



CLIMAS

CLIMAtE change citizens engagement
toolbox for dealing with Societal resilience

Deliverable 5.2 - Report on Performance and Created Impact of Climate Assemblies During the Implementation of the Project

Issue date: 10/2025

Work package leader: VILNIUS TECH

Authors: K.-M. Fameli, A.-M. Kotrikla, G. Priniotaki, D. Mpontozis, A. Rouboutsos, A.
Polydoropoulou (UAEGEAN)

Contributors: Monika Mačiulienė (VILNIUS TECH)

Information table









Project Acronym	CLIMAS
Grant Number	101094021
Deliverable Number	5.2
Deliverable Title	Report on Performance and Created Impact of Climate Assemblies During the Implementation of the Project
Responsible Partner	University of the UAEGEAN
Contractual Date of Delivery	31/10/2025
Actual Date of Delivery	31/10/2025
Type	R (Report)
Dissemination Level	PU – Public






Disclosure Statement

The information contained in this document is the property of the CLIMAS Consortium and should not be reproduced, disclosed, modified or communicated to any third parties without the prior written consent of the abovementioned entities.

This document reflects only the author's views and not that of the Research Executive Agency. The Research Executive Agency is equally not responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained in this document. This document may not be reproduced or copied without permission. © Copyright in this document remains vested in the Project Partners.

Consortium

Coordinator			
1	 <p>VILNIUS TECH Vilnius Gedimino technikos universitetas</p>	VILNIAUS GEDIMINO TECHNIKOS UNIVERSITETAS	Contact: Aelita Skaržauskienė aelita.skarzauskiene@vilniustech.lt Kristina Kovaitė kristina.kovaite@vilniustech.lt Monika Mačiulienė monika.maciuliene@vilniustech.lt
Partners			
2	 <p>cam bia  changing MObility</p>	CAMBIAMO SOCIEDAD COOPERATIVA MADRILENA	Contact: Floridea Di Ciommo florida.diciommo@cambiamo.net , Johanna Zambrano johanna.zambrano@cambiamo.net
3		VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT BRUSSEL	Contact: Carina Veeckman carina.veeckman@vub.be Havva Ebrahimi Pour Havva.Ebrahimi.Pour@vub.be Franz Ferdinand Rothe Rothe.Franz-Ferdinand@vub.be
4	 <p>INSTITUT FÜR HÖHERE STUDIEN INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES Vienna</p>	INSTITUT FÜR HOHERE STUDIEN - INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES	Contact: Erich Griessler erich.griessler@ihs.ac.at Elisabeth Frankus frankus@ihs.ac.at
5	 <p>ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΑΙΓΑΙΟΥ UNIVERSITY OF THE AEGEAN</p>	PANEPISTIMIO AIGAIΟΥ	Contact: Amalia Polydoropoulou polydor@uaegean.gr Anna Maria Kotrikla akotr@uaegean.gr Kyriaki Maria Fameli kmfamel@uaegean.gr
6	 <p>European Integrated Projects</p>	EUROPEAN INTEGRATED PROJECTS	Contact: Lucia Cristea lucia.cristea@eiproject.eu Marga Marin marga.marin@eiproject.eu Liliana Denisa Andrei Liliana.andrei@eiproject.eu Iolanda Moldoveanu iolanda.moldoveanu@eiproject.eu
7	 <p>ID Vilnius</p>	UZDAROJI AKCINE BENDROVE VILNIAUS PLANAS	Contact: Rūta Balkė Ruta.Balke@idvilnius.lt

8		DEEP BLUE Srl	Contact: Rebecca Hueting rebecca.hueting@dblue.it Alessandro Tedeschi Gallo alessandro.tedeschigallo@dblue.it
9		ASOCIACION PARA EL DESARROLLO DE LA DEMOCRACIA DELIBERATIVA Y PARTICIPATIVA	Contact: Yago Bermejo yago@deliberativa.org Arantxa Mendiharat arantxa@deliberativa.org Victoria Solé Delgado victoria@deliberativa.org
10	 Zaļā brīvība	ZALA BRIVIBA BIEDRIBA	Contact: Ingrida Strazdina Ingrida@zalabriviba.lv
11		FUNDACIO EURECAT	Contact: Julià Vicens Bennasar julian.vicens@eurecat.org
12		DEPARTAMENT DE LA PRESIDÈNCIA - GENERALITAT DE CATALUNYA	Contact: Pablo García Arcos pablo.garcia@gencat.cat Núria Pérez Milán nuriaperezmgencat.cat
13		IFOK GMBH	Contact: Julia Hoffmann Julia.hoffmann@ifok.de Constantin Schäfer constantin.schaefer@ifok.de
Associated Partners			
14		Pilieciu mokslo asociacija	Contact: Eglė Butkevičienė info@pilieciumokslas.lt
15		Laimikis.LT, Vsl	Contact: Jekaterina Lavrinec jekaterina.lavrinec@gmail.com
16		RIGA MUNICIPAL AGENCY "RIGA ENERGY AGENCY"	Contact: Janis Ikaunieks ikaunieks.janis@riga.lv
17		TECHNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS LTD	Contact: Mohammad Azizur Rahman aziz@technovativesolutions.co.uk

			<p>Tamanna Khan tamanna@technovativesolutions.co.uk Shams Shifat shamsshifat@technovativesolutions.co.uk</p>
18		JRC -JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE- EUROPEAN COMMISSION	<p>Contact: Ângela Guimarães Pereira angela.pereira@ec.europa.eu</p>
19		Gemeinde Edermünde	<p>Contact: Thomas Petrich bgm.petrich@gemeinde.edermuende.de</p>

Version control sheet

Version	Date	Main modifications	Organisation
v0.1	01/07/2025	First version presented to consortium partners.	UAEGEAN
V0.2	10/07/2025	First round of internal review completed	VILNIUS TECH, HS
V0.3	16/10/2025	Second version with adjustments after internal review submitted for initial review	UAEGEAN
V0.4	21/10/2025	Second round of internal review completed	VILNIUS TECH, HS
V1.0	31/10/2025	PC review and final submission	VILNIUS TECH

Quality reviewers

Name	Organisation
Monika Mačiulienė	VILNIUS TECH
Erich Griessler	IHS



Table of Contents

CLIMAS Project Overview	12
Executive summary	13
1. Introduction	14
2. Performance Monitoring Methodology and Process	17
2.1 Climate Assembly Performance Monitoring Framework	17
2.1.1 Purpose and scope of the framework	17
2.1.2 Theoretical foundations of the framework	17
2.1.3 Intervention logic, core evaluation dimensions and indicators	18
2.2 Framework application process in CLIMAS Climate Assemblies	21
2.2.1 Monitoring and Evaluation process	21
2.2.2 Matrix of tools, stakeholders and framework dimensions	24
2.2.3 Deviations	26
2.2.4 Ethics	26
2.3 Design of data collection tools	29
2.3.1 Actor 1: Organisers	29
2.3.2 Actor 2: Facilitators	34
2.3.3 Actor 3: Participants	35
2.3.4 Actor 4: Experts	39
2.3.5 Actor 5: Observers	40
2.3.6 Actor 6: Policymakers	41
3. Overview of Implemented Climate Assemblies	43
3.1 The Edermünde Climate Assembly	43
3.2 The Riga Climate Assembly	44
4. Survey and Interview findings	47
4.1 Organisers of the Climate Assemblies	48
4.1.1 Input indicators	48
4.1.2 Activities indicators	53
4.1.3 Outputs indicators	59
4.2 Facilitators	60
4.2.1 Input indicators	60



4.2.2	Activities indicators	62
4.3	Participants	64
4.3.1	Input indicators	64
4.3.2	Activities indicators	65
4.3.3	Outputs indicators	71
4.3.4	Outcomes and impact	72
4.4	Experts	84
4.4.1	Preparation and Communication	84
4.4.2	Presentation and Interaction	84
4.4.3	Reflection and Suggestions	85
4.5	Observers	86
4.5.1	Inclusivity and diversity of engagement	86
4.5.2	Quality of deliberation	87
4.5.3	Diversity of perspectives and solutions explored	87
4.5.4	Facilitation effectiveness	88
4.5.5	Suggestions for improvement	88
4.6	Policymakers	88
5.	Dissemination activities	94
5.1	Special Session about CLIMAS project during the CEST Conference	94
5.2	Training Session about Implementation, Monitoring and Impact of Climate Assemblies	95
6.	References	102
	Annex 1 – Form for monitoring and evaluation plan for Climate Assemblies	103
	Annex 2 – Consent forms	106
	Annex 3 – Organisers interview and questionnaire	113
	Annex 4 – Facilitators survey	123
	Annex 5 – Pre assembly participants surveys	131
	Annex 6 – Post assembly participants surveys	137
	Annex 7 – 6-months post assembly participants survey	152
	Annex 8 – Experts survey	156
	Annex 9 – Observers survey	159



Annex 10 – Policymakers semi-structured interview 168

Annex 11 – Materials of the special Session about CLIMAS project during the CEST Conference 170

Annex 12 – Training session presentation about monitoring and evaluation of Climate Assemblies
..... 176

List of Tables

Table 1. Methods used during evaluation of CLIMAS CA’s 23

Table 2. Evaluation methods used to collect feedback from different actors 24

Table 3. Data storage methods. 28

Table 4. Input indicators 30

Table 5. Activities indicators 30

Table 6. Outputs indicators 30

Table 7. Input indicators for facilitators..... 34

Table 8. Activities indicators for facilitators. 34

Table 9. Input indicators 35

Table 10. Activities indicators 36

Table 11. Outputs indicators..... 36

Table 12. Activities indicators. 39

Table 13. Activities indicators. 40

Table 14. Overview of the questionnaires and responses received by each actor of the Edermünde CA. 47

Table 15. Overview of the questionnaires and responses received by each actor of the Riga CA. .. 47

Table 16. Training sessions of the Riga CA facilitators..... 52

Table 17. Recruitment process at the Edermünde CA..... 53

Table 18. Recruitment process of Riga CA participants..... 54

Table 19. Recruitment process of Catalonia CA participants. 55

Table 20. Deliberation phases at the Edermünde Climate Assembly..... 56

List of Figures

Figure 1. Interconnections between Climate Assemblies' Monitoring and Evaluation (D5.2) and other deliverables. 16



Figure 2. Intervention logic of Climate Assemblies performance monitoring (Source: CLIMAS D5.1 “Evaluation framework to monitor the performance of Climate Assemblies”)18

Figure 3. CA performance monitoring framework (Source: CLIMAS D5.1 “Evaluation framework to monitor the performance of Climate Assemblies”).....19

Figure 4. Evaluation framework of Climate Assemblies’ performance and impact.21

Figure 5. CA performance monitoring process (Source: CLIMAS D5.1 “Evaluation framework to monitor the performance of Climate Assemblies”).....21

Figure 6. Demographic data of responders at the pre-assembly survey (Edermünde CA).....73

Figure 7. Respdnts level of trust in different sources of information (Edermünde CA pre-assembly survey).....73

Figure 8. Responses regarding the awareness of local policies on climate change (Edermünde CA pre-assembly survey).74

Figure 9. Respondents concern regarding personal effects of climate change (Edermünde CA pre- and post-assembly surveys).....74

Figure 10. Respondents concern regarding climate change effects on Edermünde (pre- and post-assembly surveys).75

Figure 11. Respondents’ changes in understanding climate change impacts (post-assembly survey CA Edermünde).76

Figure 12. Responses regarding critical thinking about climate issues in Edermünde.....76

Figure 13. Responses received to the 6-months post-assembly survey distributed to the Edermünde CA participants.77

Figure 14. Demographic data of respondents at the pre-assembly survey (Riga CA).....78

Figure 15. Responses regarding the awareness of local policies on climate change (Riga CA pre-assembly survey).....78

Figure 16. Respondents level of trust in different sources of information (Riga CA pre-assembly survey).....79

Figure 17. Responses regarding challenges about urban greening plans in Riga.....80

Figure 18. Respondents concern regarding personal effects of climate change (Riga CA pre- and post-assembly surveys).....80

Figure 19. Respondents concern regarding climate change effects on Riga (pre- and post-assembly surveys).81

Figure 20. Respondents’ changes in understanding climate change impacts (post-assembly survey CA Riga).82

Figure 21. Responses regarding critical thinking about climate issues in Riga.....82

Figure 22. Responses received to the 6-months post-assembly survey distributed to the Riga CA participants.84

Figure 23. CLIMAS Special Session during the CEST Conference.95



List of Acronyms

Acronym	Definition
CA	Climate Assembly
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
WP	Work Package
CEST	(International) Conference on Environmental Science and Technology

CLIMAS Project Overview

Climate change is one of the most critical issues to tackle today as it is foreseen to have detrimental social, environmental, and economic impacts in the near future. The last climate change events, such as flooding in Germany and Belgium in both Continental and Atlantic regions, heat waves and lack of water in both Mediterranean and Boreal regions, show that the policymakers, experts, and stakeholders' actions are not enough, and a 360° citizens engagement is urgently needed. Therefore, we need to learn from the good experience in citizens' engagement in climate change action and build up citizens' supporting infrastructure for climate adaptation measures to help the 150 European regions and local communities to resist. Climate assemblies and Living labs are considered as sustainable and reasonable tools to stimulate deliberative democracy in climate policymaking.

The ambition of the CLIMAS project is to support a transformation to climate resilience by offering an innovative problem-oriented climate adoption Toolbox, co-designed together with stakeholders by applying a values-based approach, design thinking methods and citizen science mechanisms. All that will be carried out with a gender and diversity approach. It is expected that the use of the Toolbox will anticipate possible tensions, points of controversy and dilemmas vis-a-vis the adaptation to resilience. Therefore, the Toolbox aims at enabling empowerment and engagement strategies that produce a society "resilient by design". In addition, CLIMAS will include the empirical component for testing this Toolbox and formulating scientific based guidelines for policymakers on how to shift Climate Assemblies from technically based deliberations that belong to climate change experts to multi-stakeholders' deliberations based on solving the dilemmas from a bottom-up, more societal, and value-based perspective. CLIMAS outcomes will positively influence policy development and awareness raising process and offer sustainable strategies to enhance the acceptance of citizens' led decisions by policymakers.

Executive summary

Deliverable 5.2 focuses on the systematic monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of the Climate Assemblies (CAs) implemented across the CLIMAS project. Its primary aim is to assess the effectiveness, inclusiveness, and overall impact of the assemblies, both in terms of process quality and policy influence. The deliverable documents the application of a monitoring and evaluation framework, developed collaboratively among project partners, to ensure comparability across cases while allowing flexibility for local adaptation. By capturing evidence on participation, learning outcomes, deliberative quality, and follow-up mechanisms, D5.2 provides key insights into how citizen assemblies can contribute to more democratic, informed, and sustainable climate governance.

The monitoring and evaluation activities employed a mixed-methods approach, combining quantitative and qualitative tools to gather data from multiple perspectives. Methods included participant surveys (both immediate and follow-up), semi-structured interviews and surveys with organizers and facilitators, expert assessments, and observation checklists designed to evaluate deliberative quality, inclusiveness, and transparency. The evaluation process targeted several key actor groups: (1) **citizens (participants at the Climate Assemblies)**, to understand their learning, empowerment, and behavioural changes; (2) **organizers and facilitators**, to assess implementation challenges and lessons learned; and (3) **experts, observers and policymakers**, to gauge how assembly outputs were perceived and integrated into decision-making. The approach ensured that both individual-level and institutional-level impacts were captured, providing a comprehensive understanding of the assemblies' short- and longer-term effects.

The evaluation findings demonstrate that the CLIMAS Climate Assemblies effectively enhanced participants' understanding of climate challenges, strengthened trust in participatory decision-making, and supported the emergence of collective, actionable insights at the local level. Participants reported higher climate awareness, improved comprehension of policy trade-offs, and a stronger motivation to act individually and collectively. Organizers and facilitators emphasized the importance of structured communication, inclusivity, and clear follow-up mechanisms to maintain citizen engagement after the assemblies.

Deliverable 5.2 is closely interconnected with several other project components. It directly builds on **Task 5.1**, during which the monitoring and evaluation framework was initially designed, ensuring methodological consistency across assemblies. The results of the present deliverable will feed into **Task 5.3**, providing empirical evidence and practical insights to support the development of recommendations for policymakers and strategies to enhance the acceptance and legitimacy of citizen-led decisions. Furthermore, D5.2 complements the activities of **WP4**, particularly those related to the organisation of Climate Assemblies, guidance through the sessions, testing and validation of the CLIMAS Toolbox, by assessing how the tools functioned in real deliberative contexts and identifying areas for improvement. Together, these interlinked efforts strengthen the project's overall objective of refining and mainstreaming participatory approaches for climate governance across Europe.



1. Introduction

Monitoring and evaluating Climate Assemblies (CAs) is a critical step in understanding their effectiveness, inclusiveness, and long-term contribution to participatory climate governance. Within the CLIMAS project, a dedicated Climate Assembly Performance Monitoring Framework was developed to systematically assess how well these assemblies function as democratic innovations and as catalysts for climate action. The framework serves multiple purposes: it enhances transparency in how deliberative processes are designed and delivered, strengthens accountability to both citizens and policymakers, and enables meaningful comparison across diverse political and cultural contexts. Grounded in a clear intervention logic, the framework links project inputs and activities to their expected outputs, outcomes, and impacts. This structured approach provides a coherent foundation for identifying what to measure at each stage, ensuring that data collection and analysis are aligned with the assemblies' objectives and that progress can be tracked in real time.

The monitoring and evaluation process distinguishes between ongoing performance monitoring—which focuses on inputs, activities, and immediate outputs—and evaluation, which examines outcomes and longer-term impacts. Monitoring involves collecting evidence on elements such as the number and diversity of participants, the quality of facilitation, and the recommendations produced, ensuring that assemblies are implemented as planned. Evaluation, in turn, assesses whether the assemblies achieved their intended effects: influencing policymaking, enhancing participants' knowledge and civic confidence, and fostering wider public engagement in climate issues. To capture this complexity, the framework employs both quantitative and qualitative indicators and is structured around four core evaluation dimensions: impact on deliberative society, policy integration, process improvement, and participant experience. Together, these dimensions provide a holistic view of how CAs perform—not only as deliberative events, but as living experiments in democratic climate governance that can inform and inspire future initiatives across Europe.

Deliverable **D5.2 – Report on performance and created impact of Climate Assemblies during the implementation of the project** is focused on assessing how the CAs implemented within the CLIMAS project have performed in practice and what tangible and intangible impacts they have generated among the involved actors and the broader policy and societal context. The analysis presented in this deliverable reflects the application of the **Climate Assemblies Performance Monitoring Methodology (D5.1)**, which was designed to systematically evaluate the processes, outcomes, and impacts of citizen deliberation on climate action. The interconnection of D5.2 with deliverables among WP5 and other WPs is presented in figure 1 and will be mentioned throughout the following sections.

The primary objectives of **D5.2** are to:

- Apply the performance monitoring framework developed within CLIMAS to the pilot Climate Assemblies conducted in **Riga** and **Edermünde**.
- Assess the **effectiveness, inclusiveness, and deliberative quality** of the assemblies, as well as their capacity to foster learning, trust, and collaboration among citizens and stakeholders.



- Evaluate the **impact of the assemblies** on participants, facilitators, experts, organisers, observers, and policymakers through structured surveys and interviews.
- Identify **good practices, challenges, and lessons learned** that can inform future implementation and scaling-up of Climate Assemblies in Europe.

The report begins with a detailed description of the performance monitoring methodology and process (Chapter 2), including its theoretical framework, intervention logic, evaluation dimensions, and indicator set. The framework is then applied to the CLIMAS Climate Assemblies, with emphasis on the monitoring and evaluation process, stakeholder mapping, and data collection tools tailored to each actor group (organisers, facilitators, participants, experts, and observers).

Subsequently, the report provides an overview of the implemented Climate Assemblies (Chapter 3), followed by a comprehensive presentation of survey and interview findings (Chapter 4), analysing inputs, activities, outputs, and impacts across actor categories. Special attention is given to the deliberative quality, inclusiveness, and diversity of engagement observed during the assemblies. The perspectives of policymakers and the dissemination of results are also addressed in later sections (Chapter 5).

The deliverable D5.2 includes ten annexes:

Annex 1 – Form for Monitoring and Evaluation Plan for Climate Assemblies

Provides the structured template used to design and document the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plans for each Climate Assembly, including objectives, indicators, data sources, and responsibilities.

Annex 2 – Consent forms

Includes both the short and long versions of the consent forms used for participant information and agreement in the study.

Annex 3 – Organisers Interview and Questionnaire

Features the interview guide and questionnaire used to collect feedback from organisers on the planning, logistics, and management of the Climate Assemblies.

Annex 4 – Facilitators Survey

Contains the survey designed for facilitators to assess the quality of deliberation, inclusiveness, and effectiveness of the facilitation process.

Annex 5 – Pre-Assembly Participants Survey

Contains the questionnaire administered to participants before the assemblies to capture their baseline knowledge, expectations, and attitudes toward climate change and deliberative participation.

Annex 6 – Post-Assembly Participants Survey

Presents the survey conducted immediately after the assemblies to assess participants' satisfaction, learning outcomes, and perceptions of the process and results.

Annex 7 – Six-Months Post-Assembly Participants Survey

Includes the follow-up survey distributed six months after the assemblies to evaluate longer-term impacts on participants' knowledge, attitudes, and civic engagement.

Annex 8 – Experts Survey

Presents the questionnaire used to gather insights from experts who contributed to the assemblies, focusing on the clarity, accessibility, and usefulness of their input.

Annex 9 – Observers Survey

Provides the survey used to capture external observers’ assessments of inclusivity, deliberative quality, diversity of perspectives, and overall assembly effectiveness.

Annex 10 – Policymakers semi-structured interview

Includes the set of questions addressed to the policymakers that received the recommendations

Annex 11 – CLIMAS Special Session on CEST Conference

Includes all the materials (agenda, presentations and abstracts) related to the CLIMAS Special Session

Annex 12 – Training session presentation about monitoring and evaluation of Climate Assemblies

Includes the presentation of the third training session related to M&E

Through this deliverable, CLIMAS aims to contribute to a deeper understanding of how participatory and deliberative climate governance mechanisms operate in real-world contexts and to generate actionable insights that support evidence-based improvements in future assemblies. Ultimately, the report underlines the potential of Climate Assemblies as catalysts for democratic innovation and collective climate action across Europe.

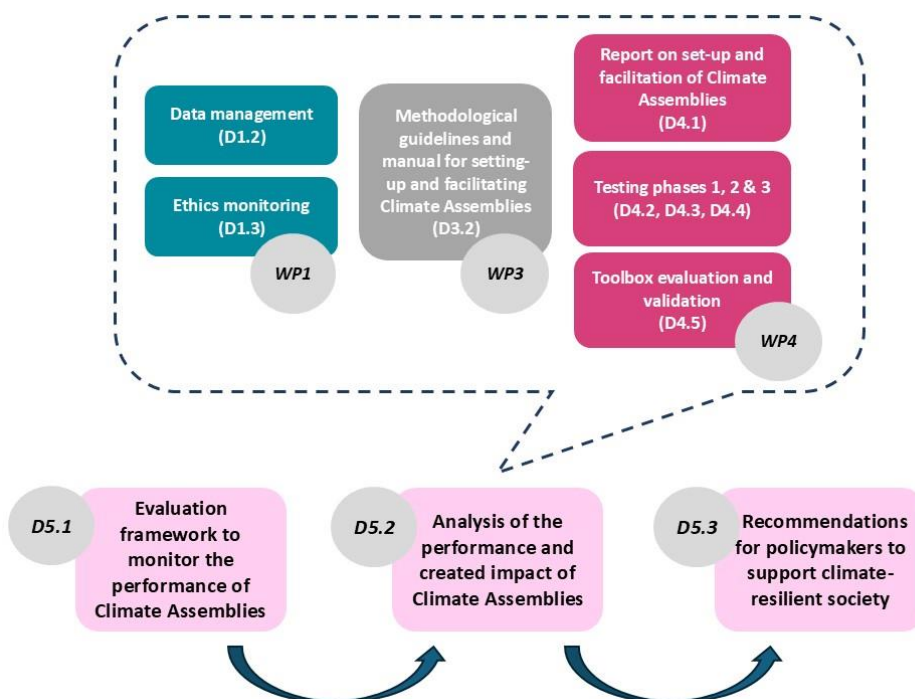


Figure 1. Interconnections between Climate Assemblies' Monitoring and Evaluation (D5.2) and other deliverables.

2. Performance Monitoring Methodology and Process

2.1 Climate Assembly Performance Monitoring Framework

2.1.1 Purpose and scope of the framework

To assess the effectiveness and added value of the CAs implemented within the CLIMAS project, a dedicated performance monitoring framework was developed and applied. This framework ensures that the deliberative processes are not only inclusive and meaningful but also subject to systematic evaluation across key dimensions (input, process, output/impact). Its core objectives are to enhance transparency in how assemblies are conducted, strengthen accountability in fulfilling their democratic and participatory ambitions, and enable comparability across diverse political, cultural, and administrative contexts. Designed to be both flexible and scalable, the framework can be applied to climate assemblies at local, regional, or national levels and is adaptable to various formats, including in-person, online, and hybrid settings. By grounding the evaluation in clearly defined criteria, the framework ultimately supports the broader aim of improving the legitimacy, consistency, and impact of participatory climate governance.

2.1.2 Theoretical foundations of the framework

The Climate Assembly Performance Monitoring Framework was developed in CLIMAS Task 5.1 “Evaluation framework to monitor the performance of Climate Assemblies” through an iterative design process grounded in participatory design principles. Following Simonsen & Hertzum’s (2010) approach, the team engaged in a cycle of design, feedback, and refinement, ensuring continuous stakeholder input and incremental improvement. This process unfolded in five key stages. First, a comprehensive literature review and best-practice scan established the state of the art and informed initial ideas. Next, a preparation and structuring phase defined the framework’s scope and structure. The third stage focused on modelling the framework’s logic and indicators, essentially building a theory of change and corresponding metrics. A design check was then conducted (including rigorous peer review and a dedicated workshop in Vienna with experts) to validate and refine the framework. Finally, the framework underwent finalization, consolidating feedback and ensuring coherence before deployment. This structured yet flexible methodology ensured that the framework was both evidence-based and iteratively refined with stakeholder collaboration at each step.

Conceptually, the framework’s design was informed by a context-sensitive modelling approach inspired by Rog (2012). In practice, this meant examining the evaluation context across multiple dimensions – the problem context, intervention context, evaluation context, the broader environment, and the decision-making context (stakeholders) – to ensure the evaluation framework would be robust across different settings. The framework also integrated insights from leading evaluation frameworks and guidelines. Notably, it drew on the OECD’s Evaluation Guidelines for Representative Deliberative Processes (2021) as a benchmark for comprehensive criteria. It incorporated learnings from the Knowledge Network on Climate Assemblies (Thorman & Capstick, 2022) (e.g., emphasizing that evaluations be tailored to the assembly’s aims and context) and from



the official evaluation of Climate Assembly UK (CCAUK) which provided practical indicators for deliberative impact. In addition, digital co-creation metrics were considered by referencing the Digital Co-Creation Index methodology, which evaluates online co-creation platforms through socio technological. Throughout this foundation, the designers acknowledged gaps in existing evaluation approaches (many current frameworks proved inconsistent or too short-term in outlook) and thus stressed the need for more long-term, inclusive, and policy-relevant monitoring going forward. This theoretical and methodological grounding ensured that the D5.1 evaluation framework was both conceptually sound and practically applicable, paving the way for a robust, context-aware evaluation in line with Horizon Europe goals.

2.1.3 Intervention logic, core evaluation dimensions and indicators

The evaluation approach is grounded in a clear intervention logic for the CA’s, as established in D5.1. Figure 2 below illustrates this logic model, mapping how the project’s inputs and activities lead to outputs, which in turn generate outcomes and ultimately impacts. In essence, the logic model outlines the connection between the means and ends of the intervention. By graphically laying out the progression from inputs through to impacts (along with the assumptions and context) the model provides a foundation for identifying what to measure at each stage.

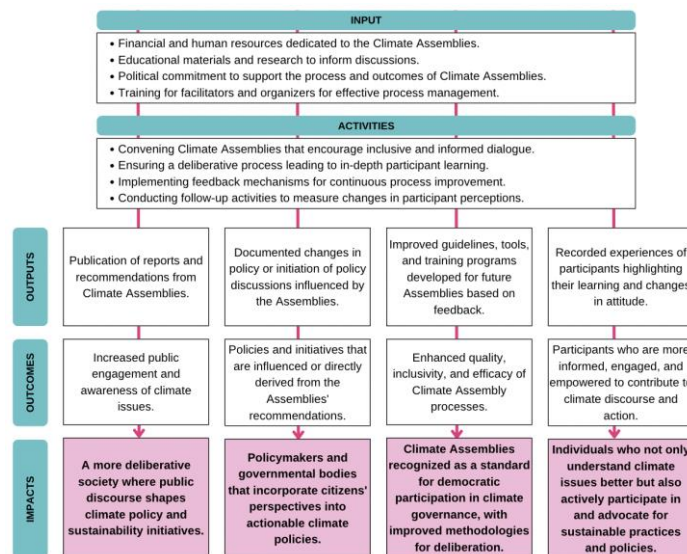


Figure 2. Intervention logic of Climate Assemblies performance monitoring (Source: CLIMAS D5.1 “Evaluation framework to monitor the performance of Climate Assemblies”)

Figure 3 presents the performance monitoring framework built on this logic, distinguishing the levels of results and linking them to specific indicators for ongoing monitoring and eventual evaluation.

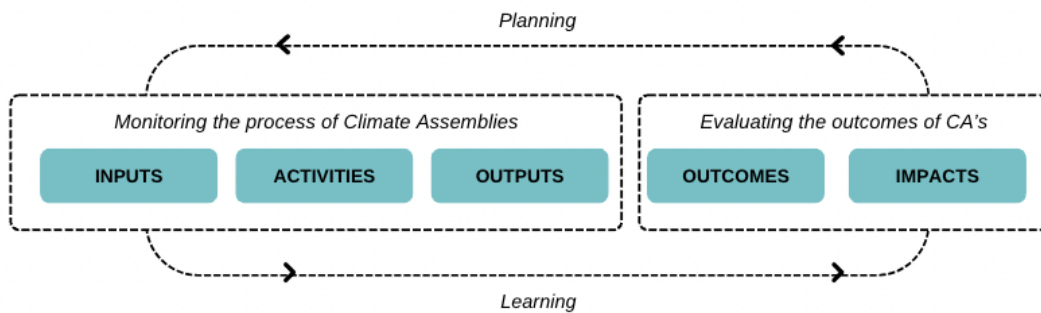


Figure 3. CA performance monitoring framework (Source: CLIMAS D5.1 “Evaluation framework to monitor the performance of Climate Assemblies”)

Inputs, activities, outputs, outcomes and impacts are thus defined as distinct layers of the results chain. This distinction is crucial because it informs both how we monitor progress and how we evaluate success. Monitoring primarily tracks inputs, activities and outputs in real time – checking that resources are in place, actions are carried out, and immediate deliverables are produced as planned. For example, the framework monitors how many assemblies are held, the number and profile of participants, or the recommendations and reports generated. Evaluation, on the other hand, focuses on outcomes and impacts – assessing whether the CAs achieved their intended effects and broader goals. More specifically, evaluation looks at whether policymakers acted on the assemblies’ recommendations, whether participants gained knowledge or confidence, and whether there were ripple effects on the wider public. In this way, the logic model not only guides project implementation but also facilitates monitoring and evaluation of the program by clarifying what to measure at each level. A clear intervention logic is a prerequisite for effective evaluation, as it ensures we collect the right data (performance indicators) to answer whether the CAs are working as intended and why.

Building on this logic, D5.1 “Evaluation framework to monitor the performance of Climate Assemblies” identified four core evaluation dimensions – essentially the overarching goals against which the CAs’ performance and impact are judged. These dimensions capture the key areas where the project is expected to make a difference, and they align with the long-term objectives of the CAs. The evaluation framework is therefore structured around the following four goals (each corresponding to a group of related indicators and evaluation questions, Figure 4):

- **Impact on deliberative society:** Does the project contribute to a more deliberative society and informed public discourse on climate issues? This considers broader, systemic effects such as raising public awareness, spreading deliberative democratic practices, or inspiring further participatory initiatives beyond the project. For example, we examine media coverage and public awareness of the assemblies as an indicator of their societal footprint. A positive impact on deliberative society might be reflected in increased public dialogue about climate policy or new local assemblies being organized, indicating that the culture of deliberation is taking hold.
- **Policy integration:** To what extent are the outputs of the assemblies (e.g. recommendations and insights) taken up by policymakers and integrated into actual climate policies or decision-making processes? Here the evaluation looks at the link between the assemblies

and formal policy outcomes. Indicators include, for instance, the number of assembly recommendations referenced in policy documents, adopted by authorities, or otherwise influencing climate governance. In the UK Climate Assembly, for example, evaluators checked how the assembly's recommendations engaged parliamentary committees and government officials. Similarly, our evaluation tracks whether and how CA results inform policy at various levels. Effective policy integration would be demonstrated by clear evidence that the assembly's work has shaped or contributed to climate strategies, legislation, or institutional practices.

- **Process improvement:** How well were the assemblies implemented, and what lessons can be learned to improve the process for future iterations? This dimension focuses on the quality and effectiveness of the deliberative process itself, as well as the project's capacity for learning and adaptation. We monitor aspects like the inclusiveness of participant recruitment, the balance of evidence and expertise provided, the quality of facilitation, and overall deliberative quality. Any challenges or innovations in these areas are documented. The findings are used formatively. More specifically, to refine guidelines and best practices for organizing climate assemblies. Success on this dimension means not only that the CAs met high process standards (e.g. diversity of participants, credible information, respectful dialogue), but also that the project identified concrete improvements and shared lessons that can benefit future deliberative processes.
- **Participant experience:** How positive and transformative was the experience for the citizens taking part in the CAs? This evaluates the outcomes at the individual level for assembly members, such as increases in their knowledge, changes in attitudes or empowerment in civic engagement. We gather evidence through surveys, interviews and observation to gauge participants' satisfaction with the process, what they learned, and how the experience affected them. For example, one indicator is the gain in knowledge or understanding of climate issues among participants. We also consider participants' sense of efficacy (whether they feel their voice mattered) and their overall satisfaction with the assembly logistics and deliberation. A strong participant experience is reflected in high rates of participants reporting that they found the process fair, enriching and impactful for themselves – an outcome that can also influence their communities as they carry their experience forward.

Across these dimensions, the evaluation uses a mix of **indicators** and **data sources**, avoiding an over-reliance on any single metric. The performance monitoring framework defines both quantitative indicators (e.g., counts, percentages, survey scores) and qualitative indicators (e.g., testimonials, case studies, observational assessments) to capture a holistic picture. We do not reproduce the full indicator tables here but rather highlight the approach with a few examples. For instance, to monitor outputs we tracked simple metrics like the number of participants enrolled and the number of recommendations produced. To evaluate outcomes, we included indicators such as the percentage of recommendations that received a formal response from policymakers (for policy integration), or the pre- vs. post-assembly self-assessed knowledge scores of participants (for participant experience). For longer-term impacts, we looked at signs of diffusion like new deliberative forums initiated by stakeholders after the assemblies. These examples illustrate how



each indicator ties back to the intervention logic: output indicators verify the delivery of activities, outcome indicators assess short-term changes, and impact indicators gauge progress toward the broad societal goals. By combining these different types of indicators, the framework supports continuous monitoring (to promptly check whether the project is on track and adjust if needed) as well as thorough evaluation (to determine the overall effectiveness and legacy of the CAs). In summary, the intervention logic and its performance framework ensure that we evaluate the project in a structured, evidence-based way – linking what we put into the CAs and what we do, to what we achieve and ultimately aim to change. This logic-driven, goal-oriented approach provides a coherent backbone for interpreting the results and learning from the CA process.

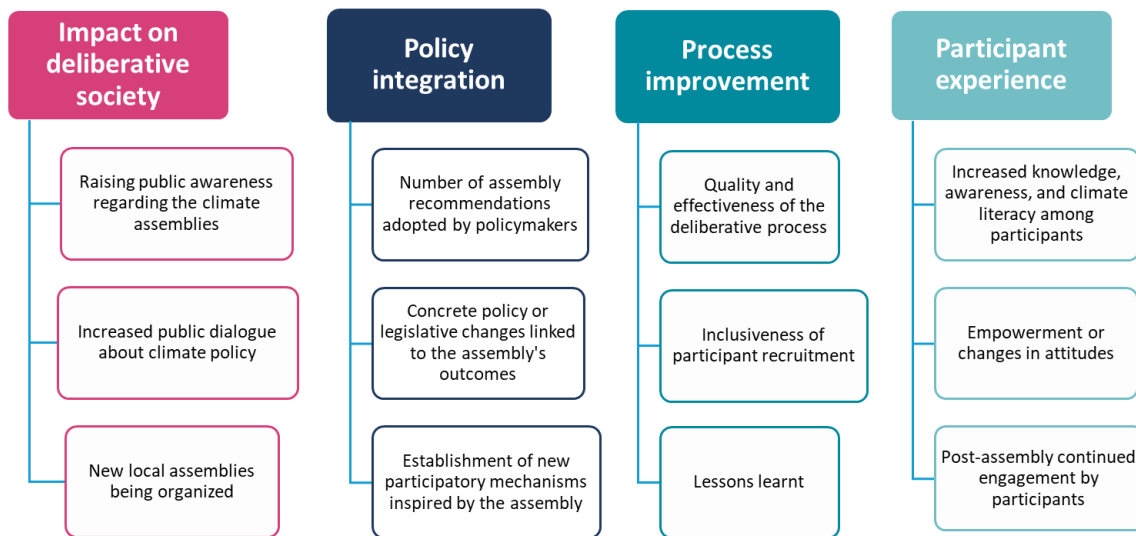


Figure 4. Evaluation framework of Climate Assemblies' performance and impact.

2.2 Framework application process in CLIMAS Climate Assemblies

2.2.1 Monitoring and Evaluation process

The Climate Assembly Performance Monitoring Framework in CA's under CLIMAS project was applied through a structured, collaborative, and iterative process led by the University of the AEGEAN (UAEGEAN) based on a robust Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) outlined in Figure 5 below.

