

# VOICE&VOTE

## Diving into practice Second wave: citizens' councils

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**100 000 USD at least**



**100 000 USD at least**  
**6 months at least**



**100 000 USD at least**  
**6 months at least**  
**5-person team at least**





**Citizens'  
Councils**



**Citizens'  
Juries**



**Citizens'  
Assemblies**

**—> budget, resources, time —>**










**representativeness**

**division between  
education and  
deliberation and some  
kind of verdict**

**more time for  
education and  
conversation**



# Citizens' councils principles

	commissioning authority publicly commits to responding to or acting on recommendations in a timely manner
	access to a wide range of accurate, relevant, and accessible evidence and expertise
	group deliberation that entails finding common ground
	random sampling or other methods to gain better representativeness
	task clearly defined as a question that is linked to a public problem
	participants have time to come to the decision (they meet for at least four full days in person)
	voting/deciding at the end
	involve a component of broader stakeholder participation

# Citizens' councils on climate, Poland

Duration of the process	November-December 2023
Location of the process	Cieszyń, Świdwin, Michałowice and Lesko, Poland
Coordinators of the process	Field of Dialogue Foundation
Who commissioned the process?	organised in partnership with the authorities
Who was in charge of setting the remit (topic) of the process?	Field of Dialogue Foundation and the participants
Number of participants	15-20 per council
Principles for deliberative processes	commissioning authority publicly commits to responding to or acting on recommendations in a timely manner, access to a wide range of accurate, relevant, and accessible evidence and expertise, group deliberation that entails finding common ground, random sampling, task clearly defined as a question that is linked to a public problem, voting/deciding at the end

# Debate of Polesie, Poland

Duration of the process	March-April 2022
Location of the process	Polesie region, Poland
Coordinators of the process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Towarzystwo dla Natury i Człowieka (Society for Nature and Man)</li><li>• Research Group of Lubelskie</li></ul>
Who commissioned the process?	organised in a bottom-up manner without the authority's involvement
Who was in charge of setting the remit (topic) of the process?	Towarzystwo dla Natury i Człowieka (Society for Nature and Man)
Number of participants	33
Principles for deliberative processes	access to a wide range of accurate, relevant, and accessible evidence and expertise, group deliberation that entails finding common ground, task clearly defined as a question that is linked to a public problem, participants have time to come to the decision, voting or deciding at the end, component of broader stakeholder participation

# What future for Polesie?

Debata Poleska - citizen council on the future of Polesie and mining in the area

The full question:

What kind of future do we want for Polesie? What decisions should be taken by the authorities at different levels regarding the coal mining development plans in order to - in the context of climate change - ensure sustainable, ecologically and socially sustainable economic development of Polesie, benefiting the inhabitants and the quality of life in the region and protecting the unique nature?





# What future for Polesie?


- Aim: to enable residents to discuss the future of Polesie and mining based on knowledge and facts
- A bottom-up initiative carried out by Towarzystwo dla Natury i Człowieka (Society for Nature and Man) in partnership with the Lubelska Grupa Badawcza (Lublin Research Group), without the participation of local authorities
- Area: municipalities of the Lublin Coal Basin








# Context

- Unique nature of wetlands, marshes and bogs: Poleski National Park, West Polesie UNESCO Transboundary Biosphere Reserve
  - Lublin Coal Basin and LW Bogdanka SA (coal mine) providing livelihood for several thousand families in the region, economically feeding the local government and local companies
  - Lack of information about the current status of Territorial Fair Transformation Plan, the creation of which was not accompanied by a broad discussion
  - Ongoing coal mining, new concessions, new entity
  - Political and energy instability of region
  - Full-scale Russian aggression against Ukraine - border 50 km away
  - Ongoing Covid outbreak
- 



# Transgraniczny Rezerwat Biosfery UNESCO "Polesie Zachodnie"

 **Ministerstwo  
Klimatu i Środowiska**

**MAPA KONCESJI NA POSZUKIWANIE, ROZPOZNAWANIE  
I WYDOBYWANIE WĘGLA KAMIENNEGO ORAZ METANU  
POKLADÓW WĘGLA KAMIENNEGO  
LUBELSKIEGO ZAGŁĘBIA WĘGLOWEGO**

