

"A Sustainable Future for Mazovia: Participatory Budgeting, and Stakeholder Engagement in Energy and Climate Planning"

**Anna Wieczorek,
Think Tank City Foundation**

**CEESEU-DIGIT CONFERENCE „Pathways to Successful Energy and Climate Planning: Regional Leadership and
Innovation in Central and Eastern Europe**

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Think Tank City Foundation

Our mission is to improve the quality of life by fostering civic participation - designing places and solutions with the involvement of citizens.

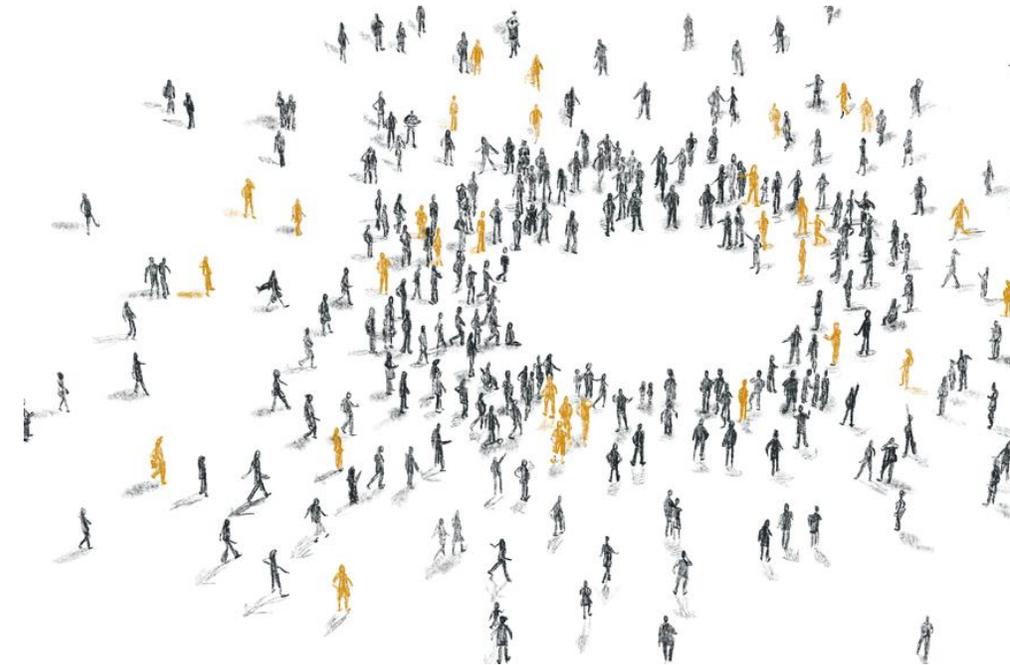
Spatial research and analysis

research and analyses on the use of physical spaces, supporting data-driven planning

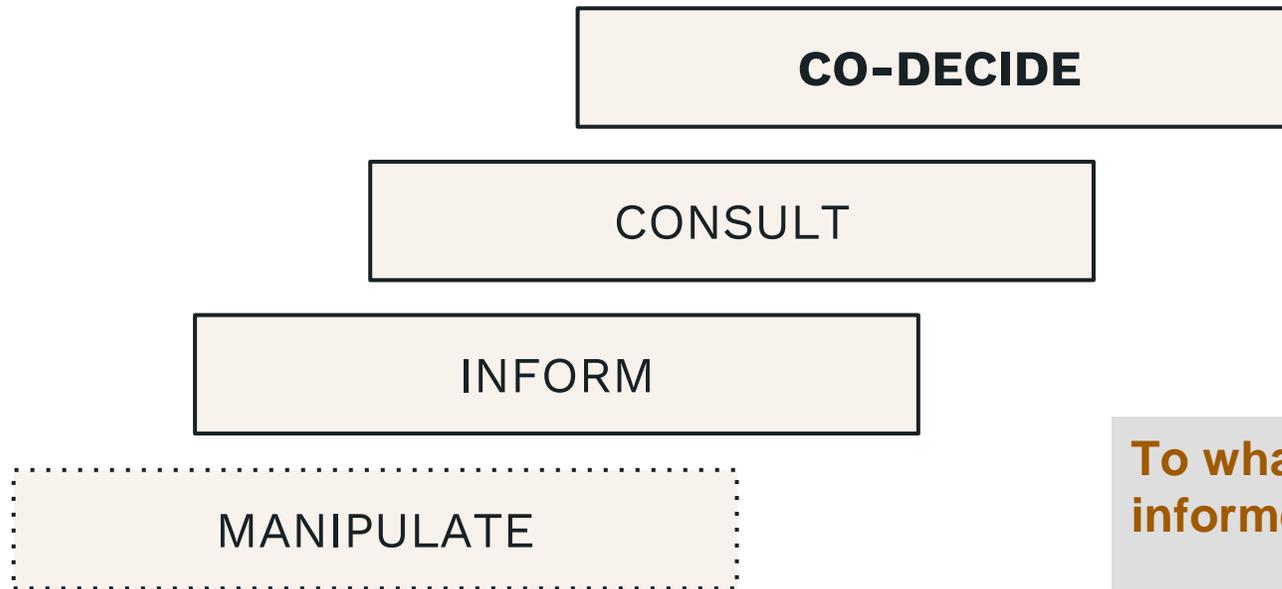
 **Design and implementation of participatory processes**
partners with local authorities to support the development and improvement of participation processes

Education and training

workshops and training sessions for public officials and residents, aiming to build capacity in public dialogue



Forms of participation



To what extent does participation support informed governance?