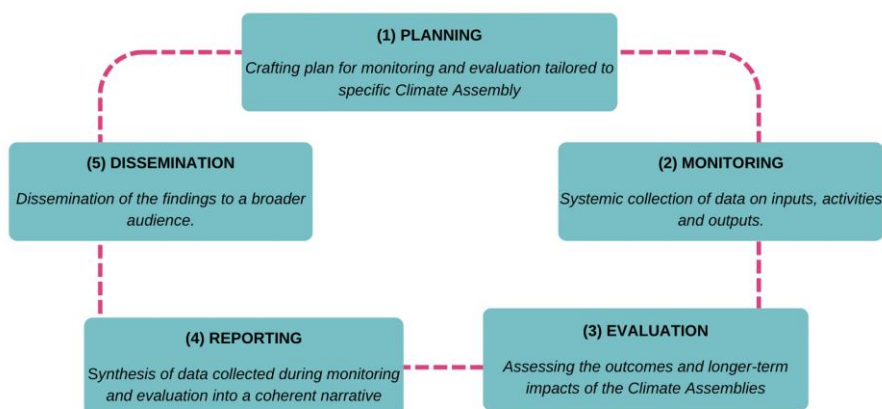


Figure 5. CA performance monitoring process (Source: CLIMAS D5.1 "Evaluation framework to monitor the performance of Climate Assemblies")



Planning is the initial phase where an M&E plan tailored to the specific context of a CA. This plan defined data collection strategies, indicators for success, and a timeline aligned with the assembly's phases. Crucially, each plan was designed to align with the assembly's *intervention logic* (i.e., the theory of how the assembly's activities will lead to long-term impacts like a more deliberative society and stronger climate policies).

The **planning stage** involved crafting tailored M&E plans for each CA, aligning with the assembly's objectives and intervention logic. The University of the UAEGEAN (UAEGEAN) coordinated this phase, leading the development of instruments and strategies adapted to local assemblies in Edermünde (CA2) and Riga (CA3). UAEGEAN defined data collection tools, selected indicators for success, and mapped evaluation timelines, ensuring the plans were sensitive to each assembly's format, scope, and policy goals. UAEGEAN team worked closely with CLIMAS partners to identify implementation constraints and tailor the M&E setup accordingly. Preparatory work included reviewing project-level methodological guidelines, customizing surveys for different stakeholders, and preparing multilingual materials where needed. The process followed six key stages:

A. Internal Development by the UAEGEAN Team

The initial stage involved **internal discussions within the University of the UAEGEAN team**, during which the first version of the performance monitoring tools was drafted. This included: i) the distribution of an M&E form (Annex 1) to the organisers of Riga and Edermünde CAs before beginning any monitoring activities so that there is a clear plan for what questions about the CA need to be answered. This helped T5.2 team to decide how they were going to collect data to track indicators, how monitoring data will be analysed, and how the results of data collection will be disseminated and ii) the development of key actors (participants, observers, organisers, experts and facilitators) questionnaires and planning for data collection and analysis.

B. Presentation to Partners in WP4–WP5 Meetings

The draft surveys were then **presented and discussed during monthly WP4–WP5 meetings**, which brought together partners working on the organisation, implementation and evaluation of the assemblies. These meetings provided a forum for collaborative feedback, allowing the development team to test assumptions and ensure the framework aligned with real-world implementation needs and constraints. Bilateral meeting with partners were organised when necessary to ensure the consistency and completeness of the framework and survey with the CLIMAS project vision and scope.

C. Circulation to Relevant Partners

Following these discussions, the documents were **circulated more broadly to the relevant partners**, including CA organisers. This ensured that those most familiar with the context of the assemblies could assess the feasibility and appropriateness of the proposed monitoring approach.

D. Collection of Feedback on Content and Usability

Partners provided **feedback on multiple aspects** of the surveys, including:

- Relevance and clarity of content
- Length and complexity of the questionnaires
- Sensitivity to local context and participant burden

This feedback was crucial in ensuring that the surveys were both well-designed to collect the necessary feedback and practical to implement during busy and time-constrained assembly processes.

E. Integration of Feedback and Finalisation

The UAEGEAN team then **revised the questionnaires and procedures**, integrating partners feedback and streamlining the questionnaires where necessary. Final versions were prepared in multiple formats (online and print) to suit different assembly delivery models. This version of the framework balanced methodological consistency with the flexibility required for actors’ multi-needs application. When necessary, the questionnaires were translated into national languages by the organisers of the assembly.

F. Survey Distribution, Data Collection and Analysis

The surveys were then **distributed to the actors**, either:

- **Online** via the CLIMAS Platform, or
- **In printed form**, administered during or after the assemblies by local organisers.

In the case of printed questionnaires, organisers translated the responses—especially the answers to open-ended questions—and recorded them in a structured Excel template. These were then forwarded to the UAEGEAN team, who analysed the responses. The aggregated results were presented and discussed during subsequent CLIMAS partner meetings, ensuring a shared understanding of the findings and their implications for both evaluation and ongoing implementation.

Table 1. Methods used during evaluation of CLIMAS CA’s

	Monitoring		
	Input	Activities	Output
Survey	✓	✓	✓
Interview	✓		✓
Document	✓	✓	✓

During the **monitoring phase**, the UAEGEAN team oversaw real-time data collection processes for assembly inputs, activities, and immediate outputs (table 1). This included tracking participant profiles, engagement levels, and outputs such as draft recommendations. More specifically, in Riga CA, facilitators closely documented participation across a diverse group of stakeholders (i.e., citizens, business representatives, and municipal officials) and captured workshop outputs in real time. This stage also included logging material use, facilitation dynamics, and session structure. The monitoring process provided early insights and allowed for adaptive changes, such as clarification of facilitation tasks or adjustment of session timing. Detailed description of monitoring tools used is provided in Section 2.3 of this deliverable.

Evaluation focused on assessing the effectiveness and longer-term outcomes of the CAs. UAEGEAN coordinated a mixed-methods evaluation strategy including surveys, interviews, and stakeholder reflection sessions. At multiple points (before, during, and after each assembly) targeted surveys were used to assess participants' climate knowledge, civic attitudes, and perceptions of process

fairness. UAEGEAN also gathered feedback from CAs organizers, facilitators, experts, observers, and policymakers. The evaluation extended six months post-assembly, with follow-up surveys and policymakers’ interviews to determine whether recommendations had been acknowledged, debated, or implemented by local authorities.

The UAEGEAN was responsible for synthesizing M&E data into accessible and transparent **report (D5.2)**. D5.2 documents the design, delivery, and results of each assembly, highlighting both successes and challenges. Finally, **dissemination** is focused on ensuring that insights from CAs will reach a broad audience and have lasting influence during the remaining stages of CLIMAS project and beyond.

2.2.2 Matrix of tools, stakeholders and framework dimensions

To assess the effectiveness, inclusiveness, and impact of the Climate Assemblies a comprehensive evaluation framework was implemented, targeting all key actor groups involved in its design and execution. These included participants, observers, experts, facilitators, and organisers (Table 2). The goal was to collect diverse insights on the process, outcomes, and lessons learned, both during and after the assembly.

Table 2. Evaluation methods used to collect feedback from different actors

Actor	Edermünde CA Questionnaires (Q) /Interview (I)	Riga CA Questionnaires (Q) /Interview (I)
Pre - Assembly		
Participants	✓ (Q: printed)	✓ (Q: printed)
Post - Assembly		
Participants	✓(Q: printed & online)	✓ (Q: printed & online)
Facilitators	✓ (Q: online)	✓ (Q: online)
Organisers document	✓ (Q: online + I)	✓ (Q: online + I)
Observers	✓ (Q: online)	✓ (Q: online)
Experts	✓ (Q: online)	✓ (Q: online)
6 months Post - Assembly		
Participants	✓ (Q: online)	✓ (Q: online)
Policemakers that received recommendations	✓ (I)	✓ (I)

For the **participants**, feedback was collected through three surveys at different stages. A pre-assembly survey was distributed in printed form to capture initial perspectives on climate issues and establish a baseline of knowledge and attitudes. During the final session of the assembly, a comprehensive post-assembly survey was conducted to evaluate the overall process. This focused on participants' understanding of climate issues, their views on climate policy and action, and any personal or professional changes resulting from their participation. An option to choose between printed and online form of the questionnaire was given to the participants, however the online form was preferred by most of participants. A follow-up online survey, conducted six months after the assembly, aimed to assess the medium-term impact on participants' views, behaviours, and engagement with climate-related topics.

For **facilitators**, feedback was gathered to evaluate their baseline readiness, the quality of their training, and their role throughout the process. The survey captured how facilitation influenced the deliberative environment, helped structure discussions, and contributed to inclusive and meaningful engagement. An online version of the survey was selected by the organisers of both assemblies.

Observers were invited to complete an online survey after the end of the assembly, sharing their impressions of the session(s) they attended—particularly in relation to the quality of the deliberation and the relevance and clarity of the recommendations. They were also encouraged to provide suggestions for improving future procedures.

Experts who contributed to the assembly by presenting information to participants were asked to complete an online survey. This focused on their collaboration with the organisers during the preparation phase, their experience delivering presentations and interacting with participants, and any general reflections on the overall process.

For the **organisers**, feedback was collected through a semi-structured interview and a data collection form to reflect on the entire process, highlight lessons learned, and assess the adequacy of preparation and coordination. Prior to the start of the CA, organisers were also asked to complete a Monitoring and Evaluation Plan form to support the UAEGEAN in designing an appropriate monitoring and evaluation framework. This form collected essential information, including the title and theme of the assembly, number of participants, facilitators and organisers involved, resources allocated, available data for the evaluation team, CLIMAS tools to be tested during the assembly, the timeline of sessions, and contact points for coordination.

To track the policy impact of the CA, **policymakers who received the recommendations** were contacted for follow-up interviews six months after the CA concluded. The aim was to assess the extent to which citizen input influenced local governance. Specifically, the number and percentage of assembly recommendations that were adopted or formally considered by decision-makers, identified any concrete policy or legislative changes directly linked to the assembly's outcomes were examined as well as references to the assembly within official planning documents or climate strategies. This approach provided a structured understanding of how participatory processes can translate into tangible institutional responses and long-term policy integration.



This multi-actor, multi-phase approach ensured a holistic understanding of the CA's functioning and impact, enabling informed recommendations for strengthening future deliberative processes.

2.2.3 Deviations

During the CLIMAS project, three CAs were organised and implemented, in Catalunya (Spain), Riga (Latvia) and in Edermünde (Germany). The complete framework described above was applied at the CAs in Riga and Edermünde. The CA in Catalunya was completed prior to the finalization of the CLIMAS monitoring and evaluation framework so it was not possible to apply the full methodology as intended. Consequently, only the components of the framework addressing the perspectives of the organisers were implemented, focusing on process documentation and qualitative feedback regarding the assembly's design and execution. While this limited the scope of data collection for Catalunya compared to other assemblies, the available information still provided valuable insights that contributed to the overall evaluation and validation of the CLIMAS approach.

Another important aspect that should be mentioned concerns the timeline of the evaluated impact. The aim of the Climate Assemblies (CAs) is to support conveners (e.g., policymakers) in developing socially accepted solutions to specific dilemmas. Since the timeline of the present study is limited to the project's duration, it was not possible to assess the long-term impact of the CAs in achieving this goal, as it may take several years to be fully realized. Instead, the study focused on the medium-term impact on participants and on the intended goals of policymakers regarding the recommendations produced by the CAs.

2.2.4 Ethics

The CLIMAS project is committed to the highest ethical standards in the design, implementation, and evaluation of all research activities, particularly those involving direct engagement with citizens and stakeholders through CA. Ensuring ethical integrity in the project is vital not only to uphold legal requirements such as the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) but also to foster trust, transparency, and respect for participants' autonomy. This section outlines the ethical framework guiding the CLIMAS study and details the procedures undertaken to ensure the protection of all participants. The ethical procedures followed in the activities of T5.2, which are described in the present D5.2, align with the guidelines set out in The CLIMAS Ethics and Gender-Sensitive and Equality Monitoring Report (D1.3), the Data Management Plan (D1.2), and the Code of Ethics and Good Practice of the UAEGEAN, as endorsed by its Ethics Committee. These frameworks collectively ensure that all research activities are grounded in key ethical principles such as respect for persons, beneficence, justice, transparency, and data protection. CLIMAS emphasizes the ethical principles associated with informed consent, voluntary participation, and data confidentiality. The project follows internationally recognized standards for ethical research, including templates and methodologies recommended by bodies such as the World Health Organization (WHO) for qualitative studies.

Informed Consent Procedure



A cornerstone of CLIMAS’s ethical approach is the requirement for informed consent from all participants prior to data collection. Consent was requested from all individuals involved in the CA, including participants, experts, facilitators, and observers (Annex 2). No questionnaires, interviews, or participatory activities were conducted prior to receiving consent. To accommodate different formats of participation, the informed consent forms were made available in both printed and digital versions. Participants attending in person were asked to sign a printed copy of the form prior to engaging in any activity. For those participating online or completing digital questionnaires, an electronic version of the consent form was provided at the beginning of the process. Participants were required to read the information sheet and indicate their consent by pressing *Enter* or selecting a confirmation checkbox before proceeding to complete the questionnaire. This ensured that consent was explicitly obtained in all cases, regardless of the mode of participation. The informed consent procedure was designed to ensure that participants clearly understood the nature and objectives of the project, the specific activities involved (such as surveys, interviews, photography, and workshops), and their rights as participants. These include the right to decline participation, withdraw at any point, and request the erasure of their data without the need for justification.

The consent form was divided into two primary sections. The first section included a concise description of the CLIMAS project, its purpose, the timeframe of the CA, and a general overview of how the participant’s input would be used. The second section presented specific consent items covering participation in surveys, appearance in visual materials, storage of contributions, and the possibility of future contact for research-related purposes. Participants were asked to provide explicit consent for each item individually. The consent form used in CLIMAS was adapted from a WHO-recommended template for qualitative research and included both an information sheet and a certificate of consent. This ensured clarity, standardization, and ethical rigor in the process. Importantly, the voluntary nature of participation was emphasized throughout, and the form clearly indicated that no monetary compensation was involved and that all contributions were non-commercial in nature.

Data Management and Protection

At the activities performed in the present study, some personal data from the participants, such as names, organizational affiliations, email addresses, and professional roles was collected and processed. In accordance with the GDPR (EU 2016/679), all personal data are collected and used exclusively for the purposes for which informed consent was obtained. Under no circumstances is personal data processed for unrelated objectives or shared outside the Consortium without appropriate consent.

To safeguard the privacy and security of personal data, the CLIMAS Consortium has implemented a set of technical and organizational measures, as outlined in its Data Management Plan (D1.2). These include, but are not limited to:

- Access control systems to restrict data handling to authorized personnel.
- Data encryption and anonymization where appropriate.
- Secure storage solutions with regular data backups.



- Documentation of all data generation, processing, and sharing procedures.
- Defined roles and responsibilities for data management within the Consortium.

Additionally, all data collection activities are reviewed and approved by the Consortium to ensure full compliance with ethical and legal standards. The different actors that participated in the surveys and interviews were informed of their data protection rights, including access to their data, the right to rectification or deletion, restriction of processing, objection to data use, and data portability. Instructions on how to exercise these rights are clearly provided in the consent documentation.

Table 3. Data storage methods.

Data Type	Storage Location	Responsible Partner
Survey Responses (Printed)	locked cabinet or drawer in an access-controlled office. (only authorized project staff have access)	IFOK, Green Liberty
Survey Responses (Online)	CLIMAS Platform & Sharepoint (only authorized project partners have access)	TVS, UAEGEAN
Interview Video Recordings	CLIMAS Sharepoint (only authorized project partners have access)	UAEGEAN
Transcripts Of Interviews	CLIMAS Sharepoint (only authorized project partners have access)	UAEGEAN
Consent Forms (Scanned/Digital)	Digital: CLIMAS Platform & Sharepoint, Printed: locked cabinet or drawer in an access-controlled office. (only authorized project staff have access)	IFOK, Green Liberty, TVS, UAEGEAN

Transparent communication is central to the ethical engagement of actors. All individuals involved in CLIMAS activities were provided with accessible information regarding the project through written materials and oral briefings. Contact information and project resources, including the project website and newsletter subscription, were made available to participants to ensure ongoing access to project updates and to facilitate inquiries or complaints. Visual and audio material collected during assemblies, such as photos and videos, are only used for dissemination if explicit consent has been granted. Respecting participants’ privacy preferences in public communication is a priority, and mechanisms are in place to retract or withhold visual content upon request.

As part of the CLIMAS project’s commitment to ethical integrity, all questionnaires used in this study were submitted for review and approval by the Ethics Committee of the UAEGEAN. This step ensured that the content and structure of the questionnaires aligned with established ethical standards for research involving human participants. Additionally, all members of the UAEGEAN research team who were involved in analysing the collected data—comprising two professors and three associate researchers—formally signed the necessary ethical compliance forms. These forms



confirmed their commitment to handling all data responsibly and in full compliance with the ethical requirements set by the institution and the CLIMAS project. In accordance with Article 47 of Law 4485/2017, the Ethics Committee of the UAEGEAN is composed of the Deans of the Institution and the Vice Rector of Academic Issues, Students' Welfare and Lifelong Learning, who serves as chairperson. All five researchers from the UAEGEAN adhered to the institution's Code of Ethics and Good Practice (DEONTOLOGY POLICIES), as referenced in the university's official report. This Code applies to all members of the academic community—including faculty, researchers, administrative staff, and students—as well as external collaborators. Contracts with external partners explicitly include the web address of the Code and stipulate both the obligation to adhere to it and the legal consequences of non-compliance. This robust ethical framework ensured that every aspect of the CLIMAS study involving human participants was conducted with transparency, accountability, and respect for individual rights.

Summarising, the ethical protocols adopted by the CLIMAS project reflect a strong commitment to participant rights, data protection, and responsible research conduct. By adhering to the ethical standards established by the University of the Aegean, European legislation, and international best practices, the project ensures that all research activities involving citizens and other stakeholders are carried out with integrity, respect, and transparency. Through robust informed consent processes, secure data management systems, and participant-centered communication, CLIMAS fosters ethical engagement in advancing deliberative democracy and climate resilience. As mentioned above, prior to completing the questionnaire, all respondents were informed about the purpose and scope of the survey, their right to abstain from answering any question, and the confidential nature of their responses. For online surveys, a link to the informed consent form was provided, detailing how the CLIMAS consortium would manage and use the data collected. These procedures were designed to ensure ethical standards, transparency, and voluntary participation across all stages of the evaluation process.

2.3 Design of data collection tools

The surveys designed for the various actor groups involved in the Climate Assembly were developed based on the criteria and indicators outlined in Deliverable 5.1, which provided a structured framework for monitoring the inputs, activities, and outputs of the assembly. Each questionnaire was tailored to the specific role and contribution of the target group—participants, facilitators, observers, experts, and organisers—to ensure relevant and meaningful feedback.

2.3.1 Actor 1: Organisers

To evaluate the planning, implementation, and perceived outcomes of the Riga, Edermünde and Catalunya Climate Assemblies, a comprehensive questionnaire and a semi-structured interview (Annex 3) were designed and addressed to the organizing teams of each assembly. The goal was to gain insights from those directly responsible for the design and conduction of the assemblies, and to understand the operational, strategic, and deliberative dimensions that shaped the overall process. The criteria, the indicators as well as the methods used for the collection of the necessary information are presented in tables 6 – 8.



Table 4. Input indicators

	Criteria	Indicators	Methods
1	Financial and human resources	Budget rate and staff engagement levels	Documentary review from CA organizers survey
2	Preparatory material provided to participants	Availability and utilization rate of materials	Documentary review from CA organizers (survey)
3	Political commitment	Level of support from political entities	Documentary review from CA Organizers interview & survey
4	Facilitator preparation and training	Quality and effectiveness of facilitator training	Organizer interview

Table 5. Activities indicators

	Criteria	Indicators	Methods
1	Inclusivity and diversity of engagement (convening phase)	The proportion of participant demographics mirroring the broader population.	Documentary review from CA organisers survey
2	Quality of deliberation (deliberation phase)	Participant satisfaction with the quality of discussion and decision-making. Level of compliance with democratic deliberative principles.	Organizer interview (understanding what could be improved in the process of deliberation).
3	Diversity of perspectives and solutions explored (reporting phase)	Number and variety of policy options and perspectives discussed.	Organiser survey
4	Facilitation effectiveness	Participant ratings of facilitator performance and neutrality.	Organizer survey

Table 6. Outputs indicators

	Criteria	Indicators	Methods
1	Publication of reports and recommendations	Number and timeliness of reports, presentations, and recommendations produced.	Documentary review And CA organisers interview



2	Number of updated tools and guidelines post-assembly.	The number of tools and guidelines updated to incorporate assembly recommendations within a set period post-assembly.	Documentary review
---	---	---	--------------------

The questionnaire comprised eight thematic sections, each focusing on a different aspect of the assembly’s organization and execution.

1. Inclusivity and Diversity of Engagement (activities indicator 1)

This section explored the recruitment strategies and criteria used to ensure that assembly participants reflected a broad cross-section of society. Organizers were asked to describe the methods used in the sortition process (e.g. invitations via post, phone, or email) and to specify which data sources and stratification criteria (e.g. gender, residence, education, age) were applied. Additionally, they were asked whether citizens had the opportunity to contact the organizing team prior to the beginning of the assembly with questions or concerns. The aim was to assess how accessible and transparent the recruitment process was and whether it fostered trust and inclusion.

2. Financial and Human Resources (input indicator 1)

This section examined the resourcing of the assembly. Organizers were asked to report the total budget (in euros) and to break it down by key cost categories such as logistics, facilitation, recruitment, personnel, and communication. The questionnaire also aimed to evaluate whether the financial resources provided were adequate to meet the assembly’s goals. Organizers were asked to list the human resources involved, providing information on their roles, contract durations, and gender, thus offering insights into the scale and gender balance of the team behind the scenes.

3. Preparatory Material Provided to Participants (input indicator 2)

Here, the questionnaire focused on the quality and timing of the informational resources provided to participants. Organizers were asked to describe the type, content, and source of preparatory materials distributed before the sessions (e.g. brochures, videos, expert briefings), as well as any in-session materials used to deepen participants' understanding. Feedback received from participants concerning these materials—whether on their accessibility, clarity, or relevance—was also requested. This section aimed to evaluate how well-informed the participants were and whether they had access to balanced, accessible information.

4. Political Commitment (input indicator 3)

This section addressed the level of institutional support for the assembly. Organizers were asked to describe the extent of support received from public authorities and other stakeholders during the preparatory phase. This included data on the number of political actors invited and those who actively participated. Organizers were also asked whether policymakers were involved in the design or planning of the assembly and whether any formal commitments were made regarding the use of the final recommendations. Challenges in securing support, approval, or commitment from political authorities and the way this was communicated to participants were also key points of inquiry.

5. Facilitator Preparation and Training (input indicator 4)



Given the central role of facilitation in ensuring meaningful deliberation, this section collected information about the training of facilitators. Organizers were asked to describe the number of training sessions conducted, the topics covered in each session, and any observations or lessons learned during the process. This helped assess the preparedness of facilitators to handle complex discussions, maintain neutrality, and manage group dynamics effectively.

6. Quality of Deliberation (*activities indicator 2*)

This section focused on the structure and flow of the deliberative process. Organizers were asked to specify the facilitation approach adopted (e.g. directive facilitation, citizen-led discussion, or a hybrid model), and to describe the phases of the deliberation process, including the goals and methods used in each phase. Respondents were also asked to assess to what extent inclusivity was ensured throughout the process, particularly in relation to equal speaking opportunities, respectful dialogue, and access to relevant knowledge.

7. Diversity of Perspectives and Solutions Explored (*activities indicator 3*)

This section aimed to capture the organizers' view on how effectively the process incorporated diverse viewpoints and whether the final recommendations truly reflected the collective will of participants. Respondents rated the diversity of perspectives represented and the degree of consensus achieved using a 5-point Likert scale.

8. Facilitation Effectiveness (*activities indicator 4*)

In the final section, organizers were asked to evaluate the performance and neutrality of the facilitation team. Using a 5-point scale, they assessed whether facilitators remained unbiased and how well they performed overall. Organizers were also invited to share any feedback they had received from participants concerning the facilitation, including praise or criticisms, and how it was addressed during or after the assembly.

The questionnaire was used together with a **semi-structured interview** (Annex 3), allowing for elaboration on key issues and contextual understanding of local challenges and successes. The insights gathered through the interview form a crucial part of the overall evaluation of the Climate Assembly processes and contribute to advancing best practices for future deliberative democratic initiatives. The interview included thirteen open-ended questions covering key operational, strategic, and deliberative aspects of the process. Questions were organized under four thematic areas.

1. Assembly preparations (*input indicators 3 & 4*)

The first question asked organizers to reflect on the primary challenges encountered during the planning phase. This helped reveal logistical, institutional, or contextual constraints that shaped the assembly's structure and scope. The second question explored the extent to which the convening authorities were involved in shaping the citizens' assembly during its preparation phase. It seeks to identify whether they provided guidance, resources, or constraints — such as suggesting discussion topics, defining the scope or limitations of deliberation, proposing materials, or assisting with participant recruitment and logistical support.

2. Inclusivity and diversity of engagement (*activities indicator 1*)

The third question focused on the recruitment process, probing specifically into difficulties in reaching particular groups (e.g. minorities, rural populations, or lower-educated citizens). Organizers were encouraged to share the strategies they used to overcome these barriers and ensure representativeness.

3. Quality of deliberation (*activities indicator 2*)

The next group of questions examined the deliberative framing and structure. Organizers were asked whether the agenda was determined solely by the organizing team or if citizens could propose or influence the topics under discussion. This question was important to assess the level of bottom-up engagement in the design phase. Organizers were asked whether the process was built around "dilemmas" (e.g. balancing competing values, policies, or priorities), and if so, how these were presented to participants. They were also asked about the diversity of viewpoints discussed and whether any bottom-up input shaped the way dilemmas were defined. In the absence of a dilemma-based structure, the interview explored how topics were otherwise framed and how many perspectives were considered. Question six focused on trade-offs and compromises made during deliberation, asking whether participants negotiated differences and how far they progressed toward common ground. This helped evaluate the depth of the deliberative process and its potential to foster consensus. An assessment of the sufficiency of time allocated for deliberation, in relation to the complexity of topics and the overall goals of the assembly, was also discussed. This provided insight into the realism of the planning process and the balance between participation quality and logistical constraints. Organizers belief on whether the assembly achieved its objectives was requested. This open-ended reflection offered a valuable internal evaluation of effectiveness, based on both procedural and outcome-based criteria.

4. Outputs/Outcomes (*outputs indicator 2*)

The final set of questions explored the interface with political institutions. Organizers were asked whether and how the recommendations were delivered to the relevant authorities, whether they were well-received, and how and when authorities planned to respond. This helped assess the level of institutional commitment to follow-up and transparency around the implementation phase. The interview concluded with a question on suggestions for improvement, inviting organizers to share their reflections on what could be done differently or better in future citizens' assemblies. This final question allowed for constructive feedback rooted in direct experience and practice-based knowledge.

Overall, the semi-structured interview provided rich, narrative information to complement quantitative survey data, offering a comprehensive view of the internal dynamics and real-world challenges in organizing and delivering a climate assembly.

2.3.2 Actor 2: Facilitators

A targeted survey was developed for the facilitators of the Climate Assembly to evaluate their experience, the effectiveness of their training, and the overall facilitation process. The questionnaire

is presented in Annex 4. It consisted of 20 open- and closed-ended questions, along with an optional final question inviting any additional comments or feedback.

Table 7. Input indicators for facilitators.

	Criteria	Indicators	Methods
1	Financial and human resources	Budget rate and staff engagement levels	Facilitators survey (Q11)
2	Facilitator preparation and training	Quality and effectiveness of facilitator training	Facilitator (evaluations of training programs; understanding what could be done better in order to prepare the facilitators for the process of CA) (Q4-Q10)

Table 8. Activities indicators for facilitators.

	Criteria	Indicators	Methods
1	Quality of deliberation (deliberation phase)	Participant satisfaction with the quality of discussion and decision-making. Level of compliance with democratic deliberative principles.	Facilitator survey (understanding what could be improved in the process of deliberation) (Q12-Q17)
2	Facilitation effectiveness	Participant ratings of facilitator performance and neutrality.	Facilitator (understanding what could be improved in facilitation) (Q18-Q20)

1. Introductory questions

The first three questions of the survey aimed to gather background information on facilitators' understanding of the process and their personal perspectives entering the Climate Assembly. Question 1 asked facilitators to identify what they believed were the intended goals of the Climate Assembly, to assess the alignment between the organisers' objectives and facilitators' interpretations. This question provided insight into how well the assembly's purpose was communicated and understood by those responsible for guiding the deliberations. Question 2 focused on the facilitators' personal expectations for the process, encouraging them to reflect on their individual motivations and anticipated outcomes. Responses to this question help illuminate how facilitators approached their role and what they hoped to achieve, both professionally and in terms of the assembly's impact. Question 3 asked facilitators to specify the facilitation approach they adopted during the meetings by selecting between two models: *Directive table facilitation*, where the facilitator plays an active role in guiding the discussion and ensuring structure, or *Citizen self-organization*, where participants are encouraged to lead and organize their own discussions with minimal intervention. This question provided important context for interpreting the



facilitators’ experiences and challenges throughout the deliberation process. These questions are also related to the evaluation of D3.2 and D3.9 about the “Methodological guidelines and manual for setting up and facilitating Climate Assemblies”.

2. Facilitator preparation and training (input indicator 2)

Questions 4 to 10 focused specifically on evaluating the training sessions provided by the organisers. These included rating the usefulness of the training on a scale from 1 (“not at all useful”) to 5 (“extremely useful”), assessing the improvement of facilitation skills, and reflecting on the knowledge gained and its application during the assembly sessions. Facilitators were also asked whether any essential training components were missing and invited to propose improvements.

3. Financial and human resources (input indicator 1)

The 11th question assesses whether the financial, human, and logistical resources allocated to the Climate Assembly were sufficient to support its effective implementation. It also invites respondents to reflect on potential shortcomings and suggest additional activities or improvements that could have been achieved with greater resources.

4. Quality of deliberation (activities indicator 1)

Additional questions (Q12-Q17) addressed the implementation of democratic principles such as equality, respectful dialogue, reason-giving, open-mindedness, and transparency, and observations of participant dynamics, including changes in arguments, feedback from participants, and any emerging conflicts.

5. Facilitation effectiveness (activities indicator 2)

The survey also included questions (Q18 – Q20) to rate the overall performance of the facilitation team and requested reflections on participant feedback and potential areas for improvement.

2.3.3 Actor 3: Participants

The input, activities and outputs indicators that were selected to be monitored during the implementation of Edermünde and Riga CAs are presented in tables 3 – 5 respectively. Feedback was collected through the distribution of surveys in two different phases before the beginning of the CA (pre-assembly survey) and at the end of the final session of it (post-assembly survey). It should be noted that all the suggested criteria from D5.1 were used. For the evaluation of the impact of the CA on participants an online survey was distributed six months after the end of the activities (during May 2025, 6-months post-assembly survey).

Table 9. Input indicators

	Criteria	Indicators	Methods (Number of question)
1	Preparatory material provided to participants	Availability and utilization rate of materials	Post – assembly survey (Q1 – Q7)
2	Facilitator preparation and training	Quality and effectiveness of facilitator training	Post – assembly survey (Q8)

Table 10. Activities indicators

	Criteria	Indicators	Methods
1	Inclusivity and diversity of engagement	The proportion of participant demographics mirroring the broader population.	Post – assembly survey (Q9 – Q11)
2	Depth of participant learning	Change in participants' understanding of climate issues pre- and post-assembly.	Pre – assembly (Q1 – Q4) Post – assembly surveys (Q12 – Q15, Q17 – Q20, Q33 – Q35)
3	Quality of deliberation	Participant satisfaction with the quality of discussion and decision-making. Level of compliance with democratic deliberative principles.	Post – assembly survey (Q21 – Q26)
4	Diversity of perspectives and solutions explored	Number and variety of policy options and perspectives discussed.	Post – assembly survey (Q27 – Q28)
5	Facilitation effectiveness	Participant ratings of facilitator performance and neutrality.	Post – assembly survey (Q16, Q29 – Q32)

Table 11. Outputs indicators.

	Criteria	Indicators	Methods
1	Participant experience documentation	Levels of participant learning and attitudinal shifts.	Post – assembly survey (Q36 – Q41)

Pre-assembly survey

To gather baseline insights into participants' initial attitudes, knowledge, and concerns related to climate change (*activities indicator 2*) pre-assembly questionnaires for the Climate Assemblies in Riga and Edermünde were designed (Annex 5). While both surveys focused on similar themes, the content was adapted to reflect each assembly's local context and thematic emphasis. In **Riga**, where the deliberation addressed challenges related to urban greening, the questionnaire consisted of six questions. These included demographic details (such as age, municipality of birth and residence, and educational level) and a set of five-point Likert scale questions exploring perceptions of climate impacts in Riga, personal concern about climate change, and perceived importance of specific challenges such as increased water use, space constraints, inclusivity, and maintenance costs in greening plans. Participants were also asked to assess their trust in various sources of climate

information (ranging from science and media to friends and social media) and to indicate whether they were aware of any local climate policies.

The **Edermünde** pre-assembly questionnaire was more concise, consisting of four targeted questions that captured the core indicators needed to evaluate participant perspectives prior to the deliberation. At the beginning, their age, gender and educational level were requested. Participants were asked about how affected they perceived Edermünde to be by climate change (e.g. through extreme weather events), and how concerned they were about the personal impacts of climate change. Like the Riga questionnaire, trust in different sources of climate change information was assessed on a five-point scale, covering scientific institutions, politics, NGOs, media, social media, and personal networks. Finally, participants were asked if they were aware of any local climate policies.

These short, focused surveys served as an essential starting point for evaluating shifts in perception and trust throughout and after the assembly process, providing a foundation for comparative analysis across time and locations.

Post-assembly survey

The questionnaire was structured for both CAs into seven key thematic sections (Annex 6).

- The **first section** (Q1 – Q7) focused on preparatory materials, asking participants whether they received and understood the invitation and materials, and if these presented balanced and accessible information. It also explored whether participants independently searched further information or made additional requests to organizers (*inputs indicator 1*). Question 8 was related to facilitators' preparation (*inputs indicator 2*).
- The **second section** (Q9 – Q11) covered the selection process and representation, querying participants on their perception of fairness and inclusivity in the recruitment process, including whether any groups were over- or underrepresented. (*activities indicator 1*)
- The **third section** focused on the learning (Q12 – Q15, Q17 – Q20) (*activities indicator 2*) and deliberation (Q21 – Q26) (*activities indicator 3*) phases. Questions assessed whether the materials, expert presentations, and facilitation supported participant understanding of the topic and enabled meaningful engagement (Q16) (*activities indicator 5*). Respondents rated the clarity, relevance, and effectiveness of the support materials and process, and commented on whether discussions were inclusive and respectful of diverse viewpoints. The section also captured satisfaction with the learning phase, perceived balance in perspectives presented, and openness of the process to moderate and dissenting opinions.
- The **fourth section** (Q27 – Q28) evaluated the quality of recommendations and diversity of perspectives, asking participants whether the outcomes reflected a range of viewpoints and consensus among participants. (*activities indicator 4*)
- The **fifth section** (Q29 – Q32) addressed facilitator performance, with participants rating the neutrality, inclusivity, and professionalism of facilitators, and whether they felt pressured to conform during the discussions. (*inputs indicator 2 & activities indicator 5*)
- The **sixth section** (Q33 – Q38) examined changes in knowledge, understanding, and attitude, including how participation in the assembly shifted views on climate impacts in Edermünde



and Riga and personal confidence in engaging in climate-related discourse. (*activities indicator 2 & outputs indicator 1*)

- Finally, the **seventh section** (Q39 – Q41) explored overall reflections and future actions, asking participants to share what they found most valuable, whether they are now more likely to take climate action, and what improvements they would suggest for future climate assemblies. Through this in-depth, multi-dimensional post-assembly survey, the University of the UAEGEAN Team was able to capture both quantitative and qualitative data to evaluate the process, outcomes, and impact of the assembly on citizen participants.

In the end there was a comprehensive section for the collection of ten (10) **demographic parameters** such as age, gender, educational level, employment status, household size, number of cars, income level, nationality, and place of birth and residence, most of which were collected via dropdown lists to ensure uniformity and ease of analysis.

The post-assembly questionnaire distributed to the participants of the Edermünde and Riga CA included 41 core questions plus an open-ended final prompt for additional feedback, as well as the section for demographic data collection. Question 36 was different to the two surveys as it referred to the challenges on urban greening plan in Riga and changes on priorities about land use in Edermünde.

6-months post-assembly survey

Six months after the end of the Climate Assembly, a follow-up survey was distributed to participants to evaluate the medium-term influence of their experience (Annex 7). The purpose of this brief questionnaire, designed to be completed in less than 10 minutes, was to assess changes in participants' climate-related attitudes, behaviours, and levels of civic engagement (**outcome and impact of CA**). The survey began by exploring the current level of concern about climate change and whether this had shifted since the assembly. Participants were then asked to reflect on their experience through a series of Likert-scale statements (1 to 5, from "Strongly disagree" to "Strongly agree"). These statements captured key indicators of learning, empowerment, and democratic engagement, such as whether participants felt more informed about climate change, better understood the complexity of policy decisions, valued citizen involvement in policymaking, and felt empowered to act either individually or collectively on climate issues.

A central part of the survey focused on behavioural change. Participants were asked whether they had made any personal lifestyle adjustments as a result of their participation in the assembly (e.g., changes in transportation, diet, energy or water use, and recycling) and were invited to describe those changes. Additionally, the survey asked about various forms of climate-related engagement, including sharing knowledge with others, attending events, contacting policymakers, joining environmental groups, or taking part in local sustainability efforts. Participants were also asked whether they had maintained contact with other assembly participants or organizers and whether they felt their voices had been heard during the deliberative process. The survey further examined perceptions of impact, inviting respondents to indicate whether they had observed any policy changes or initiatives in their community that aligned with the assembly's recommendations.

Finally, reflective questions were included, asking participants to identify the most lasting takeaway from their experience, whether they would recommend participation in a climate assembly to others (and why), and to share any suggestions for improving future assemblies. These open-ended responses provide rich insights into the enduring influence of participatory climate governance and offer valuable guidance for enhancing future citizen assemblies.

2.3.4 Actor 4: Experts

A dedicated questionnaire was developed for the experts who contributed to the Climate Assembly by presenting different aspects of the deliberation theme, aiming to assess their experience, the effectiveness of their engagement, and ways to improve expert participation in future assemblies (Annex 8).

Table 12. Activities indicators.

	Criteria	Indicators	Methods
1	Facilitation effectiveness	Experts' ratings of facilitator performance and neutrality.	Expert survey (understanding what could be improved in facilitation).

The survey consisted of 10 open- and closed-ended questions, divided into three thematic sections, along with a final open-ended prompt inviting any additional comments or feedback.

1. Preparation and Communication

The first section included two questions assessing how clearly the objectives of the Climate Assembly were communicated to experts prior to the event, and whether they received adequate information about the format of their session (e.g., presentation duration, session agenda).

