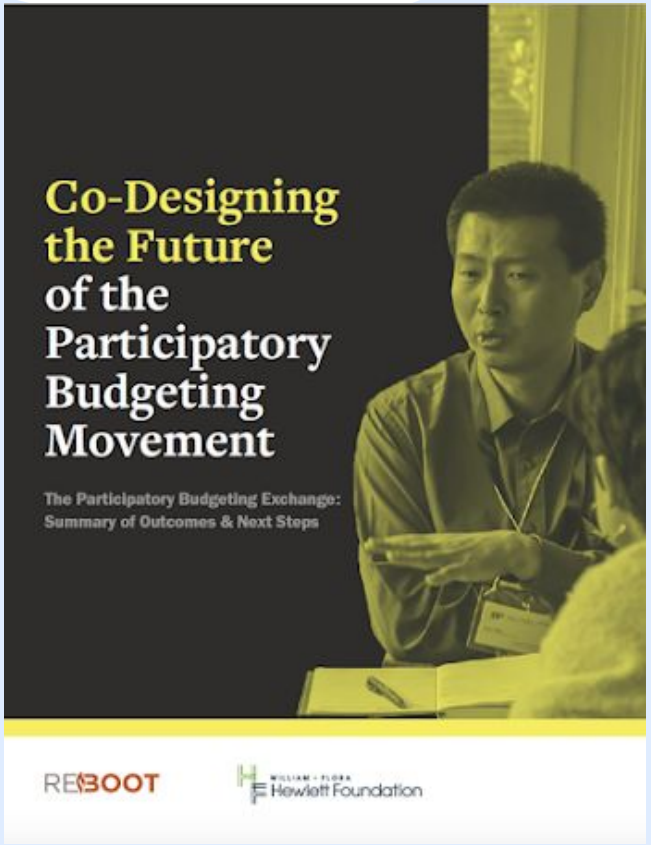
People Powered:
Global Hub for Participatory Democracy

Luiza Jardim | November 8 2023

2018: Global Research & Co-Design Process



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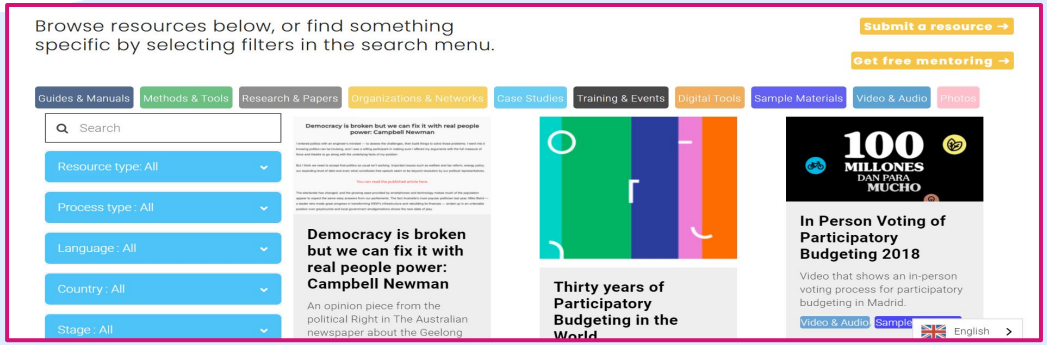
2019: Global Participatory Budgeting Hub

Global PB Practitioner Board

- Identify priorities for new resources and tools for PB implementers.
- Develop and share resources and tools that address these priorities.



Rising Stars
Mentorship

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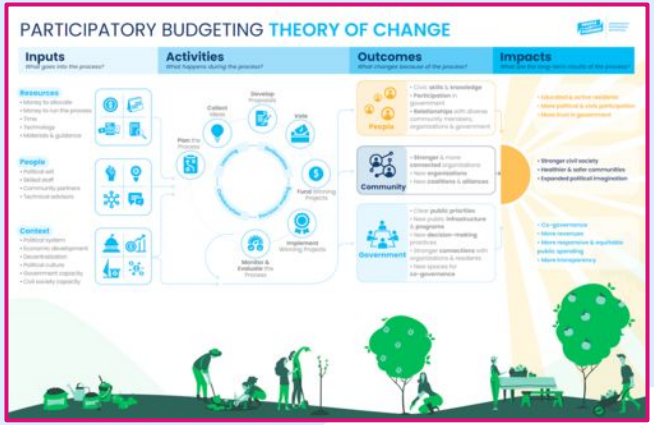
Global PB Research Board

- Identify priorities for PB research - Global PB Research Agenda.
- Support research that addresses these priorities.



