

What Would it Actually Mean to Implement a Participatory Budgeting in Your City?

Jelena Brbora
Alisa Aliti Vlastic



Grad Dubrovnik



Content:

1. Let's talk some theory! – principles and mechanics of PB
2. Prepare your own PB! – what do you need to think about in advance?
3. Be a citizen in PB! – what is it like to be involved as a citizen in PB?

What is Participatory Budgeting?

It is a democratic process that directly involves local people in making decisions on the spending and priorities for a defined public budget.

***"If it feels like we have decided ... it is PB.
If it feels like someone else has decided, it isn't."***

Brazilian resident involved in PB

Development of PB

- **Begin in Porto Alegre, Brasil in 1980's (city of 1.5 m inhabitants)**
- **Now in 300+ cities worldwide, include over 25 cities in Europe**
- **Identified as a good practice by numerous international institutions (including World Bank, UNESCO, OECD, etc.)**

Cascais, Portugal example

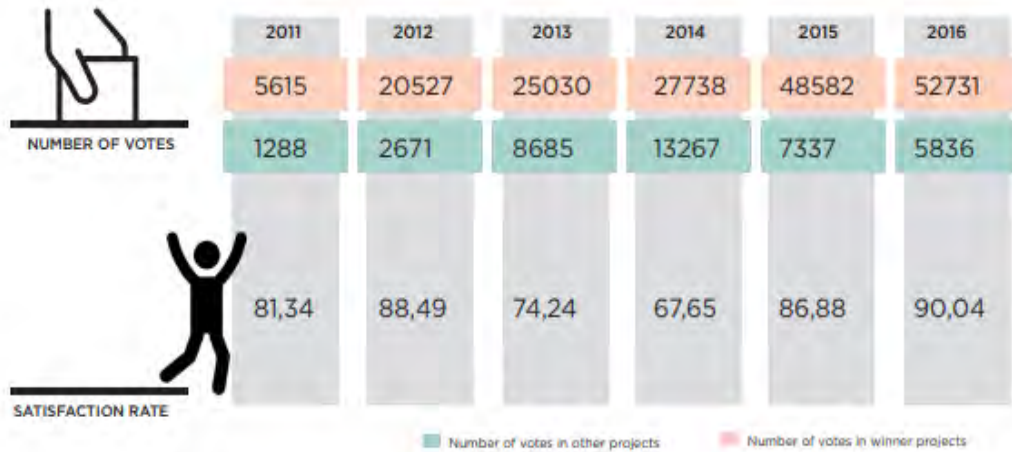


Figura 8: Number of votes and satisfaction rate of participants [2011-2016]

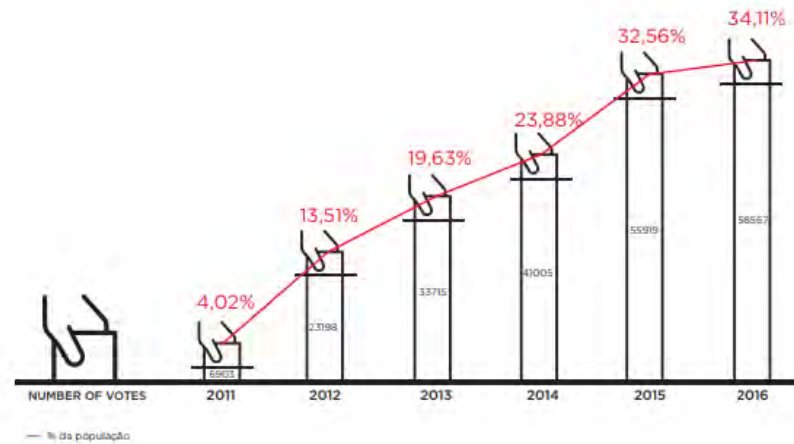


Figure 9: Number of registered votes and their percentage in relation to the population aged 16+ [2011-2016]



FigurE 4: Distribution of winning projects by areas of intervention [2011-2016]

Founding Principles

Voice

Vote

Oversight

Social Justice

PB Risks

Viewed as another 'trendy thing'

Lack of support from councilors / mayor

Hijacked by interest groups

Top Down

PB Preconditions

Political will (!!!)