2. Presentation and Interaction

The second section, focused on the delivery of content and engagement with participants. It included questions about the adequacy of the time allocated for their presentation, the level of audience engagement, the quality of the follow-up questions and discussions, and any challenges encountered in simplifying complex information for a non-expert audience.

3. Reflection and Suggestions (*activities indicator 1*)

The final section, encouraged experts to reflect on their overall experience, including the most rewarding aspects of their participation, any challenges they faced, suggestions for improving the process of expert involvement, and their willingness to participate in similar assemblies in the future.

All closed-ended questions used a five-point Likert scale, ranging from positive to negative responses, to measure perceptions in a structured way. The survey was administered online, and experts were informed of the purpose of the survey, assured of the confidentiality of their

responses, and provided with a link to the informed consent form before participation. The insights gathered through this questionnaire are essential for understanding the role of experts in the deliberative process and for enhancing their future contributions to citizen assemblies.

2.3.5 Actor 5: Observers

As part of the evaluation process for the Riga and Edermünde Climate Assemblies, a survey was administered to individuals who participated in the assemblies as observers (Annex 9).

Table 13. Activities indicators.

	Criteria	Indicators	Methods
1	Inclusivity and diversity of engagement	The proportion of participant demographics mirroring the broader population.	Observers survey
2	Quality of deliberation (deliberation phase)	Observers' satisfaction with the quality of discussion and decision-making. Level of compliance with democratic deliberative principles.	Observers survey
3	Diversity of perspectives and solutions explored (reporting phase)	Number and variety of policy options and perspectives discussed.	Observers survey
4	Facilitation effectiveness	Observers' ratings of facilitator performance and neutrality.	Observers survey

The survey aimed to gather structured feedback on various aspects of the assemblies, from organizational quality and inclusivity to the effectiveness of deliberation and perceived outcomes. It consisted of 19 open- and close-ended questions, as well as one final question inviting any additional comments or feedback. Observers were firstly asked to provide basic background information, including the profile that best described their affiliation (e.g., academic, governmental, civil society, media, etc.) and to indicate the specific session they attended (including date and format, such as plenary or small group session). They were also invited to briefly describe their interest in observing the Riga or Edermünde Climate Assembly through an open-ended question.

1. General impressions

The first thematic section (Q1 – Q4) focused on general impressions, asking observers to rate the overall organization of the assembly and whether the assembly's purpose was clearly communicated. It also explored what observers considered to be the most positive aspects of the event, as well as any elements they found problematic or less effective.

2. Inclusivity and representation (*activities indicator 1*)

The next section (Q5 – Q7) addressed inclusivity and representation, with questions designed to assess whether the assembly participants represented a diverse cross-section of society, whether



the discussions allowed equal participation, and whether citizens received adequate information to support informed deliberation.

1. Deliberative process (*activities indicators 2 and 4*)

Then the deliberative process was examined (Q8 – Q14), focusing on the role and performance of facilitators, the sufficiency of time allocated for deliberation, the appropriateness and clarity of expert input, and the accessibility of the supporting materials (such as videos, texts, and visual aids). Observers were also asked to assess how well the facilitation team managed group dynamics, maintained focus, and handled moments of tension or frustration among participants.

2. Outcomes and recommendations (*activities indicator 3*)

In the section on outcomes and recommendations (Q15 – Q16), observers were asked whether they believed the assembly's recommendations were well-informed and to reflect on the likelihood of these recommendations being implemented by policymakers.

Finally, the survey concluded with a section on suggestions for improvement, consisting of three open-ended questions (Q17 – Q19). Observers were encouraged to share comparisons with other citizen assemblies they may have experienced, highlight differentiating features of the Riga/Edermünde assemblies, suggest improvements in the assemblies' structure or organization, and propose ways to enhance the impact of the assembly outcomes.

2.3.6 Actor 6: Policymakers

Following the conclusion of the local Climate Assembly, an interview with key policymakers that received the recommendations was conducted to understand the institutional, policy, and cultural impact of the citizens' recommendations. The questionnaire (Annex 10) was designed to assess the medium-term institutional, political, and strategic impact of Climate Assemblies at the local level, with a focus on how recommendations made by citizens are received, integrated, and acted upon by municipal authorities. It was administered approximately six months after the end of the local Climate Assembly and targeted key policymakers and administrative staff who received the assembly's outputs. The evaluation was structured into six thematic sections, each addressing specific dimensions of policy uptake and institutional change.

1. Immediate Institutional and Policy Responses explores the direct aftermath of the assembly.

It was examined whether recommendations were formally accepted by political leadership (e.g., the mayor or council), how they were communicated within the administration, and which proposals were seen as feasible or already aligned with existing agendas. Early efforts and obstacles in incorporating these recommendations into local strategies are also examined.

2. Influence on Policy and Regulation

The aim is to investigate whether the assembly has led to revisions of climate action plans, policies, or strategic priorities as well as to identify any concrete new initiatives, legislative changes, or regulatory shifts that have emerged as a direct consequence of the assembly's proposals.

3. Capacity-Building and Institutional Change

This section focuses on whether the process has fostered new networks or partnerships, particularly with civil society or expert bodies. It also assesses whether internal attitudes, priorities, or resources

within the administration have shifted in response to citizen input—such as reallocation of budgets, staff time, or establishment of working groups.

4. Connection to Broader Governance and Public Engagement

It considers how the Climate Assembly interfaces with wider policymaking processes. This includes whether its outcomes have been shared with regional or national authorities, how it has shaped understandings of citizen participation, and if similar participatory methods are being planned for other policy areas.

5. Monitoring Long-Term Impact

Through a set of questions, it was examined whether mechanisms have been established to track the long-term effects of the assembly's recommendations, including indicators, regular reporting, or dedicated evaluation frameworks.

6. Reflections and Political Culture

Section 6 captures broader reflections on the assembly's influence on political discourse, visibility in formal debates, and perceived value in climate governance. Interviewees were requested to make suggestions on what structural or institutional conditions would be needed to strengthen the influence of such assemblies in the future.

3. Overview of Implemented Climate Assemblies

3.1 The Edermünde Climate Assembly

The Edermünde CA aimed to bring together a diverse group of citizens to deliberate on sustainable and climate-resilient land use strategies. It also served as a pilot for testing tools and methodologies from the CLIMAS toolbox.

Monitoring and Evaluation Overview

Title: *Climate Assembly Edermünde*

Location: Edermünde, Germany

Timeline: September 28–29, October 26–27, and November 23–24, 2024 (3 sessions)

Duration: Approximately 13 hours per session, 39 hours in total

Participants: Session 1: 28 participants, Session 2: 26 participants and Session 3: 23 participants

Facilitation Team: 3–4 facilitators per session

Organizing Team: 4 members from IFOK

Context and Deliberation Themes

The Edermünde CA addressed complex dilemmas around land use in the context of climate adaptation. Citizens deliberated on three main topics:

Climate adaptation strategies (e.g., managing heavy rainfall and heat) given limited land and diverse land-use demands.

(Re-)naturalisation vs. cultivation—balancing biodiversity goals with agricultural, economic, and housing needs, and the associated maintenance costs.

Urban development—debating between expanding new residential areas on the outskirts or densifying existing urban spaces.

Tool(s) tested

During the sessions of the Edermünde Climate Assembly (CA), several tools from the CLIMAS Toolbox were tested and adapted to the local participatory context. The **Citizen-Collaborative Future Scenario Building Methodology for a Climate Resilient Society** was explored through an applied and adaptive approach rather than as a stand-alone activity. Elements of the tool were informally introduced and discussed throughout the assembly’s planning and facilitation process, with feedback gathered via observation and post-implementation evaluation to assess usability, alignment with assembly objectives, and its value in enhancing citizen engagement. The **Tool for Setting-Up and Facilitating Climate Assemblies** was also applied by the organisers to guide both the organisational and facilitation phases of the Edermünde CA. These guidelines supported the framing of the assembly and the collaborative learning process, fostering deliberation and the search for common ground among participants. Additionally, the **Tool on Citizen Science for Climate Assemblies** inspired the organisers to conduct interpretative field trips, allowing participants to directly experience local climate impacts and explore potential adaptation strategies. Finally, elements of the **Knowledge and Evidence-Based Support (KEBS) Tool for Agenda Setting** were used



informally to assist in structuring the early stages of the assembly’s agenda, helping to frame the main discussion topics around local climate challenges.

Data Collection and Management

- **Surveys:** Distributed both on-site and via email; an upfront survey was sent on 20 September 2024; another one was distributed to the participants at the end of the final session, and a follow-up survey was conducted in June 2025. The surveys to the observers and experts were conducted online by sending the link of the questionnaire to them. Facilitators were employees of IFOK (except for one external facilitator in session 2) and the questionnaire was sent via email.
- **Consent:** All participants signed informed consent forms ensuring compliance with privacy and ethical standards.
- **Interview with organisers of the assembly and surveys:** The interview was conducted online via Zoom platform. Surveys were sent and filled in as word files.
- **Interview with the authorities that received the recommendations:** Two set of questions were sent to the Edermünde mayor’s office as a word file after the end of the assembly and six months later. Answers were received in written form.
- **Data Storage:** All data from the printed questionnaires are securely stored in a SharePoint folder managed by IFOK. The responses to the online surveys are kept at the CLIMAS Platform to which limited CLIMAS partners have access to. Recordings and videos from the interview with the IFOK team are kept at the CLIMAS Sharepoint.
- **Responsible Team:** Two staff members from IFOK oversee data management, in coordination with the CLIMAS T5.2 team.

Roles and Responsibilities

The monitoring is carried out independently from the local municipality to ensure impartiality. The IFOK team supported survey translation, administration, and logistical coordination. The University of the UAEGEAN team remained in contact with designated monitoring leads for survey implementation and follow-up.

3.2 The Riga Climate Assembly

Title: *Riga Climate Assembly*

Location: Riga, Latvia

Timeline: September 21, October 5, October 19, November 9, and November 23, 2024 (5 sessions)

Duration: Each session lasted approximately 8 hours

Participants: 35 citizens

Facilitation Team: 10 facilitators

Organizing Team: 2 part-time staff from Green Liberty

Context and Deliberative Focus



This project has received funding from the European Union’s research and innovation programme Horizon Europe under the grant agreement No. 101094021. This document reflects only the author’s view and the Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information it contains.

The Riga Climate Assembly brought together a diverse group of citizens to deliberate on issues of climate adaptation, focusing in particular on urban greening strategies to enhance quality of life in the city. The core dilemma discussed was how to effectively green Riga in ways that support both climate resilience and citizen well-being. Participants examined environmental, social, and policy dimensions of urban greening, reflecting on the implications for both short-term urban development and long-term adaptation planning.

Monitoring and Evaluation Strategy

Two representatives from Green Liberty supported the Monitoring & Evaluation process coordinated by the University of the UAEGEAN team. Their responsibilities included:

- Translating and distributing evaluation surveys to the actors of the assembly
- Providing contextual and logistical information about the assembly
- Facilitating follow-up for data collection and impact tracking

The team worked collaboratively to define realistic and measurable outcomes and ensure that the evaluation aligns with both CLIMAS objectives and European Climate Foundation’s policy impact expectations.

Tool(s) tested

During the sessions of the Riga Climate Assembly (CA), the below mentioned tools from the CLIMAS Toolbox were tested and adapted to the local context. The **Tool for Setting-Up and Facilitating Climate Assemblies** was used by the organisers to structure both the organisational and facilitation phases of the Riga CA, supporting the framing of the assembly, promoting collaborative learning, and encouraging deliberation and consensus-building among participants. The **Knowledge and Evidence-Based Support (KEBS) Tool for Agenda Setting** was applied in a locally tailored manner, combining expert input and stakeholder consultation. Despite institutional constraints, the tool proved useful in aligning scientific framing with citizen values, guiding the selection of greening-related themes for discussion. The **Tool on Citizen Science for Climate Assemblies** was tested through the design of an activity aimed to engage citizens in observing nature and recording biodiversity data to inform the development of recommendations for Riga’s Greenery Plan within the broader framework of climate adaptation. The activity included a field trip with an educational component, ensuring local relevance and fostering long-term community engagement.

Data Collection and Management

- **Surveys:** Distributed both on-site and via email; a survey with printed forms was conducted before the beginning of the first session in September 2024; another one was distributed to the participants at the end of the final session (both printed and online) and a follow-up online survey was conducted in June 2025. The surveys for the remaining actors (facilitators, observers and experts) were conducted online by sending the relevant link of the questionnaire to them.
- **Consent:** All participants signed consent forms ensuring compliance with privacy and ethical standards.



- **Interview with organisers of the assembly and surveys:** The interview was conducted online via Zoom platform. Surveys are sent and filled in as word files.
- **Interview with the authorities that received the recommendations:** The interview was conducted online via Zoom platform six months after the end of the assembly.
- **Data Storage:** All data from the printed questionnaires are securely stored in a SharePoint folder managed by Green Liberty. The responses to the online surveys are kept at the CLIMAS Platform to which limited CLIMAS partners have access to. Recordings and videos from the interviews with the Green Liberty team and the mayor's office are kept at the CLIMAS Sharepoint.
- **Responsible Team:** Two staff members from Green Liberty oversee data management, in coordination with the CLIMAS T5.2 team.



4. Survey and Interview findings

This chapter presents the results of the surveys and interviews conducted with the key actors involved in the CLIMAS Climate Assemblies—organisers, facilitators, participants, experts, observers, and policymakers. The analysis follows the structure of the performance monitoring framework, examining input, activity, output, and impact indicators across actor groups. By combining quantitative data from surveys with qualitative insights from interviews, the chapter provides a comprehensive picture of how the assemblies were implemented, perceived, and experienced. It highlights the strengths and challenges identified by different stakeholders, the extent to which the assemblies achieved their intended objectives, and the lessons learned for improving future participatory climate governance processes. An overview of the questionnaires and the responses received by each actor is presented in table 13 for Edermünde CA and in table 14 for the Riga CA.

Table 14. Overview of the questionnaires and responses received by each actor of the Edermünde CA.

Actor	Number of people in the CA	Number of questions at the survey	Number of valid questionnaires
Participants (pre-assembly)	28	4	28
Participants (post-assembly)	23	40	18
Participants (6-months post-assembly)	23	11	23
Organisers survey	-	24	1
Facilitators	4	20	4
Mayor	-	16	1
Experts	14	11	4
Observers	6	19	2

Table 15. Overview of the questionnaires and responses received by each actor of the Riga CA.

Actor	Number of people in the CA	Number of questions at the survey	Number of valid questionnaires
Participants (pre-assembly)	35	6	34
Participants (post-assembly)	35	40	26
Participants (6-months post-assembly)	35	11	18
Organisers survey	-	24	1
Facilitators	10	20	5
Mayor	-	11	4



Experts	8	19	7
Observers	28	6	34

4.1 Organisers of the Climate Assemblies

This section presents the findings from surveys and interviews conducted with the organisers of the three Climate Assemblies (Edermünde, Riga and Catalonia). The purpose of this analysis is to capture organisers’ perspectives on the design, implementation, and outcomes of the assemblies, offering valuable insights into how the CLIMAS framework functioned in practice. The findings are structured around the key stages of the assembly process—**inputs, activities, and outputs**—to provide a comprehensive understanding of how resources and planning translated into participatory processes and tangible results. As referred in section 2.2.3 all activities of the Catalonia CA finished before the finalisation of the M&E framework (described in D5.1), thus only the feedback from organisers could be included in the present deliverable.

4.1.1 Input indicators

4.1.1.1 Financial and human resources

Edermünde Climate Assembly

The total budget allocated for the CA was approximately 100,000€. While this amount allowed for the successful execution of the event, it was not sufficient to cover the cost of a professional translator, leading the team to instead purchase a translation device to support linguistic accessibility. Regarding human resources, nine part-time staff members were involved in planning, organizing, and facilitating the assembly. This team included both male (2 part-time positions) and female (7 part-time positions) professionals in various roles, such as co-project managers, facilitators, organizers, and supporting staff, contributing to multidisciplinary support.

Riga Climate Assembly

The total budget allocated for the CA was approximately 68,200.00€. Securing adequate financial resources for the Climate Assembly proved to be a significant challenge for the organisers of the Riga CA. The initial implementation budget of €33,000, planned for 50 participants across five sessions, soon proved insufficient as actual costs exceeded early estimates. These constraints required substantial additional effort from the organizing team, who had to reallocate project overhead funds to cover essential expenses. Further financial support was obtained through a grant from the European Climate Fund, which was crucial in ensuring the successful completion of the assembly. However, this supplementary funding also brought added administrative and reporting requirements, increasing the overall workload for the organizers. Despite these challenges, the available resources were ultimately managed effectively to achieve the assembly’s intended goals. A diverse team of professionals contributed to the organization and implementation of the Climate Assembly. The core organizing team consisted of two organizers, who worked part-time for most of the project and full-time during the final months, supported by a part-time financial officer. The facilitation team included a lead facilitator along with 4 additional facilitators and 5 note takers who assisted during the five assembly sessions. The process was supported by communication officers,



technical staff, interpreters, and media professionals. Overall, the team comprised 25 people—17 female, 7 male, and 1 nonbinary—covering organizational, facilitation, communication, technical, and documentation roles essential for the successful execution of the CA.

Catalonia CA

A total of thirteen professionals contributed to the implementation of the CA throughout 2022 and 2023, spanning roles from administrative assistants to senior technicians and high-ranking officials such as deputy directors and general directors. Their diverse expertise and roles ensured the effective coordination and delivery of this complex participatory process.

4.1.1.2 Preparatory material provided to participants

Edermünde Climate Assembly

Participants received structured preparatory material to support their engagement. Two main documents were distributed: (1) an information booklet introducing the CA’s objectives and content related to climate change and urban planning, compiled using sources such as the German Ministry of the Environment, the European Commission, and the Geoportal of the State of Hessen; and (2) a newspaper article from the *Fritzlar-Homberger Allgemeine*, validated by the chief urban planner, summarizing key changes in the regional development plan. These materials were distributed online before the first session (25/09/2024) and in printed form on 28/09/2024, during the opening session. Additional in-session materials included short, informative videos from “Explain it” on global warming, GHGs emissions, and the Paris Agreement, selected for their clarity, reliability, and accessibility. These resources ensured that participants had a solid and equitable foundation of knowledge, enabling meaningful deliberation and informed decision-making throughout the CA process.

Riga Climate Assembly

Before the start of the Riga Climate Assembly, participants received a leaflet and short informational booklet designed to prepare them for the discussions. The material provided a clear and accessible overview of key topics, including the causes and impacts of climate change, the purpose and principles of citizens’ climate assemblies, and the importance of urban greening for reducing heat islands, managing stormwater, enhancing biodiversity, and improving wellbeing. It also introduced the current situation in Riga and the development of the Riga Urban Greening Plan 2027–2031, along with a glossary of climate-related terms and links for further reading. The content was drawn from reliable and diverse sources, such as the European Commission, the Latvian Environment, Geology and Meteorology Centre, Riga City Council, NGOs like *Green Liberty*, academic institutions (e.g., the University of Latvia), and EU-funded projects including *Horizon Europe CLIMAS* and *LIFE LATESTadapt*. Selection criteria emphasized relevance to the assembly’s themes, clarity for non-experts, and the credibility of sources. The materials were emailed to all participants on September 14, 2024, about a week before the first session, and printed copies were also provided at the venue for convenience. Both formats were accessible through the Riga Energy Agency / Riga Climate Assembly website (<https://rea.riga.lv/rigas-iedzivotaju-asambleja/>).



Catalonia CA

A wide range of preparatory and in-session materials were developed and distributed to support the CA in Catalonia, ensuring that participants were well-informed and equipped for meaningful deliberation. These materials were carefully designed to cover key thematic areas, foster understanding, and facilitate a structured dialogue throughout the process. The materials were made available both in printed and online formats to maximize accessibility and convenience for all participants. The initial informative kit, distributed in early November 2023 before the CA began, included a participant welcome guide that explained the process and highlighted citizen participation data. This content was provided by the Citizen Participation Unit. During the first official session on November 18th, 2023, the second part of the kit focused on climate change in Catalonia and included data from the Catalan Climate Change Office. It presented key statistics and official findings that participants could rely on throughout their discussions. Between November 18th and December 2nd, 2023, two more thematic materials were delivered: one on the agri-food system and another on renewable energy infrastructure, both grounded in content provided by scientific journals and involving contributions from both public administration and external experts. These kits offered a combination of background analysis, proposed models, and specific policy suggestions. Supporting materials also included infographics and session signage developed by the organizing team to help participants navigate the schedule, rules, and services available. Feedback from participants to the organisers (collected from the organisers of the CA and provided for the needs of the present deliverable, surveys to the participants of the Catalan CA were not distributed in the frame of D5.2) showed that 75% found these learning materials to be clear and adequate. However, 68 out of 100 participants requested further information on certain topics, indicating a demand for more in-depth content, particularly among elderly or lower-educated participants. To further facilitate deliberation, a structured set of in-session materials was introduced. For instance, in Session 2, participants worked with a grid for identifying positions and recommendations, helping them engage with expert proposals and reflect on trade-offs. During session 3 *informative sheets* were provided that guided participants in assessing environmental, social, and economic impacts. As the sessions progressed, materials such as debate kits (Session 4) and citizen recommendation templates (Session 5) enabled small rotating groups to collaboratively draft and refine proposals. By Session 6, participants finalized their recommendations consolidating the outcomes of previous sessions into clear, actionable points. Overall, the preparatory and in-session materials were instrumental in enabling a high-quality deliberative process. They were selected based on expert relevance, clarity, and thematic alignment with the Assembly's goals, and were disseminated strategically to support learning, dialogue, and decision-making.

4.1.1.3 Political commitment

Edermünde Climate Assembly

The Edermünde CA was supported by local authorities and political stakeholders throughout its preparation and implementation. Invitations were extended to key political figures, including the mayor, the first deputy mayor, and the chairman of the municipal council. All three not only



accepted the invitations but also actively engaged in the process. Their engagement ranged from addressing the participants during sessions, providing feedback on ideas, and committing to evaluating and responding to citizen recommendations. So political representativeness was meaningful and visible to the participants across the different stages of the process.

Policymakers were involved early in the design of the CA through their participation in the steering committee, which included representatives from each political faction in the municipal council. This committee helped validate the topic and remit of the CA and played a role in defining observer rules and recommending speakers. Importantly, **there was a formal commitment from the municipal council and the mayor to review and respond to all recommendations submitted by the assembly**, which resulted in written statements by each political party – published on February 24, 2025. Additionally, the municipal council agreed to publicly assess the implementation status of the recommendations one and two years after the assembly's conclusion. This long-term commitment was clearly communicated to participants during multiple stages, including in-person addresses by political leaders and the public presentation of the assembly's recommendations in a council session on December 16, 2024. The assembly's recommendations were shared with the broader public during the Municipality's New Year's ceremony on January 26, 2025.

Riga Climate Assembly

During the preparation phase, organizers felt somewhat supported by authorities and stakeholders, with 15 political entities invited, 5 participating (for example, by making statements), and 3 engaging further by considering or applying the assembly's outcomes. While policymakers were not deeply involved in the design or planning stages, the assembly benefited from endorsement by the Climate Advisor to the Mayor, which provided an important foundation for its implementation. Additional support came from representatives of the Housing Department and the City Development Department, who showed strong interest in public participation. Although no broad formal agreements were made, **policymakers formally committed to including the assembly's recommendations in the Riga City Greening Action Plan**, ensuring a concrete link between citizen input and municipal policy. Participants were informed throughout the process that their recommendations would be submitted to the team developing the Riga City Greening Plan, whose members would review and decide which proposals to integrate into the final Action Plan.

Catalonia CA

Political commitment was initially formalized through a government agreement (GOV/188/2022), which explicitly outlined the responsibilities and support of the Department of the Presidency and the department responsible for climate action. While political entities were not formally invited to participate in the CA, the process was presented to them with the opportunity to attend as observers. Some political parties did attend the initial sessions, and the previous government demonstrated symbolic engagement by officially opening and closing the CA during the first and sixth sessions, respectively. However, during the preparation phase, the level of support from authorities and stakeholders was characterized as neutral. Policymakers were not directly involved in the detailed design of the process but supported it through institutional backing. One of the main



challenges in ensuring political commitment emerged after the change of government, which has introduced uncertainty regarding the implementation of the CA’s recommendations. Despite this, the formal mechanisms established in the original government agreement remain in place, and a follow-up process has been initiated involving departmental evaluations and a political return circuit to the government. Participants were informed from the outset that their recommendations would be formally reported to the relevant authorities, and communication has continued after the CA to update them on the progress, although the shift in political leadership has made the path to implementation more complex.

4.1.1.4 Facilitator preparation and training

Edermünde Climate Assembly

There was no need for organising facilitators’ training workshops from the CLIMAS partners.

Riga Climate Assembly

In Riga CA training workshops were organised by the CLIMAS partners covering different phases of the implementation of an CA. All sessions took place online and the content of them is fully described in table 14.

Table 16. Training sessions of the Riga CA facilitators.

Number of each session	Date	Topic of each session	Implementation (in person/online)
1	14.06.2024	<p>“Welcome and introductions”</p> <p>Course overview</p> <p>Riga Climate Assembly case study</p> <p>Fundamentals of Inclusive Climate Assemblies (Part 1)</p> <p>Fundamentals of Inclusive Climate Assemblies (Part 2)</p> <p>Debate and exchange</p> <p>Conclusions and next steps</p>	online
2	19.06.2024	<p>“What is deliberation, why and how does it work?”</p>	online
3	28.06.2024	<p>“Clear and Simple Communication”</p> <p>Inclusive language and barrier resolution</p> <p>Group dynamics</p> <p>Nonviolent Communication (NVC) and conflict resolution</p>	online
4	10.09.2024	<p>“Exploring Climate Assembly Phases and the Role of Facilitators”</p>	online

		integrating your note about GENCAT (Generalitat de Catalunya methodology on participatory processes)	
5	13.09.2024	“Monitoring and Follow-up” Closing and Next Steps Sharing Outcomes and Lessons Learned Assessment and Continuous Improvement	online

Lessons learnt: The training sessions for the Riga CA facilitators focused primarily on developing inclusive facilitation skills, which were considered highly valuable. However, one key lesson learned was the need to dedicate more time to practical aspects of facilitating diverse groups, including hands-on examples and opportunities for experience sharing among facilitators. While all elements of the training were seen as useful, future sessions could benefit from additional focus on real-life facilitation challenges. It was also noted that, unlike assemblies with larger budgets that can employ highly experienced professionals, this assembly relied on facilitators with varying levels of expertise, which made comprehensive and practical training even more essential.

Catalonia CA

No official training of the facilitators was organised within the CLIMAS project.

4.1.2 Activities indicators

4.1.2.1 Inclusivity and diversity of engagement

Edermünde Climate Assembly

To ensure inclusivity and diversity in the Edermünde CA, participants were recruited through a random sampling method using the official citizen register of the municipality. A total of 1,241 invitation letters were sent by post to a stratified random sample of the population. The selection process was guided by key inclusion criteria such as age, gender, highest education degree, nationality, employment status, locality of residence, individual perception of climate urgency, and attitudes toward climate policy. Individuals under the age of 16, as well as those employed in local administration or engaged in politics, were excluded to avoid potential conflicts of interest. Prior to the CA, interested citizens had the opportunity to contact the municipal authorities via telephone or email for practical information. Along with the one-page invitation letter a one-page information letter (with information about dates, compensation money, required knowledge etc.) was sent and an informative article was posted on the municipality’s website.

Table 17. Recruitment process at the Edermünde CA.

Type of invitation	Invitations sent to a random sample of the population by post (1.241 letters)
Data registers that were used	Citizen’s data registers of the Municipality of Edermünde



Criteria that were set for the inclusion	Age, gender, highest education degree, nationality, employment status, locality of residence, personal sense of urgency about climate change, personal attitude towards climate policy
Criteria that were set for the exclusion	People below 16 years old; People working in the local administration or active in politics

Riga Climate Assembly

The recruitment process that was followed by the organisers of the Riga CA is presented in table 14. Participant recruitment for the climate assembly was carried out by SKDS, a market and public opinion research center. The process relied on SKDS’s database of 9,000 Latvian citizens, from which a representative sample of 35 participants was selected. Eligible participants were residents of Latvia aged 18 to 75, with the final sample drawn from individuals registered in the SKDS Research Center’s WebPanel and residing in Riga. Selection was based on nationality, gender, and age, following the Population Register data of the Ministry of the Interior (as of January 24, 2024). Efforts were made to ensure diversity among participants by including individuals with different levels of education, occupations, political affiliations, and income groups.

To support participant engagement and understanding before the event, the organizers personally contacted and called each participant approximately one week prior to the assembly. During these calls, they thanked participants for accepting the invitation, briefly explained the purpose and structure of the assembly, and addressed any questions they might have had. Participants were also encouraged to reach out by phone or email for any additional clarifications. Furthermore, detailed information about the assembly and its planned process was published on the Riga Climate Assembly website, accompanied by a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) sheet to provide further clarity and support: <https://rea.riga.lv/rigas-iedzivotaju-asambleja/>.

Table 18. Recruitment process of Riga CA participants.

Type of invitation	<i>Recruitment was organized by SKDS, market and public opinion research center.</i>
Data registers that were used	<i>SKDS data base of 9000 citizens of Latvia.</i>
Criteria that were set for the inclusion	<p>Target group: Residents of Latvia aged 18 to 75</p> <p>Sample size: 35 respondents (a representative sample of the general population)</p> <p>Source of the sample: The sample was formed from Latvian residents registered in the SKDS Research Center’s WebPanel</p>

	<p>Geographical coverage: Riga</p> <p>Selection of respondents: By nationality, gender, and age according to the data of the Population Register of the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Latvia as of January 24, 2024 for Riga city.</p>
Criteria that were set for the exclusion	<p>Respondents were selected to represent different levels of education, occupations, political affiliations, and income groups.</p>

Catalonia CA

The recruitment of participants for the Climate Assembly in Catalonia followed a rigorous and inclusive process aimed at ensuring representativeness and diversity. Invitations were officially sent by the government using population data extracted from the Population Data Register and the Official Statistics Institute of Catalonia. The inclusion criteria reflected a strong commitment to demographic and social balance, considering factors such as gender, age group, birthplace, rural or urban origin, literacy levels, socioeconomic status, and even attitudinal orientation toward climate issues. Exclusion criteria were minimal, limited to individuals under the age of 16 and those holding an elected position.

Table 19. Recruitment process of Catalonia CA participants.

Type of invitation	Invitation sent from the government and
Data registers that were used	Official Statistics Institute of Catalonia and the data extracted from the Population Data Register
Criteria that were set for the inclusion	Gender, age group, birthplace, territorial distribution (rural/urban), literacy levels, socioeconomic index, attitudinal question
Criteria that were set for the exclusion	Under 16 years old and holding an elected charge

4.1.2.2 Quality of deliberation

Edermünde Climate Assembly

The CA followed a multi-phased deliberative structure designed to gradually build participant understanding and guide them toward consensus (Table 14). The **learning phase** focused on knowledge-building through expert presentations, videos, and exercises. A **vision-building phase** encouraged participants to imagine and articulate individual and collective future scenarios. The process continued with **structured deliberation**, using small group discussions, position games, and plenary sessions to explore trade-offs. This led to the **idea development phase**, where participants brainstormed and drafted recommendations. The final stage focused on **consensus-building**, editing recommendations, and conducting votes to reach common ground. A field trip component

enriched the experience by offering real-life engagement with stakeholders affected by urban planning decisions.

Table 20. Deliberation phases at the Edermünde Climate Assembly.

Phases of the deliberation	Goal(s) of each phase	Methods used to reach the goal(s) of each phase
Learning Phase	Setting the scene Getting to know each other and deliberation training Building the knowledge base of participants	Expert inputs Q&A with experts Videos Exercises
	Presentation of diverse stakeholder perspectives Understanding conflicts and trade-offs	Panel discussion rotating small group discussions with experts
Vision Building	Developing individual and collective future vision(s) to be worked towards	Guided (imaginary) vision journey Drawing of future visions Writing down individual visions of the future
Deliberation of trade-offs, pro and con arguments	Understanding the implications of different policy options	Small group discussions Positioning game (line-up along scales/ a metric) Plenary discussions
Idea development	Developing solutions (drafts of recommendation and principles)	Brainstorming Small group discussions Plenary discussions
Finalization of principles and recommendations for sustainable urban planning	Finding consensus Editing of principles and recommendations	Small group discussions Plenary discussions Systemic consensus building Voting
Field trips	Real life, on-the-ground experiences Meeting people affected by or influencing land use (planning)	On-site visits Writing journals Taking pictures Reporting back to the other participants during the CA session

In a scale of 4 (from 1-not at all to 4-a lot) organisers rated that the facilitation team promoted inclusivity during deliberation by ensuring a high level of respectful dialogue (4/4) and transparency (4/4), with somewhat lower but still adequate levels of equality (3/4) and reason-giving (3/4).

Riga Climate Assembly

During the deliberation phase of the Climate Assembly, a **directive table facilitation** approach was applied. Participants were divided into small groups, each guided by a trained facilitator responsible for maintaining task focus and ensuring fairness in the discussions, particularly by balancing speaking time among members. The facilitation team placed strong emphasis on **inclusivity**, ensuring that all participants—regardless of social status, background, or power—had an equal opportunity to contribute. The atmosphere fostered **respectful dialogue**, where participants listened to and acknowledged each other’s viewpoints without resorting to dismissive or hostile behavior. Facilitators encouraged **reason-giving**, prompting participants to justify their opinions using logical arguments, evidence, or shared values, thereby enriching the collective reasoning process. Moreover, **transparency** was maintained throughout, with clear and accessible communication about the discussion procedures and decision-making criteria, helping participants feel informed and confident in the fairness of the process.

Catalonia CA

During the CA meetings in Catalonia, a **directive table facilitation** approach was adopted. This method involved small groups of participants seated at tables, each guided by a trained facilitator. The facilitators played a crucial role in ensuring fairness, maintaining focus on the assigned tasks, and balancing speaking time among participants to foster inclusive and productive dialogue. The deliberation unfolded over **three main sessions (4, 5, and 6)**, each with distinct objectives and structured methods. In **Session 4**, the focus was on consolidating the proposal sheets from experts, identifying key themes for recommendations, and gathering questions for the technical team. This phase included structured group discussions, thematic prioritization, and plenary sharing. **Session 5** aimed to address controversial topics, using expert roundtables, controversy-based group work, and consensus voting to shape detailed recommendations. **Session 6** concluded the deliberation by consolidating both controversial and non-controversial proposals, finalizing thematic recommendations, and presenting them to political representatives. Throughout the sessions, the facilitation team successfully upheld core deliberative principles: **equality, respectful dialogue, reason-giving, and transparency**—each evaluated at the highest level (*a lot*) by the organisers. This structured and inclusive facilitation approach ensured a coherent, respectful, and balanced deliberative process.

4.1.2.3 Diversity of perspectives and solutions explored

Edermünde Climate Assembly

CA outcomes were perceived to moderately reflect diverse viewpoints, receiving a rating of 3 out of 5 (Q20 at the organisers questionnaire). While efforts were made to ensure inclusivity, certain perspectives may have been underrepresented or not fully integrated into the final recommendations. Nonetheless, the recommendations themselves were viewed as a strong reflection of participant consensus, with a perfect score of 5 (Q21 at the organisers questionnaire), indicating that despite some limitations in diversity of viewpoints, the group was able to reach broad agreement on the proposed actions.



Riga Climate Assembly

The outcomes of the Climate Assembly were assessed as effectively representing a diverse range of perspectives, receiving a score of 4 out of 5. This indicates that the discussions successfully integrated multiple viewpoints, allowing participants from different backgrounds, experiences, and value systems to have their voices reflected in the final results. Similarly, the final recommendations were considered to reflect the participants' consensus to a high degree, also scoring 4 out of 5. This suggests that while some differences in opinion remained, the majority of participants agreed on the key outcomes, and the recommendations captured the shared understanding and collective reasoning developed during the deliberation process.

Catalonia CA

The outcomes of the Catalonia CA were rated as *extremely effective* in representing diverse viewpoints, and the final recommendations were also perceived to *definitely reflect* the participants' consensus.

4.1.2.4 Facilitation effectiveness

Edermünde Climate Assembly

The facilitators played a crucial role in this process, receiving high marks for both their neutrality (4/5) and overall performance (4/5). Feedback from participants to the organisers was overwhelmingly positive, expressed both during evaluation rounds and through informal exchanges. The facilitation was praised for its professionalism and effectiveness, with only one outlier reporting concerns about neutrality via email—an issue that was addressed by ensuring the facilitator in question did not participate in the following session.

Riga Climate Assembly

The facilitators of the Climate Assembly were evaluated very positively by participants, receiving the highest possible scores for both neutrality and overall performance (5 out of 5). This indicates that facilitators were perceived as entirely impartial, refraining from expressing personal opinions or favouring particular viewpoints, while effectively guiding discussions and maintaining a balanced, inclusive atmosphere. Although no formal feedback was received from participants to the organisers of the CA, observations during the event suggested strong mutual respect and trust between participants and facilitators, as evidenced by the informal and friendly conversations that continued during breaks—highlighting the sense of equality and openness fostered throughout the process.

Catalonia CA

Facilitation during the Climate Assembly was evaluated positively, with an average rating from organisers of **4 out of 5** for both neutrality and overall performance. This indicates that facilitators were generally perceived as professional, balanced, and effective in managing the discussions. However, feedback from participants to the organisers of the CA revealed some areas for improvement. Several participants noted that the amount of material provided for deliberation was extensive, suggesting a need for more concise and accessible presentation of information.

Participants also expressed interest in having continuous expert support to clarify complex topics. While facilitation was largely inclusive, some participants observed challenges in ensuring equal participation due to time constraints and the presence of dominant voices. Overall, facilitation was effective but could be further strengthened through clearer information flow, enhanced moderation techniques, and better management of discussion dynamics.

4.1.3 Outputs indicators

4.1.3.1 Publication of reports and recommendations

Edermünde Climate Assembly

The assembly produced 16 concrete recommendations, each subordinated to one of four guiding principles, which should serve as compass for Edermünde's future urban planning. These principles should help the administration when making decisions involving some recurrent dilemmas and challenges in urban planning. Recommendations are presented in detail in D4.3.

Riga Climate Assembly

Participants developed 41 recommendations around three guiding principles which are presented in detail in D4.3.

4.1.3.2 Number of updated tools and guidelines post-assembly

Edermünde Climate Assembly

As mentioned in Section 3.1, four tools and guidelines from the CLIMAS Toolbox were tested during the activities of the Edermünde Climate Assembly: the Knowledge and Evidence-Based Support (KEBS) Tool for Climate Assemblies' Agenda Setting, the Citizen-Collaborative Future Scenario Building Methodology for a Climate-Resilient Society, the Tool for Setting Up and Facilitating Climate Assemblies, and the Tool on Citizen Science for Climate Assemblies. In addition, the Multilingual Climate Assembly Portal (Task 3.7) was used for uploading and managing the online surveys. Feedback from the assembly activities was provided to the developers of the tools to support their revision and the development of their final versions.

