

WORKING TOGETHER to TACKLE CRISES



YOUR FEEDBACK





CONTEXT

When a crisis like a pandemic happens, parliaments need to mobilize as many resources for crisis management as they can - **and that includes recruiting the help of citizens like YOU.**

Your opinions and ideas inform parliamentary decision making through special crisis committees. Crisis committees are instructed to seek out & activate crowd-sourced solutions and form a plan of action to overcome the crisis.

The objective? To make decision making in times of crisis more collaborative and inclusive through better involvement of a broader range of stakeholders, in particular, mobilizing citizens and civil society in crisis response.

WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AT THIS?

COVID has taught us all many lessons. Parliamentarians and experts recognized that we need to improve our crisis response as a result. Members of Parliaments from around the Europe came together to form a proposed policy for crisis response, shown in this presentation.

We need your feedback on whether it will work, what we have missed and where we could improve.

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STEP 0 - EVALUATION, LEGITIMIZE, CAMPAIGN

Now that we are starting to emerge from the COVID crisis, this is a good time to bring together citizens, experts, parliamentarians and the executive to assess what their needs are. Together, we evaluate how and why it is important to strengthen parliaments abilities to manage crises and raise awareness for why citizen participation is important.

Once the importance of a new crisis protocol is clarified through consultations, a campaign will be launched that clearly and explicitly communicates the purpose and urgency of this improved crisis management tool and the important role played by citizens in assisting the executive in its decision-making.

How will parliament do this?



Implement small **specific initiatives to engage** with citizens like you to showcase the benefits of best practice



Communicate the benefits of parliaments and citizens working together, and **let citizens know they have a voice in the next crisis**