- Decision-makers observe trends and needs
- Citizens express their individual perspective, and gain insight into complex mechanisms

The challenge

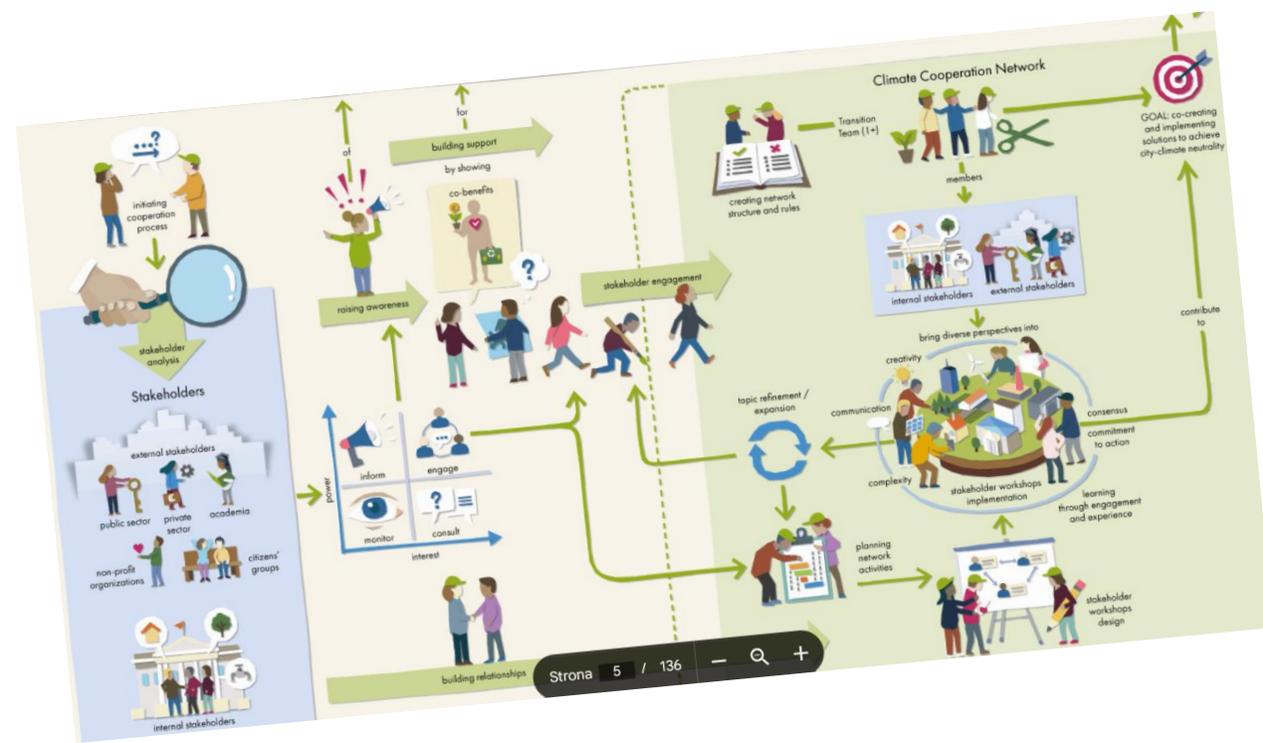
COMPLEXITY + SCALE

Co-deciding- two practices from Mazovia

Participatory Budgeting



Stakeholder Engagement



Participatory budgeting in Poland

2014
39,11%
1 POLAND



195

3,81%

5 FRANCE



54

1,06%

9 ALBANIA



21

0,39%

13 ESTONIA

1666

32,58%

2 PORTUGAL



163

3,19%

6 CZECH REPUBLIC



33

0,65%

10 SCOTLAND



18

0,35%

14 SLOVENIA

334

6,53%

3 SPAIN



140

2,74%

7 GERMANY



31

0,61%

11 FINLAND



15

0,29%

15 ENGLAND AND WALES

238

4,65%

4 UKRAINE



116

2,27%

8 ITALY



26

0,51%

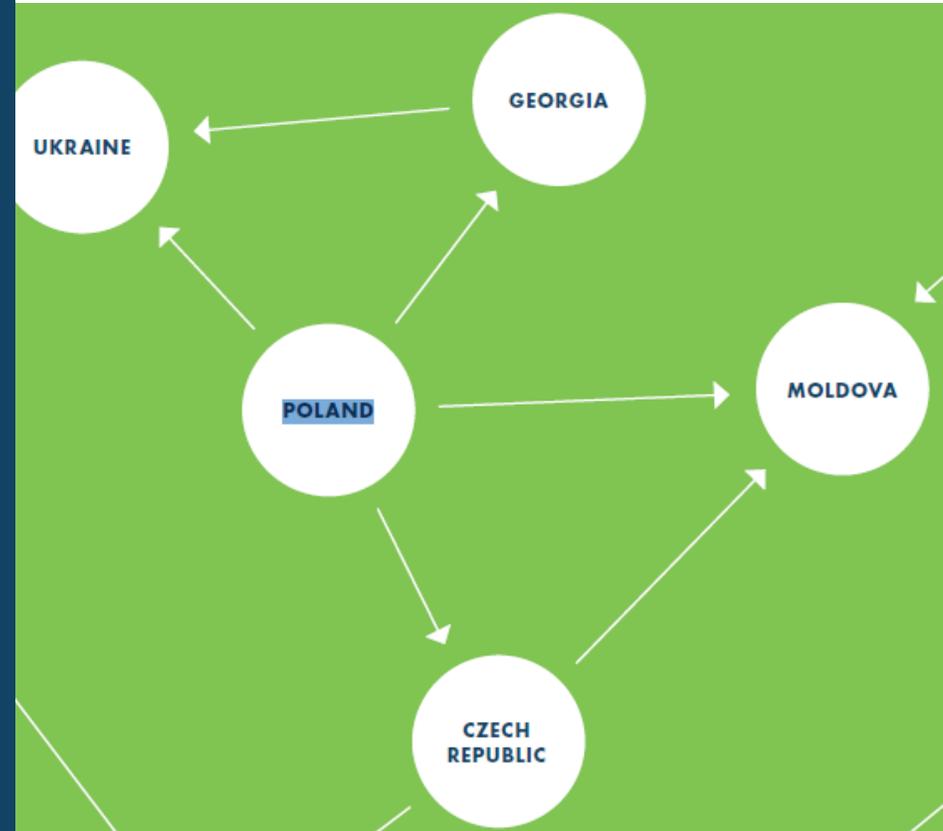
12 ROMANIA

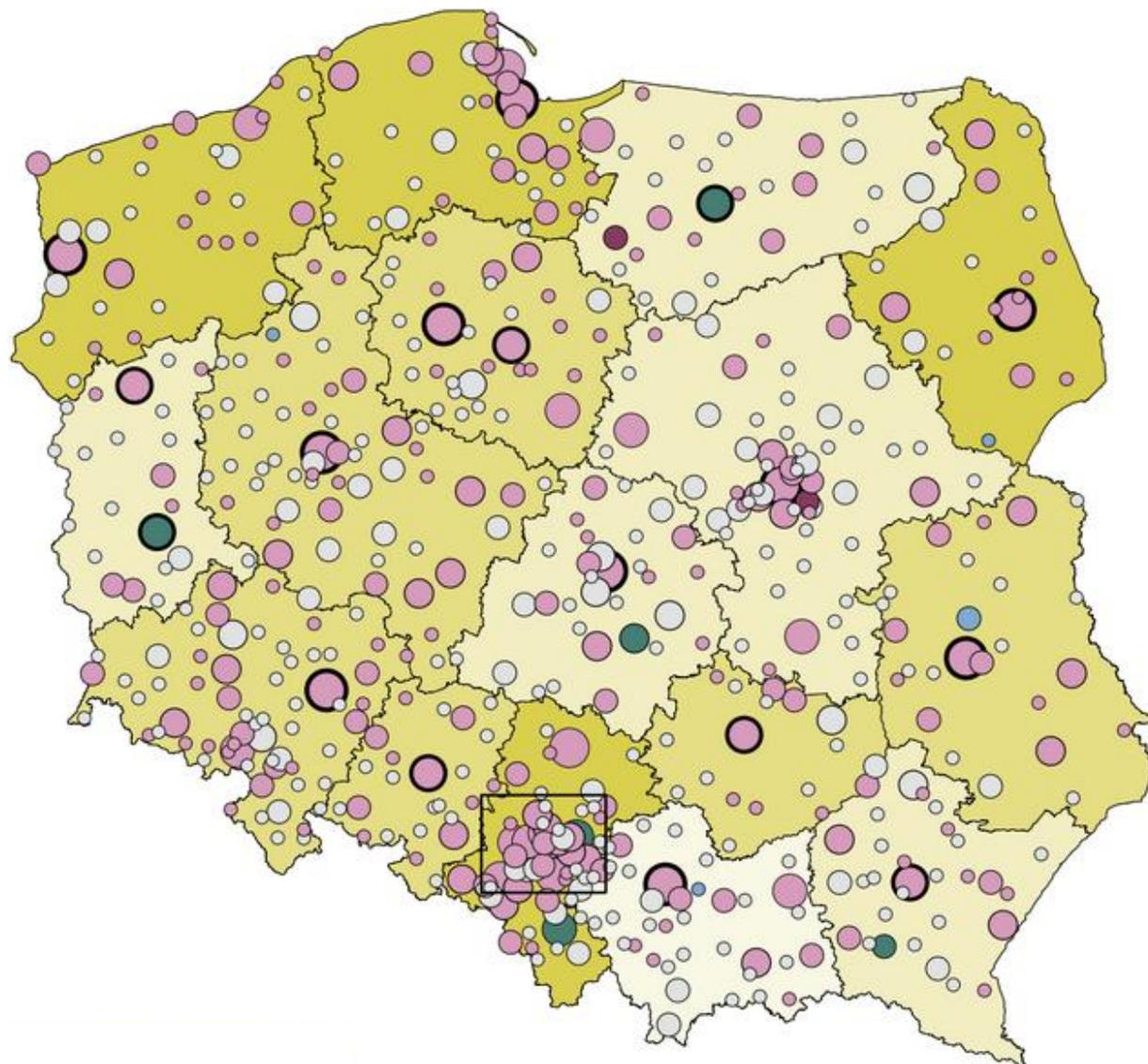


12

0,23%

16 SLOVAKIA





1:4 500 000

Participatory Budgeting – what is it?

Description of Participatory Budgeting in the Act

“As part of the participatory budget, **residents decide annually**—through direct voting—on a portion of the municipality’s expenditures. The tasks selected through the participatory budget are included in the municipality’s budget resolution. During the process of, **the municipal council may not remove or significantly alter the tasks** chosen through the participatory budget.”

Source: Act on Municipal Self-Government, Article 5a, Paragraph 4

Participatory Budgeting

In municipalities that hold the status of cities with county rights, the establishment of a participatory budget is mandatory.

The amount allocated to the participatory budget must be at least 0.5% of the municipality's expenditures, as reported in the most recently submitted budget execution report.

At the regional level, civic budget rules are shaped by the Regional Assembly, which defines the framework through a resolution.

Regional civic budgets are not mandatory by law, regional governments can introduce them voluntarily, setting detailed procedures in their own regulations.