Riga Climate Assembly

As outlined in Section 3.2, three tools and guidelines from the CLIMAS Toolbox were applied and tested during the Riga Climate Assembly: the *Knowledge and Evidence-Based Support (KEBS) Tool for Climate Assemblies' Agenda Setting*, the *Tool for Setting Up and Facilitating Climate Assemblies*, and the *Tool on Citizen Science for Climate Assemblies*. Moreover, the *Multilingual Climate Assembly Portal* (Task 3.7) was used to host and disseminate the online surveys to participants. The practical experience gained during the Riga Assembly provided valuable user insights and feedback, which were communicated to the tool developers to refine and finalize the updated versions of each tool.

Catalonia CA

The contributed to the development and further testing of several CLIMAS methodological tools, including the *Methodological guidelines and manual for setting up and facilitating Citizens' Assemblies* (T3.2) and the *Knowledge and evidence support tool for citizens' assembly agenda*



setting (T3.6). Two significant contributions were the establishment of criteria for defining the agenda setting process, and the design and implementation of a work plan for defining the agenda of the CA.

4.2 Facilitators

As presented in tables 14 and 15 all four facilitators of Edermünde CA and two facilitators of the Riga CA answered the survey. Regarding the introductory questions about goals and expectations of the CA, facilitators of the Edermünde Climate Assembly started the process with high expectations and motivations (Q1-Q2). They were particularly interested in observing how an abstract issue like land use could resonate with citizens at a local level, how trade-offs and divergent values would emerge in discussion, and how CLIMAS tools—particularly those focused on dilemma-based deliberation—could be adapted and used effectively. A key expectation was that local knowledge would play a significant role in shaping the discussions. Regarding the facilitation approach they all mentioned applying both directive table and citizen self-organisation approaches. Further explanation of the approaches is provided in Annex 6 under the relevant question.

Facilitators of the Riga CA mentioned that they perceived the primary goal of the Riga CA as to create a democratic, inclusive, and results-oriented process that empowers citizens to develop recommendations for the Riga Greening Strategy. Personal expectations included supporting citizens to reach meaningful outcomes and contributing content and guidance that would help the process succeed. They expressed a strong desire to support the CA responsibly while also gaining valuable professional and personal experience. Both facilitators followed a directive table facilitation model. In this approach, participants worked in small rotating groups with a facilitator ensuring balanced participation and fair dialogue.

4.2.1 Input indicators

4.2.1.1 Financial and human resources

Edermünde Climate Assembly

All facilitators who responded considered the **resources assigned to the Climate Assembly to be adequate**. No additional resource needs or improvement suggestions were mentioned, indicating overall satisfaction with the level of support, materials, and organization provided for the Assembly's implementation.

Riga Climate Assembly

Among the two facilitators, one considered the resources assigned to the Climate Assembly adequate, while the other believed they were insufficient. The latter explained that during the project planning stage, not enough resources were allocated for the Latvian assembly. She/he suggested that, with additional resources, the process could be improved by assigning one dedicated facilitator per group to ensure balanced attention and smoother coordination, as well as appointing a person responsible for collecting and organizing outputs after each session to maintain



continuity and coherence. The facilitator also recommended involving a technical support staff member to handle event-related technical issues efficiently.

4.2.1.2 Facilitator preparation and training

Edermünde Climate Assembly

No formal training session was held for facilitators prior to the CA as all facilitators have been facilitating various CA before. There was one external facilitator who received a briefing on the session structure, content and facilitation guidelines before starting her facilitation of session 2. Thus, relevant questions on preparatory training were skipped in the survey (Q4 – Q10).

Riga Climate Assembly

Facilitators received pre-assembly training, which they applied in practice. However, their assessments of the training differed: one facilitator rated it moderately useful (2 out of 5), while the other found it extremely useful (5 out of 5). Similarly, the extent to which their facilitation skills improved ranged from moderate (2/5) to considerable (4/5). The differing assessments of the pre-assembly training by the facilitators likely reflect variations in their prior experience, individual learning needs, and the specific challenges they encountered during the facilitation process. The facilitator who rated the training as moderately useful may have already possessed substantial prior experience or found that certain training components were less relevant to their facilitation style. Conversely, the facilitator who rated it as extremely useful may have benefited more directly from the structured guidance, tools, and methodologies introduced. Similarly, the variation in perceived improvement of facilitation skills (from moderate to considerable) suggests that while the training provided a valuable framework for all facilitators, its impact depended on personal baseline skills, confidence levels, and opportunities for practical application during the assembly sessions. The training was described as collaborative, informative, engaging, clear, and inspiring. One facilitator emphasized the interactive and collaborative nature of the sessions, while the other appreciated the motivational structure and clarity of the materials. Based on the responses of the two facilitators, the **training sessions were generally effective in building facilitation-related skills**, with most competencies rated as providing *moderate to good knowledge gains*. Both facilitators indicated moderate improvement in understanding group roles, collaboration, cohesion, and adapting to group needs, though one reported stronger learning outcomes in these areas. In communication skills, they gained good knowledge of clear and inclusive language, while non-verbal communication and active listening were rated as moderately improved. Regarding deliberative practice, one facilitator indicated minimal learning in understanding the purpose, structure, and decision-making methods, while the other reported good knowledge gains, suggesting uneven outcomes across participants. For conflict management, both facilitators reported moderate to good knowledge in identifying conflicts, de-escalation, mediation, and prevention techniques. Overall, the training appeared to enhance facilitation and communication skills, though some areas—particularly understanding of deliberative structures and decision-making—may benefit from further reinforcement. Some key points raised from the open question about missing training sessions (Q10) were the need for an introductory session on the overall concept and process of



climate assemblies, featuring examples and best practices from other countries, as well as a general plan for organizing such assemblies in Latvia and more training about facilitation should be necessary.

4.2.2 Activities indicators

4.2.2.1 Quality of deliberation (deliberation phase)

Edermünde Climate Assembly

Facilitators were asked to assess the extent to which democratic principles—equality, respectful dialogue, reason-giving, open-mindedness, and transparency—were upheld. Two facilitators felt that all principles were followed to a high extent (*a lot*), while the others offered a more mixed assessment. One noted that reason-giving was only partially achieved, due to time limitations, while another felt that respectful dialogue stood out as particularly strong. While no major conflicts erupted, facilitators did identify important underlying tensions that influenced the recommendations produced. For example, one group struggled with questions of citizen responsibility versus state regulation: Should citizens take greater initiative in sustainable development, or should the state impose stricter regulations—even at the cost of personal freedom? The group addressed this dilemma by proposing the establishment of an advice centre (to support citizen initiatives) alongside stronger urban planning restrictions (to avoid sprawl and preserve individual freedom within clear boundaries).

Across the CA, facilitators observed key conflicts and dilemmas, including:

- **The role of the state:** Should it support or steer citizen action?
- **Levels of expected civic engagement:** How much participation can realistically be expected from residents?
- **Cost-sharing and economic burden:** Who should bear the cost of climate adaptation measures—individuals, the municipality, or external actors?
- **Trade-offs in land use:** Balancing green infrastructure with housing needs or reconciling economic development with environmental protection.

These themes were often approached with openness and curiosity rather than confrontation, suggesting a high degree of constructive engagement, even when views diverged.

Facilitators noted a clear evolution in participants' arguments and reasoning over the CA. This was attributed to several factors: the expert presentations, preparatory materials, site visits, and—importantly—the experience of deliberating in a structured, respectful environment. Some participants undertook their own research and grew more confident in articulating their views.

Key developments observed included:

- Increased use of **personal experiences** and examples in arguments.
- Greater effort to **explain reasoning** and consider opposing views.
- A shift from arguing from ideological positions to more **consensus-oriented dialogue**.

Riga Climate Assembly

Both facilitators evaluated the deliberation phase of the Climate Assembly very positively, stating that all key democratic principles—equality, respectful dialogue, reason-giving, open-mindedness, and transparency—were fully respected. They observed that participants felt safe and empowered to express their opinions, supported by clear guidance and a collaborative environment. Both facilitators noted that participants' views evolved throughout the discussions, as access to new information and expert input encouraged reflection and, in some cases, shifts in perspective. This openness to learning and dialogue was seen as a key strength of the deliberative process.

Feedback from participants mainly focused on **wanting more time for discussion and recommendation drafting**, as well as on the value of **interactive exchanges with experts**. No major conflicts occurred, though facilitators occasionally had to remind participants of time limits or keep discussions on track. The most notable differences in opinion emerged around **transportation issues**—particularly attitudes toward reducing car use—and **diverse neighborhood needs across Riga**, which shaped differing priorities and perspectives. One facilitator suggested allowing more time for discussion and group rotation, while the other felt the process worked as intended.

4.2.2.2 Facilitation effectiveness

Edermünde Climate Assembly

Facilitators self-rated their overall team performance as 4 out of 5. Participants' feedback provided to facilitators regarding facilitation, requested at the open question Q19, was overwhelmingly positive. Many citizens expressed appreciation for the structured moderation, fair distribution of speaking time, and overall atmosphere. Facilitators collected various suggestions and feedback from participants. A consistent theme was the request for more time—particularly during the final session. Participants also wanted greater presence of experts and representatives from the municipal administration, both to provide answers and to ensure that recommendations could be grounded in local policy realities. Participants commented positively the excursions and site visits, which helped contextualize discussions. Some suggested embedding these field trips more systematically into the sessions. There were also mixed opinions on the level of expert engagement: while some participants desired more time with experts, others found it sufficient. The capacity of facilitators to summarise discussions and maintain neutrality was expressed in both group and individual feedback.

Recommendations for future facilitation include:

- A **short checklist or set of ground rules** shared among facilitators to align on tone, neutrality, and intervention strategies.
- Ensuring facilitators are trained or briefed on **avoiding unintentional steering** of discussions.
- Budget permitting, involving **an additional facilitator** or logistical assistant to maintain small group sizes and flexibility.
- Maintaining **consistency** in facilitation teams across sessions for relationship-building and smoother group dynamics.
- Fewer topics, with a clearer focus on a specific objective.
- Earlier integration of exercises that surface tensions and trade-offs.



- Stronger presence of local officials, both for informational support and democratic legitimacy.

Riga Climate Assembly

Both facilitators rated the performance of the facilitation team as excellent (5 out of 5), highlighting the smooth conduct of discussions and the effective management of participant engagement. One facilitator noted receiving positive feedback from participants, who appreciated that everyone had the opportunity to speak and that discussions were well supervised. The other facilitator reported not receiving direct feedback but confirmed that the process functioned well overall. Both emphasized that the facilitation contributed to an inclusive and respectful environment where participants could express themselves freely and constructively.

In terms of recommendations for future assemblies, the facilitators:

- suggested providing **clearer initial guidance** on the assembly's procedures and objectives, as this would enhance coordination and ensure consistency from the start
- recommended securing **additional funding** to involve more facilitators and support staff, thereby improving the overall quality and reach of the process
- allowing **more opportunities for participants to interact with experts** was seen as beneficial for deepening understanding and enriching the discussions.

Overall, the facilitators viewed the assembly as a **valuable and well-executed process**, successfully meeting its goals while offering useful insights for refining future editions.

4.3 Participants

As described in section 3, three surveys were distributed to the participants of the Climate Assemblies in Riga and Edermünde. Some questions were included both at the pre- and post-assembly surveys and for the impact of the assembly on participants. In the following subsections the feedback collected from participants is presented for each indicator of input, activities and outcomes as well as the outcomes and impact of each CA will be examined. The number of responders to each survey is shown in table 13.

4.3.1 Input indicators

4.3.1.1 Preparatory material provided to participants

Edermünde Climate Assembly

The responses indicate a generally positive reception of the preparatory process and materials. All participants reported understanding the purpose of the CA from the invitation they received, and all but one stated that they understood the topic of deliberation and the received preparatory material. Most respondents (11 out of 18 people) found the material *"easy enough to understand,"* while four felt *"the context was very clear,"* and only one found them *"slightly understandable."* Most participants (16) felt that the preparatory presented balanced views on the issue under discussion. Similarly, 16 reported that they independently searched additional information on the topic, most commonly via newspapers' websites (9), local websites (8), and personal contacts (6),

with some also turning to social media (5), YouTube (4), or libraries (1). However, when asked whether they were able to request further information from the organizers, only two participants said yes, while 15 said no, and one did not respond. These results suggest that while the core materials were generally accessible and perceived as fair, there may be room to improve channels for participants to actively engage with organizers for further clarification or deeper inquiry.

Riga Climate Assembly

Participants feedback on the preparatory materials provided for the Riga CA indicates a generally positive reception, with some areas for improvement. Nearly all respondents (29 out of 31) stated that the purpose and topic of the assembly were clearly communicated in the invitation. Most participants (30) confirmed they received preparatory materials, and the majority found them accessible: 18 said the materials were *easy enough* to understand, and 6 found the context *very clear*. However, a minority (4 participants) expressed difficulty in comprehension, suggesting that future materials could benefit from simplified language or clearer framing. Regarding content neutrality, 23 participants felt that the materials presented balanced views, though 6 believed otherwise, highlighting the importance of ensuring perceived impartiality. In terms of independent learning, participants were nearly evenly split: 16 searched additional information on their own, mostly via social media, local websites, and newspaper platforms. Notably, 18 participants reported they were able to request further information from organizers, indicating that the process allowed for clarification. These findings suggest that while preparatory materials were largely effective, improvements could be made in terms of clarity and balance, and that the option for participants to seek or request additional information was a valuable aspect of the process.

4.3.1.2 Facilitator preparation and training

Edermünde Climate Assembly

The feedback on facilitation and inclusivity of the CA was largely positive, with most participants (12 out of 18) rating the facilitators as extremely well prepared, and an additional six giving a high or moderate score, indicating strong satisfaction with the facilitation process.

Riga Climate Assembly

The facilitators were almost unanimously applauded for their preparation, with 27 respondents stating they were *extremely well prepared and trained*, and the remaining 4 finding them *well enough prepared*. This strong endorsement suggests that facilitation played a key role in fostering a respectful and inclusive deliberative environment.

4.3.2 Activities indicators

4.3.2.1 Inclusivity and diversity of engagement

Edermünde Climate Assembly

Views on the fairness and representativeness of the selection process were more mixed: while ten participants felt it was conducted in an *adequately unbiased* manner, five expressed lower levels of confidence. Concerns about inclusivity were particularly evident in responses regarding representation. Thirteen participants felt that certain groups—primarily *young people*, particularly those aged *under 30* or *18–40*—were underrepresented. A smaller number (six participants) also



believed that certain groups were overrepresented, naming *people over 60, retirees*, and individuals from the *environmental or "eco" spectrum*. These insights highlight a generally well-executed process in terms of facilitation but also suggest the need for greater attention to demographic balance and diversity in future assemblies. Further information provided from the organisers of Edermünde CA revealed that people between 16 and 25 were invited and received an invitation letter. However, response rates among this group were low and those who had signed up, dropped out last minute. In retrospective more effort should have been put in recruiting young participants (on social media, associations, sports clubs, etc).

Riga CA

Participants feedback regarding inclusivity in the Riga CA was largely positive, though a few concerns were raised. Regarding the selection process, most participants (27 out of 31) perceived it as either *a lot or enough* unbiased and reflective of the wider community, though 4 felt it was only *slightly* so. While 25 respondents did not perceive any underrepresentation, 6 highlighted specific gaps, including the absence of young people, individuals with higher or professional education, entrepreneurs, and socially active middle-aged men. Some also noted that more dynamic or *innovative* voices might have enhanced the dialogue. Overrepresentation was less of a concern, mentioned by 2 participants who pointed to an overrepresentation of pensioners and Russian-speaking individuals.

4.3.2.2 Depth of participant learning

Edermünde Climate Assembly

Participants mentioned that the learning phase supported informed discussion and that the topics covered were appropriate to achieve the CA's objectives, with 14 respondents stating that the coverage helped *a lot* and four saying it was *enough*. This reflects a broad consensus that the materials aligned well with the aims of the deliberation.

When asked whether any relevant viewpoints had been omitted from the learning content, the majority (14 participants) answered *no*, indicating confidence in the comprehensiveness of the information provided. However, 4 participants did identify gaps, highlighting the need for more focus on areas such as *public and non-motorized transport, agriculture, flood protection*, and a more critical perspective on the *global impact of climate adaptation in Germany*. The learning phase also appeared to be effective in preparing participants for deliberation as 17 respondents said the phase enabled them to obtain the necessary knowledge for debate, with *eight* stating it helped *a lot* and 9 responding *enough*. The contribution of invited experts was especially well-regarded, with 15 participants indicating that the experts explained the topics *a lot*, and 3 saying their explanations were *enough*. Similarly, the role of facilitator in explaining the CA process was positively evaluated: 14 participants said the facilitators explained the process *a lot*, and only one participant expressed lower satisfaction in this regard. Regarding clarity and relevance of support materials such as presentations and videos, the majority again responded positively. Twelve participants found the materials mostly clear, and 10 found it *sufficiently relevant* to the topic under discussion. One participant felt that the materials were slightly lacking in clarity or relevance (two participants),



suggesting some variability in engagement or content suitability. Overall satisfaction with the learning phase was strong, with 10 participants rating it as *extremely satisfactory* (5 on a scale of 1–5) and 8 selecting a score of 4. Only one participant gave a middle score (3), and none selected choice 2, indicating a broadly successful experience. In summary, the deliberation phase was well-supported by a structured, informative learning phase that most participants felt was clear, comprehensive, and relevant, enabling effective and inclusive engagement with the complex issues under discussion.

Participants feedback on how to improve the learning phase emphasized two main areas: **time management** and **content balance**. Several participants expressed a desire for *more time*, both for absorbing information and for engaging in discussion, noting that the tight schedule sometimes limited deeper exploration of the topics. Others suggested enhancing the *visual and explanatory quality* of the content, recommending the inclusion of *more videos* or even *video lectures* to aid understanding. A few comments also pointed the importance of ensuring *neutrality* in the presentation of information and the inclusion of *counterarguments* to promote a more balanced and critical perspective. Overall, while satisfaction was high, participants clearly valued opportunities for deeper engagement and a broader range of perspectives.

Riga CA

Participant feedback on the learning phase was largely positive, though a few limitations were noted. Most participants felt that the learning phase helped them acquire sufficient knowledge to engage in deliberations, with 28 out of 31 respondents stating it helped *enough* or *a lot*. Similarly, satisfaction with the overall learning phase was high: 29 participants rated their satisfaction as either 4 or 5 on a 5-point scale. The invited experts were generally seen as effective communicators—26 participants felt the topics were explained *enough* or *a lot*—and the facilitators’ role in clarifying the process received nearly unanimous recognition, with 26 indicating a high level of clarity. The support materials (presentations, videos, etc.) were also well received, with the vast majority finding them both clear and relevant to the deliberation topics. Participants’ opinions about the learning phase were generally positive, with several respondents stating that everything was good or that no improvements were needed (open question Q20). However, others suggested areas for enhancement. Some participants felt that the content could be completer and more focused, noting that certain topics (e.g., transport infrastructure, support programs, or national requirements) were insufficiently covered or unclear. Several participants suggested extending the learning phase to include more expert input, diversifying speakers (including more practitioners and international experts), and ensuring that presentations are clear, simple, and supported by concrete examples. Visual aids—especially maps, statistics, and local data—were proposed to help participants better understand city-specific challenges. A recurring theme was the desire for more interactive and practical elements, such as outdoor activities or hands-on sessions. Some also recommended better audience engagement, shorter or more time-limited presentations, and clearer links between invited experts and the assembly’s goals.

4.3.2.3 Quality of deliberation

Edermünde Climate Assembly

The deliberation phase of the CA was positively evaluated by the participants, who generally found the process clear, inclusive, and conducive to meaningful dialogue. When asked about the clarity of the objectives during the debate sessions, most participants (10 out of 18) responded that the goals were *very clear* while the rest eight felt they were *clear enough*, suggesting that the structure and purpose of the discussions were effectively communicated. In terms of participation, the deliberative environment was perceived as highly inclusive. All but one participant felt they had sufficient opportunities to express their views; with 8 reporting they had *a lot* of opportunity and 9 selecting *enough*. Only one participant indicated that they had *slightly fewer chances to contribute*. Moreover, 17 out of 18 participants agreed that *everyone had the opportunity to speak*, and all of them confirmed that speaking time was *distributed fairly and equally*, indicating strong procedural equity in the discussions.

Participants also expressed a high level of engagement with the issues at hand. Most reported that they held a *strong opinion* on the topic discussed (14 responses), with two indicating a *very strong opinion* and two selecting *moderate opinion*. This suggests that the deliberation phase was successful in stimulating thoughtful and committed reflection among participants, regardless of their initial thoughts/behaviour. The assessment of core deliberative principles revealed very favourable outcomes. On the principle of **equality**, 14 participants stated that it was respected *a lot* and four said *enough*, confirming that differences in social status or background did not hinder participation. **Respectful dialogue** was also highly rated, with 16 participants affirming that it was present *a lot* and only two selecting *enough*. **Reason-giving** and **open-mindedness** were also well-supported, with the majority feeling these were promoted *a lot* (13 and 14 responses respectively), and the rest choosing *enough*. Lastly, the criterion of **transparency** received slightly lower—but still positive—ratings, with 12 respondents stating it was present *a lot*, five selecting *enough*, and one indicating *a little*. Overall, the deliberation phase was perceived as a well-structured and empowering process that supported inclusive, respectful, and reasoned dialogue. Participants had the opportunity to speak and be heard and engaged meaningfully with the topics, enhancing both their understanding and commitment to the CA's objectives. The strong adherence to values of deliberative democracy suggests that the process successfully facilitated collective reasoning and fair participation.

Participants offered several suggestions for improving the deliberation process (open question, Q26), with the most common being the need for **more time**—both in terms of *longer discussions* and the addition of more sessions. Several felt that the tight schedule limited deeper exploration of the issues. Some also highlighted the importance of **group composition and facilitation**, suggesting that *smaller groups with more diverse opinions* would enhance the quality of debate. One participant expressed concern about a facilitator appearing to *steer the group toward a single opinion*, indicating the need to ensure *neutral moderation*. (CLIMAS team communicated with the organisers of the assembly who mentioned that the facilitator was replaced after they received feedback of lacking neutrality). Another suggestion involved improving **room arrangements** to avoid noise and disturbance, recommending *separate spaces for each working group*. Overall, the



feedback points to a desire for more time, space, and diversity to strengthen future deliberative processes.

Riga Climate Assembly

Participants generally found the **debate phase** to be well-structured and inclusive. Most respondents (30 out of 31) agreed that the objectives of the sessions were either *clear enough* or *very clear*. Similarly, 29 participants felt they had sufficient opportunities to express their views during discussions, with 20 saying they had *a lot* of opportunity. The debates appeared to encourage strong engagement, as 25 participants rated their opinions on the topic as *strong* or *very strong*, indicating that the learning phase had successfully laid the groundwork for informed deliberation. While the majority agreed that everyone had a chance to speak (27 out of 31), several respondents highlighted practical challenges. Some respondents noted that although equal opportunities were provided, differences in communication styles and language proficiency affected participation. For instance, sometimes, more extroverted or dominant speakers took up more time, while introverted individuals or those with limited knowledge of the official language found it harder to contribute. The assessment of core deliberative principles revealed highly positive outcomes. On the principle of **equality**, 26 participants stated that it was respected *a lot* and four said *enough*, indicating that differences in social status or background did not hinder participation. **Respectful dialogue** was also highly rated, with 22 participants affirming that it was present *a lot* and nine selecting *enough*, showing that participants engaged courteously and acknowledged one another's perspectives. **Reason-giving** and **open-mindedness** were similarly well-supported, with 21 and 20 respondents respectively stating that these were promoted *a lot*, while 10 in each case felt they were present *enough*. Only one participant rated open-mindedness as *slight*. Lastly, **transparency** received slightly lower—but still positive—ratings, with 21 participants indicating it was evident *a lot*, 6 *enough*, 3 *slightly*, and 1 not answering. Overall, participants expressed a high level of satisfaction with the deliberation process, with many stating that everything was fine and no major improvements were needed (open question Q26). However, several constructive suggestions were made regarding time management and moderation. A recurring theme was the need for more time for discussions. Participants noted that discussions were sometimes constrained by limited time, which reduced opportunities to address complex issues in depth. Some recommended extending the deliberation phase to span several days, allowing participants to discuss and refine proposals more thoroughly. Another frequently mentioned point was the importance of effective moderation. Respondents suggested that moderators could more strictly enforce time limits, ensure discussions stay on topic, and prevent individuals from dominating conversations. Equal speaking time for all and maintaining focus on key issues rather than minor details were emphasized as ways to improve efficiency and fairness. A few participants also highlighted the need for greater respect among participants, noting occasional interruptions and off-topic debates.

4.3.2.4 Diversity of perspectives and solutions explored

Edermünde Climate Assembly



Respondents' feedback on the outcomes of the CA was largely positive, though not without reservations. When asked whether the outcomes represent **diverse viewpoints**, the majority responded affirmatively, with 7 responders selecting 4 and 6 selecting 5 (where 1 means *not at all* and 5 means *extremely effectively*), indicating a strong perception that multiple perspectives were included. However, 4 participants rated this aspect as 3 and 1 as 2, suggesting that for some, the representation of diversity could be further improved. Regarding whether the **final recommendations reflected participant consensus**, responses were even more positive: 8 participants rated this aspect as 5 (*definitely*) and 7 as 4, showing a clear sense of shared agreement on the final proposals. Only 3 participants gave lower ratings (one each for 1, 2, and 3 rate), indicating isolated concerns. Overall, the results suggest that most participants viewed the outcomes as inclusive and reflective of a collective consensus.

Riga Climate Assembly

Inclusivity and legitimacy of the final recommendations were largely affirmed. A clear majority (29 out of 31 respondents) believed that the CA's outcomes represented diverse viewpoints either *enough effectively* (16) or *extremely effectively* (13), indicating strong confidence in the deliberative process to capture a wide range of perspectives. Additionally, most participants agreed that the final recommendations genuinely reflected the group's consensus, with 14 stating they did *enough* and 12 stating they *definitely* did. Only a small minority found the reflection of consensus *moderate* (4) or *slight* (1), and none responded negatively. These responses suggest that the process not only facilitated inclusive dialogue but also successfully translated discussion into shared recommendations. This reinforces the value of well-structured deliberative formats in generating community-supported proposals on complex issues like urban greening. Future CA can build on this positive experience by continuing to ensure clarity, openness, and inclusive participation throughout both the learning and decision-making phases.

4.3.2.5 Facilitation effectiveness

Edermünde Climate Assembly

Participants' evaluation of the facilitators' performance during the CA was highly positive. When asked to rate the **overall performance** of the facilitators, 12 participants gave the highest score of 5, three rated it as 4, and only two as 3 (where 1 means *very poor* and 5 means *excellent*), indicating strong satisfaction with their role and conduct. Regarding **neutrality**, most participants felt that facilitators maintained a fair and unbiased stance: eight rated them as *extremely neutral* (5), four as () 4, and five as () 3, showing general confidence in the facilitators' impartiality, though with some room for improvement. The question of **inclusiveness**—whether facilitators ensured all views were heard—received similarly high marks, with 11 participants responding with a 5 and four selecting 4. Importantly, most participants (12 out of 17) reported **not feeling pressured** to agree with others during discussions, indicating that the environment fostered open and respectful dialogue. However, a small number of participants (3) did report some degree of pressure, suggesting this aspect warrants continued attention. Overall, the facilitators were seen as effective, fair, and instrumental in creating a supportive deliberative environment.

Riga Climate Assembly

The performance of the facilitators during the Riga CA was evaluated positively by participants. Out of 31 respondents, 26 rated the facilitators' **overall performance** as *excellent*, with only four selecting *moderate or good enough*, and no negative evaluations at all. Their **neutrality** was pointed out—27 participants found them to be *extremely neutral*, while four considered them *neutral enough*, indicating strong trust in their impartiality throughout the process. Furthermore, 25 participants believed that facilitators ensured all views were heard *to a great extent*, reinforcing the perception of an **inclusive** and respectful deliberative environment.

However, responses to whether **participants felt pressured** to agree with others' arguments were more mixed. While 13 participants stated they *did not feel pressured at all*, and 7 reported feeling *only slightly* pressured, a small number indicated moderate to high levels of pressure (*4 enough, 5 to a great extent*). This suggests that while facilitation was largely effective and impartial, some participants may have experienced subtle social dynamics that influenced their freedom to dissent. Nonetheless, the facilitators appear to have successfully fostered a constructive, balanced space for discussion and consensus-building.

4.3.3 Outputs indicators

4.3.3.1 Participant experience documentation

Edermünde Climate Assembly

Participants' reflections on the overall experience of the CA highlight a range of personal and collective insights (Q36 – Q41). Although many participants skipped the open question Q36 about changes in land use priorities after the CA, the responses suggest that for some, the CA stimulated a re-evaluation of local land use priorities; with 1 respondent emphasizing a continued focus on affordable housing, 1 participant suggested developing a few new building areas coupled with village renewal, another recommended leaving more space for nature, and yet another mentioned that a better understanding of the connection between sealing and climate impact had influenced their views.

When asked whether they were more likely to take personal or community-level climate action after the CA, 9 participants responded *yes*, while 8 said *maybe* and only 1 responded negatively. This suggests a positive shift in awareness and motivation among most participants.

Key takeaways (open question, Q39) included the recognition that bureaucracy often poses a barrier to action, that densification can help meet housing needs, and that meaningful climate measures must be implemented at national and global levels. Several participants noted a renewed appreciation for democratic participation and civic engagement, expressing that the CA fostered a sense of shared responsibility and demonstrated that many citizens are willing to work toward common goals. Some also acknowledged the importance of academic involvement and external expertise, such as the contribution from the University of Kassel.

Suggestions for improving future CA (open question, Q41) focused largely on providing **more time**—for expert presentations, discussions, and group elaboration. Some participants also suggested reducing the amount of printed material and expanding the thematic scope of the sessions. While several respondents had no further recommendations, overall feedback indicates that the CA was



well received and that its deliberative format encouraged both learning and engagement, with clear potential for refinement and deeper involvement in future iterations.

Riga Climate Assembly

Overall, a generally positive and engaged feeling about their experience was expressed by the participants. A significant majority (26 out of 31) found the CA either *enough* or *extremely useful* for understanding and critically reflecting on climate issues specific to Riga. Similarly, 26 participants reported feeling *enough* or *very confident* in contributing to community discussions or decisions on climate topics following the CA. Although only 12 participants explicitly stated they would take personal or community action on climate change, a large portion (18) indicated they *might*, suggesting the CA succeeded in potential motivation for future engagement. Despite the survey being extensive and completed at the end of the final session, most participants responded to the open-ended question Q39 on valuable takeaways, reflecting both personal insights and collective motivation. Many emphasized a strengthened sense of responsibility and civic engagement, noting that individuals can and should take an active role in improving their local environment and influencing city decisions. Several appreciated learning about Riga's future plans, ongoing initiatives, and where to seek support for greening and sustainability efforts. Others valued the exchange of ideas, networking opportunities, and the realization that collaboration and mutual respect are key to addressing environmental challenges. A few respondents highlighted the importance of listening to diverse perspectives and preparing well-informed contributions. Overall, participants described the assembly as a meaningful and inspiring experience that reinforced the importance of community participation, cooperation, and shared responsibility for Riga's sustainable future. Participants also offered constructive suggestions for improving future assemblies (open question Q41). Many advocated for a longer, more reflective format spread over additional days, allowing more time for idea development and deeper discussions. Several proposed holding sessions outdoors in warmer weather, incorporating more experts, and focusing on concrete, localized issues like transportation or green infrastructure. Others emphasized procedural improvements, such as clearer organization, more focused facilitation, and opportunities for participants to submit individual written proposals without time pressure. While some suggested reducing non-essential elements like food or entertainment, others mentioned the current format as well-structured and professional. Overall, participants valued the CA highly and expressed a desire to see this activity refined and continued.

4.3.4 Outcomes and impact

4.3.4.1 Edermünde Climate Assembly Pre-assembly survey

The questionnaire was distributed in printed form, and twenty-eight answers were received (all of the participants at the 1st session of the CA). The age and gender distribution are presented in figure 6. Age distribution shows a broader engagement of older participants (no citizens below the age of 25 participated in the assembly) while the gender balance was fulfilled. One participant didn't



provide demographic information. A further explanation about the absence of young people at the Edermünde CA is given in section 4.1.2.1.

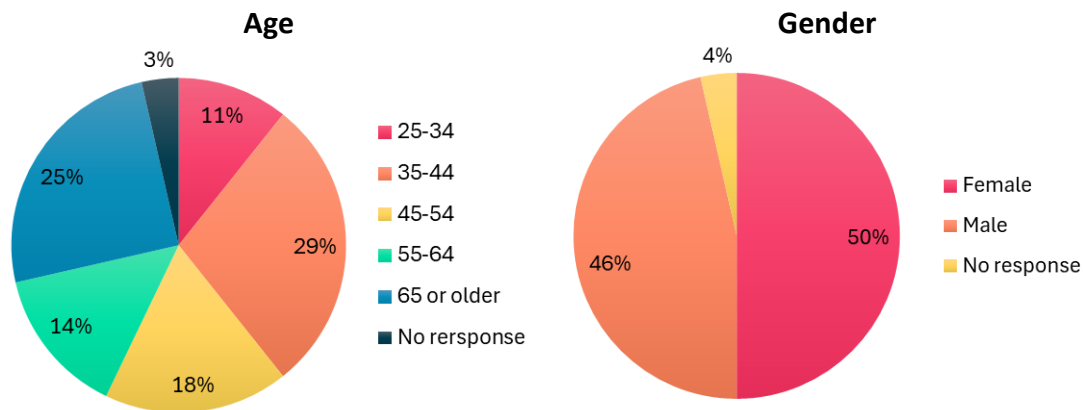


Figure 6. Demographic data of responders at the pre-assembly survey (Edermünde CA).

The responses reveal significant variation in the level of trust placed in different sources of information about climate change (figure 7). **Science and research** stand out as the most trusted source, with most respondents expressing *general* (15) or *full* trust (7) and none selecting *no trust at all*. In contrast, **politics** is the least trusted source, with 27 out of 28 respondents expressing low levels of trust (scores 1–3) and no one indicating general or full trust. **Environmental organizations** and **friends and family** received more balanced responses, leaning toward moderate to high trust, while **news media** tended toward lower trust, though a few still expressed moderate confidence. **Social media** was generally distrusted, with 25 out of 28 selecting the lowest trust levels (1 or 2), highlighting a general scepticism for this source. Overall, the data underscores a strong reliance on scientific information and personal networks, and a marked distrust in political and social media channels.

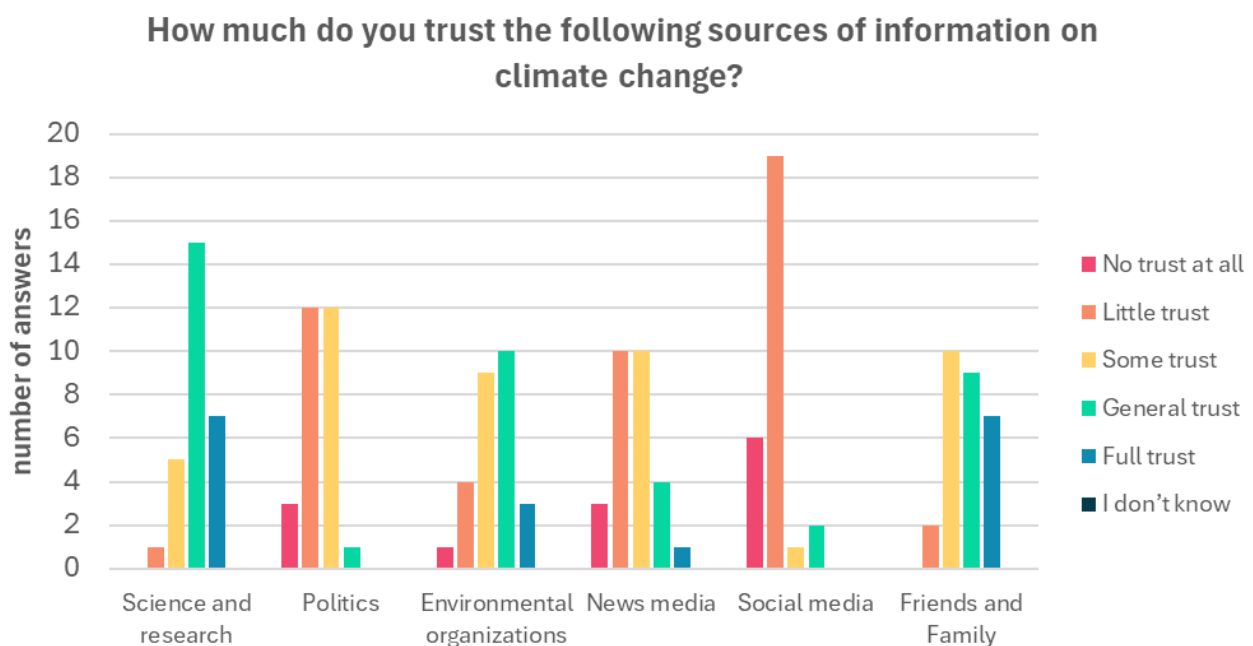


Figure 7. Respondents level of trust in different sources of information (Edermünde CA pre-assembly survey).

The responses to the question "Are you aware of any local policies aimed at combatting climate change?" indicate a generally low level of public awareness (Figure 8). A substantial 61% of participants reported being not very aware, and 21% said they are not aware at all. Only 18% described themselves as somewhat aware, and notably, no respondents reported being very aware. This suggests that local climate policy communication may be insufficient or ineffective, leaving a large portion of the public uninformed. The data highlights a critical need for clearer, more accessible dissemination of information about local climate initiatives to improve civic engagement and policy support.

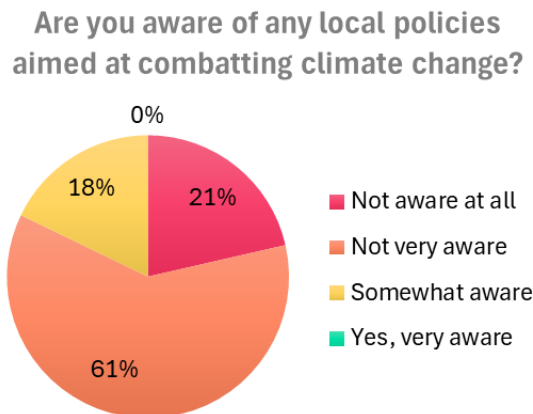


Figure 8. Responses regarding the awareness of local policies on climate change (Edermünde CA pre-assembly survey).