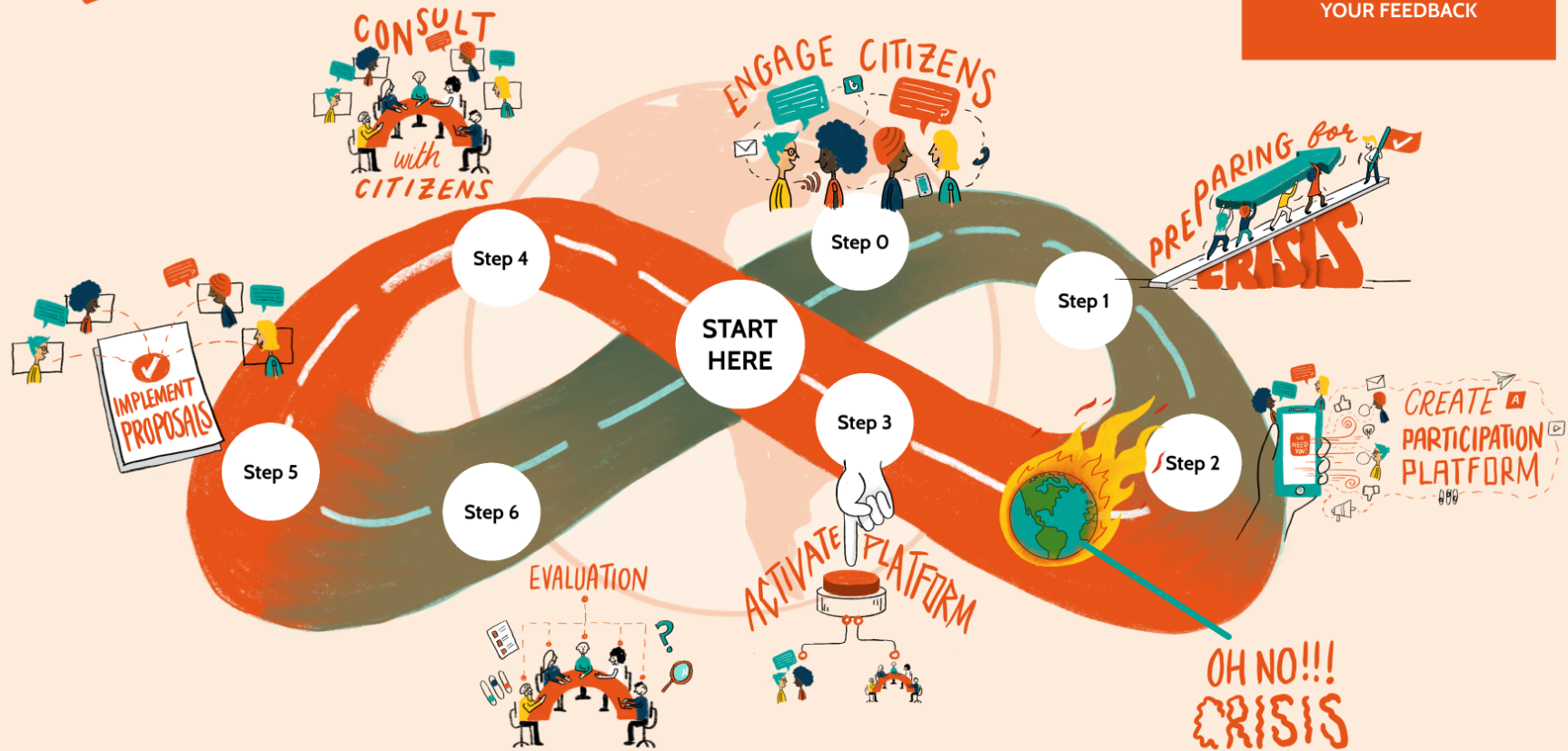


Communicate the drawbacks of not working together through examples of previous crises

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STEP 1 - CREATE A PERMANENT PROTOCOL FOR SPECIAL CRISIS COMMITTEES TO BE ACTIVATED IN CRISIS

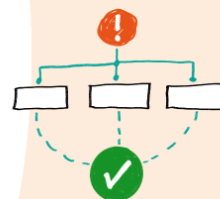
Parliaments need to establish permanent, readily available processes for the rapid activation of special crisis committees, through which parliamentarians and citizens will work together to overcome the crisis. These committees are set up at the beginning of each legislation and only activated when needed.

How will parliament do this?



Work out criteria and protocols that:

- determine what situations are 'crises'
- **who decides when to activate** committees
- how crisis committees communicate with each other across Europe



Use existing structures, protocols and networks within and across parliaments to make sure crisis committees can be formed quickly and effectively



- **Establish rules** that govern the crisis committee and predefine scope of its powers
- To ensure **fair political representation**, a member of the opposition should be the committee chairman/woman, and composition balanced with the executive

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STEP 2 - CREATING A CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLATFORM

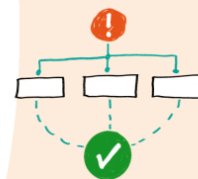
This is where you are needed most! Parliament has to create a platform (either in person, virtually, or a hybrid) for you to share your opinions and ideas on dealing with the crisis, to collaborate with and feed into crisis committee decisions.

It is important for the citizen platform to be set up to also consult outside of immediate crises, for example on climate (a chronic crisis).

How will parliament do this?

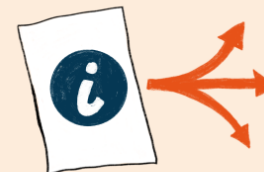


They will talk to a representative group of citizens to **be inclusive of all voices**, and their parliamentary officials to **work out the best way to design the participation platform**



Investigate across European Parliaments to share knowledge and explore existing tools