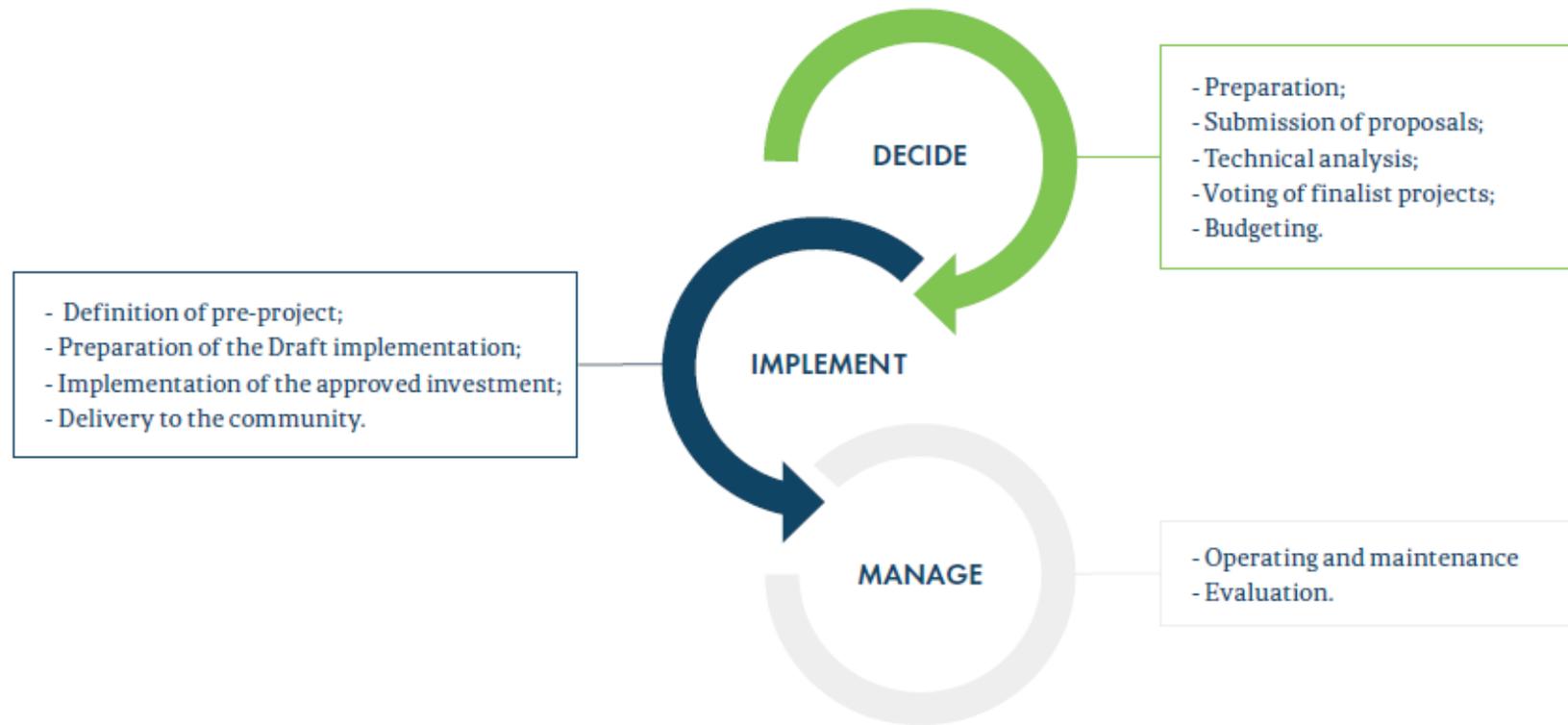
Ground rules for participatory budgeting

- Transparency and openness of the procedure
- Openness and inclusiveness of the process
- Binding outcome of the procedure (project must be implemented)
- Space for deliberation (debate) with residents
- Support for residents' engagement
- Long-term thinking

Participatory budgeting cycle- citizens perspective



Participatory budgeting cycle- authorities perspective



Regional participatory budget

Engaging residents in regional matters

- Participation is easiest at the very local level
- At the regional level, there are few projects that directly affect residents
- Residents' awareness of the Voivodeship's own tasks is very limited
- Understanding residents' needs at the regional level is difficult and complex

Mazovian Participatory Budget

The procedure:

- introduced since 2020, procedure modelled on city-level participatory budgets
- involves the Voivodeship's residents in the governance of the Voivodeship;
- strengthens the bonds between the Voivodeship's residents;
- enables residents to co-decide on the allocation of funds from the Voivodeship's budget;
- increases residents' awareness of the Voivodeship's own tasks and budgetary principles
- these are not additional funds, but specific amounts that are part of the Mazovian Voivodeship's budget (not less than 0,75%)
- allocation is decided by the residents.

Mazovian Participatory Budget

- Residents can submit or support any number of projects
- Any resident of the Mazovian Voivodeship, regardless of age can submit a project

Project types and limits

- **Investment projects** (carried out on properties to which legal title is held by the Voivodeship, voivodeship legal entities, or companies in which the Voivodeship is a shareholder) : **up to 1,200,000 PLN**
 - **Non-investment projects**(activities of an educational, preventive, or social nature): **up to 240,000 PLN**
- Residents can get an overview of a scope of tasks at the voivodeship level
 - Residents can explore a map of the voivodeship while locating their project
 - Residents submit and vote on a larger and more local territorial scale - regional pool or subregional pools

Best practices from Mazovian Participatory Budget

Stay closer to local problems

- **Regional pool:** 6 million PLN
- **Subregional pools:** 30 million PLN total
- Investment and **non-investment** projects (240,000 PLN)



Make it predictable

HARMONOGRAM



ZGŁASZANIE PROJEKTÓW
DO BUDŻETU OBYWATELSKIEGO

od 31.01.2025 r.
do 02.03.2025 r.

Submitting
projects



OCENA
PROJEKTÓW

od 03.03.2025 r.
do 18.06.2025 r.

Verifying
projects



ODWOŁANIE OD NEGATYWNEJ
OCENY PROJEKTU

14 dni od wyników
oceny projektów

Appeal against
negative
evaluation of a
project



OGŁOSZENIE LISTY PROJEKTÓW
PODDANYCH POD GŁOSOWANIE

Do 23.07.2025

Announcement
of projects
submitted for
voting



GŁOSOWANIE
NA PROJEKTY

od 25.07.2025 r.
do 07.09.2025 r.

Voting



OFICJALNE
OGŁOSZENIE WYNIKÓW

do 19.09.2025 r.