4.3.4.2 Impact of the Edermünde CA on participants

Figure 9 compares participants' levels of concern about the personal effects of climate change before and after the CA. Before the CA, a significant portion (42.86%) already reported being *very concerned*, with only 10.71% expressing *little concern* and 3.57% stating they were *not at all concerned*. A small group (3.57%) was unsure. Following the CA, the level of concern increased: no participants reported being *not at all concerned*, and the proportion of those *very and extremely concerned* changed from 64.29% to 66.66%. The share of participants expressing only *little or somewhat* concern remained relatively stable. Overall, the post-CA results suggest an increasing sense of personal awareness and urgency regarding climate change among participants.

How concerned are you about the possible effects of climate change on you personally?

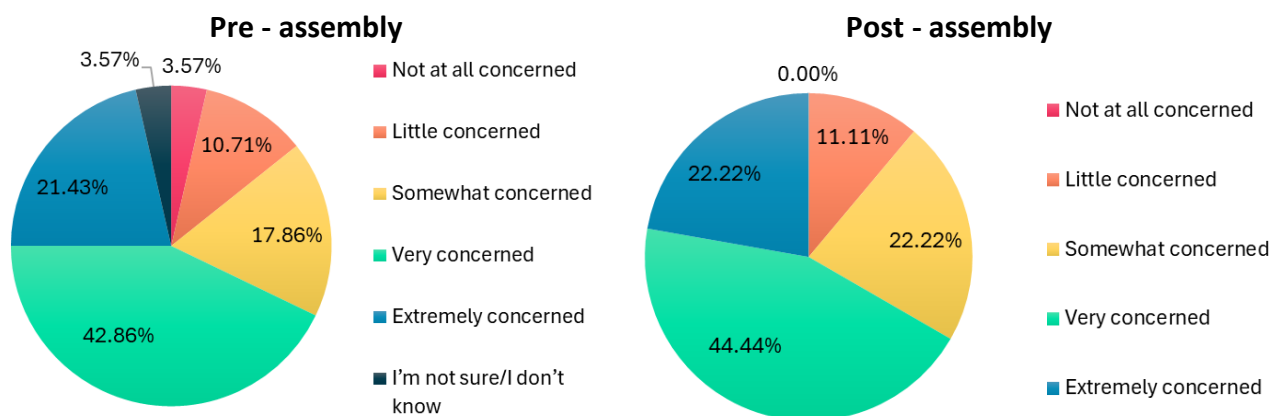


Figure 9. Respondents concern regarding personal effects of climate change (Edermünde CA pre- and post-assembly surveys).



The comparison between pre- and post- CA responses to the question *How affected do you see your city from the effects of climate change?* reveals a slight shift in perception (Figure 10). Before the CA 37.04% of respondents (27 responses), considered their city *very affected*, 33.33% *somewhat affected*, 18.52% *little affected*, and 11.11% *not sure/don't know*. No one chose *extremely affected*. After the CA (17 responses), 41.18% said *very affected*, 41.18% *somewhat affected*, 11.76% *little affected*, and 5.88% *extremely affected*, while *not at all affected* and *not sure* received 0%. These results suggest a consolidation of views: uncertainty decreased, and more participants shifted to clearer positions. The number of those seeing their city as *very* or *somewhat affected* remained strong, showing continued concern.

In the post-CA survey, participants were asked to what extent their understanding of climate change impacts had changed because of participating in the CA (Figure 11). The majority reported at least some level of change: 38.9% (7 responders) said their understanding had *somewhat changed*, 33.3% (6 responders) said it had *very much changed*, and 5.6% (1 responder) said it had *significantly changed*. Only 5.6% (1 responder) reported that their understanding had changed *a bit*, while 16.7% (3 responders) stated that their understanding had *not at all changed*. These results suggest that the CA was effective in improving climate literacy for most, though a small portion of participants did not perceive a shift in their understanding.

How affected do you see your city from the effects of climate change (e.g. heavy floodings or extreme heat)?

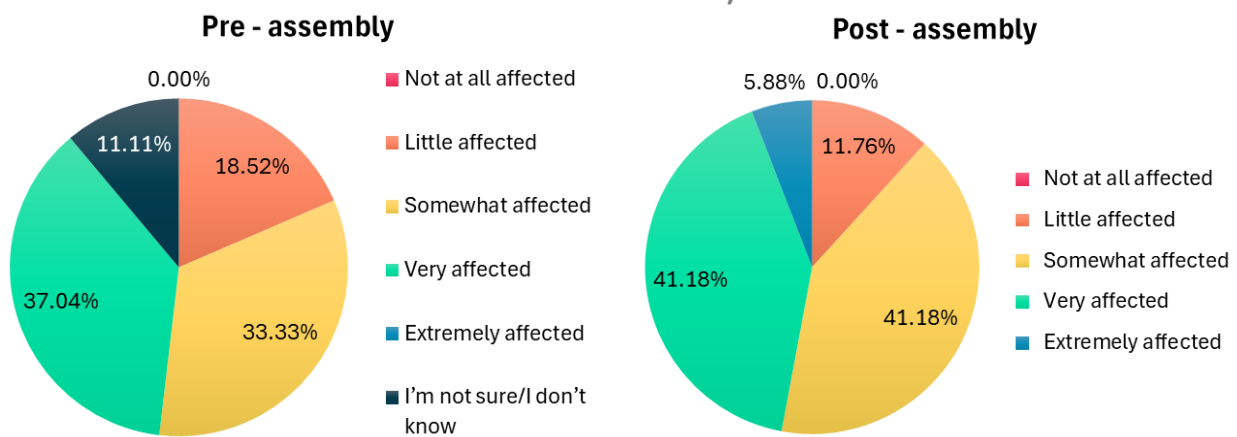


Figure 10. Respondents concern regarding climate change effects on Edermünde (pre- and post-assembly surveys).

To what extent do you feel your understanding of climate change impacts has changed as a result of your participation in this assembly?

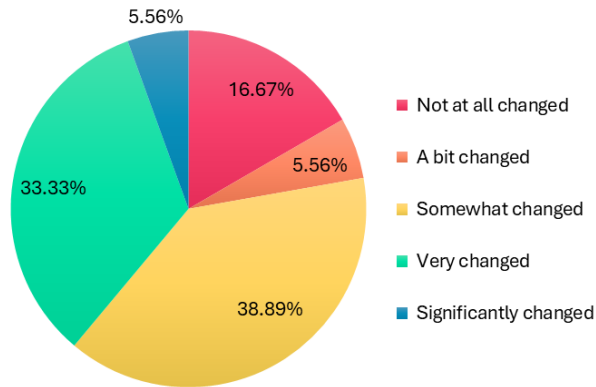


Figure 11. Respondents’ changes in understanding climate change impacts (post-assembly survey CA Edermünde).

The responses to the question *How useful did you find this assembly in helping you understand and think critically about climate issues in Edermünde?* indicate a highly positive assessment (Figure 12). None of the participants rated the CA as *not at all useful* or slightly useful. Only 11.11% (2 respondents) rated it as *moderately useful*, while the majority found it very beneficial: 38.89% of responders selected *very useful* and 50% chose *extremely useful*. These results suggest that the CA was broadly effective in enhancing participants’ understanding and encouraging critical reflection on climate issues.

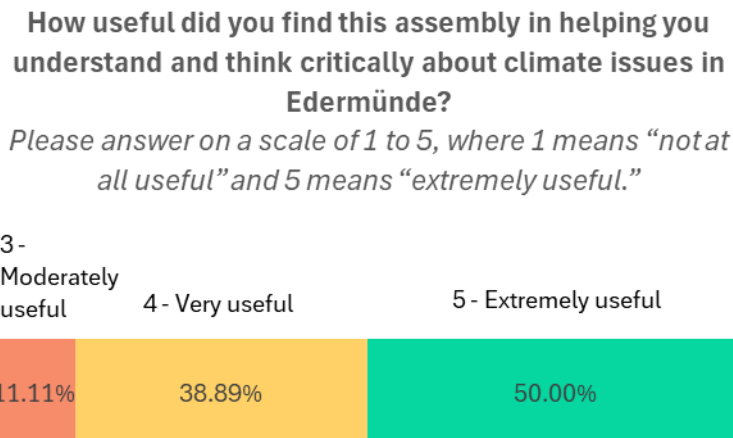


Figure 12. Responses regarding critical thinking about climate issues in Edermünde.

Medium-term impact of CA

A total of 24 participants completed the 6-months post-assembly survey, providing valuable insights into the medium-term impacts of their participation in the Edermünde CA. The responses suggest that participants remain highly aware of climate issues and generally view the assembly experience as both informative and empowering.

Concern and Awareness: Most respondents reported being *very* (50.00%) or *extremely concerned* (12.50%) about climate change (Figure 13a). For the majority, their level of concern has remained the same (67.00%) or increased (33.00%) since the assembly, indicating sustained engagement with the topic.



Knowledge, Understanding, and Empowerment: When asked to reflect on specific learning and empowerment outcomes, participants *generally agreed* or *strongly agreed* that they now feel more informed about climate change and better understand the complexities of climate policymaking. They also *strongly agree* with the idea that citizen participation is essential in shaping climate policies (50.00%, figure 13b). Regarding personal empowerment, most participants indicated that the assembly encouraged them to take climate-related actions in their daily lives (58.33% *strongly agree* and 12.50% *agree*). About half of the respondents reported having changed their personal habits or lifestyle as a result of the assembly—mainly through reduced energy and water use, less lawn mowing, garden redesign, or adopting sustainable transport choices.

Engagement and Activities: In terms of community engagement, many participants said they had shared knowledge about climate change with friends or family, while a smaller number had attended climate-related events or joined local sustainability initiatives. Around half of respondents reported occasional contact with other participants or organisers, suggesting a moderate level of continued networking.

Voice and Impact: Perceptions of the deliberative process remained positive as most respondents felt their voices were *mostly* (16.67%) or *somewhat* (33.33%) heard during the assembly, and a few (20.83%) noted that they had observed local initiatives or policy discussions aligning with the assembly’s recommendations.

Key takeaways: The most lasting takeaways mentioned included an enhanced understanding of climate challenges, recognition of the complexity of climate issues, bureaucratic obstacles, and the value of collaboration and deliberation, and a personal commitment to sustainable behaviour.

Overall Assessment: The findings demonstrate that the CA had a meaningful and enduring impact—enhancing participants’ knowledge, and willingness to act and engage on climate issues well beyond the event itself.

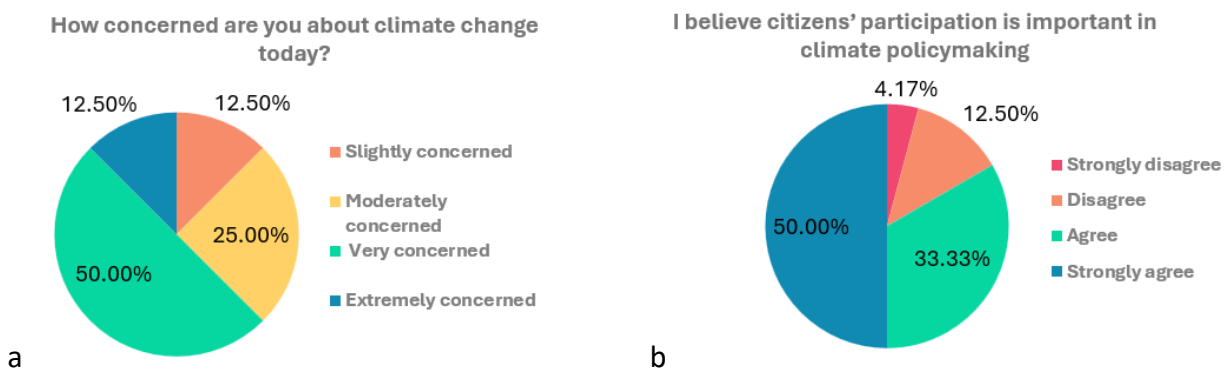


Figure 13. Responses received to the 6-months post-assembly survey distributed to the Edermünde CA participants.

4.3.4.3 Riga Climate Assembly Pre-assembly survey

The Riga CA achieved a relatively balanced gender distribution (18 female and 16 male participants) and included a broad age spectrum. While younger citizens (under 35) were less represented—only 9 responders—there was strong representation from the 35–64 age range, with 19 responders falling into this group. Six participants were aged 65 or older (Figure 14).

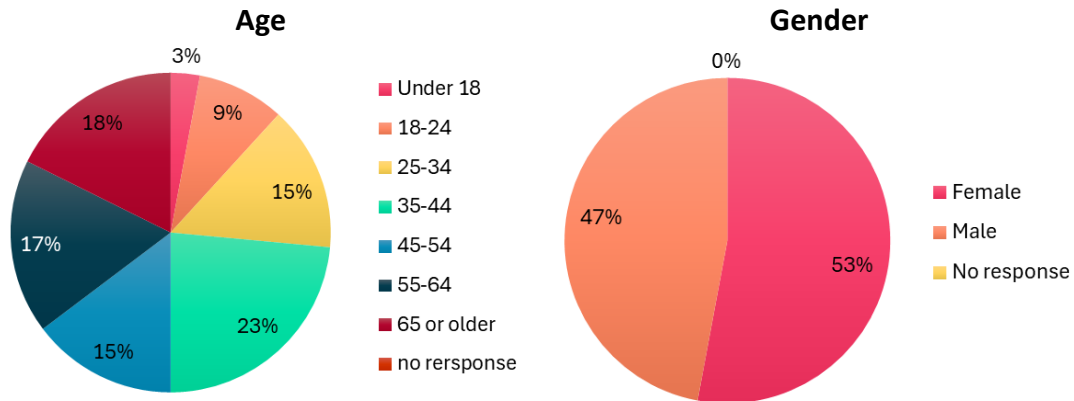


Figure 14. Demographic data of respondents at the pre-assembly survey (Riga CA).

Regarding climate policy awareness, responses were spread across the spectrum: 16 responders reported being *not very* or *not at all* aware, while 18 indicated some or *high awareness* (Figure 15). This suggests that climate assemblies can play a crucial role in raising awareness and closing knowledge gaps at the local level.

Are you aware of any local policies aimed at combatting climate change?

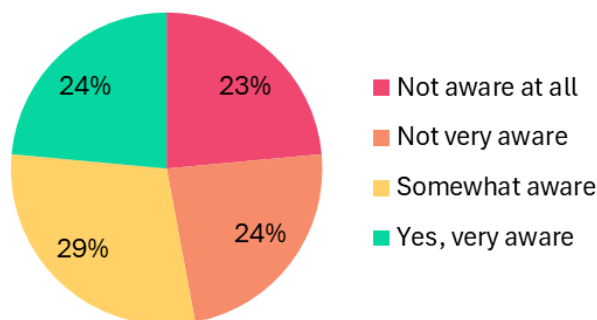


Figure 15. Responses regarding the awareness of local policies on climate change (Riga CA pre-assembly survey).

Trust in sources of information on climate change varied significantly. Overall, scientific sources were most trusted, with 21 responders expressing *general* or *full* trust, highlighting science’s strong credibility. In contrast, political sources were met with considerable scepticism: 18 participants indicated *no* or *little* trust in politics as a source of climate information. Environmental organizations enjoyed relatively high levels of trust, while traditional and social media ranked lower, reflecting broader concerns over misinformation. Friends and family were moderately trusted, suggesting the influence of peer networks in shaping climate perceptions (Figure 16).

How much do you trust the following sources of information on climate change?

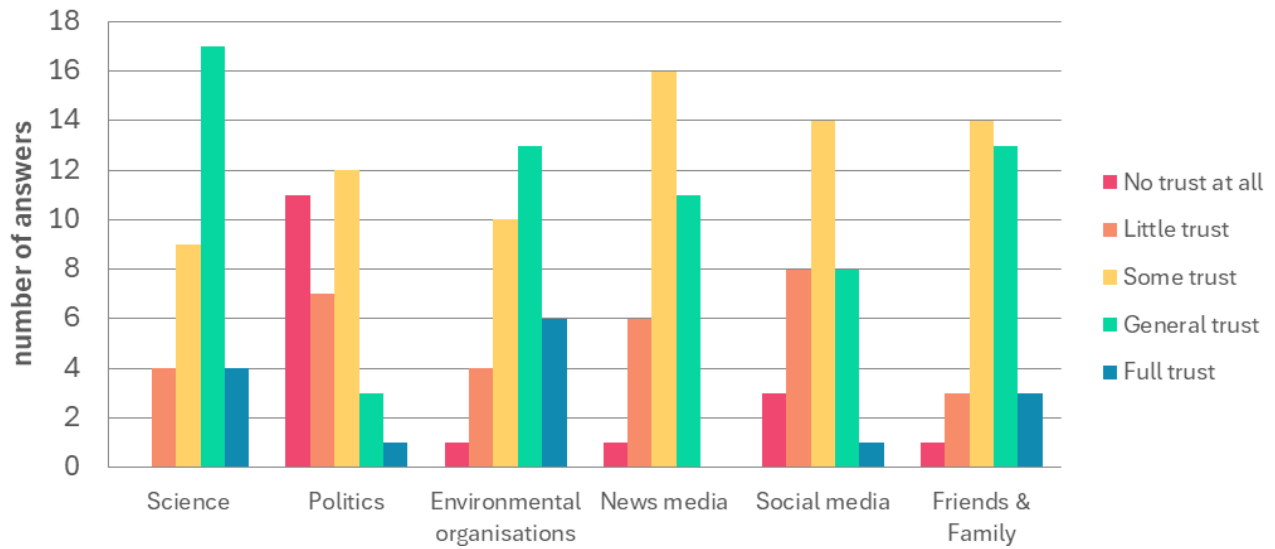


Figure 16. Respondents level of trust in different sources of information (Riga CA pre-assembly survey).

The survey revealed diverse perceptions about the challenges associated with urban greening (Figure 17). When asked to assess the importance of key concerns—water consumption, space constraints, inclusivity of green areas, and implementation and maintenance costs—most respondents rated space constraints, inclusivity, and cost as either *quite* or *extremely* important. Inclusivity of green areas and implementation costs were considered *extremely important* by 13 and 10 respondents respectively, suggesting a strong awareness of social and financial equity in greening strategies. In contrast, water consumption received lower urgency, with more varied responses and only 11 participants rating it as *extremely important*, indicating it may be perceived as a secondary issue in Riga’s context.

How would you characterize the below challenges about urban greening plans in the city of Riga in terms of importance?

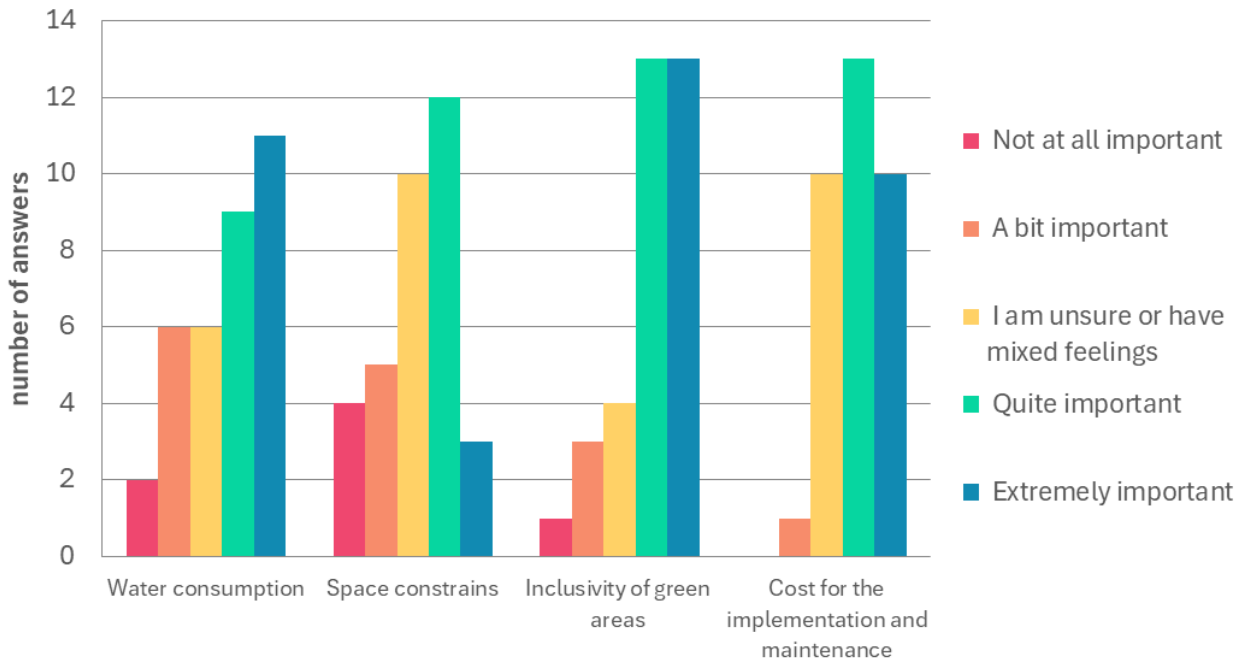


Figure 17. Responses regarding challenges about urban greening plans in Riga.

4.3.4.4 Impact of the Riga CA on participants

The comparison between pre- and post-assembly responses shows a notable shift in participants’ concern about the personal effects of climate change (Figure 18). Before the assembly, nearly half (about 47%) reported being *not at all* or *only slightly concerned*, while just under 47% identified as *very* or *extremely concerned*. After the assembly, concern levels clearly increased: no participants reported being *not at all concerned*, and the proportion of those *extremely concerned* more than doubled (from 8.82% to 22.58%). Additionally, the emergence of the *somewhat concerned* category (22.58%) suggests that the CA helped raise awareness and prompt reflection among previously less-engaged individuals. Overall, the data indicates that participation in the CA enhanced personal awareness of climate risks.

How concerned are you about the possible effects of climate change on you personally?

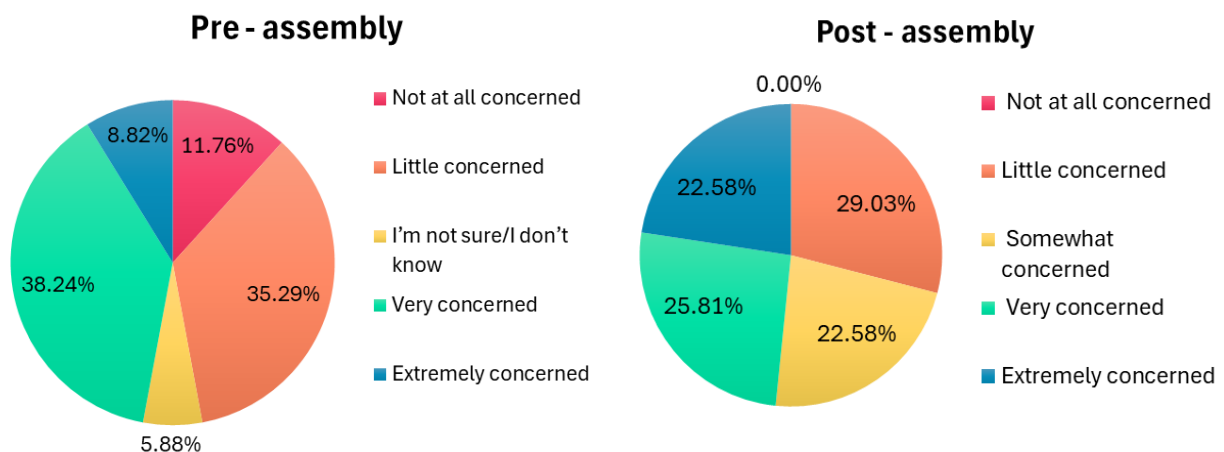


Figure 18. Respondents concern regarding personal effects of climate change (Riga CA pre- and post-assembly surveys).



The shift in responses to the question about how affected participants believe their city to be by climate change reveals a clear increase in awareness following the CA (Figure 19). Before the CA, about 24% of respondents felt Riga was *little or not at all affected*, and 20.59% were *unsure*. After the CA, none of the participants indicated that the city was *not at all or little affected*. Instead, perceptions concentrated around stronger concern: nearly 45.16% considered the city *somewhat* and 38.71% *very affected*, while 16.13% saw it as *extremely affected*—the same proportion as before, but now within a more clearly engaged group. This suggests that the CA contributed to a more informed and focused understanding of the local impacts of climate change.

How affected do you see your city from the effects of climate change (e.g. heavy floodings or extreme heat)?

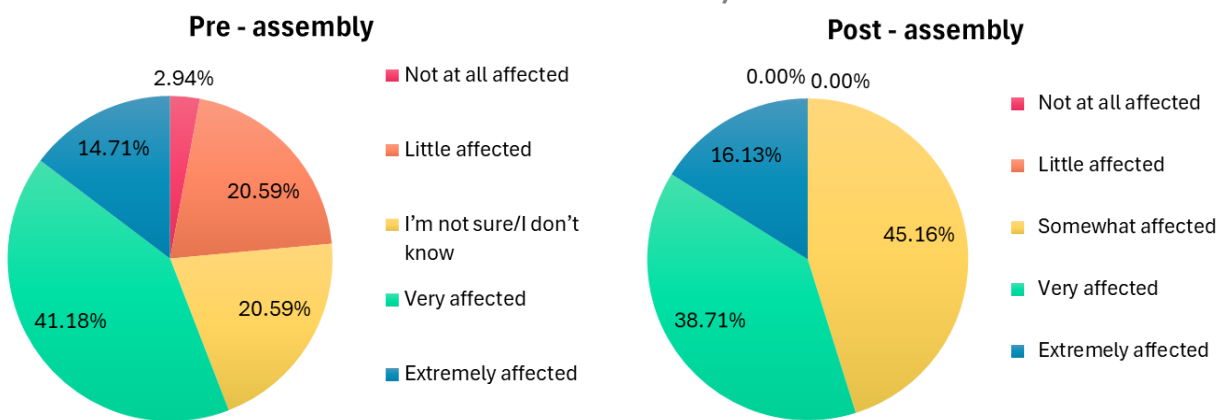


Figure 19. Respondents concern regarding climate change effects on Riga (pre- and post-assembly surveys).

The responses to the post-CA question on how participants' understanding of climate change impacts had changed indicate a generally positive shift in awareness (Figure 20). While a small portion (12.90%) felt their understanding had *not at all* changed, the majority reported at least some degree of increased understanding: 19.35% said it had changed *a bit*, 29.03% *somewhat*, 29.03% *very*, and 9.68% *significantly*. These results suggest that the CA was effective in deepening participants' knowledge, with nearly 70% experiencing a moderate to significant improvement in their understanding of climate change impacts.

To what extent do you feel your understanding of climate change impacts has changed as a result of your participation in this assembly?

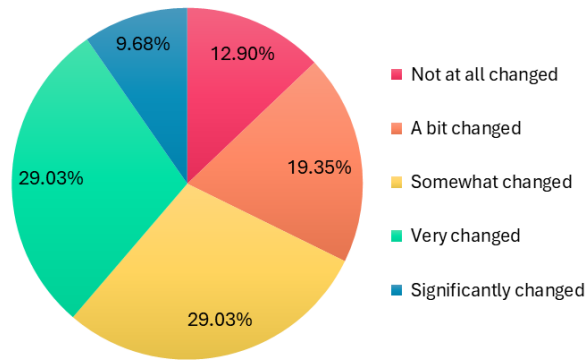


Figure 20. Respondents' changes in understanding climate change impacts (post-assembly survey CA Riga).

Most participants found the CA to be a valuable learning experience in helping them understand and think critically about climate issues in Riga (Figure 21). While only one respondent (3.23%) found it *not at all useful* and none rated it as *slightly useful*, a combined 83.87% considered it *very or extremely useful*. Specifically, 35.48% rated it a 4 and 48.39% gave it the highest rating of 5. These results indicate that the CA was largely successful in enhancing participants' awareness and critical thinking on local climate challenges.

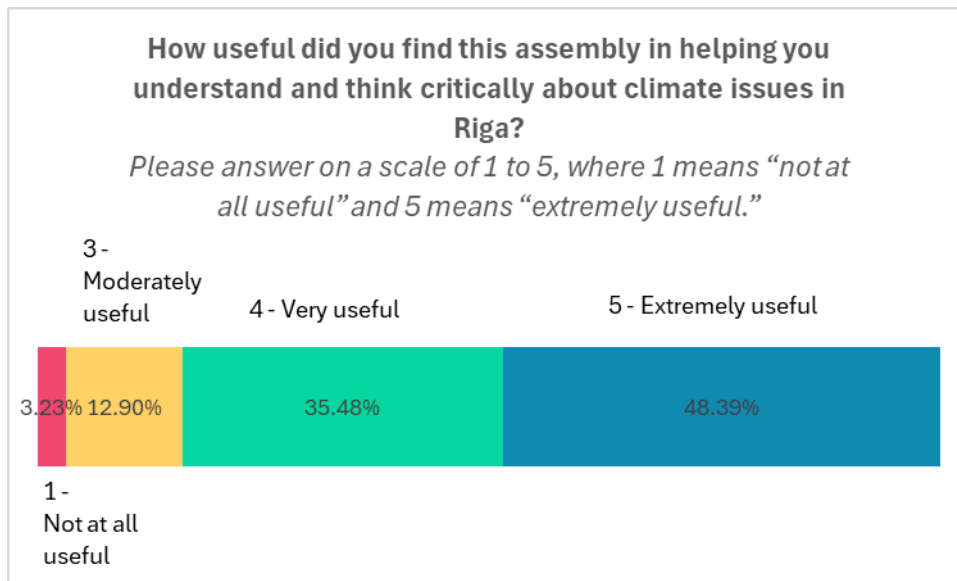


Figure 21. Responses regarding critical thinking about climate issues in Riga.

Medium-term impact of CA

A total of 18 participants completed the 6-months post-assembly survey, providing valuable insights into the medium-term impacts of their participation in the Riga Climate Assembly. The responses indicate that participants remain concerned about climate change and generally view the assembly as an informative, motivating, and empowering experience that enhanced both their knowledge and sense of civic involvement.

Concern and Awareness: Participants remain largely concerned about climate change, with most reporting moderate to high levels of concern (Figure 22a). A majority indicated that their concern

has stayed the same since the assembly (72.22%), while some became more aware of climate risks. The assembly appears to have strengthened understanding of climate change and its complexities, particularly regarding urban planning, green spaces, and policy challenges.

Knowledge, Understanding, and Empowerment: Most participants feel more informed about climate change and report a better understanding of climate policy decisions. They *strongly agree* on the importance of citizen participation (44.44%, Figure 22b) and feel moderately to highly empowered to take personal actions and engage in community initiatives. Reported lifestyle changes include walking more, choosing greener foods, recycling, and reducing resource use.

Engagement and Activities: The most common post-assembly activity mentioned was sharing knowledge with family and friends. Fewer participants engaged in contacting policymakers, joining environmental groups, or attending events. Some maintained occasional contact with other participants or organizers, while a few have regular interactions.

Voice and Impact: Most participants felt their voices were *somewhat* (27.78%) to *mostly* (27.78%) heard during the assembly. Few (35.00%) observed local policy changes directly linked to assembly recommendations, though some noted minor initiatives such as greening bus stops and cleaning local rivers. Participants emphasized the assembly's value in fostering understanding of collective action, civic influence, and practical insights into environmental protection.

Key Takeaways: Participants reported gaining awareness of the diversity of urban green spaces, the potential for ordinary people to influence environmental decisions, and the importance of collaboration and deliberation. Many appreciated the opportunity to learn from experts and engage in structured discussions, discovering both personal and collective agency in addressing climate challenges.

Recommendation to Others: Most participants (15 out of 18) would recommend the climate assembly to others, reflecting a strong positive perception of its value, while a small number (3 out of 18) responded *maybe*, indicating some hesitation.

Suggestions for Improvement: Participants suggested more practical exercises, increased opportunities for active expression, closer collaboration with experts and civil servants, and careful participant selection to ensure diversity and language skills. Logistical improvements included shorter sessions, splitting groups by transport needs, and choosing more engaging venues. Some also highlighted the value of adding more greenery and fostering a lively, inspiring environment.

Overall Assessment: The assembly has had a lasting effect on awareness, knowledge, and informal engagement, particularly through knowledge sharing and reflection on systemic challenges. While direct policy impact is limited, participants feel motivated, informed, and more capable of taking both personal and collective action. The feedback underscores the importance of interactive, inclusive, and well-structured assemblies to maintain engagement and maximize impact.

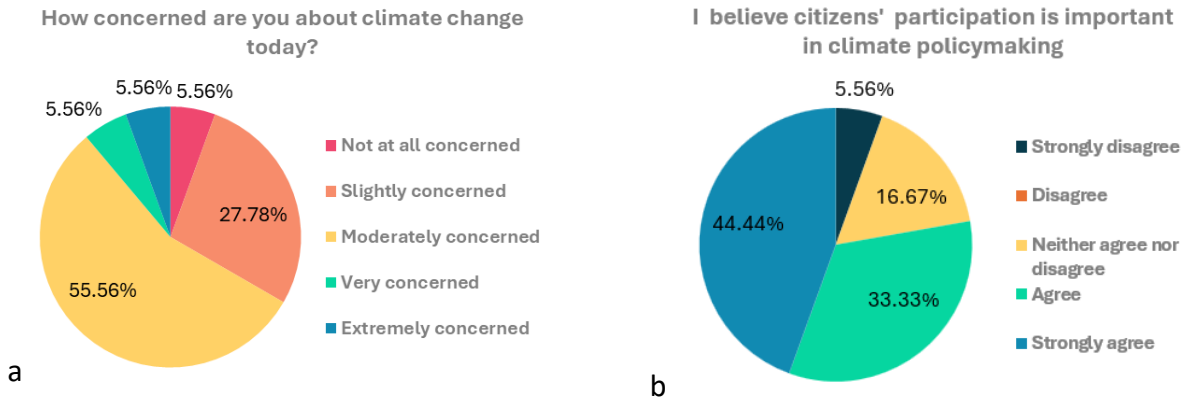


Figure 22. Responses received to the 6-months post-assembly survey distributed to the Riga CA participants.

4.4 Experts

A total of 6 experts provided feedback on their participation in the Riga CA, offering valuable insights into the communication, structure, and effectiveness of their involvement. While two experts only responded to the initial closed-ended questions (Q1–Q6), the remaining ones shared open reflections that shed light on both the strengths and potential areas for improvement in future assemblies.

4.4.1 Preparation and Communication

Edermünde Climate Assembly

Experts regarded their overall experience in their feedback as positive though they identified several areas for improvement. They considered the goals of the CA *somewhat clear* indicating a need for more transparent and comprehensive communication from organizers prior to the event. While most felt they received *mostly adequate* information about the session format, some pointed out contradictions and a lack of clarity regarding their role and the expectations for their presentations.

Riga Climate Assembly

The objectives of the assembly were generally communicated effectively. Three experts rated them as *very clear* while the other three found them *somewhat clear*. This indicates that while the overall purpose was understood, some experts may have benefitted from additional clarification in advance. Regarding session format and logistical preparation, 5 out of 6 experts rated the information as *completely adequate*, and one rated it as *mostly adequate*. This suggests a strong level of pre-event organization and clear guidance from the coordinating team.

4.4.2 Presentation and Interaction

Edermünde Climate Assembly

Time constraints emerged as a consistent concern, with two out of three experts that responded stating they had *insufficient* time to present their material effectively. Despite these limitations, experts noted a high level of engagement from the audience, describing participants as *very*



engaged or *somewhat engaged*, and found the discussions that followed their presentations to be at least somewhat meaningful.

Riga Climate Assembly

All experts found the time allocated for their presentations to be either *sufficient* or *very sufficient*. Nevertheless, 1 expert noted that fitting a complex topic into 15 minutes was challenging and appreciated the flexibility from organizers in allowing them to slightly exceed the allotted time. The audience engagement was also highly rated: 5 experts considered participants to be *very engaged*, and one expert selected *somewhat engaged*. Post-presentation discussions and questions were perceived as *very meaningful* by 3 experts, and *somewhat meaningful* or *neutral* by the rest. Regarding challenges and opportunities, only one expert pointed a challenge during the process: the format for post-presentation Q&A using written questions on slips of paper, which limited their ability to respond to most queries. Another expert acknowledged the difficulty of simplifying a complex topic within a short timeframe but appreciated the supportive environment.

4.4.3 Reflection and Suggestions

Edermünde Climate Assembly

The **most rewarding aspect** for the experts was the opportunity to interact directly with citizens, witnessing their commitment, curiosity, and active participation. This interaction was seen as both enriching and insightful. However, several challenges were reported, including the difficulty of conveying complex topics to a diverse audience within strict time limits, especially when managing questions from older participants or addressing disruptive individuals. To better support expert contributions in future CA, **suggestions** included providing more detailed and timely information about the meeting structure and expectations to allow for adequate preparation. All three experts expressed a willingness to participate again, viewing the experience as fulfilling or worthwhile, underlining the value of such participatory formats when well-supported and clearly organized.

Riga Climate Assembly

The experts highlighted various **rewarding experiences**, including:

- Educating the public and have an impact on the CA's final recommendations,
- Translating forest management insights into meaningful contributions,
- Seeing their presentation inspire direct community action, such as the creation of a city meadow.

Two experts provided **suggestions for future CA**. One proposed incorporating dialogue among experts with differing views to enrich the discussion. Another highlighted the format and execution, simply encouraging organizers to *keep it up*. As for their willingness to participate again in a CA, all four experts who responded to this question expressed positive thoughts, mentioning reasons such as the importance of meaningful dialogue, personal interest and availability, and general enthusiasm for the process. Final remarks were overwhelmingly positive. Experts commended the high quality of organization, the media coverage, and the overall impact of the event. Comments



such as *Well-done* and *Looking forward to the next assembly* reflected a strong sense of satisfaction and support for continuing this format.

4.5 Observers

Two observers of the **Edermünde CA** from the Academia, participated at the first and the second session of the CA respectively (both at plenary meetings and the small group discussions), completed the online survey. Overall, the observers expressed highly positive impressions of the Climate Assembly. They rated the organization as *excellent* and found the purpose of the event *completely clear*, indicating that the assembly's goals and structure were well communicated and effectively implemented. The most positive aspects highlighted were the *open, factual, and friendly communication* among participants, as well as their *strong commitment and engagement* throughout the process. Observers also appreciated the *openness of political representatives*, which contributed to an atmosphere of mutual respect and constructive dialogue. Only minor issues were noted, such as the presence of one participant who had not attended the previous session and was critical without contributing, but this was seen as an isolated incident that did not detract from the overall success of the assembly.