Use structures and software already being used to ensure open access



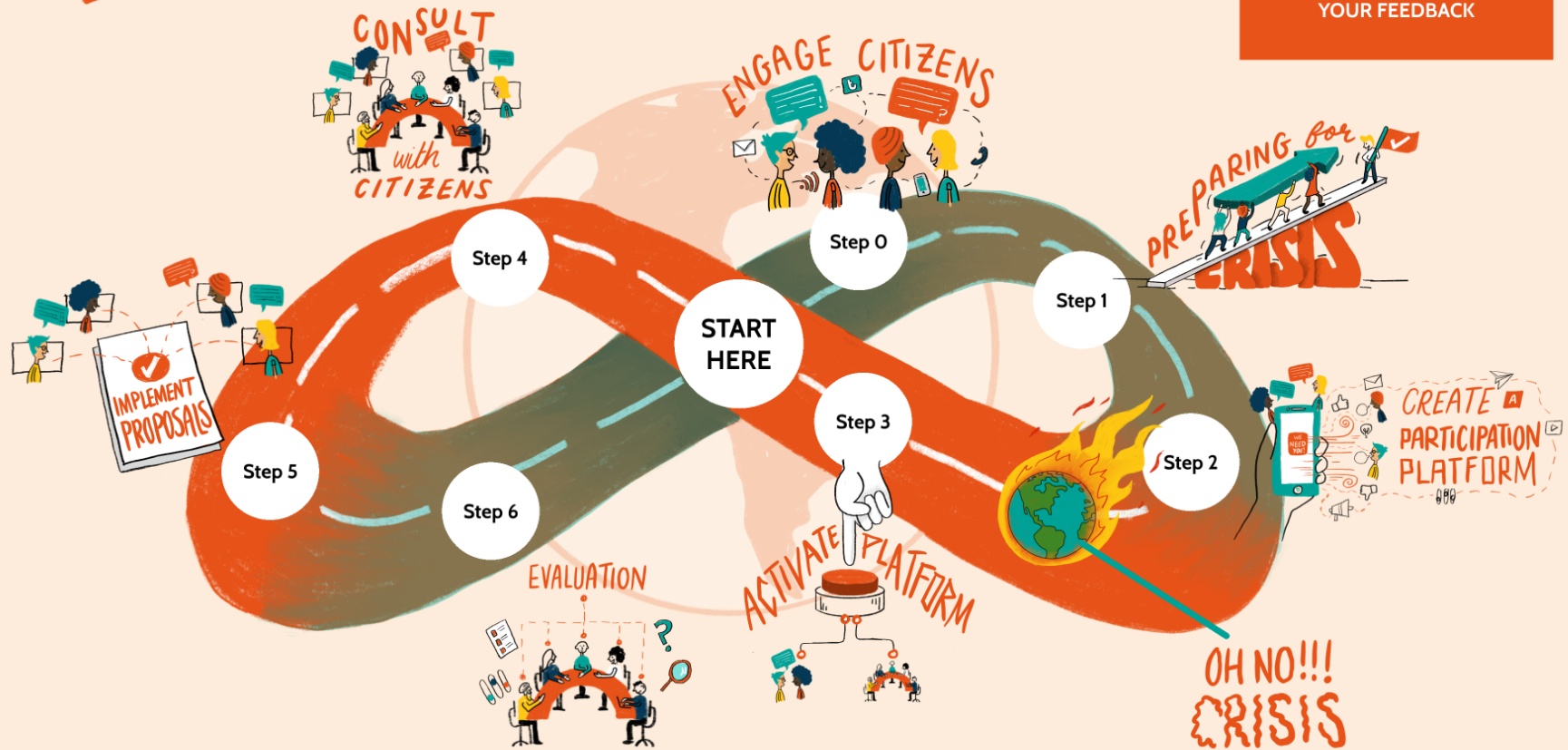
With your help, parliament will make sure that any **information shared is clear, easy to access and reliable.**

Any citizens that are actively part of the process **will be reimbursed for their time**

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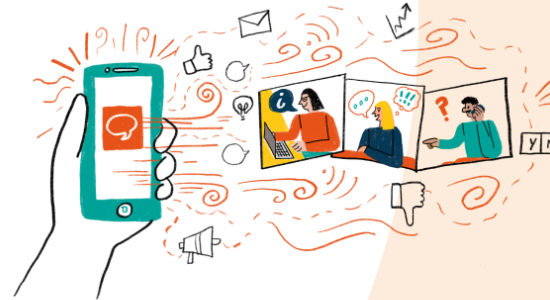




STEP 3 - ACTIVATING THE CRISIS COMMITTEE AND CITIZEN PLATFORM

The exciting part! The platform and crisis committee are activated to involve citizens and parliament more actively in crisis response and to collect and develop citizens ideas. The objective? To make crisis management - usually the prerogative of the executive - more collaborative and democratic. To create a space for crowd-sourcing solutions and expertise and more inclusive deliberation in times of crisis.