Kompilacja własna - 02-2022

-  koncesje wydobywcze  
Lubelski Węgiel "Bogdanka" S.A.
-  koncesje na poszukiwanie i/lub rozpoznawanie złóż  
węglu kamiennego
-  granice nieeksploatowanych złóż  
węglu kamiennego
-  złoże eksploatowane

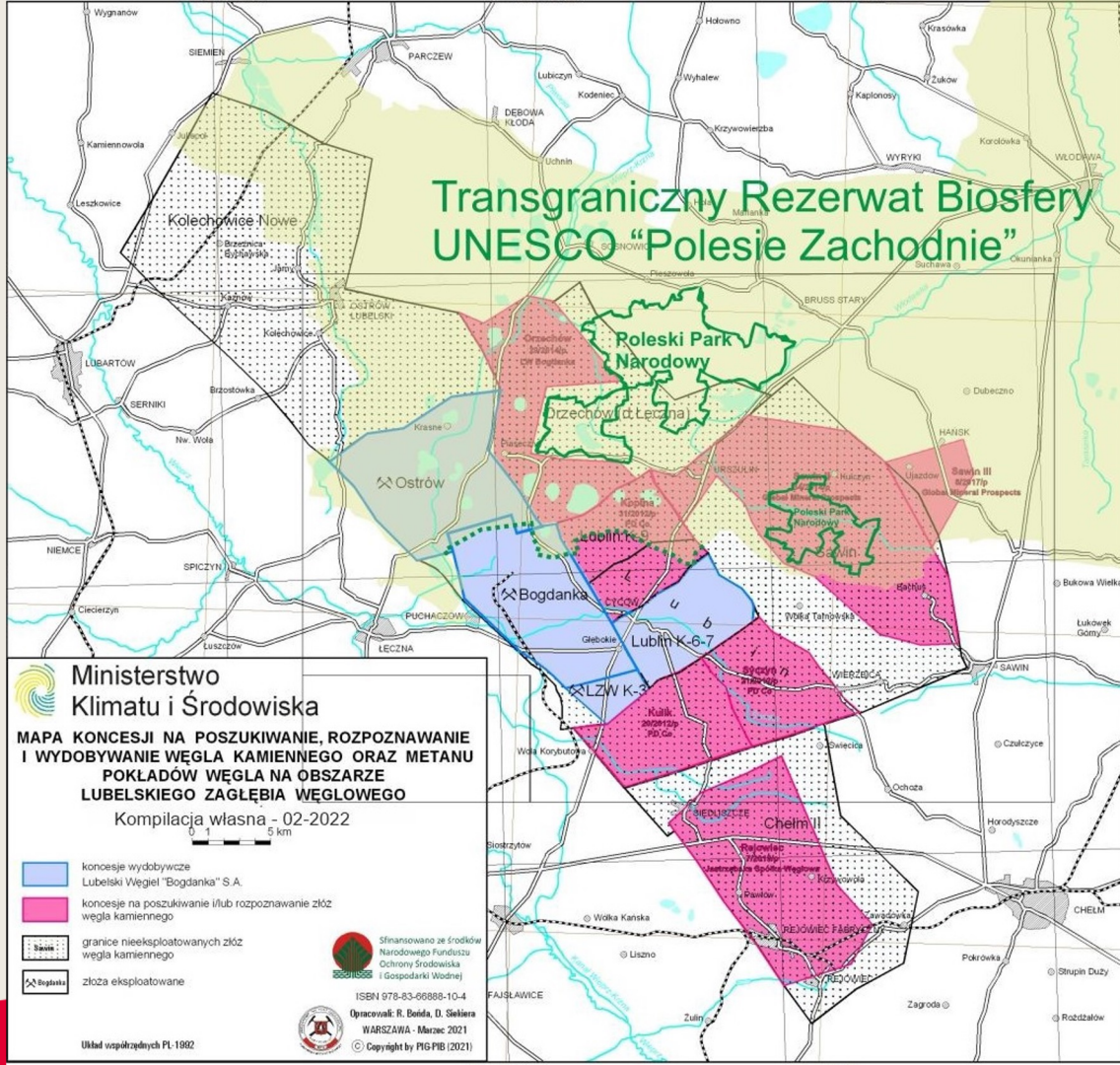


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Układ współrzędnych PL-1992



# Stages of the process


- Preparation, promotion and recruitment
- 3 education and deliberation meetings
- 4th meeting - finalisation of discussions, reflection on comments and suggestions from experts, voting and celebration
- Additional information: childcare, vegan meals, diplomas, shopping vouchers, settlement of travel and an integration trip
- 33 participants
- Promotion of the recommendations in the region (bicycle caravan) and the communication of the recommendations to the recipients - authorities and other







# Unique values

- Bottom-up inspiration of the debate
  - The area concerned is not a single administrative unit - it is a collection of communes and municipalities
  - Condition for participation - residents, but also people with property in the area, those running a business
  - The addressees of the recommendations, due to the specificity of the subject matter were diverse: local authorities at the level of communes, districts, voivodeship management, central authorities, the company Lubelski Węgiel Bogdanka, certain ministries, e.g. the Ministry of Climate and Environment, and others
  - Cooperation of two organisations - the originator and main implementer - Society for Nature and Man in charge of the content with the partner supporting the participation process - Lublin Research Group
- 