Three observers of the **Riga CA** responded to the online survey however only two of questionnaires were valid and finally only one answered all the questions. So, the feedback described below is based on the one observer that completed the survey, who observed only the final session (plenary session as well as small group discussions). The reason for his/her interest in observing the Climate Assembly was professional — it represented a new method of participation in Riga. The observer's overall impression of the Climate Assembly was highly positive. The organization was rated as *excellent*, and the purpose of the event was considered *mostly clear*. The most appreciated aspect was the *focus of participants on community involvement*, with many recommendations centred on ways to engage citizens in improving their local environment. The observer noted that the process appeared to *strengthen participants' sense of belonging and understanding* of how to contribute to positive change in their surroundings. No problematic or less effective aspects were identified, indicating a smooth and successful implementation of the assembly.

4.5.1 Inclusivity and diversity of engagement

Edermünde Climate Assembly

Observers generally perceived the Climate Assembly as *moderately inclusive and fairly representative*. While one observer was unsure about the overall diversity of participants, another considered the group *somewhat representative* of the wider society, suggesting room for broader demographic balance. The discussions during the first two sessions were described as *mostly inclusive*, with participants largely able to share their views equally, while inclusivity in the third session was not assessed. Observers also agreed that participants were provided with *adequate and well-prepared information* to support informed decision-making, contributing to meaningful and balanced exchanges among participants.

Riga Climate Assembly



The observer perceived the Climate Assembly as *somewhat representative* of the wider community, suggesting that while there was a degree of diversity among participants, it may not have fully reflected the broader population. An assessment of the inclusivity of discussions for Session 5 was not provided and she/he was uncertain about whether participants had sufficient information to make fully informed decisions.

4.5.2 Quality of deliberation

Edermünde Climate Assembly

The deliberative process of the Climate Assembly was assessed very positively by the observers. The facilitators were described as *extremely effective* in leading the discussions, ensuring that debates remained *fully focused* on the assigned tasks and maintaining a *constructive and respectful atmosphere* throughout. The *time allocated for deliberation* was considered *sufficient* for the complexity of the topics discussed. The *experts' profiles and presentations* were also characterised as being *highly suitable, clear, and relevant*, effectively supporting participants' understanding and enriching the discussions. While one observer noted that the informational materials were only *somewhat understandable* in the first session, they were found to be *very clear and accessible* in the following one.

Riga Climate Assembly

The observer assessed the quality of deliberation in the Climate Assembly positively. The *time allocated for deliberation* was considered *sufficient* for addressing the complexity of the topics discussed. The *experts' profiles* were viewed as *mostly suitable* for responding to participants' questions, indicating that their contributions supported an informed and balanced dialogue. Although several aspects—such as the clarity of expert presentations, the accessibility of materials, and the management of potential tensions—were not assessed, the available feedback points to a well-organized and competently facilitated deliberative process.

4.5.3 Diversity of perspectives and solutions explored

Edermünde Climate Assembly

One observer felt unable to assess the level of information behind the recommendations, while the other considered them *mostly well-informed*, suggesting that participants had developed their proposals through a solid understanding of the topics discussed. In terms of impact, the likelihood of the recommendations being *implemented by policymakers* was seen as *rather likely* by one observer, indicating cautious optimism about the assembly's potential to influence decision-making.

Riga Climate Assembly

The observer considered the recommendations produced by the Citizens' Climate Assembly to be *mostly well-informed*, reflecting thoughtful discussion and a solid understanding of the issues addressed. Participants appeared to base their proposals on relevant information and deliberation, suggesting that the outcomes were grounded in reasoned judgment. Regarding their potential



impact, the observer viewed the *likelihood of implementation by policymakers as somewhat likely*, indicating that the assembly's outcomes could contribute meaningfully to local climate action.

4.5.4 Facilitation effectiveness

Edermünde Climate Assembly

According to the observers' view, tensions among participants were either *minimal or well managed* by the facilitation team, which successfully maintained engagement and positive dialogue. As mentioned above for the quality of the deliberation, the facilitators were *extremely effective* in guiding the discussions.

Riga Climate Assembly

The facilitators were described as *very effective* in leading the discussions, ensuring that participants were engaged and that the conversation flowed productively.

4.5.5 Suggestions for improvement

Observers of the **Edermünde Climate Assembly** offered only a few suggestions for improving the Climate Assembly, reflecting their overall satisfaction with its organization and structure. One observer described the assembly as *well-organized and well-structured*, noting no major issues but mentioning limited personal attendance. The other suggested that *more time* could be allocated to the process, potentially allowing for deeper discussion and reflection on complex topics. No additional recommendations were made regarding how to enhance the impact of the assembly's outcomes, indicating that the observers were largely satisfied with the overall procedure and its effectiveness. No feed back was received regarding suggestions for improvement of the structure and organisation of the CA from the observer of the **Riga CA**.

4.6 Policymakers

Edermünde Climate Assembly

Short-term effects of the CA

Since the municipality of Edermünde convened the Climate Assembly **an interview was held** by the IFOK team with the Mayor Mr Thomas Petrich and two members of the local council Mr Harald Blum and Mrs Hanna Ebert, **close to the end of the activities** of the assembly with the aim to evaluate the design, implementation, outcomes, and perceived effectiveness of the Edermünde CA from the perspective of the municipal administration and organizers, in order to identify lessons learned and recommendations for future participatory climate governance processes.

1. Familiarity with Citizens' Councils

Before convening the CA, the municipality of Edermünde had no previous practical experience with such participatory formats. Their understanding of the process was limited and primarily based on internet research rather than direct engagement or prior examples.

2. Reason for Choosing a Citizens' Assembly

The idea of establishing an expert advisory council on climate issues was initially proposed but rejected by the municipal council. Instead, the municipality opted for a citizens' assembly to obtain a representative and inclusive view of local residents, including those without pre-formed opinions on climate issues. The emphasis was on gathering the perspectives of ordinary citizens rather than experts, complementing previous forms of participation such as surveys and public meetings.

3. Goals of the Municipal Council

The main goals behind organizing the CA were to maintain active engagement in climate protection and to build on Edermünde's commitments as part of the Hessian Climate Communities. The council also aimed to capture the opinions of citizens without political affiliations or strong prior positions on climate issues, ensuring a broad and unbiased picture of local attitudes.

4. Evaluation of Committee and Decision-Making Structures

The organizational structure of the CA involved several bodies—the administration, politicians, an advisory board, and a steering group. While this structure was considered complex, it was generally seen as well-balanced and functional. The steering group, composed of members of the environmental committee and municipal administration, was judged appropriate and adequately involved. It was suggested that merging advisory board and steering group meetings could improve efficiency and information flow.

5. Composition and Representativeness of Participants

Concerns were raised about the representativeness of the CA, particularly the lack of participation from climate-sceptical residents and young people under 20. This limited diversity was viewed as a credibility risk. Low youth engagement was attributed to the use of mailed invitations and scheduling issues. Future initiatives should use alternative outreach channels such as social media, schools, and sports clubs. Although opposing opinions existed—mainly on economic impacts and agricultural issues—these were not clearly reflected in the final report, which focused on consensus recommendations. Greater transparency about differing viewpoints was recommended.

6. Quality and Usefulness of Recommendations

The first impression of the recommendations developed by the CA was that they varied in clarity and feasibility. While some proposals were understandable and actionable, others were too vague or general, making them difficult to implement. Feasible actions were mainly those involving dialogue or consultation, whereas cost-intensive measures or those requiring new staff were deemed unrealistic for a small municipality. Certain principles, such as *net-zero land sealing*, were incompatible with existing regional development plans.

7. Integration into Municipal Policy

Integration of the recommendations into municipal policy is still pending. Political groups in the municipal council were expected to provide feedback by February 2025, with initial decisions to be



made by summer 2025. The municipality intends to maintain transparency by inviting CA participants to the council's deliberations.

8. Challenges to Implementation

The municipality identified several obstacles to implementing the recommendations: the broad and imprecise nature of many proposals, limited financial and staff resources, and the growing dominance of economic concerns over climate issues in local political discourse. These factors make practical application more difficult.

9. Overall Evaluation of the CA

Overall, the CA was considered a positive and dynamic experience, with high levels of citizen engagement and effective collaboration among stakeholders. Regarding the deliberation topic, IFOK team assessed that *despite being narrowed down, the topic was still too broad. It would have been better to concentrate on one of the three questions or on a specific area. Given the breadth of the question, more time would have been needed to go into more depth. Alternatively, if we had concentrated on one specific question, there would have been more time to discuss the pros and cons in detail.* Moreover, continuous administrative or legal supervision would have been useful. The extent to which the CA's original goals were achieved couldn't be fully assessed in this stage.

10. Lessons Learned and Recommendations for Improvement

Key lessons include allowing more preparation time before meetings, strengthening coordination between the advisory board and steering group, and integrating excursions into the process. Future assemblies should ensure balanced representation among speakers, include both supportive and critical perspectives, and adopt targeted strategies to better involve young participants.

11. Future Adoption and Recommendations to Other Municipalities

The mayor supports a constructive and transparent political dialogue based on the CA's recommendations. However, due to the high organizational and financial costs relative to municipal capacity, the overall assessment is that similar small municipalities would find it difficult to justify such a format. The model is seen as valuable but resource intensive.

Medium-term effects of the CA

An **interview** was also conducted with the Mayor of Edermünde **six months** after the end of Edermünde CA activities to capture the medium-term effects of the CA on local politics and administration. The responses received to the key 6 sections are presented below.

1. Immediate Institutional and Policy Responses explores the direct aftermath of the assembly.

The Mayor of Edermünde provided a detailed overview of the local authority's response to the Citizens' Assembly's recommendations. The recommendations were formally presented at the municipal council meeting on 16 December 2024 by Assembly members and subsequently handed over to all political groups, who discussed them internally and submitted statements, later compiled

and published on 24 February 2025. Initial consultations on implementation have already begun within the council’s committee for construction and environmental issues, though no formal decisions have been made yet. All relevant administrative departments and elected representatives received the recommendations through council meetings and the digital council information system. The Mayor highlighted that several recommendations—specifically numbers 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 14, and 15—are broadly aligned with existing political priorities and are considered particularly feasible. He also emphasized that the Assembly’s recommendations have been fully integrated into local policy, with their concrete implementation expected to play a key role in the upcoming local elections on 15 March 2026, while acknowledging that translating them into actionable strategies remains a central challenge.

2. Influence on Policy and Regulation

Although the Citizens’ Assembly’s recommendations have not yet led to revisions of existing local climate policies or the introduction of new measures, they are expected to influence future strategic adjustments. At present, political consensus on these changes has been limited, partly due to the upcoming local elections, but the recommendations are anticipated to play a role in shaping future policy and regulatory priorities.

3. Capacity-Building and Institutional Change

Following the Citizens’ Assembly, there has been limited impact on capacity building and institutional change, according to the so far knowledge of the mayor. No new partnerships, networks, or collaborations have been initiated, and there has been no noticeable shift in the administration’s understanding or prioritization of climate adaptation measures. Some resources, including budget, working hours, and expertise, have been allocated to support the implementation of recommendations, but so far only to a minor extent.

4. Connection to Broader Governance and Public Engagement

The Mayor sees the active involvement of citizens as an important complementary measure, though he is not yet able to determine whether the CA’s outcomes will have a significant impact on local policymaking. The results were shared with other municipalities, generating only a single enquiry about the implementation of a similar process. The CA has not influenced his view on the role of citizens in shaping climate policy, and there are currently no plans to use citizens’ assemblies in other policy areas in the future.

5. Monitoring Long-Term Impact

The Mayor does not plan to monitor or measure the long-term impact of the Climate Citizens’ Assembly’s recommendations, preferring instead to concentrate the municipality’s limited resources on the concrete implementation of the recommendations.

6. Reflections and Political Culture



The CA has clearly influenced local political debates on climate adaptation, with the first motions based on its recommendations already submitted by political groups in municipal council meetings. The Mayor noted that for such citizens' assemblies to have a stronger impact in the future, financial support would need to be more accessible, particularly for smaller municipalities, enabling the process to be applied to additional policy areas. While he recognizes the CA's potential value for local governance and climate policy design, he is not yet in a position to provide a conclusive assessment of its overall added value.

7. Public communication

Following the conclusion of the CA, the results and the political groups' responses were communicated publicly through different types of channels to reach all generations (the municipal newsletter, website, and social media), with an emphasis on neutral and non-opinionated reporting. The communication highlighted that climate adaptation remains an ongoing topic. Future updates on the implementation of the Assembly's recommendations will be shared through publicly accessible committee and council meeting minutes, with decisions and actions subsequently publicized via the same established channels.

Riga Climate Assembly

Medium-term effects of the CA

Mrs was interviewed six months after the end of the Riga CA activities to capture the medium-term impacts of the assembly and the path of the recommendations received. She works at Riga city development department is in charge of the development of the Riga Urban Greening Plan and the CA was part of this plan. Once the recommendations were reached political representatives were he translated the recommendations to the mayors o. The recommendations have not been officially accepted by the council or the mayor. No formal decisions have been made by the council regarding the acceptance of the recommendations.

1. Immediate Institutional and Policy Responses explores the direct aftermath of the assembly.

Following the Climate Citizens' Assembly, the municipality conducted a mapping exercise to identify which departments could implement each recommendation. Departments were asked whether recommendations were already implemented, planned, partially feasible, or not feasible, resulting in a detailed overview of 41 recommendations. Some actions, like flexible grass-mowing rules and green-roof bus shelters, were already underway, demonstrating alignment between ongoing municipal activities and citizens' suggestions. Most recommendations were positively received, and many are expected to be integrated into the Re-Greening Plan.

2. Influence on Policy and Regulation

The Assembly generated new policy directions, particularly regarding citizen involvement in urban greening and environmental stewardship. Recommendations related to financial incentives, property tax adjustments, and citizen-led greening initiatives are being considered, although some require review for feasibility and coherence. Overall, the process enriched the municipality's policy



toolkit and highlighted areas where citizen priorities intersect with municipal planning, offering opportunities for new or expanded policies.

3. Capacity-Building and Institutional Change

The Assembly revealed a need for better communication and education on climate actions. As a result, the municipality plans to develop a communication strategy targeting both residents and staff, including social media, TV, and radio outreach. Although budgeting and resource allocation are still pending, the process is fostering institutional reflection on participatory planning and the creation of frameworks to integrate citizen input into municipal decision-making.

4. Connection to Broader Governance and Public Engagement

While there has been no formal submission of recommendations to national or regional authorities, the municipality has presented the Assembly process at events attended by higher-level stakeholders. Informally, these presentations serve to raise awareness of the Assembly and its outcomes. Additionally, councillors who participated or followed the process have expressed interest, indicating growing political recognition of citizen involvement as a legitimate input into climate policy.

5. Monitoring Long-Term Impact

Plans are in place to track the long-term influence of the Assembly. Each policy action will be linked to relevant recommendations, and an addendum will document whether recommendations were implemented, partially implemented, or not implemented, along with explanations. This approach will allow the municipality, citizens, and researchers to assess the impact of the Assembly on policy decisions and future community engagement initiatives.

6. Reflections and Political Culture

The Assembly has begun to shape perceptions of citizen participation within the City Council, although formal discussions with the newly elected council are still pending. The process is seen as a tool to advocate for participatory decision-making, demonstrating clear public demand for citizen input. The greatest added value of the Assembly lies in its ability to provide new ideas, actionable recommendations, and a platform for citizen engagement, strengthening the link between residents and climate policy planning in Riga.

5. Dissemination activities

Dissemination activities within the CLIMAS project aim to maximize the visibility and impact of the CAs by sharing key insights, outcomes, and lessons learned with diverse audiences. These activities include targeted communication to policymakers, stakeholders, and the wider public through reports, presentations, workshops, and digital channels. Dissemination of the monitoring, evaluation and created impact of the CAs organised within the CLIMAS project is the final step of the Monitoring and Evaluation step. Till the submission of the present deliverable two main activities have been performed while many others are planned till the end of the project and afterwards.

5.1 Special Session about CLIMAS project during the CEST Conference

Description and scope of the activity: UAEGEAN organized a special session titled “Advancing Climate Resilience through Engagement of Citizens: Insights from the CLIMAS Project” during the 19th International Conference on Environmental Science and Technology (CEST2025), held in Kos, Greece (3 – 6 September 2025). This two-hour session brought together researchers, policymakers, civil society actors, and environmental experts to explore innovative citizen-driven approaches to climate resilience, as developed within the Horizon Europe-funded CLIMAS project (Figure 23). The session (agenda as well as presentations and abstracts are presented in Annex 9) began with a welcome and introduction to the CLIMAS project’s approach and methods. Emphasis was placed on the project's commitment to supporting climate adaptation through participatory tools co-designed with stakeholders using value-based methodologies, design thinking, and citizen science practices. Two presentations were dedicated to the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework of the Climate Assemblies titled “Evaluation Approach & Impact of Climate Assemblies” and “Measuring the Impact of Climate Assemblies Through Participant Surveys”.

Feedback from participants of the CLIMAS Special Session on 19th CEST Conference

Twenty-three people participated in the session in person and one online.

General Reflections

Participants congratulated the presenters for the high-quality, interesting, and comprehensive work carried out in the CLIMAS project. The presentations were considered clear, engaging, and valuable for highlighting the role of participatory methods in climate resilience. The audience expressed strong interest in the citizens’ follow-up feedback from the surveys and appreciated the project’s commitment to connecting methodological innovation with practical outcomes.

Key conclusions

The special session successfully highlighted the value of participatory approaches to climate resilience, showcasing the CLIMAS project’s innovative methods and emphasizing the importance of citizen engagement in policy processes. Participants recognized the work as excellent, interesting, and comprehensive, demonstrating strong appreciation for the project’s overall approach and



outcomes. The session confirmed that interactive presentations are effective for communicating participatory climate methods to diverse audiences, and reinforced the need for ongoing monitoring, institutional uptake, and mechanisms that maintain citizen engagement beyond project timelines.

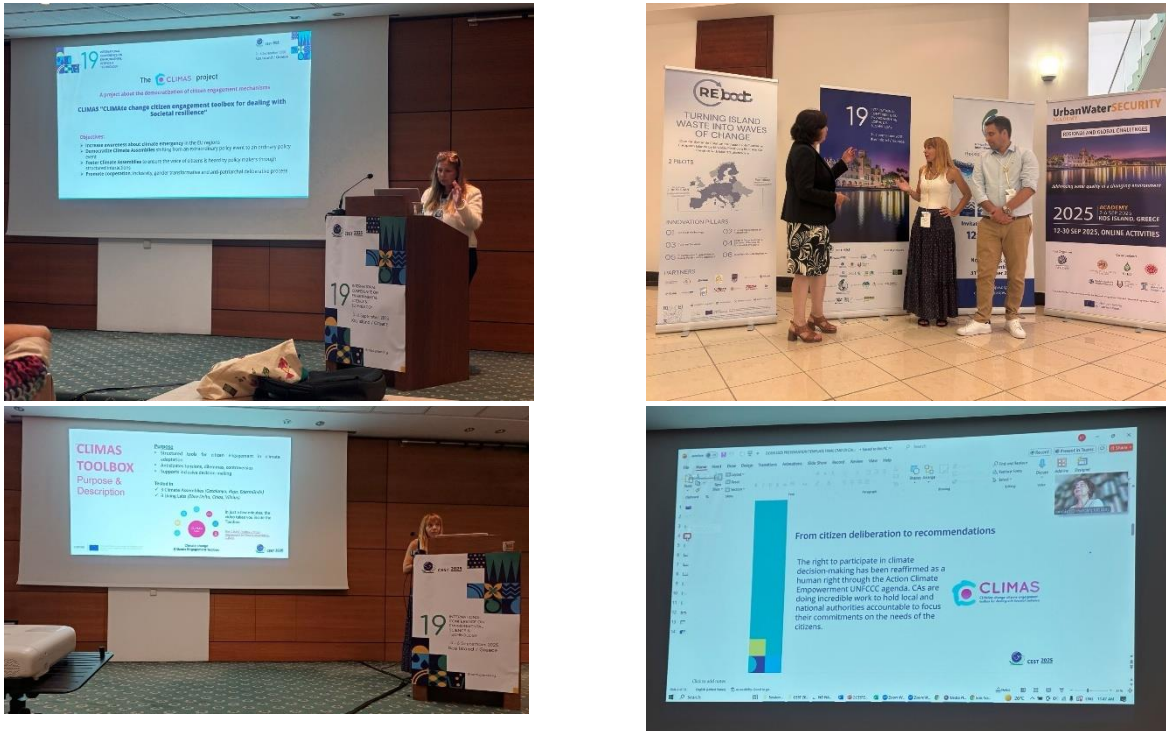


Figure 23. CLIMAS Special Session during the CEST Conference.

5.2 Training Session about Implementation, Monitoring and Impact of Climate Assemblies

A set of three capacity-building training sessions was organised by EIP under Task 6.4 “Knowledge Transfer and Interactions” to ensure that the knowledge generated within the project is actively transferred and adapted to real-world contexts. These sessions were designed to empower local authorities, NGOs, practitioners, and researchers to apply and customise the CLIMAS tools in their own work. The training series followed the lifecycle of a Climate Assembly—from planning and agenda setting to citizen engagement and deliberation, and finally to implementation and monitoring. Each session featured practical demonstrations, case examples, and interactive discussions to facilitate peer learning and long-term uptake. By showcasing the practical use of the tools, fostering exchange among participants, and promoting integration of citizen science, digital participation, and scenario planning into policymaking, the trainings aimed to strengthen capacity for participatory climate governance across Europe.

Description and Scope of the Activity: The third training session focused on the practical aspects of implementing, monitoring, and sustaining the impact of climate assemblies. It brought together



local and regional government officials, civil society organizations, facilitators of participatory processes, and researchers to explore tools and methodologies supporting the post-assembly phase. The session introduced two key processes—the **Climate Assembly Follow-up Tool**, designed to track implementation and monitor assembly outcomes, and the **Impact and Monitoring Methodology**, which provides a structured approach to monitor different processes during the implementation of the CA as well as assessing longer-term effects. Drawing on experience from the Edermünde Climate Assembly, the session combined short presentations and a panel discussion to engage participants in evaluating and discussing the applicability of these tools in diverse contexts. The presentation about monitoring and evaluation of CAs methodology and application on two CAs within the CLIMAS project can be found in Annex 10.

Feedback from participants of the Training Session: Participants responded positively to the session’s hands-on and practice-oriented approach. They appreciated the clear examples of post-assembly monitoring and valued the opportunity to engage directly with tool developers and practitioners. The combination of presentations and interactive discussion was highlighted as particularly effective for understanding how to operationalize follow-up mechanisms in different governance settings, monitor and evaluate the impact of CAs on different actors.

Key Conclusions: The session emphasized that effective follow-up and monitoring are essential to ensuring that climate assembly recommendations lead to real policy impact. Participants agreed on the importance of integrating structured evaluation frameworks into participatory processes and maintaining citizen engagement after assemblies conclude.

6. Conclusions

The monitoring and evaluation of the Climate Assemblies were conducted through a mixed-methods approach combining targeted quantitative and qualitative surveys, interviews, document review ensuring a holistic evaluation of the assemblies' effectiveness and impact. The process covered multiple stages of each assembly, enabling a comprehensive understanding of their design, implementation, and outcomes. Comparative perspectives were gathered across all actor groups—participants, observers, facilitators, organizers, experts, and policymakers—to ensure a balanced representation of experiences and perceptions. Data triangulation was applied to strengthen the validity of findings; for example, the performance of facilitators was assessed not only by themselves but also by organizers, participants, and observers.

Feedback received from the Climate Assemblies in Edermünde (Germany) and Riga (Latvia) provided valuable insights into the effectiveness, inclusivity, and practical implementation of citizen deliberation processes on climate-related issues. Both assemblies were implemented under the CLIMAS framework and served as real-life testing grounds for selected tools and methodologies from the CLIMAS Toolbox. While the two contexts differed in terms of scale, resources, and local governance structures, they shared a common commitment to empowering citizens, strengthening evidence-based policymaking, and enhancing democratic innovation in climate action. Summarising feedback from each actor is provided below.

Feedback from Organisers

Feedback from the organisers of the Climate Assemblies highlighted both the strengths and challenges encountered throughout the planning and implementation phases. Overall, organisers in all three assemblies—Edermünde, Riga, and Catalonia—emphasized the value of structured planning, dedicated teams, and participant engagement, while also underlining the need for more stable financial and institutional support. In **Edermünde**, the process benefited from adequate financial resources and a cohesive multidisciplinary team. The **Riga** organisers reported that financial constraints and the administrative complexity of managing multiple funding sources significantly increased their workload, yet effective coordination and adaptability ensured successful delivery. In **Catalonia**, the process was supported by a diverse team of professionals, but continuity was challenged by institutional changes following a shift in government. Across all assemblies, organisers assessed the preparatory materials as clear and accessible, successfully fostering informed deliberation. They also acknowledged strong facilitation and high-quality dialogue, with inclusivity, transparency, and respect consistently maintained. However, organisers noted areas for improvement, including the need for more hands-on facilitator training, concise information materials, and early-stage political engagement to secure long-term commitment. Overall, the organisers' reflections underscored that while each assembly operated under distinct local conditions, *effective coordination, adaptability, and political support* were the most critical factors for ensuring the quality and impact of the deliberative process.



Feedback from facilitators

Facilitator feedback from both the Edermünde and Riga Climate Assemblies highlighted strong motivation, professional commitment, and generally positive assessments of the deliberative process. In **Edermünde**, facilitators entered the process with high expectations, aiming to explore how local knowledge and divergent values could inform discussions on land use. They combined directive and citizen self-organisation approaches and rated available resources and coordination as adequate. Although no formal training was provided due to their prior experience, facilitators reported that democratic principles were well upheld, participants' reasoning improved over time, and the overall team performance was high. Suggestions for improvement included allowing more time for deliberation, maintaining consistent facilitation teams, and increasing expert participation. In **Riga**, facilitators viewed the assembly as democratic, inclusive, and results oriented. They received pre-assembly training, which was rated from moderately to extremely useful depending on prior experience. The deliberation phase was described as highly participatory and respectful, with facilitators rating their team's performance as excellent. Recommendations for improvement focused on clearer initial guidance, stronger technical support, and more opportunities for interaction with experts.

Overall, facilitators across both assemblies emphasized that *effective preparation, adequate resources, and ongoing training* are essential to ensuring the inclusiveness, quality, and impact of future Climate Assemblies.

Feedback from participants

Participant feedback from both the Edermünde and Riga Climate Assemblies was highly positive, confirming that the deliberative model effectively fostered informed, inclusive, and respectful dialogue. In **Edermünde**, participants reported strong understanding of the purpose and materials of the CA and found the discussions well facilitated, balanced, and fair. They appreciated the opportunity to express their views freely and noted increased awareness and motivation to take climate-related action. While participants valued the structured and democratic process, they suggested *extending discussion time, improving youth representation, and enhancing the visual and explanatory quality of preparatory materials*. In **Riga**, participants expressed similar satisfaction, describing the CA as useful, empowering, and well organized. They particularly praised the facilitators' professionalism, the clarity of expert input, and the respectful atmosphere. Many felt more confident in engaging with local climate issues and valued the exchange of diverse perspectives. Suggestions for improvement focused on *allocating more time for dialogue, clearer facilitation, and expanding the format to include outdoor or thematic sessions*. Across both assemblies, participants highlighted strengthened civic responsibility, collaborative spirit, and understanding of local climate challenges—indicating that the assemblies successfully enhanced awareness, trust, and engagement among citizens.

Impact of the Climate Assemblies on Participants

Both the Edermünde and Riga Climate Assemblies had a measurable and lasting impact on participants' awareness, understanding, and engagement with climate issues. In **Edermünde**,



participants already expressed relatively high concern about climate change before the assembly, which further increased afterward, accompanied by clearer perceptions of local vulnerability and stronger recognition of the need for collective action. The majority reported improved understanding of climate impacts and found the CA highly useful for deepening their knowledge and critical thinking. Six months later, participants continued to show high concern and sustained engagement, with many adopting more sustainable behaviours, sharing knowledge within their communities, and maintaining contact with fellow participants. They emphasized feeling more informed, empowered, and aware of both the complexities of policymaking and the importance of citizen involvement.

In **Riga**, the assembly also contributed to significant shifts in perception and awareness. Concern about climate change increased, and participants developed a stronger understanding of local challenges, particularly those linked to urban greening and equity. Most respondents found the CA very or extremely useful, highlighting the learning value of expert presentations and group deliberations. In the medium-term evaluation, participants continued to feel informed and motivated to act—reporting changes in daily habits, stronger environmental awareness, and increased appreciation of civic participation. While only a few observed direct policy outcomes, most felt their voices were heard and that the process contributed to public dialogue on climate action.

Across both CA, evidence points to strengthened climate literacy, empowerment, and civic confidence among participants. The participatory format not only enhanced understanding and reflection on complex environmental trade-offs but also fostered a sense of responsibility, demonstrating the Climate Assembly model's potential to generate enduring behavioural and attitudinal change.

Feedback from experts

Experts involved in both the Edermünde and Riga Climate Assemblies reported a largely positive experience, highlighting the value of direct engagement with citizens and the opportunity to contribute to local climate discussions. They praised participants' curiosity, commitment, and active involvement, noting that audience engagement and post-presentation discussions were generally meaningful.

Areas for improvement included clearer communication of CA objectives and expectations, particularly in Edermünde, and managing time effectively to present complex topics fully. Experts suggested that future CAs could benefit from more structured preparatory information, opportunities for dialogue among experts with differing perspectives, and flexibility in Q&A formats. Despite these challenges, all responding experts expressed willingness to participate in future assemblies, emphasizing that well-organized, participatory formats foster meaningful knowledge exchange and strengthen citizen engagement in climate-related decision-making.

Feedback from observers

Observers of both the Edermünde and Riga Climate Assemblies reported highly positive impressions of the events. They praised the organization, clarity of objectives, and overall facilitation, noting that



discussions were well-structured, focused, and inclusive. Observers highlighted participants' strong engagement, commitment, and respectful dialogue, as well as the constructive contributions of experts, which supported informed decision-making.

The quality of deliberation was assessed as high, with facilitators effectively managing discussions, maintaining constructive interaction, and ensuring all voices were heard. Observers also acknowledged that participants developed proposals grounded in evidence and deliberation, with cautious optimism about the likelihood of implementation by policymakers.

Suggestions for improvement included allowing more time for discussions to enable deeper reflection on complex topics. Overall, the observers' feedback underscores the effectiveness of well-organized, facilitated CAs in fostering meaningful citizen engagement and producing informed, actionable recommendations.

Feedback from policymakers

Policymakers in both Edermünde and Riga reported positive engagement with the outcomes of the respective Climate Assemblies, while highlighting both opportunities and challenges for integrating citizens' recommendations into local policy. In Edermünde, the municipal administration had no prior experience with citizens' assemblies but viewed the process as valuable for capturing representative, unbiased citizen perspectives. The recommendations were largely aligned with existing political priorities, and several were deemed feasible for implementation. However, limitations were noted, including the broad and imprecise nature of some proposals, restricted financial and administrative capacity, and upcoming elections delaying formal policy decisions. Six months post-assembly, the mayor reported that the recommendations had been formally presented to the council, discussed by political groups, and integrated into municipal planning, with some expected to influence future local policy. The importance of balanced representation, targeted outreach to youth, and improved coordination between advisory bodies for future assemblies were emphasised.

In Riga, the CA informed the development of the Urban Greening Plan. Recommendations were mapped to relevant municipal departments and some actions, such as flexible grass-mowing rules and green-roof bus shelters, were already underway. While formal acceptance by the council or mayor had not yet occurred, the CA generated new policy directions, particularly regarding citizen involvement in urban greening and environmental stewardship. Policymakers highlighted the process as fostering institutional reflection, improving participatory planning, and strengthening the integration of citizens input into decision-making. Plans for monitoring long-term impact are in place, linking policy actions to recommendations to evaluate implementation and influence. Overall, the CA was seen as a valuable tool for engaging citizens, generating actionable proposals, and enhancing dialogue between residents and municipal decision-makers.

Lessons learnt

Lessons learned by CLIMAS partners regarding the M&E highlight the importance of continuous reflection and iterative improvement in the design and implementation of Climate Assemblies. The evaluation process, informed by feedback from multiple actors and comparative insights across



cases, revealed key factors that enhance the quality, inclusivity, and long-term impact of participatory climate governance. These lessons contribute to refining the CLIMAS Toolbox and to advancing the broader practice of citizen-driven climate deliberation across Europe. They are summarised below.

- Continuous evaluation throughout the process is essential to ensure learning, adaptation, and overall quality improvement.
- Establishing feedback loops between organizers, facilitators, and participants strengthens the design and effectiveness of future assemblies.
- Tailoring facilitation methods and learning materials to diverse participant needs enhances inclusivity and engagement.
- Climate Assemblies serve as valuable democratic innovations that can:
 - ✓ Strengthen civic participation and trust in public institutions,
 - ✓ Foster critical thinking and informed dialogue on climate issues,
 - ✓ Enhance the legitimacy and public acceptance of policy recommendations, and
 - ✓ Build momentum for collective and democratic climate action.

7. References

1. Simonsen, J., & Hertzum, M. (2010). Iterative participatory design. *Design research: Synergies from interdisciplinary perspectives*, 1, 16-32.
2. Rog DJ (2012) When background becomes foreground: Toward context-sensitive evaluation practice. *New Directions for Evaluation* 135: 25–40.
3. OECD (2021). *Evaluation Guidelines for Representative Deliberative Processes*. Paris: OECD Publishing. Retrieved November 28, 2021 from <https://doi.org/10.1787/10ccbfcfcb-en>
4. Thorman, D., & Capstick, S. (2022). KNOCA briefing No. 4: Planning and assessing the impact and legacy of climate assemblies. Centre for Climate Change and Social Transformations, Cardiff University.

Annex 1 – Form for monitoring and evaluation plan for Climate Assemblies

Monitoring and evaluation plan for Climate Assemblies

Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan is a document that helps to track and assess the intervention. It is a living document that should be referred to and updated on a regular basis. It is important to develop an M&E plan before beginning any monitoring activities so that there is a clear plan for what questions about the program need to be answered. It will help T5.2 team to decide how they are going to collect data to track indicators, how monitoring data will be analysed, and how the results of data collection will be disseminated. While the specifics of each plan will look different, they should all follow the same basic structure and include the same key elements.

Template for M&E plan

1. Setting the context

Table 1. Climate Assembly’s information.

Climate Assembly title	<title>
Context of climate assembly	< The analysis of environment involves a thorough examination of the socio-political climate to discern the levels of political commitment and public support for climate action. Local and regional climate challenges are identified to understand the specific environmental issues at stake. The legal frameworks that might enable or constrain public participation in climate policy deliberation are also considered, as are the economic implications of climate policies which can significantly sway the assembly's discussions and recommendations. Cultural and social values play a pivotal role in shaping the discourse within CAs. These must be assessed to ensure that the deliberative processes are sensitive to and reflective of the community's beliefs and practices. Technological readiness is another key factor, influencing the ability to conduct and extend the reach of CAs effectively.>
Dilemmas	Please provide the topics of deliberation.
Purpose and goal of evaluation activities	<Overarching goals and objectives of the Climate Assembly within the framework of the intervention logic's goals.>
Resources and available data	<What kind of resources the CA can dedicate to monitoring and evaluation process (e.g. volunteers, employees, etc.), what monitoring/evaluation activities have been already conducted, what is planned for the future.>

2. Timeline of the CAs activities

Please select the tools that will be tested at the Climate Assembly.

Table 2. The tools that are developed at the CLIMAS project.

Tool	Check box
Task 3.1: Citizen-collaborative future scenario building methodology for a climate resilient society (Leader: VUB)	
Task 3.2: Tool for setting-up and facilitating Climate Assemblies (Leader: DEL)	

Task 3.3: Tool on citizen science for climate assemblies (Leader: EUT)	
Task 3.4: Toolkit for scenario prioritization based on citizen and expert values (Leader: VUB)	
Task 3.5: Tools to enable follow-up and climate assembly outcomes on dynamic climate change adaptation plan (Leader: TVS)	
Task 3.6: A knowledge and evidence-based support tool for climate assemblies’ agenda setting (Leader: TVS)	
Task 3.7: Multilingual Climate Assembly Portal: Exploring Participatory Platforms (Decidim, COFOE, etc.) (Leader: TVS)	

3. Evaluation criteria and indicators

Which indicators from the methodology will be selected for monitoring? Should they be expanded/deducted? Anything else need to be included based on the needs of CA?

Table 3. The evaluation criteria and indicators.

	Indicator	Expected results	Method and frequency for data collection	Comments
Input				
Activities				
Outputs				
Outcomes				
Impacts				

4. Data management and analytical strategies

- How data will be stored and managed?
- Data management and personal privacy policies that must be applied during the monitoring process (e.g., consent forms)
- Who will be responsible for the data management strategies?

5. Reporting and dissemination mechanisms

Please write the timeline of the Climate Assembly’s meetings/sessions at table 2.

Table 4. Climate Assembly’s timeline.

# Meeting	Date <i>(e.g. 5th October 2024)</i>	Place <i>(e.g. Athens)</i>	Duration <i>(e.g. 5h)</i>	Monitoring team <i>(people that the UAEGEAN team will contact for the monitoring & evaluation surveys)</i>

1 st				
2 nd				
3 rd				
4 th				
5 th				

- Dissemination timeline, schedule and responsibilities

6. Responsibilities

- Roles and responsibilities within the team for monitoring and evaluation tasks
- Necessary resources and budget for monitoring and evaluation activities
- How independence of evaluation will be ensured?

Annex 2 – Consent forms

Short consent form



Consent Form

Consent Form

Dear [Name Surname],

We hereby contact you on behalf of the CLIMAS project “**CLIMATE** change citizens engagement toolbox for dealing with Societal resilience” to collect your consent to collect your opinions and feedback on citizen assemblies and your current experience related with deliberative democracy.

The assembly sessions will take place between (date) and (date).

CLIMAS IN A NUTSHELL The main project ambition is to learn from the ongoing and past experiences in citizens' engagement in climate change action such as Climate assemblies and Living labs and help the diverse European regions and local communities to resist through deliberative democracy. The ambition of the CLIMAS project is to deliver an innovative problem-oriented climate adoption Toolbox, co-designed together with stakeholders by applying a values-based approach, design thinking methods and citizen science to promote their direct engagement and empowerment. CLIMAS will formulate scientific based guidelines for policymakers on how to shift Climate Assemblies from technically based deliberations that belong to climate change experts to multi-stakeholders' deliberations based on solving societal dilemmas from a bottom-up perspective.

