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for Research & Innovation

The project 'Enabling Multichannel Participation Through ICT Adaptations — EMPATIA' has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 687920

empatia

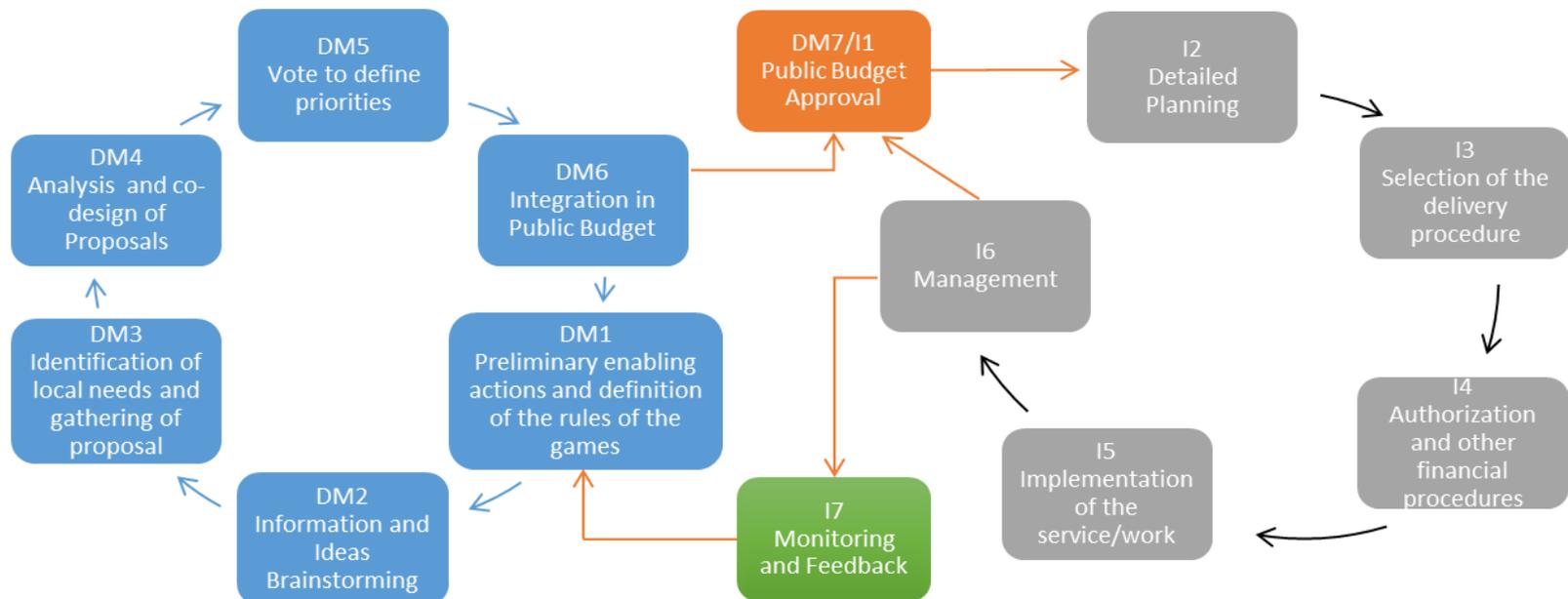
[Enabling Multichannel Participation
Through ICT Adaptations]

EMPATIA PB CYCLE

EMPATIA aims at producing the first ICT platform capable of fully encompassing both the decision-making cycle and the implementation cycle of Participatory Budgeting whose integration is considered indispensable by literature as the main driver of the self-sustainability process.