2020: Global PB Hub → People Powered

We brought together 58 participatory democracy leaders from 28 countries, to ask what would take their work to the next level. What we heard:

1. There are lots of papers and reports, but **it's hard to find accessible and relevant guidance.**
2. There are good conferences, but **not enough support for solving common problems.**
3. There are amazing local champions, but their **work is not aligned around shared goals.**
4. These **challenges are greater** for people in **Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe and Latin America.**

Our Theory of Change

PROBLEM

People do not have the power to ensure that governments are responsive to their needs.

SOLUTION

Expand people's power to make government decisions.

ACTIVITIES

Support organizations and governments that are building participatory democracy around the world.

OUTCOMES

More governments launch, expand, improve, and sustain participatory democracy programs and structural changes.

IMPACTS

People are able to better address their needs, uphold their rights, and pursue their dreams through inclusive and responsive government institutions.

Our Mission

Our mission is to expand people's power to make government decisions, by supporting organizations and governments that are building participatory democracy around the world.

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What is Participatory Democracy?

A form of democracy that enables community members to make the policy decisions that affect their lives, together with government.

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Participatory Democracy

Participatory Budgeting

Legislative Theater

Participatory Planning

Participatory Policymaking

Citizens' Assemblies

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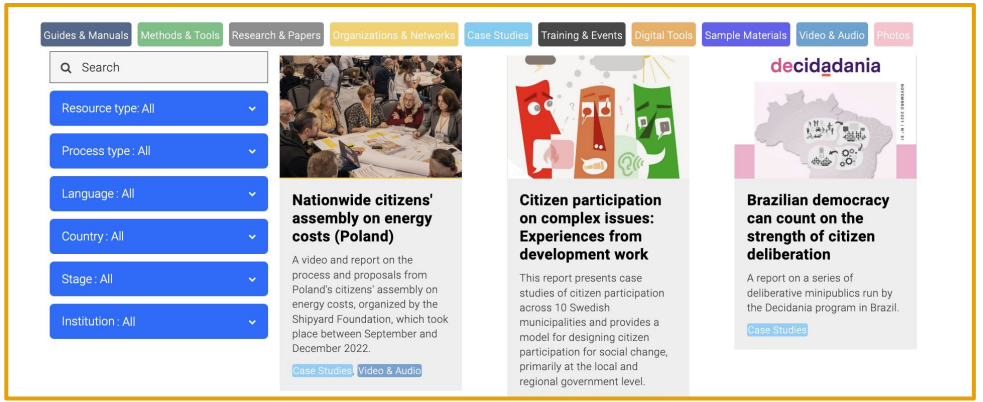
What We Do:
Build Pathways for Policy Change

Communications → Resources → Training → Mentorship → Policy change

Resource Center

Challenge: Government and community leaders struggle to find the existing practical resources that are most relevant for their needs.

Response: We compiled the most useful videos, guides, and other materials in different languages, in a focused online resource center.



Research Data

Challenge: It is difficult to access and understand empirical evidence on the impacts of participatory and deliberative programs.

Response: We are compiling global research data on impacts, and practical recommendations based on this data.

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Digital Participation Guide and Ratings

Challenge: It's difficult to find accessible, relevant, and practical guidance for how to select and use online participation tools.

Response: We developed a global guide and ratings of digital participation tools.

Guide to Digital Participation Platforms

When to Use Them, How to Choose & Tips for Maximum Results

Home | Introduction | Participation | Selecting a Platform

Introduction to this Guide

In the past decade, it has become increasingly common to engage citizens in various aspects of government via online platforms. In fact, in the release of their most recent data, the publishers of the PB Atlas reported an "accelerating trend toward the digitalization of participatory budgeting," spurred on by the COVID pandemic.

To satisfy this demand, several comprehensive digital participation platforms have emerged. They help governments, civil society groups, and other institutions engage residents in all types and stages of participatory processes, ranging from planning and budgeting to citizens' assemblies and the drafting of legislation.

While we often think of such technological platforms in the context of

This view lets you compare the platforms based on our ratings.
Use the controls to filter, group and sort the ratings - you can then download the results as spreadsheet.