CONSENT FORM

This activity is part of the CLIMAS Horizon Europe project (www.climas-project.eu). It represents an optimal opportunity to inform stakeholders about the project activities, enable cross-cooperation and gain feedback from external Advisory Board members, citizen assembly practitioners, and citizens promoting or participating in Climate Assemblies. This activity does not have any commercial purpose. The involved participants do not receive any monetary benefits by conducting this activity. They participate on a voluntary basis and can withdraw from the activities at any time. Your contribution to interviews and/or group discussions may be published in project reports, journal articles, conference presentations, and via any other mode or channel of scientific exchange and dissemination considered appropriate, while protecting the participants' privacy preferences. Photos and videos taken during the workshop activities may be used for dissemination purposes in respect of the consent provided by each participant.

Participants' personal data (first name, last name, organization name, job title/position, email address) will only be used by the CLIMAS Consortium for the purposes of the project. Only in case specific permission is given, they may also be used to invite the participants to take part in future research activities and initiatives.



This project has received funding from the European Union's research and innovation programme Horizon Europe under the grant agreement No. 101094021. This document reflects only the author's view, and the Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information it contains.

1



Consent Form

Personal data will be collected, processed, and protected according to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (EU) 2016/679. Participants have the right to request access to and rectification or erasure of personal data or restriction of processing concerning the data or to object to processing as well as the right to data portability just sending an email to the responsible of data treatment listed hereafter. They will also have the right to lodge a complaint with any European supervisory authority. Full privacy policy is available at www.climas-project.eu.

After reading the information sheet above, I consent voluntarily to participate in this CLIMAS activity and understand that I can refuse to answer questions and I can withdraw from it at any time, without any reason. Moreover, I provide my consent to the following activities:

- To participate in project surveys.
Yes
- To be present in the pictures/videos that will be published on CLIMAS public communication channels.
Yes
- To store my inputs into the CLIMAS Consortium repository for the direct purposes of the project.
Yes
- To be contacted by the CLIMAS Consortium in the next 2 years for matters related to project activities.
Yes
- To be contacted by the CLIMAS Consortium for matters related to scientific research, even beyond the purposes of the current projects.
- Yes

Name: _____
Surname: _____
Organization: _____
E-mail address: _____

If you want to know more about the CLIMAS project:

Visit our website at www.climas-project.eu

Subscribe to our bi-annual Newsletter at www.climas-project.eu/newsletter

Follow us on [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/climas-project) or contact us at info@climas-project.eu



This project has received funding from the European Union's research and innovation programme Horizon Europe under the grant agreement No. 101094021. This document reflects only the author's view, and the Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information it contains

2



Long consent form

Informed Consent Form
November-2024

Informed Consent Form

This Informed Consent Form has two parts:

1. Information Sheet (to share information about the study with you);
2. Certificate of Consent (for signatures if you choose to participate on the survey).

Part I: Information Sheet

We would like to invite you to participate in a survey that is conducted in the frame of the European research project CLIMAS.

This information sheet should provide you with the necessary information to decide whether you want to participate in this CLIMAS project survey. We want to emphasize your participation in the project and the survey is completely voluntary. You can decide to stop your participation without giving any reason at any moment. Nevertheless, we hope very much that you will decide to participate in the CLIMAS project and survey. If you have any questions about the project, the survey and your role therein, please contact the researchers Prof. Amalia Polydoropoulou (polydor@aegean.gr), Anna – Maria Kotrikla (akotr@aegean.gr) and Fameli Kyriaki – Maria (kmfameli@aegean.gr).

INTRODUCTION

CLIMAS is a Consortium coordinated by VILNIUS TECH. CLIMAS brings together 13 partner organisations from universities, research, municipal and regional administration and consulting from Lithuania, Austria, Belgium, Germany, Greece, Italy, Latvia, Romania, Spain, and the UK.

FUNDER

The project “CLIMate change citizens engagement toolbox for dealing with Societal resilience” (CLIMAS) receives funding of € 2 817 902,50 from the European Commission under the Funding Programme “Horizon Europe” within the call “Climate, Energy and Mobility”. The project has a duration from 1.1.2023 to 31.12.2025.

PURPOSE OF THE RESEARCH

The main goal of CLIMAS is to support the transformation of cities and regions to climate resilience. We think that involving citizens in this transformation is the most promising approach towards reaching this goal, i.e. via Climate Assemblies and Living Labs. However, until today there are many different instruments around and people interested in Living Labs and Climate Assemblies lack

1



This project has received funding from the European Union's research and innovation programme Horizon Europe under the grant agreement No. 101094021. This document reflects only the author's view, and the Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information it contains.



tested instruments to involve citizens and stakeholders. **This is, where CLIMAS comes in.** It is the aim of CLIMAS to create and test an innovative and problem-oriented **climate adaptation Toolbox of Living Labs and Climate Assemblies**. This Toolbox will be **co-designed together with citizens and stakeholders**. In order to involve citizens and stakeholders and their needs as much and as meaningful as possible, CLIMAS will apply a **values-based approach**, starting from peoples' problems, **design thinking methods** and **citizen science mechanisms**.

TYPE OF RESEARCH INTERVENTION

It is the purpose of CLIMAS, to create together with citizen and stakeholders a Toolbox for effective and efficient citizen participation. To achieve this goal, the project must pass several steps which are shown in the following graph. In each of the stages, citizens and stakeholders will be involved, either in workshops, interviews, or surveys.

PARTICIPANT SELECTION

We invite you (as a participant of the Climate Assembly) to participate in this survey which is designed to evaluate the procedure of the Climate Assembly. This survey aims to gather insights on how the assembly may have influenced your understanding of climate issues, policy and action your view on the procedure of the Climate Assembly, and any personal or professional changes you've experienced as a result. Your feedback is vital in helping us understand the assembly's effectiveness, its influence on participants like you, and ways we can improve future assemblies. Your feedback also serves as a key building block in designing the recommendations for policymakers to support climate resilient society.

VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION

Your participation in this CLIMAS survey is up to you and completely voluntary. If you decide to participate in the survey, you are free to withdraw from at any time without giving us any reasons. This will not have any consequences for you whatsoever.

RISKS

There are no risks associated with your participation in the project.

BENEFITS

We hope that CLIMAS will co-create together with citizens and stakeholders a Toolbox that is useful to all people involved in Climate Assemblies and Living Labs at any level. By sharing your knowledge, ideas, experiences and concerns in this survey you will make a critical contribution to achieve this important goal. Naturally, we will share the results of CLIMAS, once they are finalised, with you.

REIMBURSEMENT

There will be no reimbursement for the participation in the project.

CONFIDENTIALITY

2



This project has received funding from the European Union's research and innovation programme Horizon Europe under the grant agreement No. 101094021. This document reflects only the author's view, and the Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information it contains

First of all, as researchers, we have a **duty of confidentiality with regard to** the data collected. This means that we undertake, for example in the context of a publication or a conference, never to reveal your name or any other data that could identify you. Nor will individual results ever be published.

Secondly, during this survey personal data will be collected about/from you. The collection and processing of your data is possible because we carry out scientific **research** and we receive your **express consent**.

The collection and processing of data is in accordance with the legal principles imposed by the new European **General Data Protection Regulation** (GDPR or AVG), which has been in force since 25 May 2018. I, **Fameli Kyriaki - Maria**, supervise the correct processing of your personal data and the associated information obligation.

This obligation to provide information means that I **have to** inform you about:

- a. What **personal data** we collect from/about you, in particular: your demographic data. The personal data are collected and processed for the purpose of the research study described in *Participant Selection* and will only be used in the context of this study (*Task 5.2 Analysis of the performance and created impact of Climate Assemblies*). No individual information will be disclosed, and I will only report aggregated results (e.g. number of participants, and gender ratios). All the collected data are **pseudonymized**; source data is securely stored on a the **Sharepoint of Aegean** in a password protected form and at the CLIMAS Consortium repository for the direct purposes of the project. The presented aggregated data does not allow for identifying individual responses.
- b. That the University of the Aegean acts as controller of your data.
- c. In accordance with the relevant legislation, data collected as part of the study will be retained for 5 years.
- d. That I may only use your personal data for scientific purposes.
- e. That you have the right to access and correct your data. You also have the right to erase your data, to limit their processing, to object to their processing and to transfer your data to third parties. If you have any questions, please contact the researchers Prof. Amalia Polydoropoulou (polydor@aegean.gr), Anna – Maria Kotriki (akotr@aegean.gr) and Fameli Kyriaki – Maria (kmfameli@aegean.gr).
- f. You have the right to withdraw your consent to the processing of your data at any time. The withdrawal of consent does not affect the lawfulness of the processing of the data obtained prior to the withdrawal of consent.
- g. That your details will only be viewed by the researcher(s) appointed above and will not be shared with other institutions.
- h. Your data will be stored and secured in accordance with the guidelines of the University of the Aegean (Ethics Committee of the University of the Aegean **Ειδικός Λογάριασμός Κοινοτήτων Έρευνας** in greek).
- i. If you wish to exercise your rights or if you have any further questions regarding your rights and the processing of your personal data, you can always contact the researchers Prof.

3



This project has received funding from the European Union's research and innovation programme Horizon Europe under the grant agreement No. 101094021. This document reflects only the author's view, and the Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information it contains

Amalia Polydoropoulou (polydor@aegean.gr), Anna – Maria Kotriklia (akotr@aegean.gr) and Fameli Kyriaki – Maria (kmfameli@aegean.gr).

WHAT TO DO IF YOU DECIDE TO PARTICIPATE IN CLIMAS

Please read the information sheet and the consent form carefully. If you have any questions, please ask the person, who gave you this information sheet or whose name is provided at the bottom of the information sheet. If all your questions with regard to participation in CLIMAS have been clarified, please send/give it to the person mentioned below.

SHARING OF RESULTS

Parts of the material of research might be published in research reports, conferences, teaching materials and academic publications and funding proposals. CLIMAS is under the contractual obligation to retain the project's data for up to five years after the end of the project (unless auditors request further retention). After the expiry date of the retention period, and unless further legitimate grounds for retention arise, partners are obliged to dispose of personal data securely.

CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Prof. Amalia Polydoropoulou (polydor@aegean.gr), Dr. Anna – Maria Kotriklia (akotr@aegean.gr)
Dr. Fameli Kyriaki – Maria (kmfameli@aegean.gr)
University of the Aegean

For any complaints or complaints regarding the conduct of the research you can contact the Ethics Committee of the University of the Aegean (ethics@aegean.gr). For any complaint regarding the management of your personal data, you can address the Personal Data Processing Officer of the University of the Aegean (dpo@aegean.gr) and in any case the Personal Data Protection Authority (complaints@dpa.gr)

Part II: Certificate of Consent

Researcher

- I, Fameli Kyriaki – Maria, declare that I have provided the required information about this study orally, as well as a copy of the information document to the participant.
- I confirm that no pressure has been exerted on the participant to have him / her consent to participate in the study and I'm willing to answer any additional questions.
- I confirm that I work in accordance with the ethical principles stated in "The Code of Ethics and Good Practice of the University of the Aegean (Ethics Committee of the University of the Aegean Ειδικός Διαδικασμός Κονδυλίων Έρευνας in greek)" and the ethical principles within my specific research discipline.
- I confirm that I work in accordance with the legal obligations regarding the correct processing of personal data as stated in "General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)".





Informed Consent Form
November-2024

- I confirm that the participant was given an opportunity to ask questions about the study, and all the questions asked by the participant have been answered correctly and to the best of my ability.
- I confirm that the individual has not been coerced into giving consent, and the consent has been given freely and voluntarily.

A copy of this ICF has been provided to the participant.

Participant

I was invited to participate in the European research project CLIMAS. It is the purpose of CLIMAS, to create together with citizen and stakeholders a toolbox for effective and efficient citizen participation. To achieve this goal, the project must pass several steps in which citizens and stakeholders will be involved, either in workshops, interviews, or surveys.

- I declare that I'm informed about the nature, purpose, duration, potential benefits and risks of the study and that I know what is expected of me.
- I have had enough time to think, and I have been able to ask all the questions that have come to mind, and I have received a clear answer to my questions.
- I understand that my participation in this survey is voluntary and that I'm free to stop my participation without having to give a reason.
- I understand that if I stop my participation my data will be destroyed.
- I understand that during my participation personal data will be collected and that the researchers ensure the confidentiality of these data in accordance with the relevant Greek and European privacy legislation.
- I understand that I can request that the information I provided as part of the survey be destroyed at any time.
- I know who I can contact if I want more information about the survey.
- I know who I can turn to for complaints.
- I know who I can contact to exercise my rights.

Only for the online form

I consent voluntarily to be a participant in this survey by clicking the consent boxes.

<input type="checkbox"/>	I agree to participate in the survey described and I consent to the processing of my personal data in accordance with the modalities described in the "Confidentiality" section and for scientific purposes.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I consent to the publication of the research results. My name will not be published, and the confidentiality of the data is guaranteed at every stage of the research.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have read and received a copy of the signed information and consent form.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I consent to store my inputs into the CLIMAS Consortium repository for the direct purposes of the project.

5



This project has received funding from the European Union's research and innovation programme Horizon Europe under the grant agreement No. 101094021. This document reflects only the author's view, and the Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information it contains

<input type="checkbox"/>	I consent to be contacted by the CLIMAS Consortium in the next 2 years for matters related to project activities
<input type="checkbox"/>	I consent to be contacted by the CLIMAS Consortium for matters related to scientific research, even beyond the purposes of the current projects.

Only if the consent form is signed in printed form, we need the below (and of course participants should check the above boxes).

Name of Participant _____
 Signature of Participant _____
 Date _____
 Day/month/year



Annex 3 – Organisers interview and questionnaire

Interview with the Organizers of the Climate Assembly



This questionnaire aims to gather insights from organizers to evaluate the planning, execution, and outcomes of the climate assembly.

Assembly preparation

1. What were the primary challenges you faced during the planning/preparation process of the Climate Assembly? What worked from what you had planned and what went wrong? Lessons learnt, suggestion for planning future assemblies.
2. Did the authorities that convene the assembly provided suggestions and support during the preparation phase? E.g. topics, proposals, limitations, participants recruitment.

Inclusivity and diversity of engagement

3. Were there any barriers that you faced during the recruitment of the participants (e.g. groups that you found hard to reach)? How did you overcome them?

Quality of the learning and the deliberation phases

4. Were the topics to be discussed at the Climate Assembly proposed by the organisers only or could the citizens suggest or choose the topics?

Learning phase

5. Was there a dilemma perspective on the deliberation?

If yes, how many dilemmas there were discussed? how these dilemmas were presented to the participants? Was there any bottom-up process on the selection of the dilemmas? How many different viewpoints of the deliberation topic were discussed? Are you satisfied with the way these dilemmas were presented by the experts? Was the time enough for this phase? Comment on the dilemmas that were chosen, are you satisfied (less/more dilemmas?)

If not, how the deliberation topic was presented? How many different viewpoints of the topic were discussed?

Deliberation phase

6. **Were there any trade-offs/compromises between the participants? If yes, how far did they come?**
7. **Are you satisfied with the venue (e.g. table's arrangement, accessibility of disabled people, enough area)?**
8. **Do you think the amount of time allocated for deliberation was suitable for the objectives of the assembly?**
9. **What worked/went wrong during the plenary/small groups sessions?**

Outputs /Outcomes

10. **Did you give the recommendations of the assembly to the relevant authorities? Were they well-received by the authorities?**
11. **When and in which way will the authority provide its feedback and opinion on the recommendations of the assembly?**
12. **Do you think the citizens' assembly achieved its objectives? Why or why not?**
13. **What improvements would you suggest for future citizens' assemblies?**

Questionnaire for the Organizers of the Climate Assembly



This questionnaire uses mostly closed questions to gather insights from the organizers to evaluate the planning, execution, and outcomes of the climate assembly.

Inclusivity and diversity of engagement

How did you recruit participants for the Climate Assembly? Please describe the process (e.g. invitation sent to a random sample of the population by post, phone, email, the data registers that were used, etc.) the criteria that were set for the inclusion and the exclusion and the second stage of the sortition process (if there was). Did you use any specific criteria for the stratification criteria (gender, place of residence, level of education, age)?

Type of invitation	
Data registers that were used	
Criteria that were set for the inclusion	
Criteria that were set for the exclusion	

Could people contact the organizers of the Assembly to ask questions before the beginning of the Assembly (e.g. learn about the deliberation topic, ask questions about the process)? How? Did you have a FAQ sheet (printed/online), a website, etc.?

.....

Financial and human resources

Please write the total budget (in euros) of the Climate Assembly.

.....

4. Please write the budget that was distributed to each CA's activity.

Activity	Budget (in Euros)
Logistics (all costs related to the organization of session events are included here e.g. venue, catering, travel, accommodation, internet, sound equipment, projectors, screens, materials)	
Venue (e.g. venue rent)	
Catering	
Accommodation and travel (for citizens participating to the CA)	
Compensation (to citizens participating to the CA)	
Venue equipment: Internet, Sound, Visual (e.g. projectors, screens), Office materials (e.g. post it, pens, pencils, glue, papers, notebooks, etc.)	
Facilitation costs	
Facilitators training	
Facilitators salaries	
Facilitators accommodation	
Recruitment (includes sorting, contacting by letter and telephone, stratification and management of citizens)	
Personnel costs	



Project team (<i>coordinates all the work and supports the oversight and the content group</i>)	
The content group (<i>prepares the content to be shared with citizens for informed and balanced deliberation</i>)	
The communication team (<i>responsible for communicating the process to the wider public</i>)	
Dissemination/Communication	
Activities & materials (<i>e.g. costs for the design and print of e.g. posters, brochures, roll-ups, videos etc. are included here, workshops, webinars, conferences, scientific publications, etc. are included here</i>)	
Advertisement (<i>costs for media, advertisements</i>)	

5. Were the financial resources provided adequate to achieve the intended goals of the Climate Assembly? Please comment.

.....

.....

.....

6. How many people worked in the Climate Assembly in total? Please fill in the following table.

<i>Number of people worked in the Climate Assembly (in total):</i>			
<i>No</i>	<i>Position (e.g. organizer, facilitator, technical staff, supporting staff, volunteer)</i>	<i>Contract duration in months (Please mention if it is part/full time position, e.g. 3 part-time & 8 full-time)</i>	<i>Gender (Please write the gender of each employe position, male – female – nonbinary, e.g. 4 male, 8 female & 1 nonbinary)</i>
1			
2			
3			

Preparatory material provided to participants

7. Did you provide any preparatory material to the participants?

Yes No

7A. If yes, please mention the type of preparatory material, the content and the source of information included in the material.



No	Type of preparatory material (e.g. leaflet, report, video, etc.)	Content/Topic mentioned at the material (e.g. climate change, regional/national adaptation plan, citizen science principles)	Source of information included in the material (e.g. Eurostat, ministries, NGOs, associations)	Criteria used for the selection of the content	Distribution of material (printed or online)
1					
2					
3					
4					
...					

8. When was the preparatory material distributed to the participants?

# of the material (same number as in table 2B)	Meeting of the Climate Assembly (e.g. before the first session of the CA)	Date of distribution to the participants
1		
2		

9. Did you receive any feedback from the participants concerning the preparatory material?

Yes
 No

9A. If yes, please choose the type of feedback:

	How many people	Which groups of people did not understand? (e.g. elderly, lower/highly educated)
Further information on the topic were asked		
Explanations needed		
Other (If chosen, please explain the feedback)		

10. Were there any materials shared during the sessions (in - sessions materials) to increase the participants' knowledge?

Yes
 No



10A. If yes, please mention the type of in - sessions materials, the content and the source of information included in the material.

No	Type of preparatory material (e.g. leaflet, report, video, etc.)	Content/Topic mentioned at the material (e.g. climate change, regional/national adaptation plan, citizen science principles)	Source of information included in the material (e.g. Eurostat, ministries, NGOs, associations)	Criteria used for the selection of the content	Distribution of material (printed or online)
1					
2					
3					
4					
...					

Political commitment

11. To what extent did you feel supported by authorities or other stakeholders during the preparation?

- 1 - Very supported
- 2 - Somewhat supported
- 3 - Neutral
- 4 - Somewhat unsupported
- 5 - Very unsupported

12. Please provide the number of invited political entities (from organizations/authorities) and the number of those who participated or/and engaged in the Climate Assembly.

Invited	Participated (e.g. make a statement)	Engaged (e.g. consider, apply the outcomes of the CA)

13. To what extent were policymakers involved in the design or planning stages of the assembly to ensure alignment with political priorities?



.....

14. Were any formal agreements or assurances provided by policymakers regarding the implementation of the assembly's recommendations? What challenges did you encounter in securing political commitment or support for the assembly's recommendations?

.....

15. How was political commitment to the recommendations of the assembly communicated to the participants before and during the process?

.....

Facilitator preparation and training

16. Was there training of facilitators?

Yes

No

If yes, please answer the following questions 11A – 11B.

16A. How many sessions were performed, and which was the topic of each session? Please fill in the following table.

<i>Number of each session</i>	<i>Date (e.g. 4th October 2024)</i>	<i>Topic of each session</i>	<i>Implementation (in person/online)</i>
1			
2			

16B. Please mention comments and lessons learnt concerning the preparation of the Climate Assembly facilitators.

What could be done better	
What should be avoided	
Something else:	



Quality of deliberation

17. Please choose the facilitation approach during the Climate Assembly meetings.

- Directive table facilitation**
(It involves small tables of members. These groups are guided by a facilitator who is responsible for task adherence and upholding fairness in proceedings, such as balancing speaking time among participants.)
- Citizen self-organization**
(The groups were generally left to develop their own working patterns and share responsibilities for developing different recommendations. Facilitators intervened only when group dynamics became challenging.)
- Both approaches**

18. Which were the phases of the deliberation, the goal of each phase and what kind of deliberative methods were used to reach the goal of each phase? Please fill in the following table.

Phases of the deliberation	Goal(s) of each phase	Methods used to reach the goal(s) of each phase

19. In your opinion, to what extent were the below parameters ensured from the facilitation team to achieve inclusivity of participants?

	1 Not at all	2 A little	3 Enough	4 A lot
Equality (All participants had an equal chance to contribute, regardless of social status, power, or background).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Respectful Dialogue (Participants engaged respectfully, acknowledging each other's dignity)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

and avoiding insults, attacks, or dismissive behavior).				
Reason-Giving (Participants could provide reasons to support their views, appealing to logic, shared values, or evidence).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Transparency (The process and criteria for decision-making were clear and accessible to all).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Diversity of perspectives and solutions explored

20. How effectively do you think the assembly's outcomes represent diverse viewpoints? Please answer the question on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means “not at all” and 5 means “extremely effectively”.

1 2 3 4 5

21. Do you feel like the final recommendations reflect the participants’ consensus? Please answer the question on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means “not at all” and 5 means “definitely”.

1 2 3 4 5

Facilitation effectiveness

22. How would you rate the neutrality (not favoring certain opinions or offering theirs) of the facilitators during the Climate Assembly? Please answer the question on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means “not at all neutral” and 5 means “extremely neutral”.

1 2 3 4 5

23. How would you rate the overall performance of the facilitators during the Climate Assembly? Please answer the question on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means “very poor” and 5 means “excellent”.

1 2 3 4 5

24. Did you receive any feedback from the participants concerning the facilitation? Please explain the feedback you received.

.....

.....

.....

Any additional comments or feedback?

.....
.....
.....
.....

Thank you for your time!



Annex 4 – Facilitators survey

Climate Assemblies Performance Monitoring *Facilitator’s questionnaire*



The questionnaire is addressed to the facilitators of the Climate Assembly. The scope is to monitor and evaluate the baseline, the preparations made, the training of the facilitators and capture the essence of the Climate Assembly deliberative engagement. Your feedback is vital in helping us understand the assembly's effectiveness, its influence on participants, and ways we can improve future assemblies.

Your responses are completely confidential and will only be used for research purposes. You have the right to abstain from answering any question. Please access the informed consent form you can find [here before participating to the survey](#) to get informed about how CLIMAS consortium will use the data collected through this survey.

By pressing continue, you hereby consent voluntarily to be a participant in this survey, having been informed about the purpose in which your answers will be used, and the confidentiality of the information you provide.

1. What were the intended goals of the Climate Assembly?

.....
.....
.....
.....

2. What personal expectations did you have for the process?

.....
.....
.....
.....

3. Please choose the facilitation approach that you followed during the Climate Assembly meetings.

Directive table facilitation



(It involves small tables of members. These groups are guided by a facilitator who is responsible for task adherence and upholding fairness in proceedings, such as balancing speaking time among participants. To foster a diverse range of perspectives and discussions, members rotate between tables regularly.)

Citizen self-organization

(The groups were generally left to develop their own working patterns and share responsibilities for developing different recommendations. Facilitators intervened only when group dynamics became challenging.)

4. Did you receive any training before the beginning of the Climate Assembly?

Yes

No

If yes, please answer the following questions 5 - 10.

5. How would you rate the facilitators' training sessions prepared by the organisers? Please answer the question on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means "not at all useful" and 5 means "extremely useful".

1

2

3

4

5

6. To what extent do you think that your facilitation skills were improved by the facilitators' training sessions? Please answer the question on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means "not at all improved" and 5 means "extremely improved".

1

2

3

4

5

7. How would you characterize the training sessions? Please select more than one choice.

Informative and engaging

"The sessions were well-structured, providing valuable insights in an engaging way."

Practical and Hands-On

"The training was very hands-on, with exercises that helped reinforce the concepts."

- Collaborative and Interactive**
"There was a lot of interaction with other participants, which made learning feel collaborative."
- Clear and Easy to Follow**
"The material was explained clearly, and the pace was easy to follow."
- Challenging but Rewarding**
"Some parts were challenging, but the difficulty made it rewarding when I grasped the concepts."
- Inspiring and Motivating**
"The training inspired me to apply what I learned and motivated me to keep improving."
- Fast-Paced**
"The sessions were a bit fast-paced, and I sometimes struggled to keep up with the material."
- Repetitive or Too Basic**
"I felt that some parts were repetitive or too basic for my level of knowledge."

8. What knowledge did you gain from the training sessions in terms of the following skills? Please fill in the following table.

Skill	1 No Knowledge Gained	2 Minimal Knowledge Gained	3 Moderate Knowledge Gained	4 Considerable Knowledge Gained	5 Extensive Knowledge Gained
<i>Managing groups dynamics</i>					
Understanding Group Roles	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Facilitating Effective Collaboration	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Building Group Cohesion	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Adapting to Group Needs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Communication</i>					

Non-Verbal Communication <i>(Awareness of body language, tone of voice, and facial expressions to reinforce messages or sense the emotional climate of the group)</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Clear and Inclusive Language	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Active Listening <i>(Techniques for listening attentively, including paraphrasing, asking clarifying questions, and summarizing to ensure understanding)</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Characteristics of Citizens' Assemblies					
Purpose and Structure	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Deliberative Processes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Decision-Making Methods	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Conflict Management					
Identifying Conflict Sources	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
De-Escalation Techniques	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

<p>Mediation Skills</p> <p><i>(Basics of mediation, including helping parties identify common ground, encouraging empathy, and negotiating solutions)</i></p>	○	○	○	○	○
<p>Preventing Future Conflicts</p>	○	○	○	○	○

9. Did you apply this knowledge in practice during the Climate Assembly’s sessions?

Yes No

9A. If not, why do you think this happened?

.....

.....

.....

.....

10. In your opinion, were there any training sessions that were missing? Please describe and explain your suggestions. This will help us improve the following training sessions.

.....

.....

.....

.....

11. Were the resources assigned to the Climate Assembly adequate?

Yes No



11A. *If not, why do you think this happened? What activities do you think should be included in the procedure if further resources were available?*

.....

.....

.....

12. In your opinion, to what extent were the below parameters/democratic principles followed for reaching the optimal decision of the Climate Assembly?

	1 Not at all	2 A little	3 Enough	4 A lot
Equality (All participants had an equal chance to contribute, regardless of social status, power, or background.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Respectful Dialogue (Participants engaged respectfully, acknowledging each other's dignity and avoiding insults, attacks, or dismissive behavior.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Reason-Giving (Participants could provide reasons to support their views, appealing to logic, shared values, or evidence.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Open-Mindedness (Participants were willing to listen and consider changing their positions considering new arguments or evidence.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

<p>Transparency (The process and criteria for decision-making were clear and accessible to all.)</p>	○	○	○	○
---	---	---	---	---

12A. If any of the above was not at all followed, why do you think this happened?

.....

.....

13. Did you observe any changes in the participants' arguments as the discussions progressed? If yes, please mention, explain and comment on these changes.

.....

.....

.....

14. Did you receive any feedback or suggestions from participants to modify the sessions or add other sessions of the deliberation phase? If yes, please mention the feedback and/or suggestions and comment.

.....

.....

.....

15. Did you have to intervene to stop any conflicts amongst participants?

.....

.....

.....

16. Could you list the most prominent conflicting viewpoints that emerged during the deliberations?

.....

.....

.....

17. In your opinion, what could be improved in the process of deliberation?



.....

.....

.....



Annex 5 – Pre assembly participants surveys

Monitoring the depth of participants' learning and the impact of the Climate Assembly



Age Gender (m/f)

Educational level

Please indicate your highest educational attainment (e.g. kein Abschluss, Haupt- oder Realschulabschluss, Abitur/Hochschulreife, abgeschlossenes Studium, Promotion etc.).

Your input in this survey is crucial for enriching our comprehension of the assembly's process and outcomes. The questionnaire is designed to gather your valuable insights on climate issues before the beginning of the assembly. Your answers will remain confidential, and you have the right to abstain from answering any question.

1. How affected do you see Edermünde from effects of climate change (e.g. heavy floodings or extreme heat)? Please select the answer that best describes your viewpoint.

- 1- Not at all affected
- 2 - Little affected
- 3 - I'm not sure/I don't know
- 4 - Very affected
- 5 - Extremely affected

2. How concerned are you about the possible effects of climate change on you personally? Please mark the answer that best describes your viewpoint with an X.

- 1 – Not at all concerned
- 2 – A bit concerned
- 3 – Somewhat concerned
- 4 – Very concerned

- 5 – Extremely concerned
- I’m not sure/I don’t know

3. How much do you trust the following sources of information on climate change?

	1 No trust at all	2 Little trust	3 Some trust	4 General trust	5 Full trust	I don’t know
Science and research	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Politics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Environmental organizations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
News media	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Social media	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Friends and family	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

4. Are you aware of any local policies aimed at combatting climate change?

- 1 - Not aware at all
- 2 - Not very aware
- 3 - Somewhat aware
- 4 - Yes, very aware

Thank you for your time!

Monitoring the depth of participants' learning and the impact of the Climate Assembly



Educational level (please choose)	<input type="text" value="Primary education"/> <input type="text" value="Secondary education"/> <input type="text" value="Bachelor's or Equivalent level"/> <input type="text" value="Master's or Equivalent level"/> <input type="text" value="Doctoral or Equivalent level"/>	Municipality of birth	<input type="text"/>		
Place of birth	<input type="text"/>	Age	<input type="text"/>	Gender	<input type="text"/>
		Ethnicit	<input type="text"/>		
		Municipality of living	<input type="text"/>		

Your input in this survey is crucial for enriching our comprehension of the assembly's process and outcomes. The questionnaire is designed to gather your valuable insights on climate issues before the beginning of the assembly. Your answers will remain confidential, and you have the right to abstain from answering any question.

1. How affected do you see Riga from the effects of climate change (e.g. heavy floodings or extreme heat)? Please select the answer that best describes your viewpoint.

- 1 (Not at all affected)
- 2 (Little affected)
- 3 (I'm not sure/I don't know)
- 4 (Very affected)
- 5 (Extremely affected)

2. How concerned are you about the possible effects of climate change for yourself personally? Please select the answer that best describes your viewpoint.

- 1 (Not at all concerned)
- 2 (Little concerned)
- 3 (I'm not sure/I don't know)
- 4 (Very concerned)
- 5 (Extremely concerned)



3. How would you characterize the challenges below about urban greening plans in the city of Riga in terms of importance? Please answer the question on a scale of 1 to 5, where

1 means “Not at all important”,

2 means “A bit important”,

3 means “I am unsure or have mixed feelings”,

4 means “Quite important” and

5 means “Extremely important”

Water consumption increases for the maintenance of the green areas

1

2

3

4

5

Space constraints (greening plans might require the conversion of existing infrastructure, which could displace businesses or residents)

1

2

3

4

5

Inclusivity of green areas (e.g. lighting and accessibility for people with disabilities)

1

2

3

4

5

Cost for the implementation and maintenance

1

2

3

4

5

4. Do you believe that climate change will personally affect you or your community in your lifetime? Please select the answer that best describes your viewpoint.

1 (Yes, definitely)

2 (Probably)

3 (I’m not sure)

4 (Probably not)

5 (Not at all)

**5. How much do you trust the following sources of information on climate change?
Please answer the question on a scale of 1 to 5, where**

1 means “I do not trust at all”,

2 means “I have little trust”,

3 means “I am unsure or have mixed feelings”,

4 means “I generally trust” and

5 means “I fully trust”

Science and research

1

2

3

4

5

Politics

1

2

3

4

5

Environmental organizations

1

2

3

4

5

News media

1

2

3

4

5

Social media

1

2

3

4

5

Friends and family

1 2 3 4 5

6. Are you aware of any local policies aimed at combating climate change?

- Not aware at all
- Not very aware
- Somewhat aware
- Yes, very aware

Thank you for your time!

Annex 6 – Post assembly participants surveys

Questions 1-35 and 37 – 41 are the same for Edermünde and Riga CAs. Question 36 is added separately for Edermünde and Riga.

Climate Assemblies Performance Monitoring

Participant's questionnaire



We invite you to participate in a survey designed to evaluate the procedure of the Climate Assembly. This survey aims to gather insights on how the assembly may have influenced your understanding of climate issues, your views on policy and action, and any personal or professional changes you've experienced as a result. Your feedback is vital in helping us understand the assembly's effectiveness, its influence on participants like you, and ways we can improve future assemblies.

Your responses are completely confidential and will only be used for research purposes. You have the right to abstain from answering any question. Please access the informed consent form you can find **here before participating to the survey** to get informed about how CLIMAS consortium will use the data collected through this survey.

By pressing continue, you hereby consent voluntarily to be a participant in this survey, having been informed about the purpose in which your answers will be used, and the confidentiality of the information you provide.

1. Did you understand the purpose of the Climate Assembly from the invitation received?

Yes No

2. Did you understand the topic of deliberation at the Climate Assembly from the invitation received?

Yes No

3. Did you receive any preparatory material addresses to the participants?

Yes No



If yes, please answer questions 4 and 5. Otherwise, move to question 6.

4. Were the preparatory materials you received easy to understand?

- Not at all
- Slightly
- Enough
- The context was very clear to me

5. Did the information materials present balanced views on the issue under discussion?

- Yes
- No

6. Did you look up information yourself on [the issue under discussion] before or during your participation in the Climate Assembly?

- Yes
- No

6A. If yes, please check the sources that you search for this information:

- Newspapers' websites
- Social media (e.g. facebook, twitter, etc)
- Local websites
- You Tube

Bookstore/Library

7. Were you able to request from the organizers any additional information beyond that which was initially provided to you by the organizers?

Yes No

7A. If yes, please write the additional information you requested.

.....
.....

8. To what extent do you think that the facilitators were prepared to fulfil their duties? Please answer the question on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means “not at all prepared” and 5 means “extremely well prepared and trained”.

1 2 3 4 5

9. Did you feel that the selection process for the Climate Assembly was conducted in a manner that was unbiased and reflective of the wider community?

Not at all

Slightly

Enough

A lot

10. In your opinion, were there any groups or communities that were underrepresented in the Climate Assembly?

Yes No

10A. *If yes, please write which groups you think there were not represented:*

.....

11. In your opinion, were there any groups or communities that were overrepresented in the Climate Assembly?

Yes

No

11A. *If yes, please write which groups you think there were overrepresented:*

.....

12. Were the topics covered in the learning phase appropriate to achieve the Assembly's objectives?

Not at all

Slightly

Enough

A lot

13. In your opinion, were there any viewpoints relevant on the topics discussed that have not been addressed in the learning phase?

Yes

No

13A. *If yes, please mention these viewpoints:*

.....

.....

14. Has the learning phase enabled you to obtain the necessary knowledge to debate about the dilemmas?

- Not at all
- Slightly
- Enough
- A lot

14A. If your answer is “not at all” or “slightly” why do you think this happened?

.....

.....

.....

15. Did the invited speakers (experts) explain the topics well?

- Not at all
- Slightly
- Enough
- A lot

16. Did the facilitators explain the process well?

- Not at all
- Slightly
- Enough
- A lot

17. Was the support material (e.g. presentations, videos, etc.) used at the learning phase clear?

- Not at all
- Slightly
- Enough
- A lot

18. Was the support material (e.g. presentations, videos, etc.) used at the learning phase for the sessions relevant to [the deliberation topic]?

- Not at all
- Slightly
- Enough
- A lot

19. How satisfied are you with the overall learning phase? Please answer the question on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means “not at all satisfied” and 5 means “extremely satisfied”.

- 1**
- 2**
- 3**
- 4**
- 5**

20. In your opinion, what could be improved in the learning phase?

.....



21. In your opinion, were the objectives of the debate sessions clear?

- Not at all
- Slightly
- Enough
- A lot

22. During the discussions, did you have enough opportunities to express your views?

- Not at all
- Slightly
- Enough
- A lot

23. Regardless of whether you agree or disagree with the topic, how would you rate the strength of your opinion on the topic discussed?

- No opinion formed
- Very weak opinion
- Weak opinion
- Moderate opinion

- Strong opinion
- Very strong opinion

23A. In case of having a “moderate” opinion, did you finally express it?

- Not at all
- Slightly
- Enough
- A lot

24. In your opinion, did everyone have the opportunity to speak during the process?

- Yes
- No

24A. If yes, were all opinions heard equally on time (e.g. 10 minutes for each opinion)?

.....

.....

.....

24B. If not, why do you think this happened?

.....

.....

.....

.....

25. In your opinion, to what extent were the below parameters followed for reaching the optimal decision of the Climate Assembly?

	1 Not at all	2 A little	3 Enough	4 A lot
--	-----------------	---------------	-------------	------------



<p>Equality (All participants had an equal chance to contribute, regardless of social status, power, or background.)</p>	○	○	○	○
<p>Respectful Dialogue (Participants engaged respectfully, acknowledging each other's dignity and avoiding insults, attacks, or dismissive behavior.)</p>	○	○	○	○
<p>Reason-Giving (Participants could provide reasons to support their views, appealing to logic, shared values, or evidence.)</p>	○	○	○	○
<p>Open-Mindedness (Participants were willing to listen and consider changing their positions considering new arguments or evidence.)</p>	○	○	○	○
<p>Transparency (The process and criteria for decision-making were clear and accessible to all.)</p>	○	○	○	○

25A. If any of the above was not at all followed, why do you think this happened?

.....

26. In your opinion, what could be improved in the process of deliberation?

.....



.....

27. Do the assembly's outcomes represent diverse viewpoints? Please answer the question on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means "not at all" and 5 means "extremely effectively".

