

WHAT IS OUR MAIN GOAL?

Climate Assemblies and Living Labs are recognised as effective and rational instruments for fostering deliberative democracy in climate policy formation.

The objective of the CLIMAS project is to facilitate a shift towards climate resilience by providing a cutting-edge, problem-focused climate adoption Toolbox to existing and future Climate Assemblies.

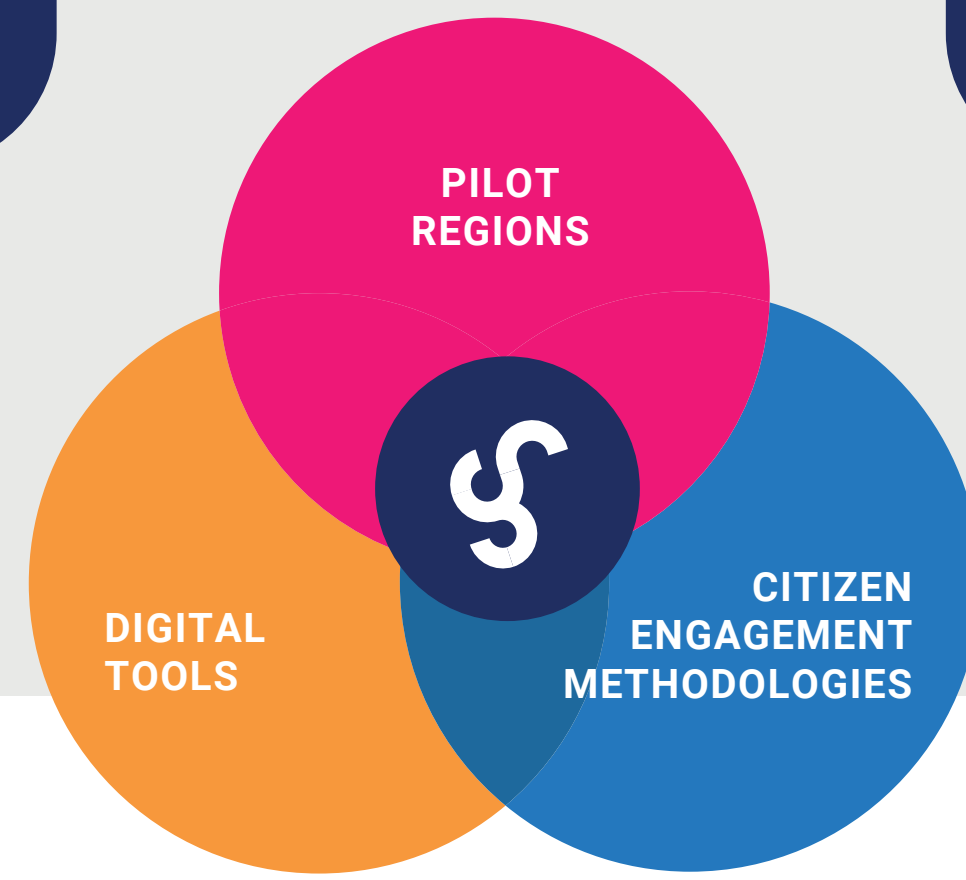
HOW DO WE SUPPORT DELIBERATIVE DEMOCRACY?

CLIMAS project will use design-thinking with citizens, stakeholders and practitioners to create transformative and inclusive tools that stimulate deliberative democracy in climate policymaking.

WHAT IS OUR MAIN GOAL ?

The main ambition of AGORA is to promote societal transformational processes in different social, economic, and political frameworks through multidisciplinary tools and approaches, supporting local adaptation.

The project is designed to serve a vast community of stakeholders: citizens, civil society organizations, academics, experts, policymakers, entrepreneurs, and other relevant actors.



HOW DO WE PLAN TO ACHIEVE IT?

- Policy analysis and evaluation of existing citizen engagement methodologies
- 4 pilot case studies as co-creation and co-design labs, located in geographically and culturally different regions across Europe
- A set of digital tools which incorporates the lesson learned in the pilots and can be used as capacity building tools, enlarging the scope of the project.

WHAT NEEDS AND CHALLENGES ARE WE GOING TO ADDRESS?