1. WZKROśCENIE OCHRONY ŚRODOWISKA  
POPRIEL ZWIĘKSZENIE DO PP.V. (DOPRZĘDNI  
TYTUŁU)

2. ZMIANY W PROCESIE UDZIELANIA  
KONCEPSJI I ZAKRESIE POPIĘKOWANIA  
INWENTYKCYJNEGO (DECYZJA ŚRODOWISKOWA W  
KRAJINIE HYDROLOGII). DOTYCHY BRAK  
EKSPERTYZ NA POCHĄTKOWYM ETAPIE.

3. ~~WYKŁAD~~ NACISK NA PRZEPRAWNIENIE  
INNICH KIERUNKÓW ROZWOJU MI.  
DOŁ. EKSPLOATACJI  
~~W~~ GÓRNICSTWO (AGROPRZEMISŁOWA GÓRNICZA)  
Z POSILNIANIEM OCHRONY PRZYRODY.

4. UŚWIADOMIENIE SPOŁECZNOŚCI LOKALNEJ  
W TENACIE ZASOBYŃ HYDROLOGICZNYCH  
PRZEKŁADAJĄCYCH JE



# Strengths

- Involvement of participants
- Integration of those involved
- High level of discussion
- Involvement of experts and stakeholders
- In-depth, multi-scenario preparing of council process
- Although the recruitment was open, we managed to bring together people from different communes and districts, with different backgrounds
- Some participants came with no specific views on coal mining in Polesie, participation in the process allowed them to form them
- Providing good care for children, inclusion in children's activities of people fleeing the war in Ukraine and living in the centre







# Challenges

- Recruitment and selection of participants - how to ensure a balance of participants? How to invite a random and diverse range of participants in such a large area, especially without official, formal mandate?
- Lack of interest in participation by LW Bogdanka and partly also local authorities
- The bottom-up nature of the project implementation makes it difficult to communicate the Recommendations, while there was no commitment from the authorities and political will behind the action, it requires more work from the organisation to promote the Recommendations