Hide fields | Filter | Group | Sort

	Platform name	Platform Category	Average Score (1-100)	Cost of platform ($-$$...	Additional costs ($ ~ $...	Capacity Requirement...	Feature
1	Citizen Lab	Toolbox	85	$$	$	93	
2	Decidim	Toolbox	85	$	$$	55	
3	Your Priorities	Toolbox	81	$$$	$$	82	
4	Bang the Table / Engage...	Toolbox	78	$$$	$$	90	
5	Cap Collectif	Toolbox	77	$$$	$$	91	
6	adhocracy+	Toolbox	77	$	$$	98	
7	CONSUL	Toolbox	75	$	$$$	58	
8	ConsultVox	Toolbox	74	$$$	$$	90	
9	Fluicity	Toolbox	74	$$$	$$	82	
10	Social Pinpoint	Toolbox	72	$$$$	$$	79	
11	76 Engage	Toolbox	69	$$$	$$	90	
12	Neighborland	Toolbox	68	$$$$	$$	95	
13	Open Stad	Toolbox	68	$$	$$	88	
14	Discuto	Toolbox	67	$$$	$$	91	
15	Democracia en Red / De...	Toolbox	66	$	$$$$	77	
16	Ethelo	Toolbox	66	$$$$$	$$	93	

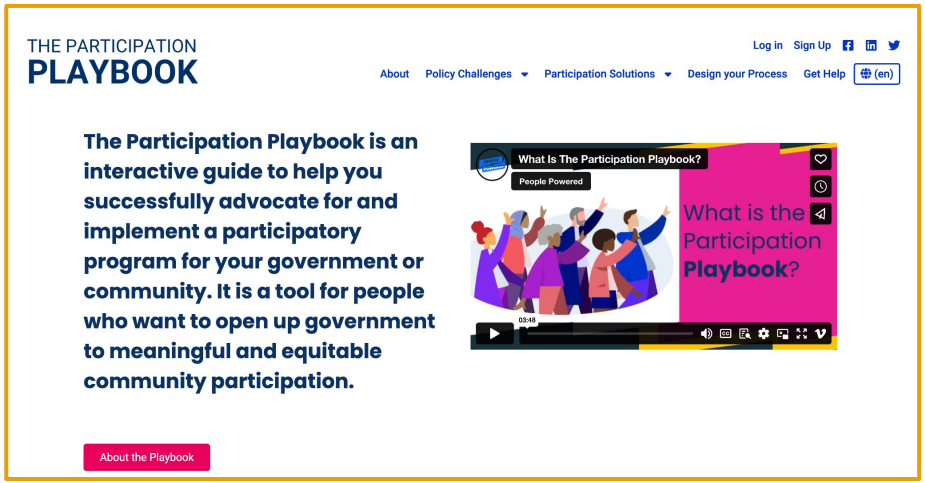
32 records | Sum 2253 | Sum 2710

Airtable | Download CSV | View larger version

Participation Playbook

Challenge: It's difficult to find user-friendly practical guidance for how to design new programs, in ways that address common and local challenges.

Response: We developed an interactive online tool to help make key design decisions.



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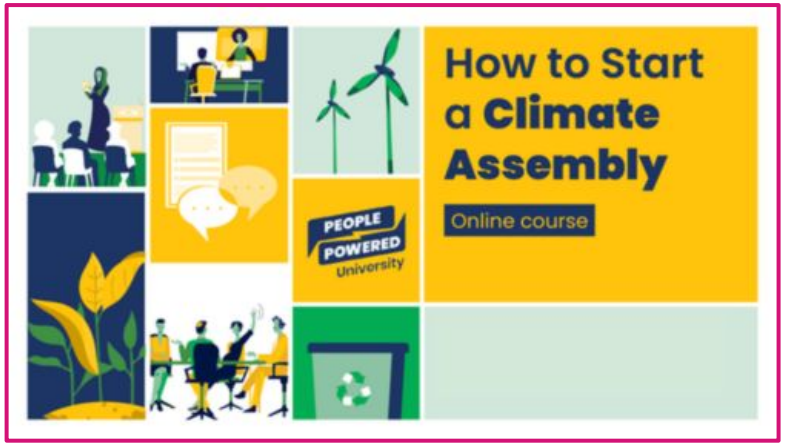
Online Courses

Challenge: Practitioners need more accessible and action-oriented training on how to address common challenges.

