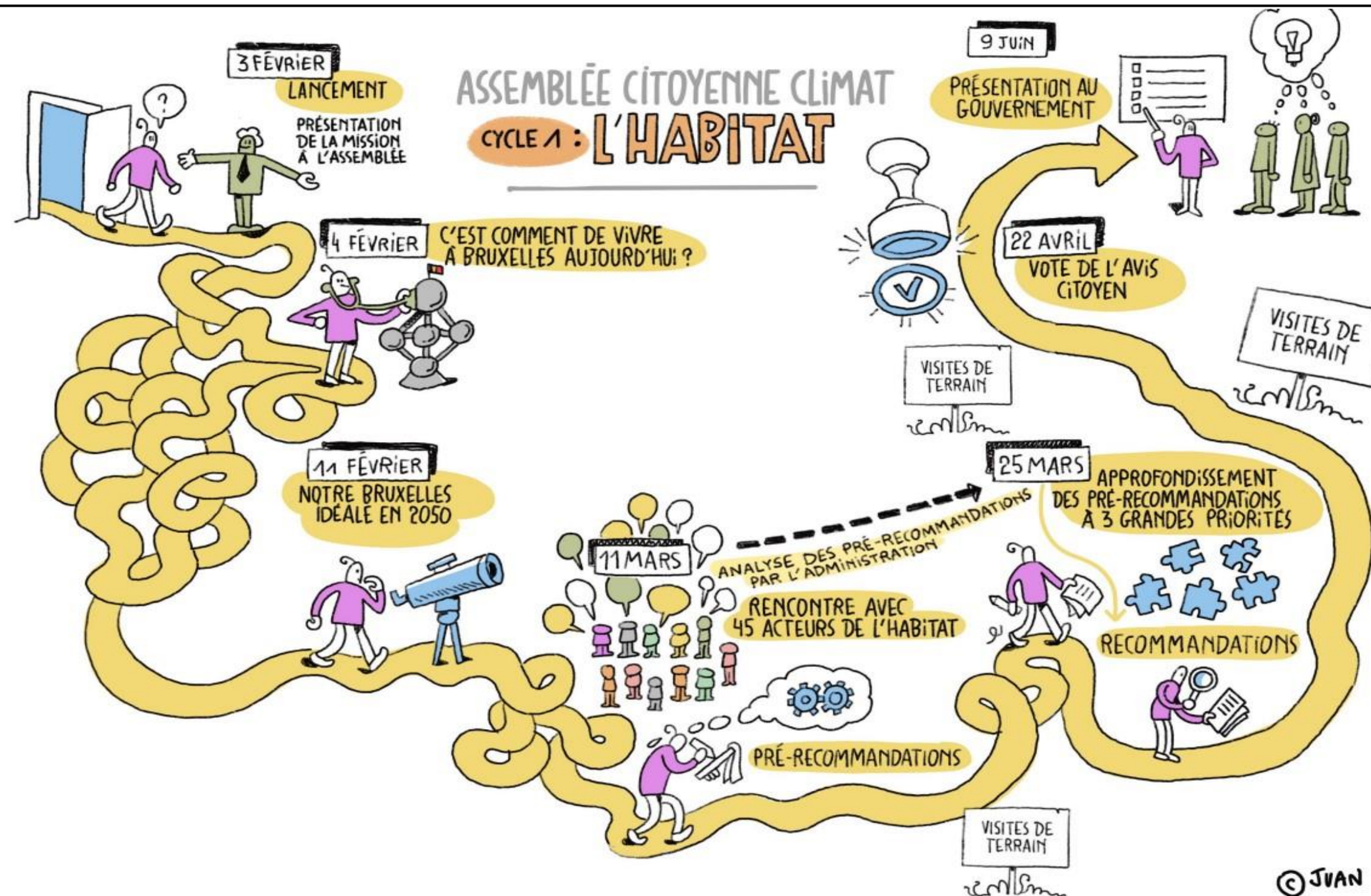
● *French Climate Assembly*



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.