ASSEMBLEA CIUTADANA PEL CLIMA

ILLES BALEARS

A PROPOSAL FOR THE CREATION OF A CITIZENS' CLIMATE ASSEMBLY IN THE BALEARIC ISLANDS

MALLORCA

MENORCA

EIVISSA

FORMENTERA

🌿 6. Proposal.

6.1. Regional coordination.

Given the geographical, social and institutional complexity of the Balearic Islands, we propose holding the CCA in two phases. The first phase will take place at the island level, focussing on measures within the area of competence of the islands themselves, with assemblies being held in parallel in Mallorca, Menorca, Ibiza and Formentera. A second phase will then take place at the regional level, to enable coordination across the Autonomous Community of the Balearic Islands. The first phase will involve a total of five sessions on each island, while the second will take place over a single session. The first five sessions will identify proposals that require regional level decision-making so that they can be put to the regional assembly. The regional assembly may then carry these proposals forward to the appropriate level (regional, national, European).

The proposed procedure is as follows:

Session 1 (simultaneous): The first session is informative and introductory and will be held simultaneously on the four islands. It will be divided into two parts. The first will involve talks from the group of expert advisors and will be broadcast live across all the islands, with participants given the opportunity to ask questions. The second will take place separately on each island and will be aimed at introducing the group to one another, as well as explaining the assembly's methodology and how the different sessions will work.

Island sessions (4): There will be three thematic sessions (see point 3) in which participants will learn from the expert advisors, as well as deliberating and drawing up proposals. There will also be a further session for review, and in which a final vote will be held on all the proposals.

Final regional session (1): this session will cover issues of regional and, if required, supra-regional scope. To avoid the over-representation of Mallorca, we recommend considering compensatory mechanisms. For example, we propose that the four islands have equal representation (10 people) in the regional assembly. Each of the island assemblies will be sovereign with respect to its area of competence. In no circumstances may proposals approved by the plenary of each island, and within their area of competence, be overruled or amended during this phase.

Although the proposed model for the assemblies is decentralised, organisation and monitoring will be coordinated to make sure the process is consistent across the islands. We therefore propose setting up a regional coordination team which will be involved throughout. The issues covered, the facilitation team and the advisors should, as far as possible, be the same on each island, to guarantee the consistency of the assemblies and their results.

This means that sessions must rotate between islands over consecutive weeks. Since there will be five sessions per island, as well as one regional session, and each session will take place during the weekend, the entire process will last five months. Assembly participants will be summoned once a month, and participants in the regional assembly will have to attend one additional session.

In Mallorca, we propose holding the sessions in different parts of the island, so that travel requirements are shared evenly between participants. If this is not possible, we propose holding all the sessions at a location in the centre of the island.

6.2. Selection system, sample and number of participants.

This proposal aims to prepare the way for an effective participatory process without soaring costs. We therefore propose the following participant limits:

- Mallorca: 100 people;
- Menorca: 50 - 100 people;
- Ibiza: 50 - 100 people;
- Formentera: 30 people;
- Regional Assembly: 40 people (10 per island, selected from participants in the island assemblies).

6.3. Topics and the roles of expert advisors and facilitators.

The following proposal for distributing topics across the sessions is open to evaluation and refinement by the expert advisors and coordination team. Should we decide to reduce the range of topics and sub-topics to be dealt with, we recommend prioritising those issues which are most widespread or have the greatest impact in the context of the climate emergency. We also recommend prioritising issues relating to changes in the production model and in the sectors most responsible for holding back the ecological transition, and that contribute most heavily to climate change.

Session I - Participation and deliberation techniques. Global and local context of climate change (causes, impacts, scenarios, mitigation, adaptation). Regulatory framework: Paris Agreement, EU Strategy, national and regional laws on climate change, energy transition plans, etc.

Session II - Transport and mobility (land, air and sea transport).

Session III - Energy and materials (electricity generation, hot water and heating, cooling, efficiency, consumption and waste, energy poverty).

Session IV - Terrestrial and marine ecosystems (water, agriculture and livestock, land use and management, biodiversity, carbon sinks).