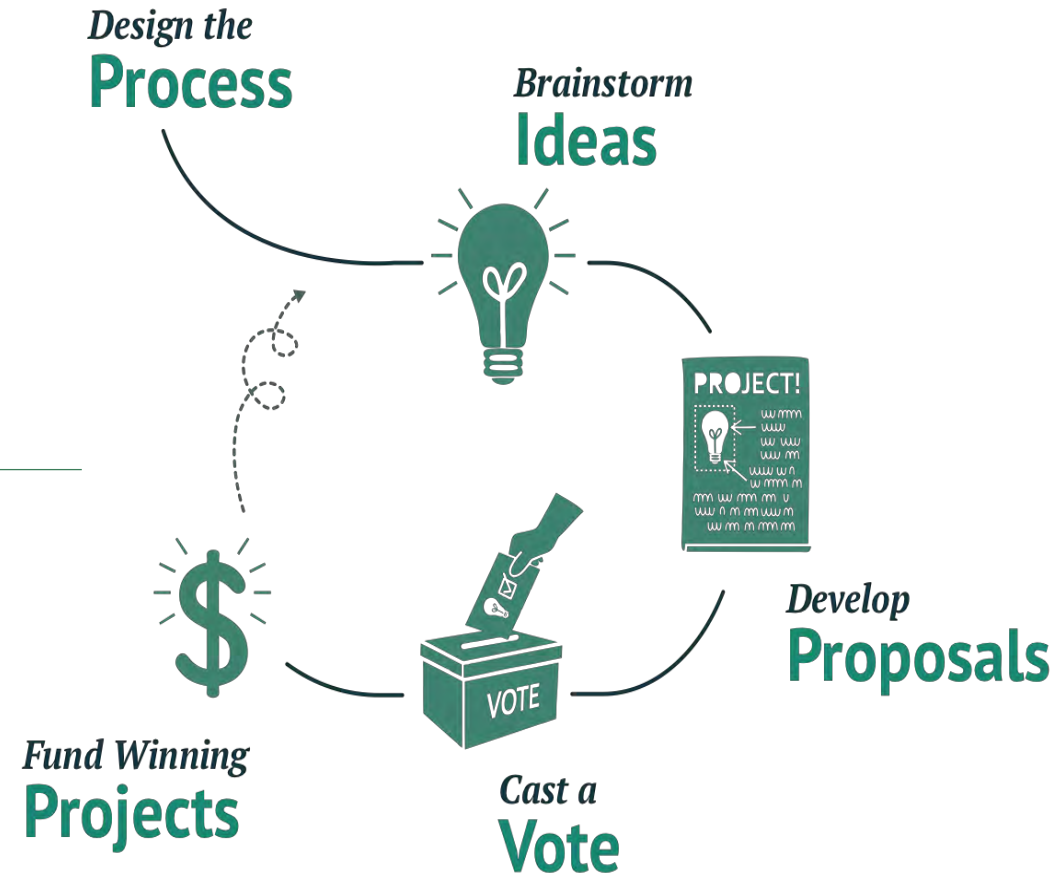
Strong commitment

Methodology

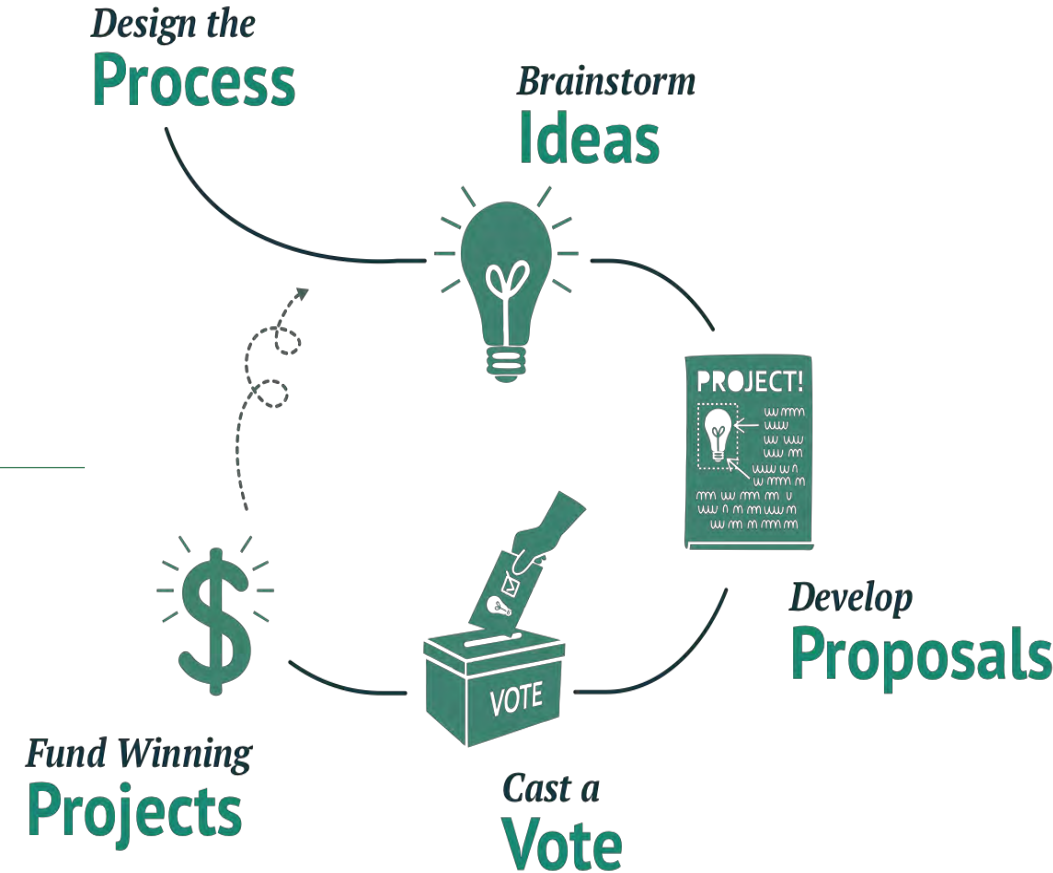
Capacity building

Time

Every city should
**create their 'tailor-
made' model**



Now, let's design
our Process!