Response: We developed online courses and seminars focused on common practical challenges.



Mentorship

Challenge: Governments and organizations need hands-on help troubleshooting their specific problems, but they often lack guidance.

Response: We provide a peer mentorship program that matches people launching new programs with experts to provide direct support.

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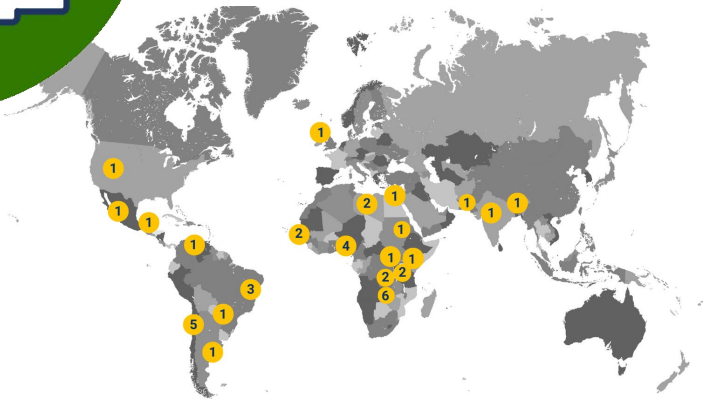
Accelerator Programs

Challenge: One-off training and isolated resources rarely lead governments to launch new programs and policies.

Response: Provide comprehensive training, peer learning, and mentorship to regular cohorts of governments and organizations.



What We Do:
Build a Global Community of Practice

Our Member Organizations

Our member organizations are local, national, and regional organizations that provide direct support for participatory democracy programs.

What Have We Fostered So Far?

Examples of Participatory Democracy process that we helped through different programs:

1. **Immigrant PB**
2. **Participatory Policymaking**
3. **Playbook usage**

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Immigrant PB: New Taipei City

Participatory Policymaking: Zimbabwe

Challenge: Participatory policymaking as a ‘disruptive’ response to **climate change**

Organization: Green Institute

Program: Climate Democracy Accelerator

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Global Hub for Participatory Democracy

Rising Stars + Playbook: Rio Grande do Sul

THE PARTICIPATION PLAYBOOK

Principais resultados:

Mecanismos/soluções de participação: **Formulação de Políticas Participativas**;

1) **Advocacy:**
   a) **Legislação** sobre processo participativo popular na formulação de políticas ?
   b) Atores vulneráveis/Público alvo: Juventude, crianças, mulheres, pessoas idosas, Povo indígena, Imigrantes Refugiados, Minorias étnicas ou raciais, Pessoas com deficiência, Pessoas LGBTQ+, Comunidades de baixa renda - COMUNIDADE ESCOLAR DO RS DE MANEIRA GERAL;
   c) O Governo estadual irá financiar o projeto;
   d) Ideias-chave para atividades de advocacy:
      i) A inovação é o futuro da democracia;
      ii) Vamos aproveitar a inteligência coletiva;
      iii) Políticas baseadas no conhecimento dos cidadãos;
      iv) Por uma democracia colaborativa.
2) **Planejamento ou Projeto:**
   a) Atores que irão desenhar o processo: funcionários do poder executivo provincial ou estadual (em países federais);
   b) Objetivos do processo participativo:
      i) Conheça as opiniões dos cidadãos, incluindo as suas preocupações e/ou desejos, sobre os serviços e políticas públicas;
      ii) Incentive a criatividade e aproveite a inteligência coletiva;
      iii) Melhorar a eficiência na implementação de uma política ou serviço;
   c) Grau de influência que os participantes terão na decisão:
      i) Eles discutirão as contribuições dos cidadãos e avaliarão até que ponto as incluirão no desenvolvimento de políticas ou legislação, explicando publicamente suas decisões - INTERNO SEDUC/CREs - GRUPOS FOCAIS - Etapa 4
   d) Ações esperadas dos participantes:
      i) Envie propostas ou ideias;
      ii) Saiba mais sobre o andamento dos projetos;
      iii) Interagir com as autoridades;
      iv) Implementar projetos;
      v) Forneça as informações que faltam.

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Connect

Luiza Jardim
luiza@peoplepowered.org
Program Associate

www.peoplepowered.org

info@peoplepowered.org

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