## Rozwój gospodarczy



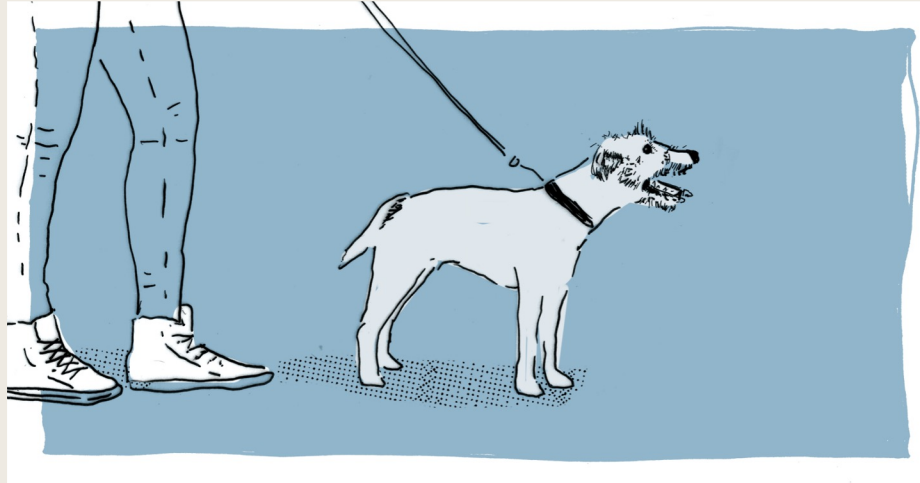
Gmina Puchaczów wyróżnia się wysoką zamożnością na tle P... a nawet całego kraju. Wysokie dochody z podatków oraz wysok... wynagrodzenia to efek... działania KWK Bogdanów 58% z 8.7 tys. pracowników Bogdanów mieszka w powiecie łęczyńskim.

Kluczowe... rozwoju... podatków... rosną...

# Citizen council on Ruska street, Poland

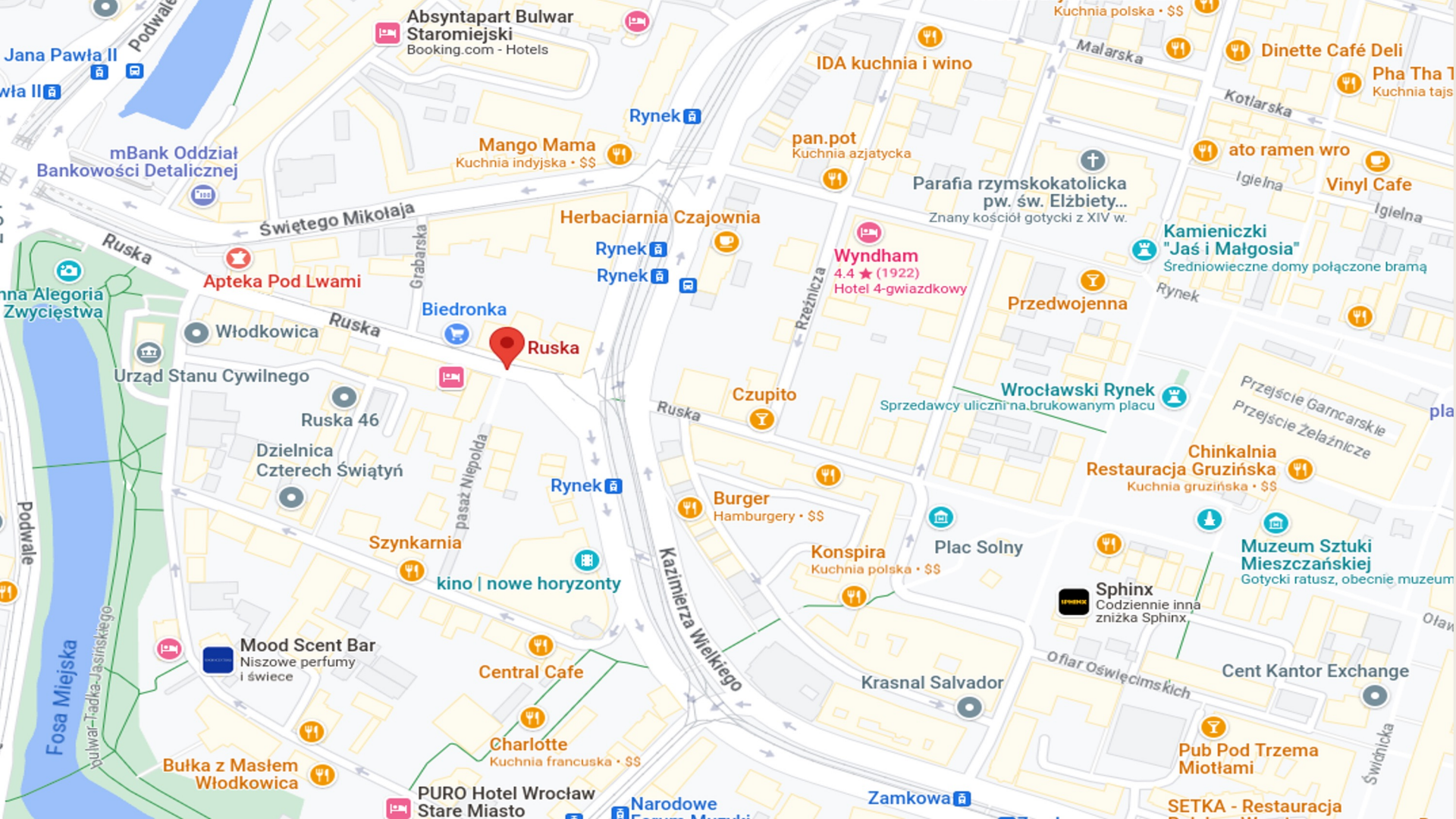
Duration of the process	June - July 2023
Location of the process	Wrocław, Poland
Coordinators of the process	Foundation for European Studies, Department of Social Participation of the Municipal Office
Who commissioned the process?	City authority's
Who was in charge of setting the remit (topic) of the process?	City authority's together with local NGO
Number of participants	20
Principles for deliberative processes	access to a wide range of accurate, relevant, and accessible evidence and expertise, group deliberation that entails finding common ground, task clearly defined as a question that is linked to a public problem, participants have time to come to the decision, voting or deciding at the end