CLIMAS emerged as a response to the dual crisis of citizens' participation in democracy and climate change. Advocates argue that short election cycles hinder addressing long-term climate challenges, while citizen-led assemblies offer greater ambition. CLIMAS addresses them through integrating policy action with a comprehensive, all-encompassing approach.

OBJECTIVES

- Increase awareness about climate emergency in the EU regions
- Democratise Climate Assemblies shifting from an extraordinary policy event to an ordinary policy event
- Foster Climate Assemblies to ensure the voice of citizens is heard by policy makers through structured interactions
- Promote cooperation, inclusivity, gender transformative and anti-patriarchal deliberative process

AGORA IN A NUTSHELL:

AGORA is a HORIZON Europe initiative started in January 2023 and coordinated by the CMCC Foundation. AGORA aligns with the overall goals of the EU Mission on Climate Change Adaptation, promoting the creation of wide community of engaged and aware citizens, to foster climate action and build a climate resilient Europe.

OBJECTIVES

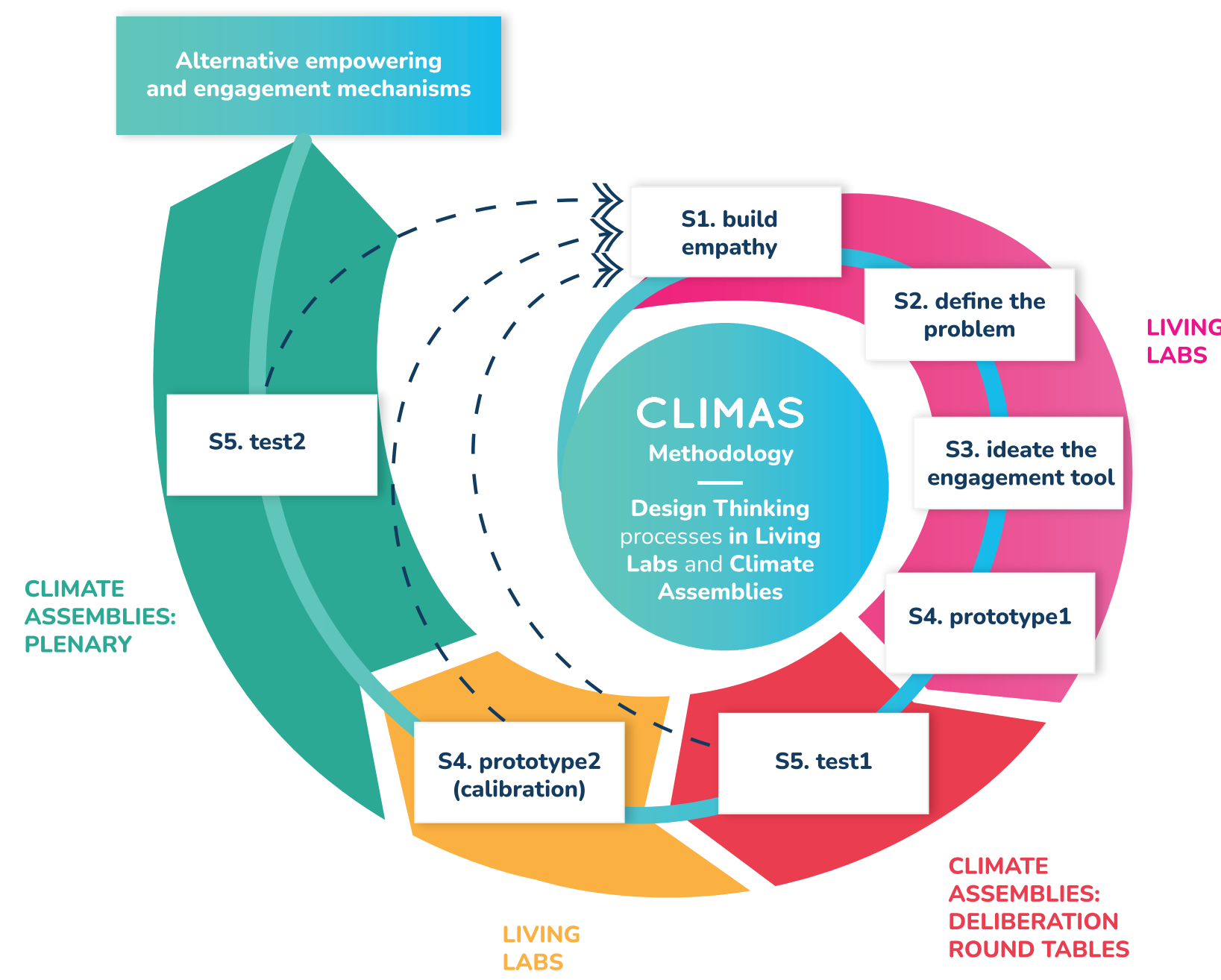
- Promote effective engagement of citizens and communities in actions against climate change, accelerating and expanding local adaptation processes
- Facilitate co-design and co-creation of innovative and problem oriented climate adaptation solutions that could be extensively adopted in different regions
- Test and identify the most effective engagement methodologies for citizen participation to local adaptation processes