There are two additional issues which must be considered across all sessions. First, the need to address issues at both the macro level (production model and policy) and the micro level (consumption and behaviour/smaller actions). Secondly, discussion must take into account the social reality of the islands and the need to ensure a socially just transition within the framework of the post-covid recovery. Furthermore, the proposals and conclusions of each session must be oriented towards the responsibilities of different levels of society: the public, business and government.

The topics could be addressed in different ways, such as:

The system used to select participants will be a *stratified randomised public draw*. We propose using the following variables to ensure the selected sample is representative:

1. Age,

2. Gender,

3. Level of education,

4. Income level

5. Geographical criteria such as place of residence or rural/urban balance.

It is important that income be factored in because it is a significant determinant of social inclusion. We are able to do this thanks to work done by the Economic and Social Council (CES) on universal basic income, and by cross-referencing electoral register data for a significant sample with data from the Tax Agency.

We propose extending the age of eligibility to 16 years, so that younger generations are better represented within the sample. Similarly, rather than an even age distribution, we recommend weighting the sample towards younger people.

In line with our **wish to include the perspective of younger generations, and especially children,** and based on discussions with UNICEF, we propose including mechanisms for children of all ages to participate in the assembly process in the proposal design and schedule. This could be done by linking the assemblies to the work UNICEF is carrying out in primary and secondary schools over the 2021-2022 school year, the theme of which is la *Liga por la Tierra* (The Earth League). Children's views could also be voiced by their representatives in the Local Children's Councils, who could take part in the first session of each assembly.

A. Questions to stimulate reflection and debate.

B. Pros and cons of proposals drawn up previously and different possible scenarios.

C. Collective discussion based on the study of success stories from elsewhere.

D. Cost/benefit analysis of scenarios, initiatives and measures, taking into account their ecological and social impact.

It is worth highlighting the importance of both methodology and the role of the coordination team, expert advisors and facilitators to the effectiveness of the above process.

Other issues that should be taken into account include the importance of effective and positive communication, both by the expert advisors, and within the assembly more generally, for which the role of the facilitators will once again be key. To ensure that the assembly takes place in a proactive, rather than pessimistic, atmosphere, it is important to point to the new opportunities that our efforts to combat the climate emergency may open up: new job opportunities,

improved public health, better quality of life, etc.

It is also important that participants are properly looked after so that they feel safe and empowered. Similarly, some form of psychological support could be offered to help participants cope with the stress that may be caused by increased awareness of the reality of climate change. Games or activities could be used to help people express and confront their fears in a positive and collective way.

Experts in public policy and governance should also have a role in the assemblies so that they can help direct proposals to the appropriate level of government and administrative bodies.

Finally, it is important to emphasise that the role of the expert advisors is not simply to give a one-off talk, but to be available throughout the process to answer any questions participants may have. In addition, the talks by both expert advisors and relevant stakeholders will be recorded and made available to the public, either in audio-visual or written form.

Inviting island-specific organisations to collaborate with the assemblies in an advisory or facilitatory capacity, such as Menorca's OBSAM, could prove particularly beneficial.

6.4. Role of economic actors and social organisations.

We propose that economic actors (companies and trade unions) and social organisations (environmental organisations and others) based within the Balearic Islands participate in the island assemblies. Once the expert advisors have given their talks, representatives of these organisations could briefly explain their position on the topics to be discussed in each session.

We will ensure that the range of organisations involved in the assemblies is plural and diverse, but also that the extent of their involvement is compatible with giving assembly participants enough time to deliberate.

6.5. The question posed to each assembly.

We propose that the initial question posed to each island assembly, as well as to the regional assembly, be the following:

> *"What do we need to do in the Balearic Islands and in XX (*) before 2030 to confront the climate emergency in an effective and socially just way?"*

* Add the name of the island where the assembly is being held (excluding regional assembly): Formentera, Ibiza, Mallorca and Menorca.