# Citizen council on Ruska street, Wrocław, Poland









Absyntapart Bulwar  
Staromiejski  
Booking.com - Hotels

IDA kuchnia i wino

Mango Mama  
Kuchnia indyjska • \$\$

pan.pot  
Kuchnia azjatycka

Herbaciarnia Czajownia

Parafia rzymskokatolicka  
pw. św. Elżbiety...  
Znany kościół gotycki z XIV w.

Kamieniczki  
"Jaś i Małgosia"  
Średniowieczne domy połączone bramą

Apteka Pod Lwami

Wyndham  
4.4 ★ (1922)  
Hotel 4-gwiazdkowy

Przedwojenna

Ruska

Wrocławski Rynek  
Sprzedawcy ulicznych na brukowanym placu

Chinkalnia  
Restauracja Gruzińska  
Kuchnia gruzińska • \$\$

Muzeum Sztuki  
Miejszczańskiej  
Gotycki ratusz, obecnie muzeum

kino | nowe horyzonty

Konspira  
Kuchnia polska • \$\$

Plac Solny

Sphinx  
Codziennie inna  
znizka Sphinx.

Cent Kantor Exchange

Central Cafe

Krasnal Salvador

Charlotte  
Kuchnia francuska • \$\$

Pub Pod Trzema  
Miotłami

Mood Scent Bar  
Niszowe perfumy  
i świece

Bułka z Masłem  
Włodkowica

PURO Hotel Wrocław  
Stare Miasto

Narodowe  
Centrum Muzei

Zamkowa

SETKA - Restauracja








# Contexts

- organisation of transport
- “gate to the center”
- green and blue infrastructure
- heritage conservation
- local residents
- small and big business



# Schedule

- Public Consultation | 6 June - 30 July 2023
  - Open e-form | 6-25.06. 2023
  - E-Meeting | 14.06.2023
  - Citizens council | 8, 15 and 29 July 2023
- 

# 20 Participants

- 2 people from district council
  - 2 people from Municipal Office
  - 2 people form NGO
  - 4 people from local business
  - 6 people living on Ruska Street
  - 4 people living in other places
- 
- Sides
  - Observers