Decision Making Cycle (DM)

Implementation Cycle (I)

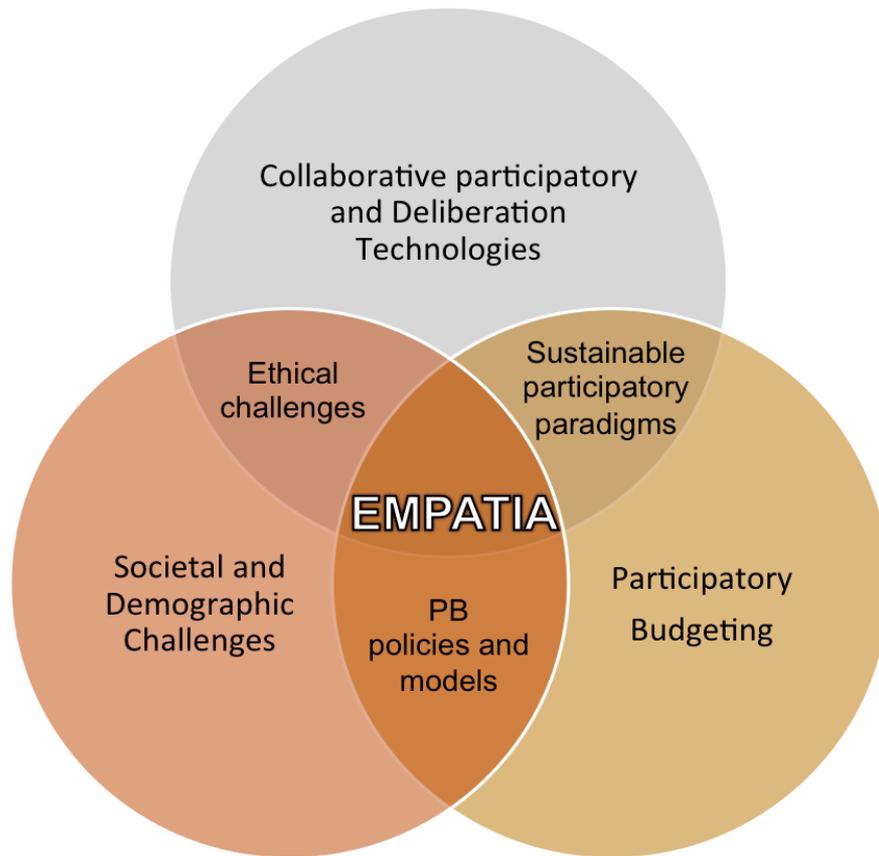


EMPATIA Concept

The EMPATIA project is composed of a multidisciplinary consortium of partners with deep expertise in adjacent fields: experts on PB research (CES), experts on ICT integration (OneSource), experts on ICT tools for PB processes (UNIMI), experts on traditional and ICT-based participatory and voting processes (D21), experts on evaluating technological and societal impact (UBRUN) and implementers of PB processes in diverse communities of users (ZebraLog, InLoco and D21). The partners in the EMPATIA consortium will:

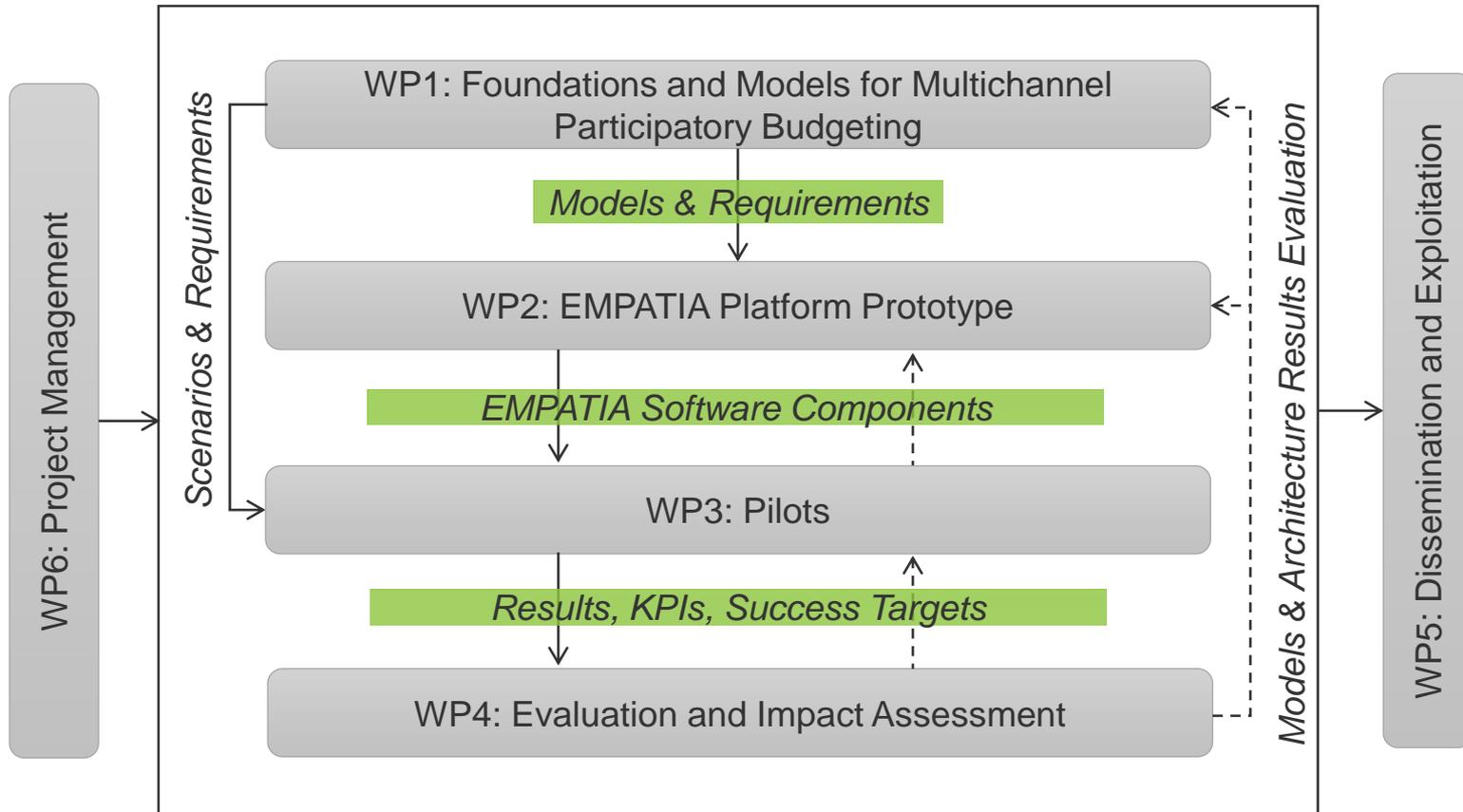
- Conduct a targeted analysis of leading ICT interventions in European PB processes;
- Create a prototype digital platform applying our methodological framework to meet the local challenges identified by key partners (see below);
- Conduct rigorous testing of the platform, in the context of Pilot runs involving three diverse PB communities – Lisbon (Portugal), Říčany (Czech Republic), and Bonn (Germany);
- Complete a thorough evaluation of results, distilling key lessons and making needed technological and methodological corrections.
- Disseminate both key findings and the technology itself to key European partners, and worldwide, including emerging PB leaders in North America, the Middle East and sub-Saharan Africa.
- The EMPATIA platform will be released as open source and all extensions and improvements to previously existing open-source software will be returned to the community as contributions of the EMPATIA project.

EMPATIA MODEL



The EMPATIA project seeks to radically enhance the inclusiveness and impact of PB processes, **increasing the participation of citizens** by designing, evaluating and making publicly available an advanced ICT platform for participatory budgeting, which could be adaptable to different social and institutional contexts.