Three tables – Three topics – Three preconditions

Project Criteria

- Max amount per project
- Jurisdiction
- Sustainability
- Implementation period
- ...?

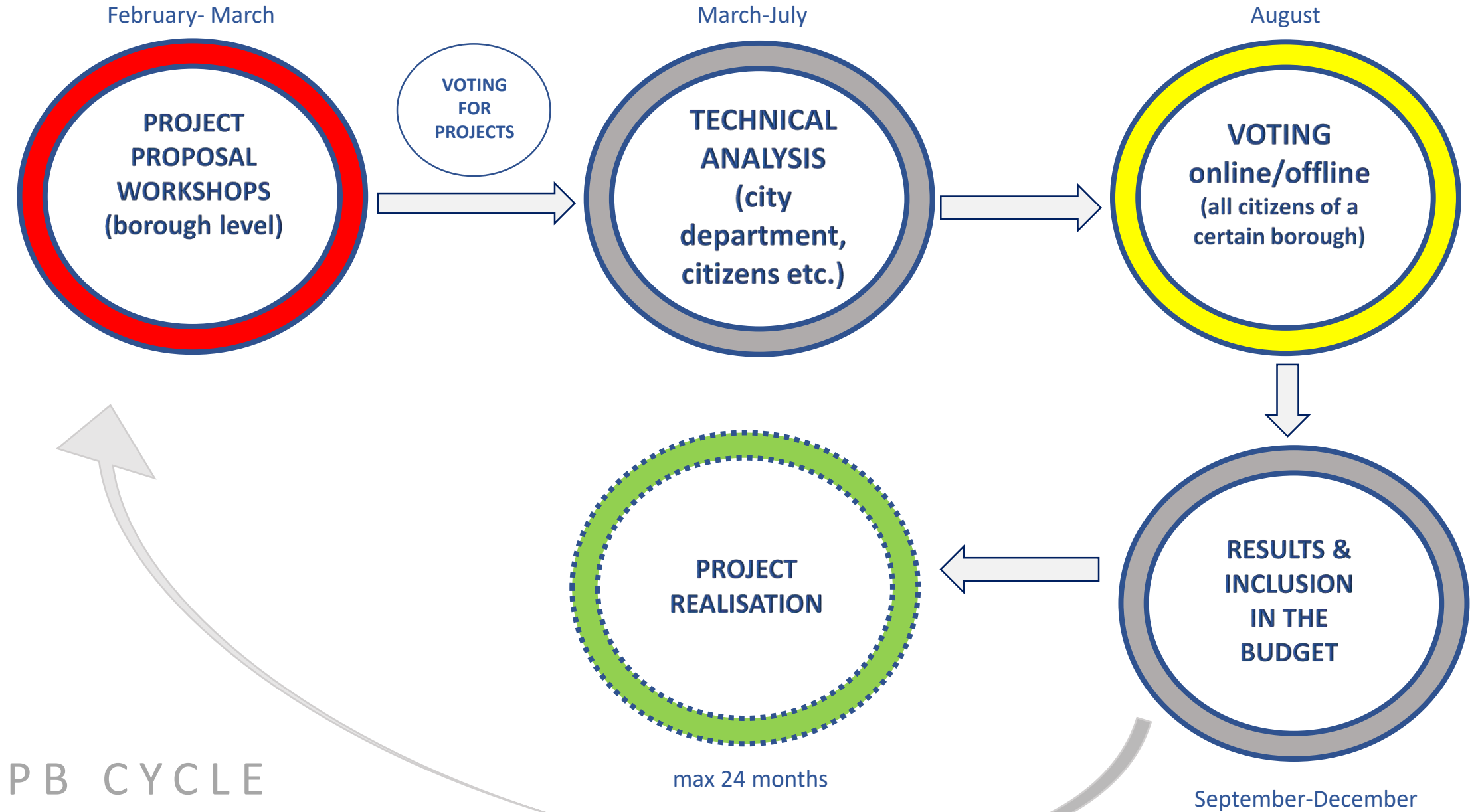


Stakeholders

- Who to include in the core team
- Who could bring risk
- Who could influence the process
- ...?

Challenges to think about

- Platform for voting
- Media campaign
- Citizen involvement
- ...?



P B C Y C L E

Experiencing PB workshops

Each participant should propose one PB project idea for their city (think about defined criteria)

Argument it well to the peers

Agree on 3 projects / per table

Lets vote on the 2 that are going to be implemented!



#zatojerjevažno
#pbdbk

THANK YOU!

Jelena Brbora;

Senior Associate for Local Development and EU funding

jbrbora@dura.hr

Alisa Aliti Vlašić;

Senior Advisor for Local Development and EU funding

avlastic@dura.hr