How will parliament do this?



Advertise for engagement in the platform broadly using third parties and civil society

Provide incentives for the public to get involved



The crisis committee will work with the public to **create feasible proposals for action and act as a mediator** between citizens and the executive or broader parliament

Together, the crisis committee and citizen platform will provide a dedicated space for stakeholder engagement and collaborative solutions in times of crisis

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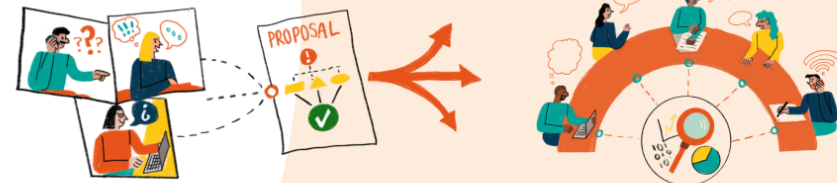




STEP 4 - PARLIAMENT CONSIDERS CITIZEN SUGGESTIONS

By talking to citizens and listening to insights shared on the platform, parliamentarians and staff get input on most urgent matters to create a crisis action plan.

How will parliament do this?



The Crisis committee will **invite citizens to parliamentary sessions to discuss proposals**

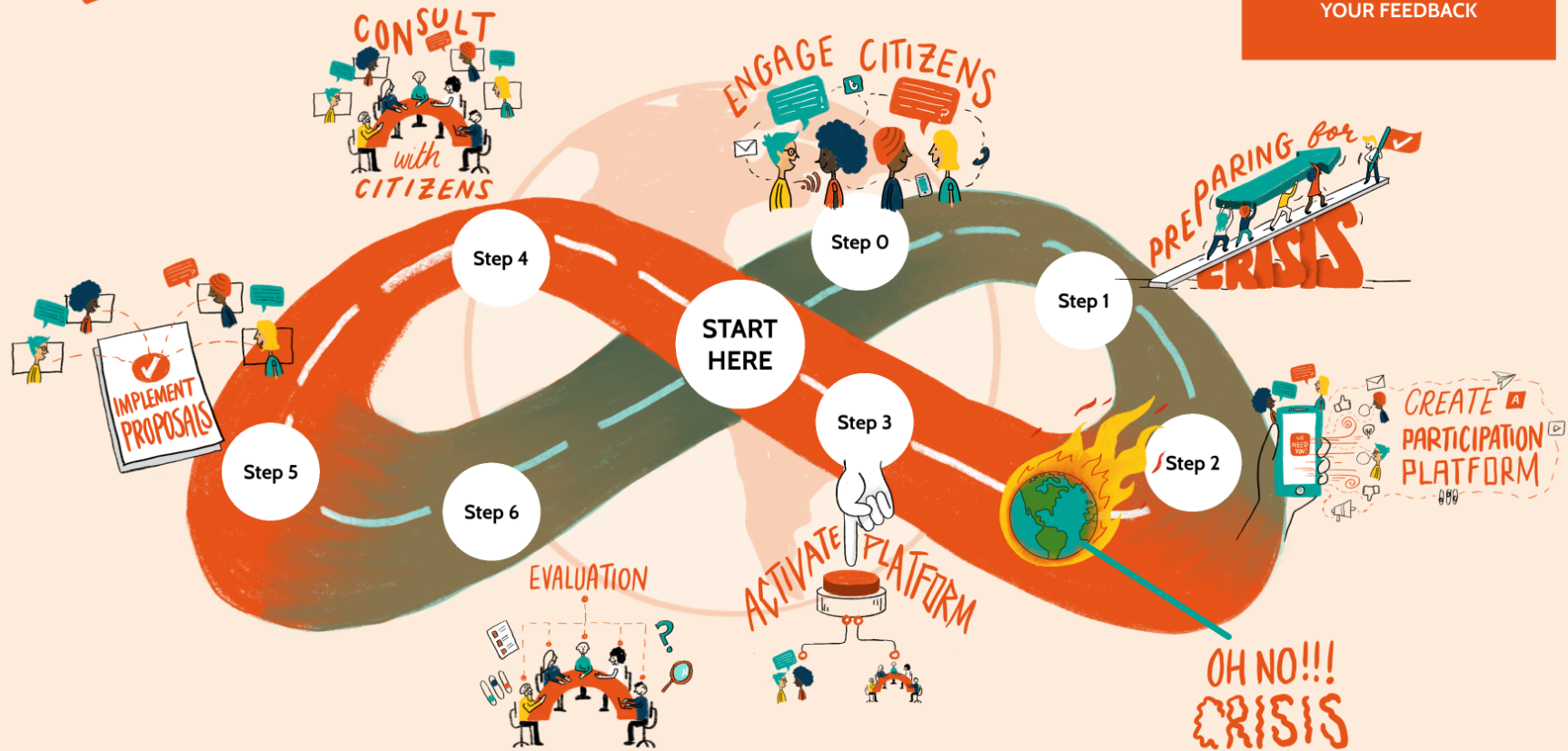
Committee will evaluate all suggestions from the citizen platform and submit proposals to parliamentary agenda