This question is based on an analysis of the those posed at other citizens' assemblies in Europe, and

the opinions expressed by the different stakeholders on the islands, taking into account, among others, the following criteria:

A. The importance of setting an intermediate timeframe (in this case 2030), which is not too far in the future and is compatible with the strategic plans and documents currently being implemented by a range of institutions. This shorter timeframe will feel more tangible to CCA participants that 2050.

B. The importance of directing the question put to the assembly towards reflection and strategic action.

C. The importance of keeping the issue of social justice in mind. The Balearic Islands have suffered the greatest drop in GDP due to COVID-19 in Southern Europe, and the social outlook for the islands is bleak at the moment, when considering the problems affecting much of the population, such as limited access to housing. We therefore believe that the question must address the issue of social welfare and how the proposals will be directed towards, among other things, reorienting the productive sectors of the economy, and creating employment and business opportunities.

6.6. Deliberation process: time and format. Facilitation Group.

Beyond what we have already discussed above, we propose that all working groups formed following the talks by the group of expert advisors and other organisations/stakeholders work on all the topics covered at each session. Each group will issue a number of proposals to the plenary session of the assembly (a minimum of two and a maximum yet to be set).

The definitive set of proposals from each session will then be chosen at the plenary. For example, between 5 and 10 proposals for each topic or subtopic.

We recommend setting a time limit to guarantee the active participation of everyone involved in the CCA. The facilitators will ensure that the methodology used is focused on approving proposals by consensus wherever possible. The issues mentioned in point 3 must be taken into account in this regard.

We propose introducing a feedback and validation process for proposals issued from the plenary. This would take the form of a **review phase,** to take place during the final island session. This phase will allow the expert advisors to give their assessment on the preliminary proposals. This would leave the assembly with time to review or amend them in the final island session if deemed necessary.

In addition, this last session at the island level gives the assembly an opportunity to hold a constructive debate on the entire package of proposals coming out of the previous sessions. Aside from prioritising and analysing the viability of the proposals, with the help of the expert advisors, this will also provide an opportunity to select the proposals that need to be carried forward to the regional assembly, based on set criteria.

Since citizens' climate assemblies are an open process, procedures will be put in place to allow members of the public to submit their own proposals, in parallel with the assemblies themselves.

We propose opening participation up to the general public through the climate assembly website, so that they can submit proposals to be debated in the appropriate session according to the topic, and in accordance with feasibility criteria established by the coordinating commission under the guidance of the expert advisors.

The **legal principle of non-regression** must be observed in relation to all proposals. This means that they must not represent a step backwards in relation to the measures and legislative framework on climate change currently in place (for example, the assembly may not propose scaling down the targets for lowering greenhouse gas emissions enshrined in the Balearic Islands Climate Change Law, but it may propose making these targets more ambitious).

6.7. Communication and transparency.

Given the importance of communication to the assemblies, we recommend making use of professional support in this area, with someone specifically responsible for communication throughout.

However, the deliberations must take place behind closed doors and the anonymity of the assembly members must be guaranteed, to avoid any external pressure being put on participants.

We will create an assembly website, which will help to raise awareness of the process, and to educate and inform the general public. This will also serve as a space for the public to submit their own proposals to the assemblies.

Phase I: Campaign ahead of the CCA to raise awareness about the assemblies and generate positive publicity.

- Campaign to engage the public. Include proposals from the general public via questions, letters, social media, etc.

- A series of 'inspirational' public lectures to be held alongside the campaign.

- Documentary screenings and debates on climate change across the islands' main towns and cities.

- Promotional video and videos of climate assemblies held elsewhere.

- Involvement of journalists and broadcasters, especially public ones.

Phase II (during the CCA):

- Ensure that talks by expert advisors are broadcast, as well as those by other stakeholders. Promote media coverage of the CCA.

- Press releases on the questions asked to experts, the minutes of the sessions and information on subsequent meetings.

Phase III: Reporting of the proposals adopted at the end of the process. First within each island and then at the end of the regional process. Opportunity will be given for volunteer spokespersons from each assembly to speak directly to different levels of government, as well as to political parties, civil society organisations and economic actors.