WHO DO WE INVOLVE IN THE CO-CREATION PROCESS?

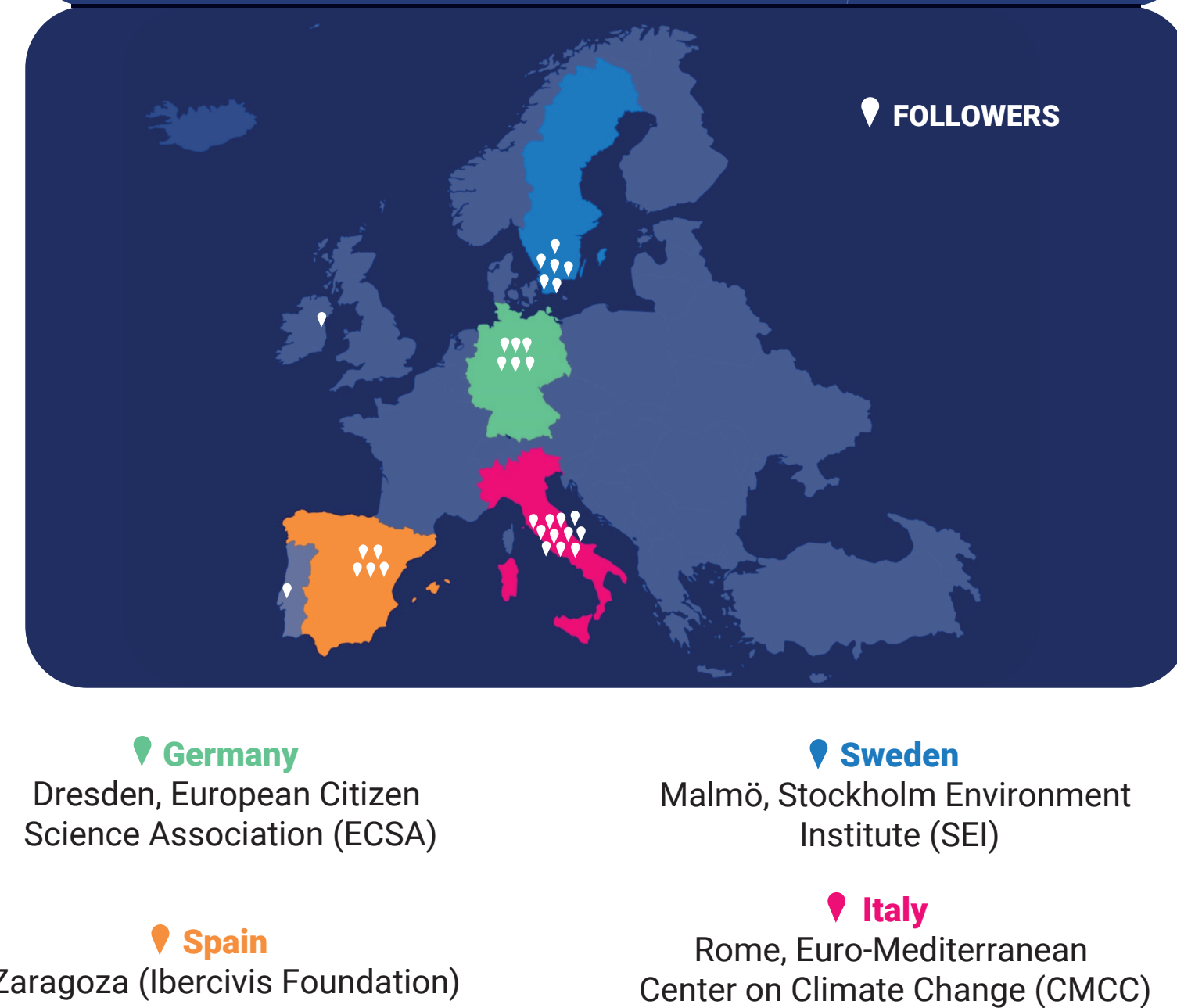


DESIGN THINKING PROCESS



Digital tools are the heart of the AGORA project. They provide the general public with an open space that supports the growth of a wide community of informed and aware citizens.

- **AGORA COMMUNITY HUB** living environment, a meeting point to empower local communities to share needs, knowledge and experiences on climate adaptation issues and solutions. Already available at <https://agoracommunity.org>
- **DIGITAL ACADEMIES** two capacity building and education tools to support citizens and stakeholders to access open-source climate data for adaptation and tackle climate change disinformation. Available by June 2024 (first module).
- **MOBILE APP** a gamified mobile app aims to support the education of citizens on climate change adaptation and counter disinformation campaigns with an entertaining approach. Available by June 2025.
- **DIGITAL HANDBOOK** an interactive multimedia platform that gathers a collection of the lessons learned by project. Available by December 2025.



FIRST YEAR HIGHLIGHTS

We started CLIMAS Toolbox co-design using a value-based approach to offer methodologies and guidelines for facilitators of the Climate Assemblies, and for policy-makers to deal with the adaptation problems. During our first year the Living Labs met with Climate Assemblies' organisers and practitioners. Thanks to the iterative exchanges, the first Climate Assembly in Catalunya could already apply lessons learnt.

CO-CREATION OF THE TOOLBOX

CLIMAS uses an iterative process of design-thinking, involving citizens, stakeholders and practitioners in Living Labs and Climate Assemblies, to develop a portfolio of transformative and inclusive mechanisms and tools that promote deliberative democracy in climate policy-making. These pictures show some examples of the co-creation sessions and scenario building workshops.

CATALUNYA CLIMATE ASSEMBLY