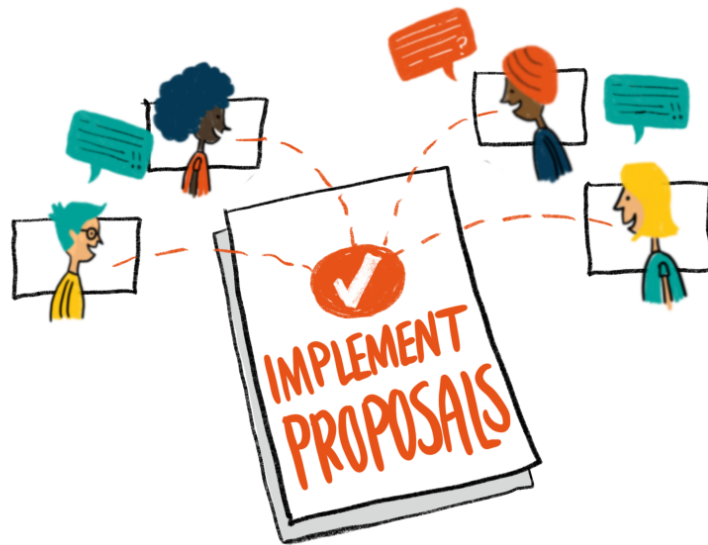
Communicate rules outlining how the crisis committee, citizen platform, the executive, and third parties - like an expert advisory board - interact with each other. This includes **the powers each party has** in the process.

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STEP 5 - IMPLEMENTATION OF CRISIS PROPOSALS

Proposals as to how to tackle the crisis are implemented, informed by citizens' input and feedback

How will parliament do this?



Follow **legal process to implement proposals** and integrate citizen insights



Committee evaluates and revises proposals, passing them on to parliament for action



Citizens will be informed at each stage of the process, including if and when a proposal is put to action; and if not, why not.

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STEP 6 - EVALUATION AND ADAPTATION

Committee oversees a circular process of evaluation and adaptation of the work of the committee & citizen platform and crisis management policies

How will parliament do this?



Involve citizens and stakeholders in evaluation



Report actively and transparently through platform

The format of the evaluation's results ought to be **easy to digest and visible**, it should not come in the form of a highly technical report.