Announcement
of results

Stay in contact

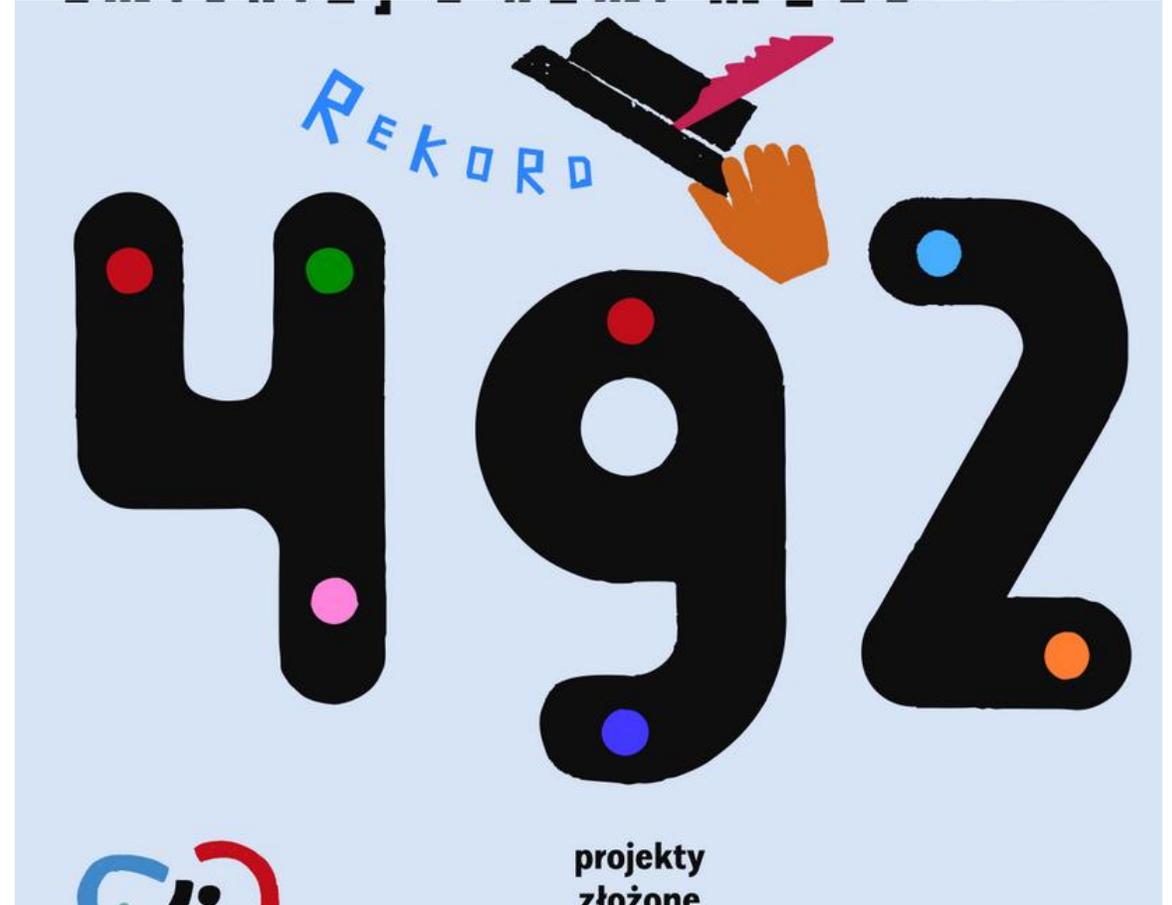
- From ideas to projects
- Consulting (online, easy to access)
- Verification procedure (formal, financial)
- Appeal against a negative evaluation of a project



Make it recurrent

It is **fifth edition** of the Mazovian Civic Budget, it is learning Process for Residents and Local Governments:

- A record number - 492 projects was successfully submitted
- Local governments encourage their residents to submit project
- A growing number of voters 113,104 votes (last year 103,665 votes.)
- Some subregions are better (Radom region recorded the highest turnout 12,272 votes.)



Keep citizens informed



BUDŻET
OBYWATELSKI
MAZOWSZA

Mazowsze.
serce Polski

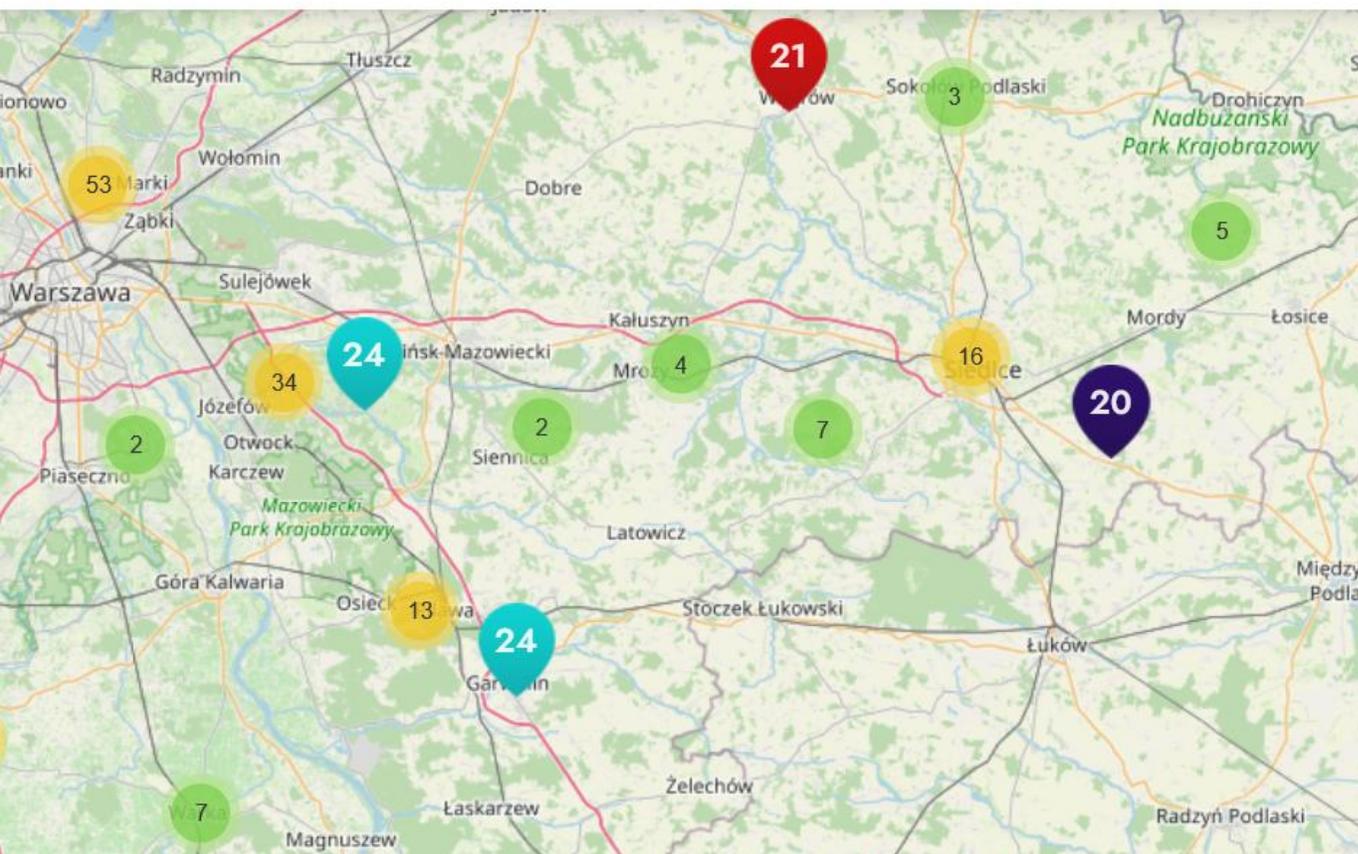
[STRONA GŁÓWNA](#)