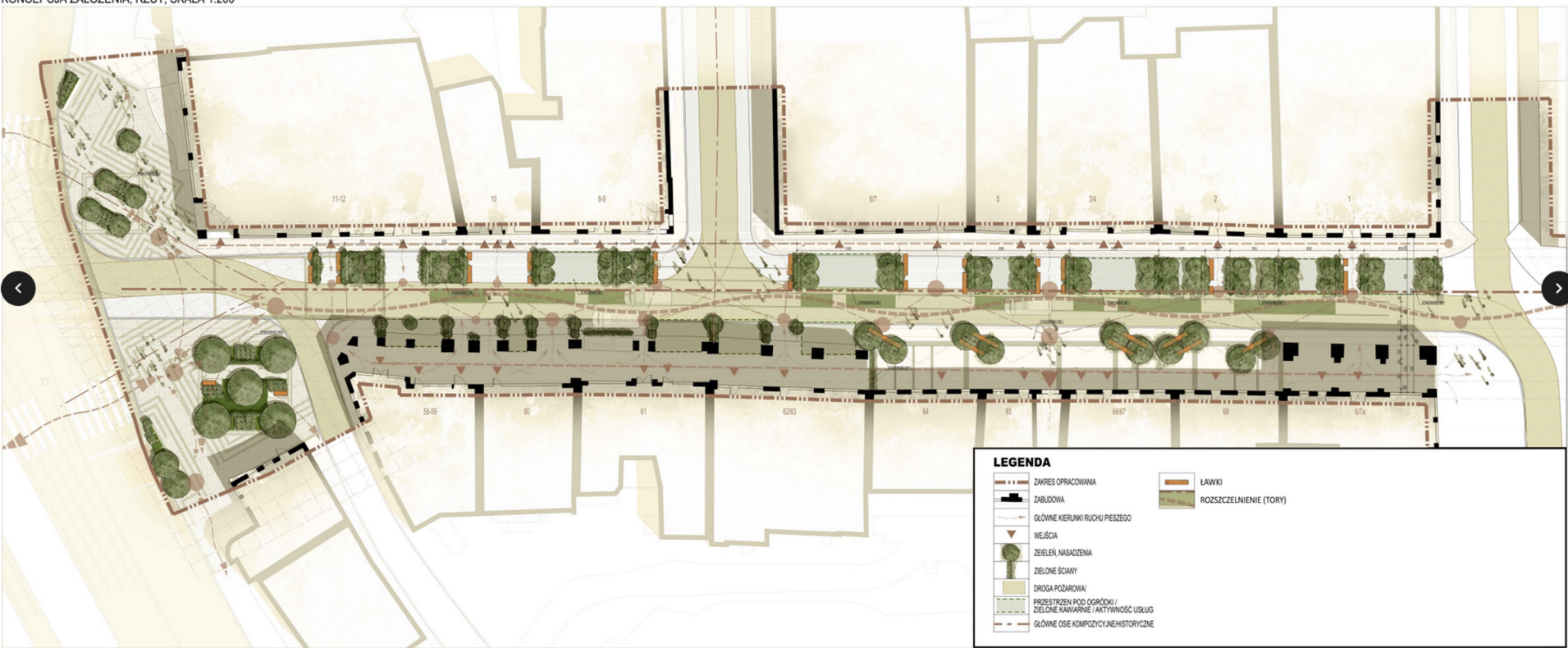


# PLANSZA GŁÓWNA

## JAK ODWRÓCIĆ PRZESTRZEŃ?

KONCEPCJA REWITALIZACJI ULICY  
RUSKIEJ WE WROCŁAWIU

KONCEPCJA ZAŁOŻENIA, RZUT, SKALA 1:200



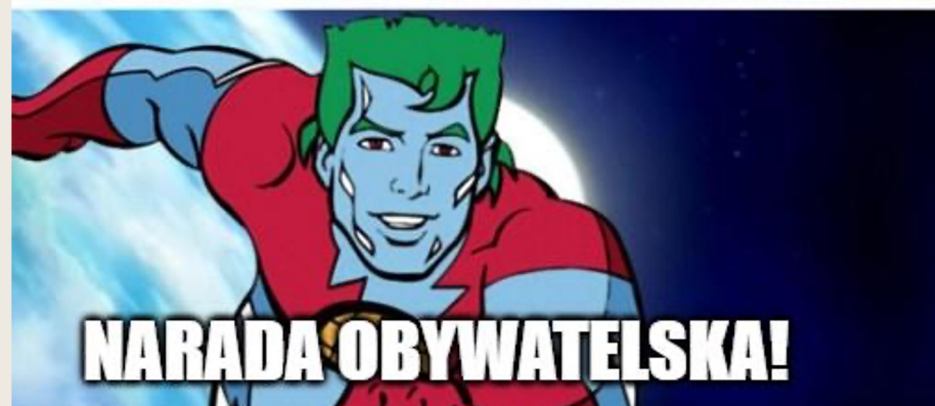




# Problems

- not many people eager to participate
- some people resigned
- heritage conservation
- the lack of trust
- gratification







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JAKO TANI  
KOMPAKTOWY  
SPŁOŚĆ NA  
ZWIEKSZENIE  
DŁUGOŚCI



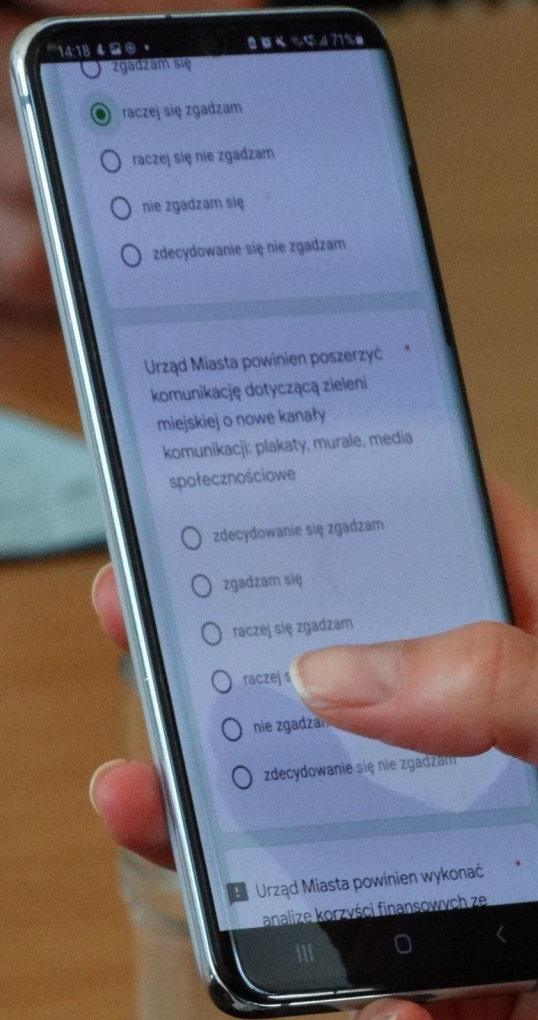
# Context

Polish municipalities are increasingly responsible for local responses to climate change. To be successful in this area, it is necessary to discuss and look for sensible solutions. In order to come up with concrete solutions to the controversial issue of waste management, we need the involvement of male and female citizens. We want to talk to a diverse group, prepared in advance, so that, avoiding talking about emotions or mismatched solutions, we can move on to talking about real change.









# Remit/Mandate

- water management,
- greenery development,
- low emissions,
- waste management







# Elements of the process

- preparation, promotion and recruitment, random selection
- paid participants
- 3 education and deliberation meetings (12 hours)
- 15 to 20 people in each meeting
- at the end 10-15 recommendations and a report presented to the Mayor face2face






# Strengths

- approach to randomness - talking to the office about it, showing the importance, even though it is far from the assemblies methodology
- remuneration for those who participate - also a new quality for the local process
- a clear shift - participation for the climate



# Challenges

- randomness of selection, but not randomness of applications - bursting the information bubble at a cheap cost
  - participation of local experts, no local experts, need to parachute in.
  - challenge for officials, not used to being asked (afraid of being questioned)
  - gender balance - lack of experts
- 

# VOICE&VOTE

## Diving into practice Second wave: citizens' councils

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