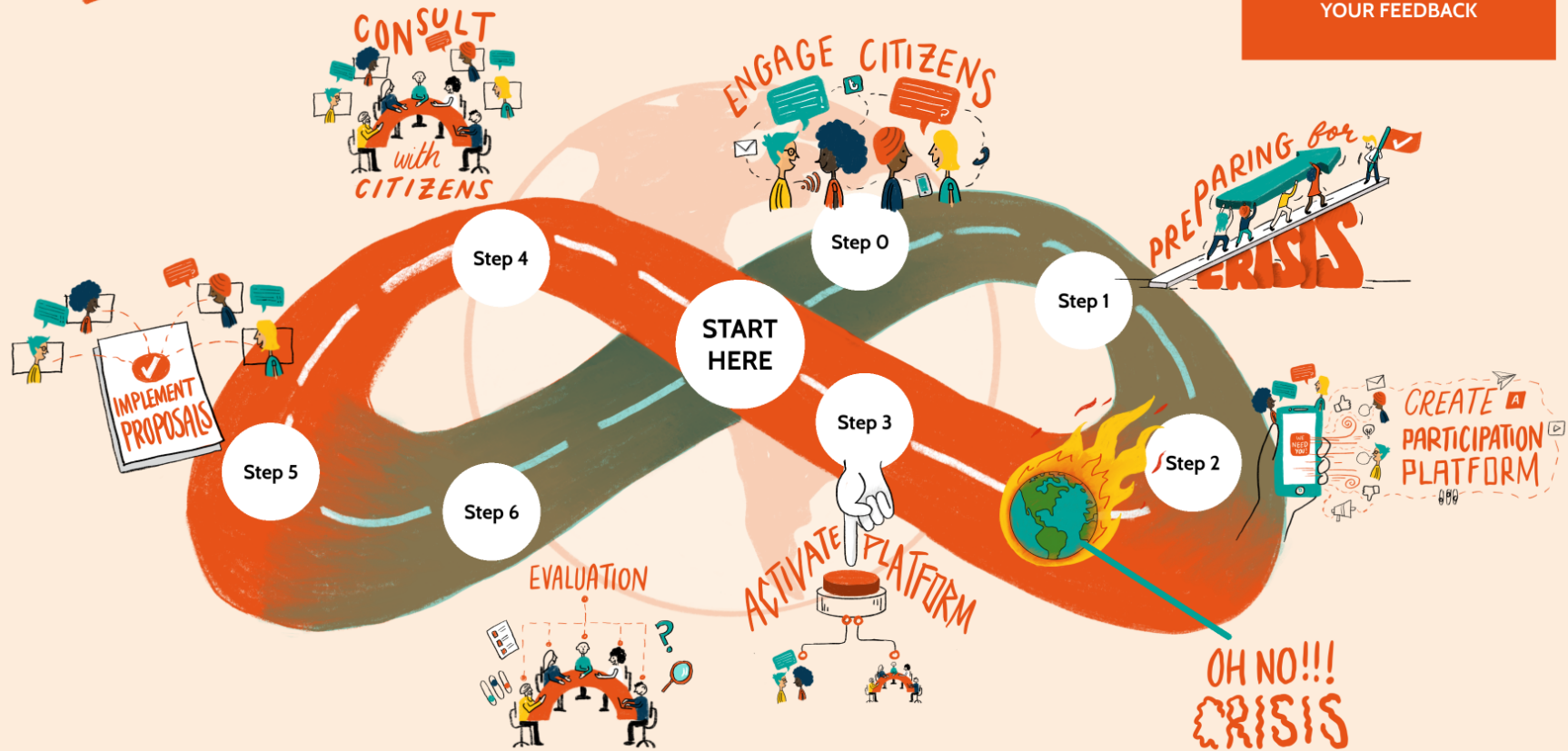
Adapt parliamentary procedures according to results of evaluation - this should be a circular process allowing for learnings and adaptation after each crisis

Crisis committees across Europe come together to **share lessons learned**

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We'd love your input on the best way to engage and communicate with citizens like you, to shape future crisis response.

Share your comments below this presentation - they will be reviewed and inform how this policy process is implemented across the world.

Thank you!



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