[AKTUALNOŚCI](#)

[O BUDŻECIE >](#)

[MAPA REALIZACJI](#)

[KONTAKT](#)



Dla niesłyszących



A-

A

A+

Szukam info

Wybierz edycję

- Wszystkie -

Wybierz stan realizacji

- Wszystkie -

Wpisz numer projektu

Wpisz nazwę projektu

Wybierz obszar tematyczny

- Wszystkie -

Filtruj

24 Projekty wybrane do realizacji Edycja 24

24 1. Kino plenerowe w parkach podregionu Ciechanowskiego.

Learning about the voivodeship



VeloMazovia - Wschód - rowerowy szlak wschodniego Mazowsza

ROBIMY ATRAKCYJNY SIECIOWY SZLAK ROWEROWY! Szlak będzie przebiegał na wschodnim obszarze województwa mazowieckiego. Będzie to atrakcyjny, dostępny, wysokiej jakości produkt turystyki rowerowej. Pobudzi on turystów kolarskich do zwiedzania, a lokalne społeczności do tworzenia ofert dla turystów.

Zobacz więcej >

Ciechanowski.

w parkach. Wynajęty zostanie ekran, projektor, śliska składane przeznaczone dla dorosłych, kluczowym elementem jest posiadanie licencji i zorganizowane seanse edukacyjne, filmowe w szkołach w ramach zajęć edukacyjnych.

Młodość Chopina, Polska Chopina, Paryż także obejmował takie projekcje dla dzieci: np. Chopin w Warszawie.

nu, wsi, ale nie tylko. Młodsza grupa odbiorców przyjeżdża do miejsca, oraz grupy odbiorców. Projekcje związane z Fryderykiem Chopinem, który mieszkał w Rościszewie oraz parku który istnieje w Muzeum Wsi Mazowieckiej w Sierpcu za pomocą którego można utworzyć wydarzenie podczas którego można zorganizować seanse w parkach w Lutocinie, Żurominie, które będą polskiej tradycyjnej mazowieckiej wsi,

Status

Wybrany do realizacji

Postęp realizacji

W trakcie wyboru wykonawcy / w

Planowany koszt

56 000 zł

Obszar tematyczny
Edukacja publiczna

Pula projektu
Podregionalna

Podregion
Ciechanowski

Observing trends

A Second Life for Mazovian Rainwater

Project aimed at installing a series of rainwater harvesting systems on public utility buildings owned by the Mazovian Voivodeship Government. The collected rainwater can be used by the institutions for watering greenery during dry periods or provided free of charge to nearby residents.

Educational and Nature Center

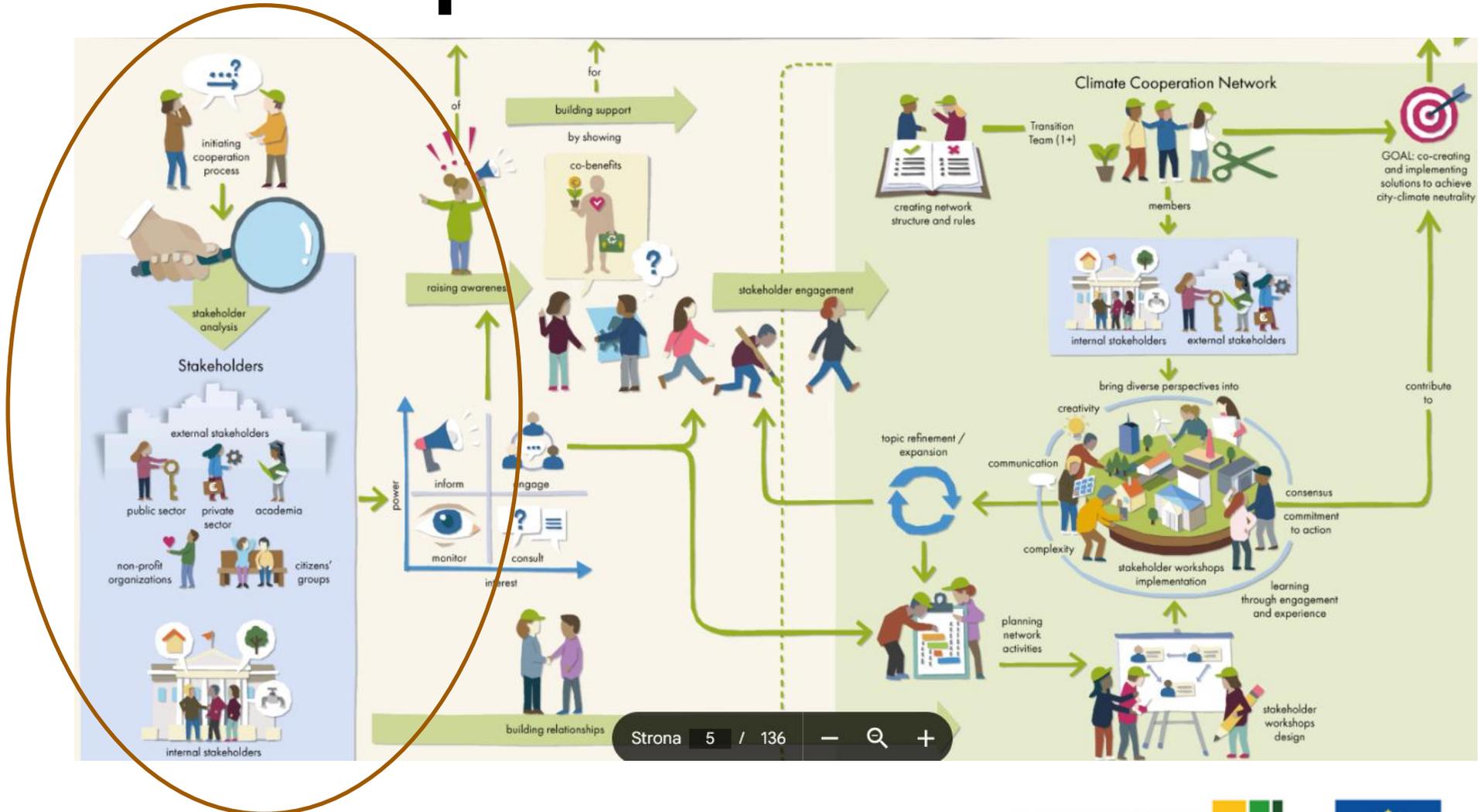
The project involves the creation of an Educational and Nature Center, where educational workshops will be organized for children, youth, and adults. The center will be accessible to people with disabilities. Our goal is to foster sensitivity to the beauty of nature and to share knowledge in a natural setting.