6.8. Institutional commitment.

To guarantee the effectiveness of the participatory process, as well as to help improve trust in institutions and avoid causing frustration among the general public, local authorities must set out and publicise, a priori, the criteria under which the proposals put forward by the assemblies will be adopted or debated. This will ensure that they uphold their commitment to the process.

The procedures by which public institutions adopt or consider the proposals from the assembly may vary, and a combination of different procedures may be used for individual proposals. Regardless of the procedures used, a minimum percentage of the proposals put forward by the assembly must be adopted directly, especially those which have a strong consensus behind them.

Examples of procedures for adopting and/or considering proposals from the assembly:

Procedure A: Direct adoption by local authorities (executive level) of all proposals with support of between 75% and 90% of participants in the corresponding assembly.

Mechanism B: Proposals put before Parliament and the plenaries of the Island Councils for debate and approval.

The recommendations/plans should be linked to the **Transition Plan 2020-2030** (enshrined in the Balearic Islands Climate Change Law), to provide a comprehensive framework for action. This should also be made clear throughout the assembly (especially in the first session).

If public institutions reject a proposal, they must issue a **reasoned response**, explaining their decision. This will help to avoid causing frustration among both assembly participants and the general public.

The principle of non-regression must prevail at all times.

A timeframe must be set (a maximum of 6 months) for the relevant institution to announce which proposals it is adopting and which it is not, to explain its reasoning, and to explain how it will implement the adopted proposals. We also propose setting a timeframe of no more than three years for the implementation of the adopted proposals.

6.9. Coordination, monitoring and logistics.

We propose forming the following work groups:

Coordination team. This team will be responsible for all tasks involved in the coordination of the assembly, from planning to implementation and evaluation, as well as for coordinating the other teams. It will include representatives from the different institutions involved and from the UIB. This team will have to remain in place beyond the duration of the assembly itself, as it will be responsible for following up the proposals approved by the assemblies. We recommend that there be some overlap between the team responsible for the original feasibility study and the CCA coordination team, and that all islands be represented within the coordination team.

Facilitation team. This team will be responsible for the participatory aspect of the assembly and for the deliberation process, as well as for the methodological design of the sessions and the work of the working groups. This team will also oversee the process of bringing

together the proposals from each group and voting on them.

Team of expert advisors. We recommend that this include members of the Balearic Islands Expert Commission on Climate Change along with other respected scientific institutions such as the UIB. It should also include experts in public policy and law.

Sampling and selection team. In coordination with IBESTAT, CES and the Tax Agency.

Logistics team. Responsible for administration and management, infrastructure, travel, venue hire, etc.

Communication and social media team. This role is key and a professional team must be in place before the beginning of the assembly process. This team is responsible for designing, creating and maintaining the website, as well as communication through social media and other media. In addition, it will be responsible for producing the promotional video prior to the assembly and the documentary at the end of the process, as well as for broadcasting the talks live.

Scientific monitoring and evaluation team. It is important that a team is set up to evaluate and refine the process, and to oversee the adoption and implementation of its results. It is possible that a monitoring process may be facilitated through the European Climate Foundation, and involving the KNOCA (Knowledge Network on Climate Assemblies), a network of experts in citizens' climate assemblies, along with other relevant academic institutions.

Continuous evaluation procedures need to be put in place so that the effectiveness of the assemblies can be continually improved upon over the course of the process.

Once the assembly process is over, the coordination team will ensure that the proposals reach, and are considered by, the relevant authorities. It will also monitor their adoption or rejection, and the implementation of those that have been adopted, as well as reporting on this to assembly participants and wider society.

As soon as possible, within a maximum of six months/a year after the assembly has concluded, the coordination team will prepare an evaluation report on the entire process, which will be provided to Balearic Islands institutions, the Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge, and made available to the general public on the assembly website. This report will analyse the lessons from the process and may include recommendations for possible future climate change assemblies or other relevant issues.

Taking into account the proposed assembly schedule, and the minimum timeframe over which it could take place (5 months), we recommend that it be held between winter 2021 and spring 2022.