CLIMAS has developed a methodological guide for setting up and facilitating Climate Assemblies to increase their impact on public policy through improved process design. This approach was developed and tested in the Catalunya Climate Assembly, which took place from November 2023 to February 2024 and involved six sessions in different locations and 100 participants selected to reflect a broad demographic and attitudinal spectrum of Catalan society. Participants were divided into groups to tackle different climate change policy dilemmas, specifically focusing on renewable energy deployment and the future of the agri-food model.



HIGHLIGHTS AND RESULTS OF THE AGORA PROJECT

The AGORA team celebrated a number of positive outcomes of the first year of the project, among those the presence at ECCA conference and other international events (AGU23, ECSA24, EGU24); the completion of all inception workshops in the 4 pilot regions; the visit of John Cook, a leading expert on the topic of misinformation, and the public events organised in Italy (an online); the release of the first digital tool of the project, the AGORA Community Hub and the development of the two digital academies; the involvement of young and senior target audiences with dedicated local events; the growing community of the AGORA followers, which reached +25 members in May 2024.

THE AGORA COMMUNITY HUB

<https://agoracommunity.org>

The Agora Community Hub is the first digital tool released by the project to empower local communities to share needs, knowledge and experiences on climate adaptation issues and solutions. Resources enclose local to municipal level tools and approaches, including case studies and stories sharing experience (enablers, barriers, lessons learned) on the ongoing implementation. This "open space" maximizes networking, knowledge sharing and co-production.

NEXT STEPS

In the next months, we will be carrying out many activities in the pilot regions, starting from the organisation of focus groups (to target and discuss adaptation challenges and solutions with selected stakeholders groups like youngsters, elderly, vulnerable people). In June 2024, the AGORA team will deliver the first module of the Digital Academies and a beta version of the mobile app, to be tested with the stakeholders. AGORA will be present at important European events, like the European Resilience Forum and the SOCIOECOS International Conference in Bilbao.

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