Green Mazovia

As part of the project, the area surrounding the headquarters of the Mazowsze State Folk Song and Dance Ensemble will be developed with greenery and small-scale infrastructure. The project includes the creation of an interactive musical playground for children and an electric vehicle charging station.

Stakeholder cooperation and capability-building model for the city climate transition

Stakeholder cooperation model



Initiating cooperation process

My local government already has a solid network of stakeholders; I probably don't need to start from scratch, right?

How am I supposed to decide on the scope of cooperation in such a complex issue on my own? We do not even have a team – I am a one-person department, so I cannot possibly grasp the needs in areas like spatial planning, waste management, industrial emissions, legislation, and social dialogue all at once...

How can we find the time and resources to build broad cooperation, nurture relationships, and launch new initiatives? I work in a peripheral city, and we are constantly underfunded.

We have implemented several great pro-environmental projects in our city over the past few years. Isn't that sufficient climate cooperation?



Stakeholder analysis

Stakeholders with significant influence on and highly interested in the process

- prime candidates for intensive cooperation
- most likely to commit to activities that demand time and effort
- they will actively communicate on project-related issues

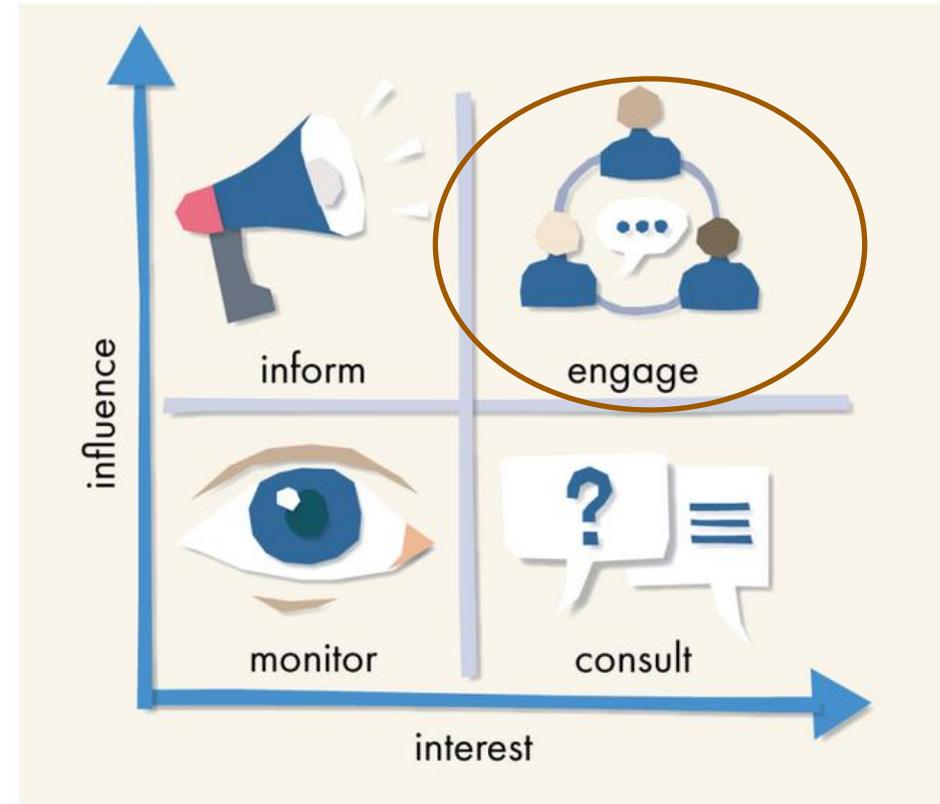


Figure 3.4. Stakeholder interest and influence matrix – categories of stakeholder engagement.

Engage in co-creation

- A collaborative process in which stakeholders **work together to develop** services, innovative solutions, or action recommendations.
- It entails **active involvement of all parties** in designing, refining, and enhancing the solution.
- **Multiparties approach** rather than a one-sided approach, where the municipal office delivers a solution independently.
- Co-creation **fosters dialogue**, openness, and cooperation among diverse stakeholders resulting in more effective and rewarding

How to work with them?

CHALLENGE



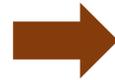
DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES



COMMUNICATION



COMPLEXITY



CREATIVITY



CONSENSUS



COMMITMENT TO ACTION



Net Zero city- stakeholder workshop

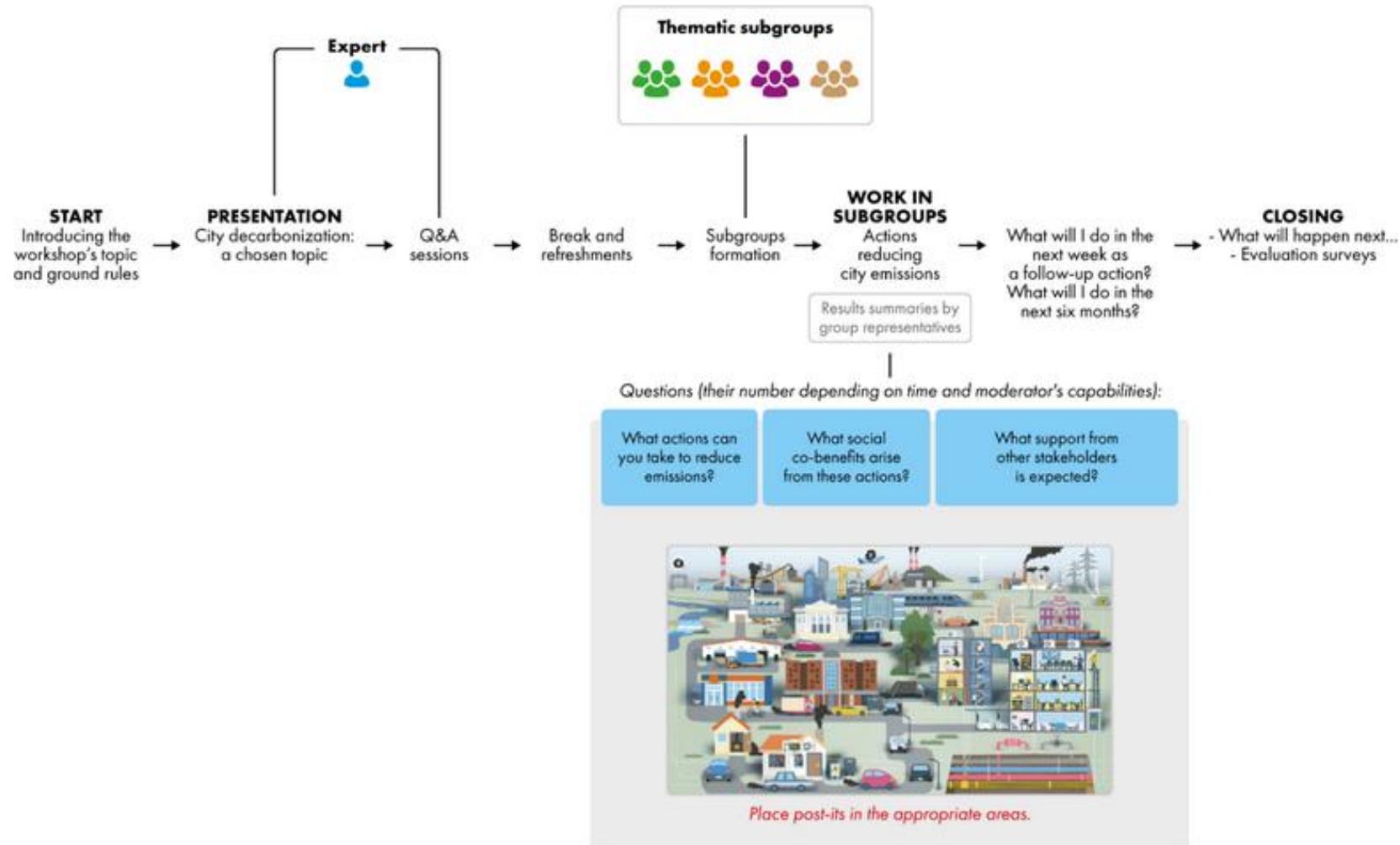
- internal stakeholders (city hall)
- vulnerable groups
- non-governmental organizations (NGOs),
- neighborhood councils
- universities
- housing cooperatives
- energy suppliers

Commitment to Action:

What will I do, as a follow-up action?



Net Zero city- stakeholder workshop



Engaging stakeholders- ground rules

Respect stakeholders' time and resources

- Define clear objectives and scope
- Choose relevant, focused topics
- Keep participation voluntary

Adapt the type of engagement to different stakeholder groups,

- Use in-depth sessions with experts
- Broader consultations for diverse input

More stakeholders do not always lead to better results

- Focus on quality over quantity
- Stay inclusive, but manageable

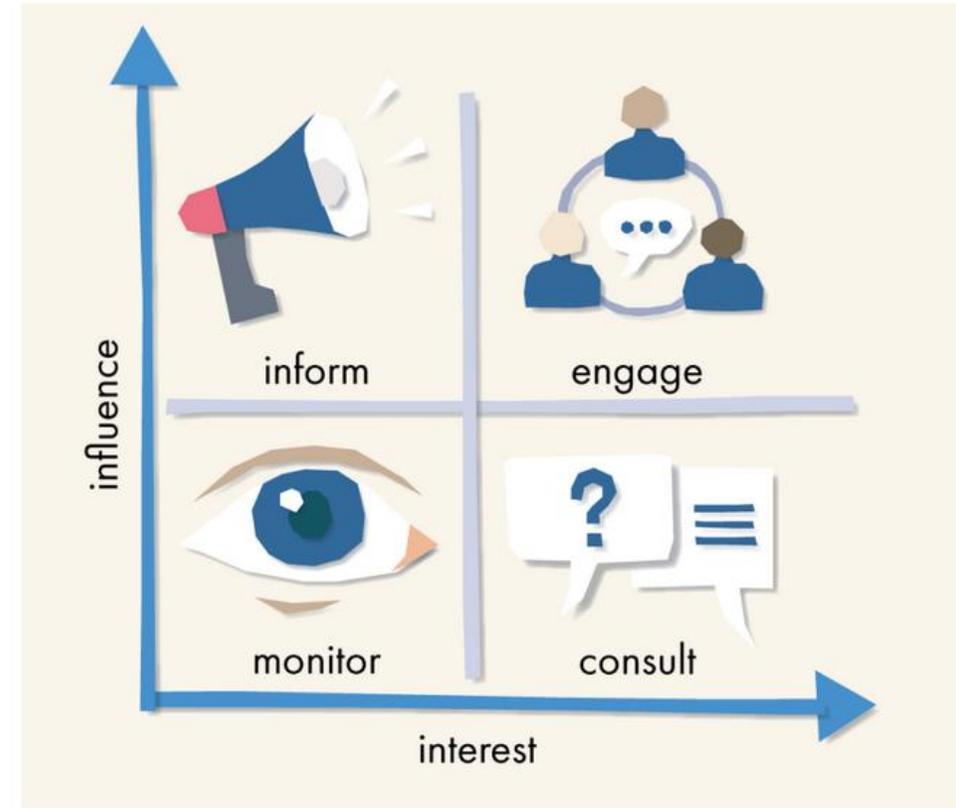


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Thank you!