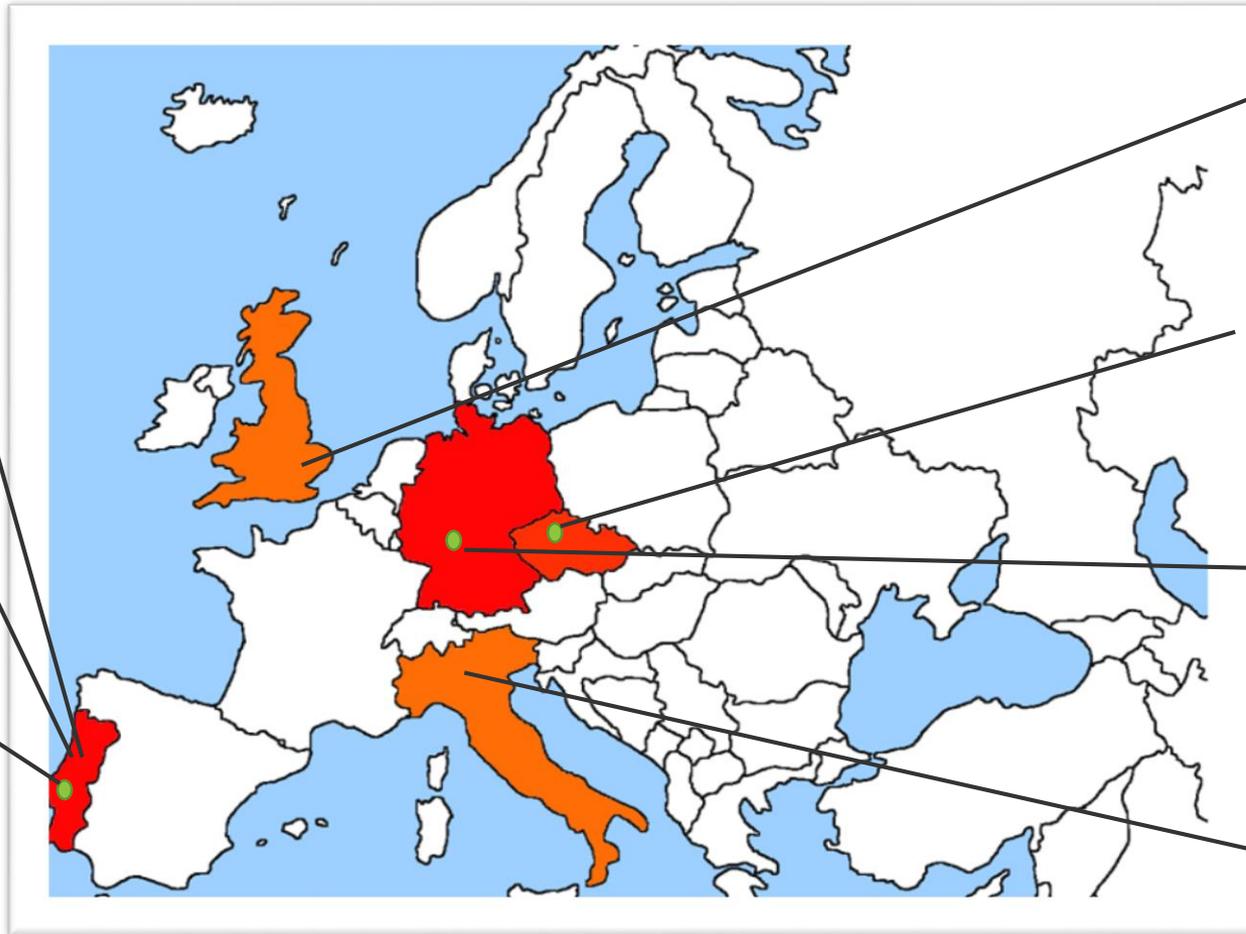
EMPATIA Overall Structure



Partners and Pilots



ONESOURCE



zebra log



Pilots: Lisbon (Portugal), Říčany (Czech Republic), Bonn (Germany);

Empatia Expected Outcomes

- **Inclusion:** reduction of any type barriers to citizen participation (digital skills, language, education level etc)
- **Deliberative Quality :** enhance de quality of deliberation within a better management of the information flow, enabling the exchange of alternative proposals and using advanced algorithms system.
- **Efficiency :** optimizing the investment of time and resources by facilitators and technical staff
- **Transparency:** improving a better coordination between government and citizens at all stages of the PB process, especially during the implementation cycle, an utmost of PB practices.
- **Integration:** Combine multichannel forms online and in –person, including open data and existing e-government tools.
- **Replication & Adaptation:** making all the components of the platform possible to be used and adapt in other social and institutional contexts for the improving of a better deliberation, implementation and selection mechanism.
- **Enhanced Evaluation:** allow involved communities to self-access to the impact of own previous deliberation and to learn from the past experience of other communities
- **Marketability:** exploration of consistent business models to accelerate and amplify these innovations