1	2	3	4	5
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

28. Do the final recommendations reflect the participants' consensus? Please answer the question on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means "not at all" and 5 means "definitely".

1	2	3	4	5
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

29. How would you rate the performance of the facilitators during the Climate Assembly? Please answer the question on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means "very poor" and 5 means "excellent".

1	2	3	4	5
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

30. How would you rate the neutrality (not favoring certain opinions or offering theirs) of the facilitators during the Climate Assembly? Please answer the question on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means "not at all neutral" and 5 means "extremely neutral".

1	2	3	4	5
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

31. Did the facilitators make sure that all views were heard? Please answer the question on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means "not at all" and 5 means "to a great extent".

1	2	3	4	5
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

32. Did you feel pressured to agree with the ideas or arguments of others? Please answer the question on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means “not at all” and 5 means “to a great extent”.

1 2 3 4 5

33. Based on the knowledge you gained during the assembly, how affected do you see Edermünde/Riga from effects of climate change (e.g. heavy floodings or extreme heat)? Please select the answer that best describes your viewpoint.

1 - Not at all affected

2 - Little affected

3 - Somewhat affected

4 - Very affected

5 - Extremely affected

34. How concerned are you about the possible effects of climate change on you personally? Please mark the answer that best describes your viewpoint with an X.

1 – Not at all concerned

2 – A bit concerned

3 – Somewhat concerned

4 – Very concerned

5 – Significantly concerned

35. To what extent do you feel your understanding of climate change impacts has changed as a result of your participation in this assembly? Please mark the answer that best describes your viewpoint with an X.

1 – Not at all changed

2 – A bit changed

3 – Somewhat changed

4 – Very changed

5 – Significantly changed

Edermünde CA: Question 36

36. Did your priorities for land use change after participating in this assembly? If so, how?

.....

.....

.....

.....

Riga CA: Question 36

36. Based on the knowledge you gained during the assembly, how would you characterize the below challenges about urban greening plans in the city of Riga in terms of importance? Please answer the question on a scale of 1 to 5, where

1 means “Not at all important”,

2 means “A bit important”,

3 means “I am unsure or have mixed feelings”,

4 means “Quite important” and

5 means “Extremely important”

36A. Water consumption increase for the maintenance of the green areas

1	2	3	4	5
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

36B. Space constrains (greening plans might require the conversion of existing infrastructure, which could displace businesses or residents)

1	2	3	4	5
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

36C. Inclusivity of green areas (e.g. lighting and accessibility for persons with disabilities)

1	2	3	4	5
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

36D. Cost for the implementation and maintenance

1	2	3	4	5
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



37. How useful did you find this assembly in helping you understand and think critically about climate issues in Edermünde? Please answer on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means “not at all useful” and 5 means “extremely useful.”

1 2 3 4 5

38. After this assembly, how confident do you feel in contributing to community discussions or decisions on climate-related issues? Please answer on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means “not at all confident” and 5 means “very confident.”

1 2 3 4 5

39. What were the most valuable takeaways from this assembly for you?

.....

.....

.....

.....

40. After this assembly, are you more likely to take personal or community actions to address climate change?

Yes No Maybe

41. What improvements would you suggest for future assemblies on climate issues?

.....

.....

.....

.....

Any additional comments or feedback?

.....

.....

.....

.....

Demographic data

1. Age

- Under 18
- 18-24
- 25-34
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55-64
- 65 or older
- Prefer not to say

2. Gender

- Male
- Female
- Non-binary
- Prefer not to say
- Other (please specify): _____

3. Education Level

- Less than high school
- High school diploma or equivalent
- Some college, no degree
- Bachelor’s degree
- Master’s degree
- Doctoral or professional degree
- Prefer not to say

4. Employment Status

- Employed full-time
- Employed part-time
- Self-employed



- Unemployed, seeking work
- Unemployed, not seeking work
- Student
- Retired
- Homemaker
- Prefer not to say

5. Household Size (number of people including yourself)

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5 or more

6. Number of Cars of the Household

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5 or more

**7. Income Level
(Annual Household Net Income)**

- 0€
- 1 - 25,000€
- 25,000€ - 49,999€
- 50,000€ - 74,999€
- 75,000€ - 99,999€
- 100,000€ or more
- Prefer not to say

8. Nationality:

9. Place of birth (city, country):

10. Municipality of living:

Thank you for your time!



Annex 7 – 6-months post assembly participants survey

Dear Participant,

Thank you once again for taking part in the Climate Assembly. Six months have passed, and we are interested in learning how the experience may have influenced your views, habits, and engagement with climate-related issues. This short survey (less than 10 minutes) will help us better understand the long-term impact of the assembly and improve future initiatives.

All responses will be kept anonymous and used for research and evaluation purposes only. By continuing, you consent to participate in this survey.

1. How concerned are you about climate change today?

- 1 - Not at all concerned
- 2 - Slightly concerned
- 3 - Moderately concerned
- 4 - Very concerned
- 5 - Extremely concerned

2. Has your level of concern about climate change changed since the assembly?

- 1 – Yes, I’m more concerned
- 2 – No, it’s about the same
- 3 – Yes, I’m less concerned
- 4 – Not sure

3. To what extent do you agree with the following statements?

	1- Strongly disagree	2- Disagree	3- Neither agree nor disagree	4- Agree	5-Strongly agree
a. I feel more informed about climate change than I did 6 months ago.					
b. I better understand the complexities of climate policy decisions.					
c. I believe citizens’ participation is important in climate policymaking.					
d. I feel empowered to take climate-related actions in my daily life.					

e. I feel empowered to participate in climate related initiatives in my community.					
---	--	--	--	--	--

4. Have you changed your personal habits or lifestyle in terms of climate change as a result of participating in the assembly?

- 1 – No
- 2 – Not sure
- 3 – Yes, slightly
- 4 – Yes, significantly

If yes, please specify what kind of changes you did (e.g., transport, diet, energy and water use, recycling):

.....

5. Since the assembly, have you participated in any of the following activities? (multiple answers possible)

- I shared knowledge about climate change with family/friends
- I attended a climate-related event or protest
- I contacted a policymaker about environmental issues
- I joined a climate or environmental group
- I participated in a sustainability initiative (local, school, work, etc.)
- Other: _____
- None of the above

6. Have you remained in contact with any other participants or organizers of the assembly?

- 1 – No
- 2 - Occasionally
- 3 - Yes, regularly

7. Do you feel that your voice was heard during the assembly?

- 1 - Not at all
- 2 - Slightly
- 3 - Somewhat
- 4 - Mostly
- 5 - Completely

8. Have you noticed any policy changes or local initiatives that align with the recommendations of the assembly?

- 1 - Yes
- 2 - No
- 3 - Not sure

If yes, please describe:



9. What was the most lasting takeaway or insight you gained from the climate assembly?

.....
.....

10. Would you recommend participating in a climate assembly to others?

- 1 - Yes
- 2 - Maybe
- 3 - No

Why yes or why not?.....

11. Do you have any suggestions for improving future climate assemblies?

.....
.....

Demographic data

1. Age

- Under 18
- 18-24
- 25-34
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55-64
- 65 or older
- Prefer not to say

2. Gender

- Male
- Female
- Non-binary
- Prefer not to say
- Other (please specify): _____

3. Education Level

- Less than high school
- High school diploma or equivalent
- Some college, no degree
- Bachelor's degree



- Master's degree
- Doctoral or professional degree
- Prefer not to say

4. Employment Status

- Employed full-time
- Employed part-time
- Self-employed
- Unemployed, seeking work
- Unemployed, not seeking work
- Student
- Retired
- Homemaker
- Prefer not to say

5. Income Level

(Annual Household Net Income)

- 0€
- 1 - 24,999€
- 25,000€ - 49,999€
- 50,000€ - 74,999€
- 75,000€ - 99,999€
- 100,000€ or more
- Prefer not to say

Annex 8 – Experts survey

Questionnaire for experts presenting the topic of deliberation at a Climate Assembly



This questionnaire aims to gather your valuable feedback and measure various aspects of your experience in participating as an observer to the Riga/Edermunde Climate Assembly. Your responses are confidential, and you have the right to abstain from answering any question. The collective insights will be shared publicly in an aggregated and anonymized form to preserve your privacy.

Preparation and Communication

- 1. How clear were the objectives of the CA communicated to you (e.g. by the organisers) before the assembly?**
 - Very clear
 - Somewhat clear
 - Neutral
 - Somewhat unclear
 - Very unclear
- 2. Did you receive adequate information about the session's/phase format (e.g. duration of your presentation, session's agenda)?**
 - Completely adequate
 - Mostly adequate
 - Neutral
 - Somewhat inadequate
 - Very inadequate

Presentation and Interaction

- 3. How would you rate the time allocated for your presentation?**
 - Very sufficient
 - Sufficient
 - Neutral
 - Insufficient



- Very insufficient

4. Did you feel the audience (assembly participants) was engaged during your presentation?

- Very engaged
- Somewhat engaged
- Neutral
- Somewhat disengaged
- Very disengaged

5. Were the questions and discussions following your presentation meaningful?

- Very meaningful
- Somewhat meaningful
- Neutral
- Somewhat meaningless
- Very meaningless

6. Were there any challenges in simplifying complex information for the audience? If yes, please describe.

.....

.....

.....

Reflection and Suggestions

7. What was the most rewarding aspect of participating in the assembly as an expert?

.....

.....

.....

8. Were there any aspects of the process that you found challenging?

.....

.....

.....

9. How could future assemblies better support experts in delivering their input?



.....
.....
.....

10. Would you be willing to participate in a similar assembly in the future? Why or why not?

.....
.....
.....

Any additional comments or feedback?

.....
.....
.....

Thank you for your time!



Annex 9 – Observers survey

Questionnaire for observers at Riga/Edermunde Climate Assembly



This questionnaire aims to gather your valuable feedback and measure various aspects of your experience in participating as an observer at the Riga/Edermunde Climate Assembly. Your responses are confidential, and you have the right to abstain from answering any question. The collective insights will be shared publicly in an aggregated and anonymized form to preserve your privacy.

Observer profile (please choose the profile that best describes your affiliation):

- Media/Press
- Academia
- Business
- Civil society (e.g. NGOs)
- Policy maker
- CLIMAS Partner
- Independent observer (e.g. citizen)
- Other (please specify):

Please indicate the session or sessions you observed in the Climate Assembly:

- 1st Session. Date, 2024.
- 2nd Session. Date, 2024.
- 3rd Session. Date, 2024.

Please specify the type(s) of session or sessions you have observed:

- Plenary sessions.
- Small group sessions. If they had a specific topic, please indicate which one:
-

Please briefly indicate the reason for your interest in observing the Riga/Edermunde Assembly.

.....

.....

.....

General Impressions



1. How would you rate the overall organization of the climate assembly?

(Please select "Not applicable" if this question doesn't pertain to your experience.)

- Excellent
- Good
- Average
- Poor
- Very poor
- I don't know
- Not applicable

2. Was the purpose of the Climate Assembly clear to you?

(Please select "Not applicable" if this question doesn't pertain to your experience.)

- Yes, completely clear
- Mostly clear
- Neutral
- Somewhat unclear
- Not clear at all
- I don't know
- Not applicable

3. What stood out to you as the most positive aspect or aspects of the assembly? Briefly explain which aspects and why.

.....

.....

.....

4. Were there any aspects that you found problematic or less effective? Briefly explain which aspects and why.

.....

.....

.....

Inclusivity and Representation

5. Do you think the participants of the assembly reflected a diverse and representative cross-section of the city/village (Riga, Edermünde)?

(Please select "Not applicable" if this question doesn't pertain to your experience.)



- Yes, fully representative
- Somewhat representative
- Neutral
- Not very representative
- Not at all representative
- I don't know
- Not applicable

6. Were the discussions inclusive, allowing all participants to share their views equally?

(If you observed multiple sessions, please fill in the following table for each session separately. Please select "Not applicable" if this question doesn't pertain to your experience.)

Answer	1st Session	2nd Session	3rd Session	4th Session	5th Session
Yes, completely inclusive					
Mostly inclusive					
Neutral					
Somewhat exclusive					
Not inclusive at all					
I don't know					
Not applicable					

7. Were participants provided with sufficient information to make informed decisions on the topics discussed?

(Please select "Not applicable" if this question doesn't pertain to your experience.)

- Yes, completely sufficient information
- Mostly sufficient
- Neutral
- Somewhat insufficient
- Not sufficient at all
- I don't know
- Not applicable

Deliberative Process



If you observed multiple sessions, please answer the following questions 8 - 13 for each session separately. For questions 8 – 13 please select "Not applicable" if a certain question doesn't pertain to your experience.

8. How effective were the facilitators in guiding the discussions?

Answer	1st Session	2nd Session	3rd Session	4 th Session	5 th Session
Extremely effective					
Very effective					
Moderately effective					
Slightly effective					
Not at all effective					
I don't know					
Not applicable					

9. Was the time allocated for deliberation sufficient for the complexity of the topics?

Answer	1st Session	2nd Session	3rd Session	4 th Session	5 th Session
Yes, more than enough					
Sufficient					
Neutral					
Insufficient					
Very insufficient					
I don't know					
Not applicable					

10. How suitable were the profiles of the experts for responding to citizen questions?

- **Completely suitable**– The experts were perfectly matched to the assembly's needs. Their responses were thorough, clear, and directly relevant, significantly enhancing the participants' understanding and deliberative process.
- **Mostly suitable** – The experts were well-suited to the assembly and answered the questions effectively. They demonstrated solid expertise and provided responses that contributed significantly to the deliberations.
- **Moderately suitable** – The experts' profiles matched the requirements of the assembly to a certain extent. While they addressed the questions adequately, there was room for improvement in depth or clarity.
- **Somewhat suitable** – The experts were able to answer some questions adequately, but there were noticeable gaps in their knowledge or communication skills for engaging with the participants effectively.
- **Not at all suitable** – The experts lacked the necessary knowledge or ability to effectively address the participants' questions. Their responses did not meet the expectations or needs of the assembly.

Answer	1st Session	2nd Session	3rd Session	4 th Session	5 th Session
Completely suitable					
Mostly suitable					
Moderately suitable					
Somewhat suitable					
Not at all suitable					
I don't know					
Not applicable					

11. Did the experts present the topic in a clear way?

Answer	1st Session	2nd Session	3rd Session	4 th Session	5 th Session
Yes, very clear					
Somewhat clear					
Neutral					
Somewhat unclear					
Not clear at all					
I don't know					
Not applicable					

12. Were the materials (e.g. video, photos, texts) provided easy to understand?

Answer	1st Session	2nd Session	3rd Session	4 th Session	5 th Session
Yes, very understandable					
Somewhat understandable					
Neutral					
Not very understandable					
Not at all understandable					
I don't know					
Not applicable					

13. Evaluate how the facilitation team kept the debate focused on the assigned tasks of each session.

Answer	1st Session	2nd Session	3rd Session	4 th Session	5 th Session
Completely focused					
Somewhat focused					
Neutral					
Not very focused					
Not at all focused					
I don't know					
Not applicable					

14. In case you perceived tensions or frustrations from the assembly members, evaluate how the facilitation team managed these moments during the sessions.

- **Appropriate management** – The facilitation team handled tensions and frustrations exceptionally well. They used effective strategies to defuse conflicts, ensured all participants felt heard, and maintained a positive and productive atmosphere.
- **Good management** – The facilitation team was effective in managing tensions. While not perfect, their approach was thoughtful and contributed significantly to resolving frustrations and maintaining focus.
- **Acceptable management** – The team’s management of tensions was adequate but lacked polish. While they were able to address some issues, their handling could have been more proactive or thorough.
- **Poor management** – The facilitation team struggled to manage tensions effectively. Their attempts to address frustrations were insufficient, and participants may have felt unresolved conflict or disengagement.
- **Inadequate management** – The facilitation team failed to address tensions or frustrations. Their handling may have worsened the situation, leaving participants feeling unsupported or ignored.
- **I did not perceive tensions or frustrations that would have had to be managed.**

Answer	1st Session	2nd Session	3rd Session	4 th Session	5 th Session
Appropriate management					
Good management					
Acceptable management					
Poor management					
Inadequate management					
I did not perceive tensions or frustrations					
Not applicable					

Outcomes and Recommendations

15. Do you believe the recommendations made by the assembly were well-informed?

(Please select "Not applicable" if this question doesn't pertain to your experience.)

- Yes, completely
- Mostly
- Neutral
- Not very much
- Not at all
- I don't know
- Not applicable

16. How do you perceive the likelihood of the assembly's recommendations being implemented by policymakers?

(Please select "Not applicable" if this question doesn't pertain to your experience.)

- Very likely
- Somewhat likely
- Neutral
- Somewhat unlikely
- Very unlikely
- I don't know
- Not applicable

Suggestions for Improvement

The following questions are optional, but your feedback is highly appreciated!

17. Comparison with other citizen assemblies: If you have prior experience observing or organizing other assemblies, highlight any aspect you consider to be a differentiator of the Riga/Edermünde climate assembly compared to other citizen assemblies.

.....
.....
.....

18. What could be improved in the organization or structure of the assembly?

.....
.....
.....

19. Do you have any recommendations for increasing the impact of the assembly's outcomes?

.....
.....
.....

Any additional comments or feedback?

.....
.....
.....

Thank you for your time!



Annex 10 – Policymakers semi-structured interview

Interview with the Policymakers of the Climate Assembly



This questionnaire aims to gather insights from policymakers convening the assembly. Your feedback is essential in understanding how the Climate Assembly's recommendations align with policy priorities and how they can be effectively integrated into decision-making.

2. How familiar were you with the Climate Assembly's processes before the beginning of the Climate Assembly?
3. In case your organisation convened the assembly, please explain why you selected to organize a climate assembly and not another deliberation process (e.g. focus group, workshop, public consultation).
4. Which were your objectives in organising the assembly? Was there any mandate for organising it? What policy problem was the process addressing?
5. Which was the process of setting the question(s)/topic of deliberation (e.g. bottom up – top down)? Who had a final say in the questions/ topic of deliberation?
6. Do you consider the recommendations relevant, comprehensive, integrating of the public knowledge regarding the elements of the deliberation topic?
7. Which recommendations do you consider most feasible for implementation based on the resources of (the name of the authority)? What additional information or support (e.g. from other governmental bodies, experts) would help you integrate the Climate Assembly's recommendations into policy-making?
8. What challenges do you foresee in implementing these recommendations?
9. In your view, now that the process has finished, do you consider that organising a climate assembly was a helpful way to address the policy issue at hand? Why?
10. What should we do differently next time? How could different parts of the process be improved next time?
11. Which are your overall impressions about the way the process went? Overall, were the objectives that were set out for this process achieved?

12. How likely are you to advocate for the implementation of Climate Assembly recommendations within your policy area?

Thank you for your time and input. Your feedback is invaluable in shaping climate policy and ensuring the success of the Climate Assembly’s recommendations.



Annex 11 – Materials of the special Session about CLIMAS project during the CEST Conference

The agenda of the Special Session

Session 22 Advancing Climate Resilience through Engagement of Citizens: Insights from the CLIMAS Project Room: C	
11:30 - 11:40	Kotrikla A., Fameli K., Polydoropoulou A., Ebrahimi Pour H., Veeckman C., Mpontozis D., Priniotaki G., Mačiulienė M., Gulevičiūtė G., Rahman A., Di Ciommo F., Kovaitė K., Skaržauskienė A. [454] Citizen-Collaborative Future Scenario Building Methodology
11:40 - 11:50	Priniotaki G., Fameli K., Kotrikla A., Polydoropoulou A., Mpontozis D., Di Ciommo F., Rahman A., Skaržauskienė A., Mačiulienė M., Gulevičiūtė G. [442] Empowering Participatory Climate Governance: The CLIMAS Toolbox for Citizen-Driven Adaptation Strategies in Europe
11:50 - 12:00	Fameli K., Kotrikla A., Polydoropoulou A., Priniotaki G., Mpontozis D., Di Ciommo F., Skaržauskienė A., Mačiulienė M., Gulevičiūtė G. [443] Evaluation Approach & Impact of Climate Assemblies
12:00 - 12:10	Fameli K., Kotrikla A., Polydoropoulou A., Priniotaki G., Mpontozis D., Mačiulienė M., Gulevičiūtė G., Hoffman J., Schaefer C., Apine A., Strazdiņa I., Di Ciommo F. [218] Measuring the Impact of Climate Assemblies Through Participant Surveys

12:20 - 12:30	Orfanou A., Alexopoulos C., Karelis C., Klontza E., Lekkas D., Charalalabidis Y.
12:20 - 12:30	<p>[451] Estimation of Carbon Footprint using citizen science: Insights from COMPAIR project</p> <p>Orfanou A.</p> <p>[452] The “waste management generation” factor: A critical parameter for assessing the carbon footprint of the hospitality industry</p>

Presentation about “Evaluation Approach & Impact of Climate Assemblies”





Abstract



19th International Conference on Environmental Science and Technology

Kos, Greece, 3 to 6 September 2025

Evaluation Approach & Impact of Climate Assemblies

KYRIAKI MARIA FAMELI^{1*}, ANNA MARIA KOTRIKLA¹, AMALIA POLYDOROPOULOU¹, GEORGIA PRINIOTAKI¹, DIMITRIOS MPONTOZIS¹, FLORIDEA DI CIOMMO², AELITA SKARŽAUSKIENĖ³, MONIKA MAČIULIENĖ³ AND GINTARĖ GULEVIČIŪTĖ³

¹University of the Aegean,

²CambiaMO,

³Vilnius Gediminas Technical University

*corresponding author: Kyriaki-Maria Fameli

e-mail: kmfameli@aegean.gr

Abstract

Climate Assemblies are structured deliberative processes that bring together a diverse group of citizens to deliberate on complex environmental challenges and contribute to shaping policy responses. This presentation explores the evaluation framework that was developed under the Horizon Europe-funded CLIMAS project. Through targeted surveys, different actors of a climate assembly (participants, observers, experts, organizers and facilitators) experiences, focusing on their understanding of climate issues, engagement during the process, and perceived outcomes of their participation were assessed. Results show that participants generally felt well-informed and supported, appreciated the inclusive nature of discussions, and valued the opportunity to discuss critically on climate adaptation challenges. However, the analysis of the responses indicated areas for improvement,

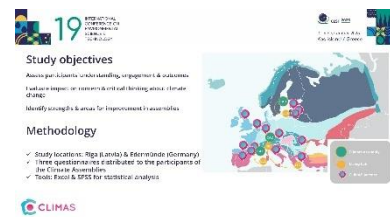
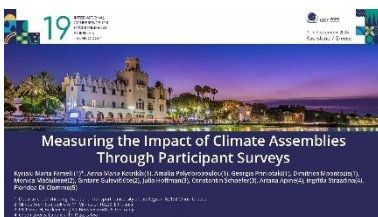
such as enhancing diversity among participants and refining the learning phase to improve accessibility and engagement. This study highlights the importance of ongoing evaluation and feedback to optimize the design of participatory processes. It provides evidence that well-structured climate assemblies can strengthen civic engagement, support critical thinking, and contribute meaningfully to more democratic and effective climate action.

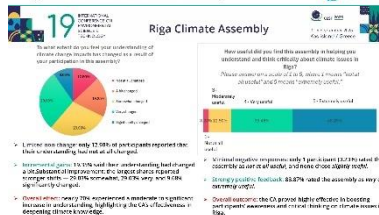
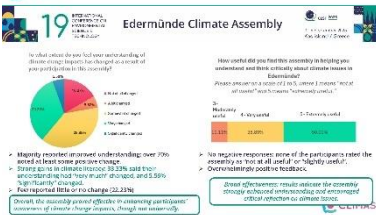
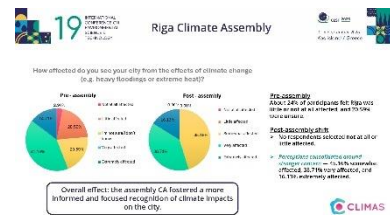
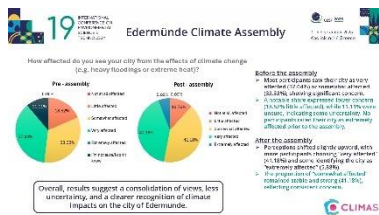
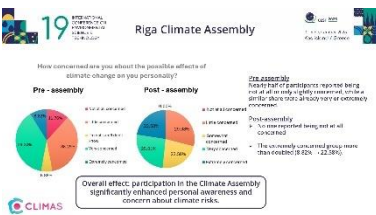
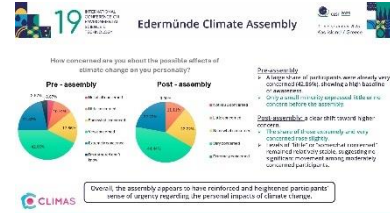
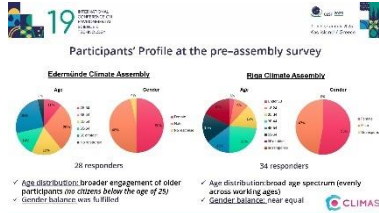
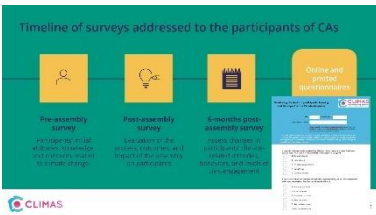
Keywords: climate change, citizens assembly, climate adaptation, participatory governance, deliberative democracy

Acknowledgement

This work has received funding from the European Union’s research and innovation programme Horizon Europe (CLIMAS project) under the grant agreement No. 101094021.

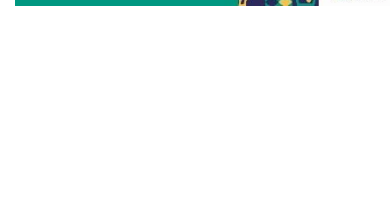
Presentation about “Measuring the Impact of Climate Assemblies Through Participant Surveys”





Conclusions

- Increased personal concern: participation in the Climate Assemblies consistently raised participants' sense of personal risk from climate change.
- Heightened local awareness: views on how climate change affects cities shifted toward stronger concerns, with especially resilient and participants increasingly recognizing their cities as somewhat, very, or extremely affected.
- Increased climate literacy: most participants reported a moderate to significant increase in their understanding of climate change impacts, confirming the assembly role in enhancing knowledge.
- Perceived confidence: the vast majority found the assemblies very or extremely useful for learning and sharing critically about climate issues, with only negligible negative responses.
- Overall effectiveness: the assemblies proved successful in raising awareness, deepening understanding, and fostering critical reflection, though a small minority reported limited change.



Extended abstract

19th International Conference on Environmental Science and Technology

Kos, Greece, 3 to 6 September 2025

Measuring the Impact of Climate Assemblies Through Participant Surveys

Kyriaki Maria Fameli¹, Anna Maria Kotrikla¹, Amalia Polydoropoulou¹, Georgia Priniotaki¹, Dimitrios Mpontozis¹, Monica Mačiulienė², Gintare Gulevičiūtė², Julia Hoffman³, Constantin Schaefer³, Ariana Apine⁴, Ingrida Straziņa⁴, ~~Floridea~~ Di Ciommo⁵

¹ Department of Shipping, Trade and Transport, University of the Aegean, 82132 Chios, Greece

² Vilniaus Tiekimo, Susitikimo AI 11, Vilnius LT-10023, Lithuania

³ IFOR: GmbH, Birken Ring 89, Düsseldorf 40225, Germany

⁴ Green Liberty, Lapa iela 13, Rīga, Latvia

⁵ ~~unpublished~~ changing mobility, c/ Duque de Feranda Número 2, P.º 28012, Madrid, Spain

*corresponding author: Fameli Kyriaki-Maria

e-mail: kmfameli@aegean.gr

Abstract. Climate assemblies provide a platform for citizens to deliberate and contribute to solutions for pressing environmental issues. Understanding their impact on participants is essential for evaluating their effectiveness and shaping future assemblies. This study presents the findings of surveys conducted among participants of two Climate Assemblies in Riga and ~~Germany~~. The surveys aimed to assess participants' understanding, engagement, and outcomes of their involvement, while exploring opportunities for improvement. Findings revealed that participants generally felt well-supported by the materials provided and valued satisfactorily the inclusivity of the discussions. However, feedback also highlighted areas for improvement, including ensuring balanced representation of underrepresented groups and optimizing the learning phase for greater clarity and engagement. The survey responses also pointed out that participants found the climate assembly useful in helping them understand and think critically about climate issues, suggesting that climate assemblies can significantly empower citizens to engage critically with environmental challenges. This study's findings will inform the design and execution of future assemblies, ensuring they remain effective platforms for citizen engagement in addressing climate change.

Keywords: climate change, citizen assembly, climate adaptation, crowdsourcing

1. Introduction

In the face of increasing concern about climate change, the need for inclusive, participatory approaches to environmental governance has become important. Climate assemblies—deliberative forums that engage citizens directly in climate policy discussions—have emerged as a promising mechanism to bridge the gap between expert knowledge, policy-making, and public perspectives (Elstub et al. 2021). By involving randomly selected,

demographically diverse participants in structured discussions and decision-making processes, these assemblies aim to foster informed debate, civic empowerment, and socially legitimate recommendations. The impact of climate assemblies is related to: a) state-level actions, such as policy changes or resource allocation by politicians and civil servants; b) civil society, including assembly participants, the public, media, businesses, NGOs, and advisory bodies and c) structural changes, like shifts in democratic processes and economic models (e.g., towards sufficiency economics) (Demski, 2024). This study contributes to the investigation of participants' perceptions of the assembly, changes in their understanding of climate issues and levels of concern during two Climate Assemblies (CAs) held in Riga, Latvia and ~~Germany~~, Germany, within the framework of the Horizon Europe-funded CLIMAS project.

2. Materials and Methods

Two questionnaires—distributed before and after the climate assemblies—were used to assess participants' views on various aspects of the process, including the preparatory materials, expert presentations during the learning phase, facilitation, the deliberation process, and the inclusivity of participation. This study focuses specifically on evaluating the impact of the assemblies on participants' attitudes toward climate change. Therefore, only responses related to this objective are discussed. The analysis examines the perceived personal impact of climate change, and changes in participants' critical thinking. It should be noted that the number of responses differs between the pre- and post-assembly surveys, primarily due to some participants being absent during the final session. The responses were analyzed with descriptive statistics and graphs using excel and SPSS software.



3. Results and Discussions

The demographic data collected from the CAs in **Ēdervārdie CA** and Riga reveal both similarities and variations in participants composition. In terms of gender balance, both assemblies maintained equal representation, with slight fluctuations: female participation in **Ēdervārdie CA** decreased from 50.00% pre-assembly to 44.44% post-assembly, while in Riga, it remained relatively stable (52.94% to 51.61%). Male representation correspondingly increased in **Ēdervārdie CA** and remained almost unchanged in Riga. Age distribution shows a broader engagement of older participants in **Ēdervārdie CA**, while Riga's participants age profile was more equally distributed across working-age groups. The responses to the question "How concerned are you about the possible effects of climate change for yourself personally?" indicate a generally high and slightly increasing level of concern among participants in both Riga and **Ēdervārdie CA**. In Riga, prior to the assembly, 38.24% of respondents stated they were "very concerned" and 8.82% were "extremely concerned," while 47.05% expressed lower levels of concern. Post-assembly, responses shifted toward a more nuanced distribution, but with a notable reduction in the proportion of those minimally concerned—0% responded "not at all concerned" compared to 11.76% pre-assembly. Additionally, 48.39% of **respondents** post-assembly identified as "very" or "extremely concerned," indicating a slight overall increase in higher levels of concern. In **Ēdervārdie CA**, concern was already high prior to the assembly, with 42.86% "very concerned" and 21.43%

"extremely concerned." These levels remained consistent after the assembly, with 44.44% "very concerned" and 22.22% "extremely concerned." Importantly, the proportion of respondents expressing low or no concern dropped to 11.11% post-assembly from 14.28% pre-assembly ("not at all" and "little concerned"). Overall, the data suggests that participation in the assemblies slightly increased individuals' awareness and concern regarding the personal impacts of climate change. The post-assembly responses to the question "To what extent do you feel your understanding of climate change impacts has changed as a result of your participation in this assembly?" suggest that the citizens' assemblies contributed to varying degrees of learning among participants, with a substantial share reporting moderate to strong gains in understanding (Figure 1). In Riga, 67.74% of respondents indicated that their understanding had changed at least "somewhat," with 29.03% selecting "somewhat changed," another 29.03% "very changed," and 9.68% "significantly changed." A smaller portion of participants reported only minor or no change, with 19.35% choosing "a bit changed" and 12.90% "not at all changed." In **Ēdervārdie CA**, responses followed a similar trend, with 72.22% of participants reporting at least a "somewhat" improved understanding—38.89% "somewhat changed," 33.33% "very changed," and 5.56% "significantly changed." Fewer participants reported only slight or no change, (5.56% "a bit changed" and 16.67% "not at all changed"). These results indicate that both assemblies were effective in enhancing participants' awareness of climate change impacts.

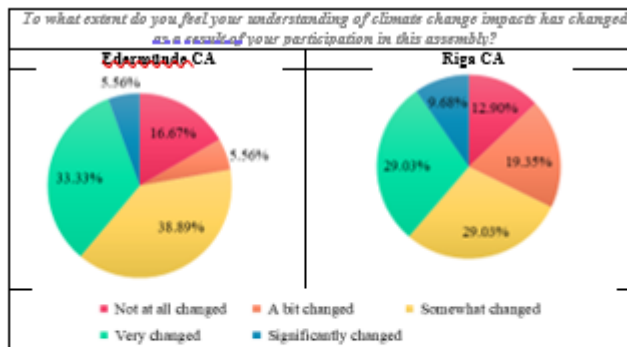


Figure 1. Participants' view on understanding of climate change impacts following the climate assembly.

Acknowledgement

This work has received funding from the European Union's research and innovation programme Horizon Europe (CLIMAS project) under the grant agreement No. 101094021.

References

Elstub S., Carrick J., Farrell D. M., Meddler, P. (2021), The scope of climate assemblies: Lessons from the climate

assembly UK, *Sustainability*, **13**, 11272. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su132011272>

Demski, C., Capstick, S., & Bealand, M. H. (2024). *Impact Evaluation Framework for Climate Assemblies*. KNOCA (KNOCA - Knowledge Network On Climate Assemblies)

Annex 12 – Training session presentation about monitoring and evaluation of Climate Assemblies

Training Session 3: Monitoring and Impact Methodology

Kyriaki Maria Farneti and Konstantina Maziarioti

17th March 2024, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (GMT+2)

17th March 2024, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (GMT+2)

Monitoring & Evaluation in practice...

Surveys and interviews across multiple actors of a Climate Assembly:

- Participants
- Observers
- Experts
- Organizers
- Facilitators

17th March 2024, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (GMT+2)

What Are the Climate Assemblies?

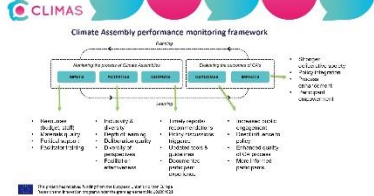
- Structured deliberative processes
- Bring together diverse citizens
- Address complex climate challenges
- Enable citizens & policymaking

Climate assemblies are usually commissioned by public officials at various levels of government. They focus on a specific task that guides their learning, deliberation, and recommendations.

Why Monitor & Evaluate Climate Assemblies?

- Evaluate effectiveness & legitimacy
- Capture awareness of different actors
- Identify strengths & areas for improvement
- Contribute to evidence-based design

17th March 2024, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (GMT+2)



Participants

Pre-assembly survey: assess knowledge, attitudes, and policy views, inform design, follow-up survey to measure impact on education & engagement.

Participants questionnaire sections

- Introductory questions
- Individual assessment of engagement
- Preparatory materials
- Quality of deliberation
- Quantity of perspectives on issues explored
- Facilitator effectiveness
- Participant experience
- Participant performance changes before and after the assembly

17th March 2024, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (GMT+2)

Organizers

Pre-assembly survey: assess knowledge, attitudes, and policy views, inform design, follow-up survey to measure impact on education & engagement.

Facilitators

Pre-assembly survey: assess knowledge, attitudes, and policy views, inform design, follow-up survey to measure impact on education & engagement.

17th March 2024, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (GMT+2)

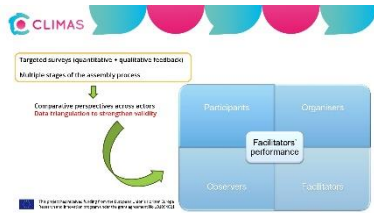
Experts

Pre-assembly survey: assess knowledge, attitudes, and policy views, inform design, follow-up survey to measure impact on education & engagement.

Observers

Pre-assembly survey: assess knowledge, attitudes, and policy views, inform design, follow-up survey to measure impact on education & engagement.

17th March 2024, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (GMT+2)



Policy makers

Follow-up surveys: 30 months after assembly

- Evaluate of recommendation adoption
- Policy implementation changes for key economic objectives
- Reforms in official or team strategies & plans

17th March 2024, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (GMT+2)

Key Findings: Positive Outcomes

Participants

- Well-informed & supported
- Agreed on a set of concrete climate actions
- Critical challenges in climate adaptation challenges
- Aware of the importance of academic involvement and societal science

Observers

- Strong organization and facilitation were clearly highlighted, with observations on the quality of the process, effective moderation, and the dialogue, and a notable amount of time to support informed deliberation.
- Positive participant engagement was noted, with questions focused on open, respectful, and community-oriented, fostering a sense of being engaged and meaningful in the past weeks.

17th March 2024, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (GMT+2)

Key Findings: Areas for Improvement 1/2

- Broaden participant diversity to ensure more representative perspectives.
- Narrow the scope of topics with a clearer focus on specific objectives.
- Address participation challenges by refining methods to manage time constraints, balance across geographical areas, and support regional variations.
- Enhance citizen-expert interaction to strengthen understanding and trust in expert input.

17th March 2024, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (GMT+2)

Key Findings: Areas for Improvement 2/2

- Provide space for experts debate to enrich the learning process.
- Allocate additional time for deliberation to allow more in-depth discussions.
- Improve procedures to route clearer organization, targeted facilitation, and options for participants to submit written contributions without time pressure.
- Ensure stronger policy uptake by strengthening the link between recommendations and decision-making.
- Implement long-term follow-up to track the impacts of assemblies over time.

17th March 2024, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (GMT+2)

Lessons Learned

Evaluation of Climate Assemblies	Impact of Climate Assemblies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuous evaluation is essential Feedback loops improve assembly design Tailoring learning & facilitation boosts inclusivity Assemblies are valuable democratic innovations for climate governance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthens local participation & trust Fosters critical thinking on climate issues Provides legitimacy to policy recommendations Build momentum for concrete climate actions

17th March 2024, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (GMT+2)

Thank you for your attention!

Kyriaki Maria Farneti
k.farneti@region.gr

17th March 2024, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (GMT+2)