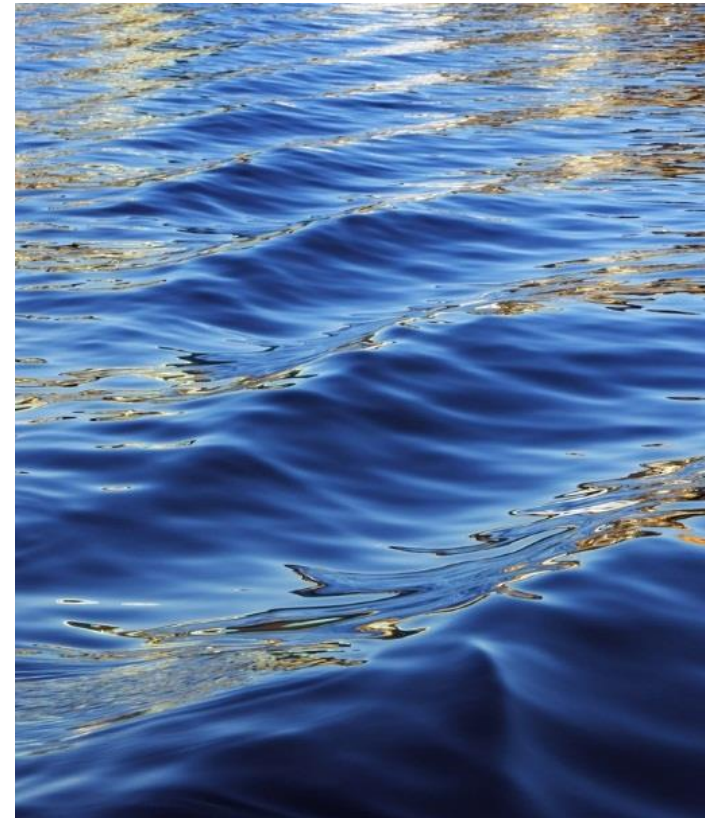


Icelandic Municipalities and Citizen Participation

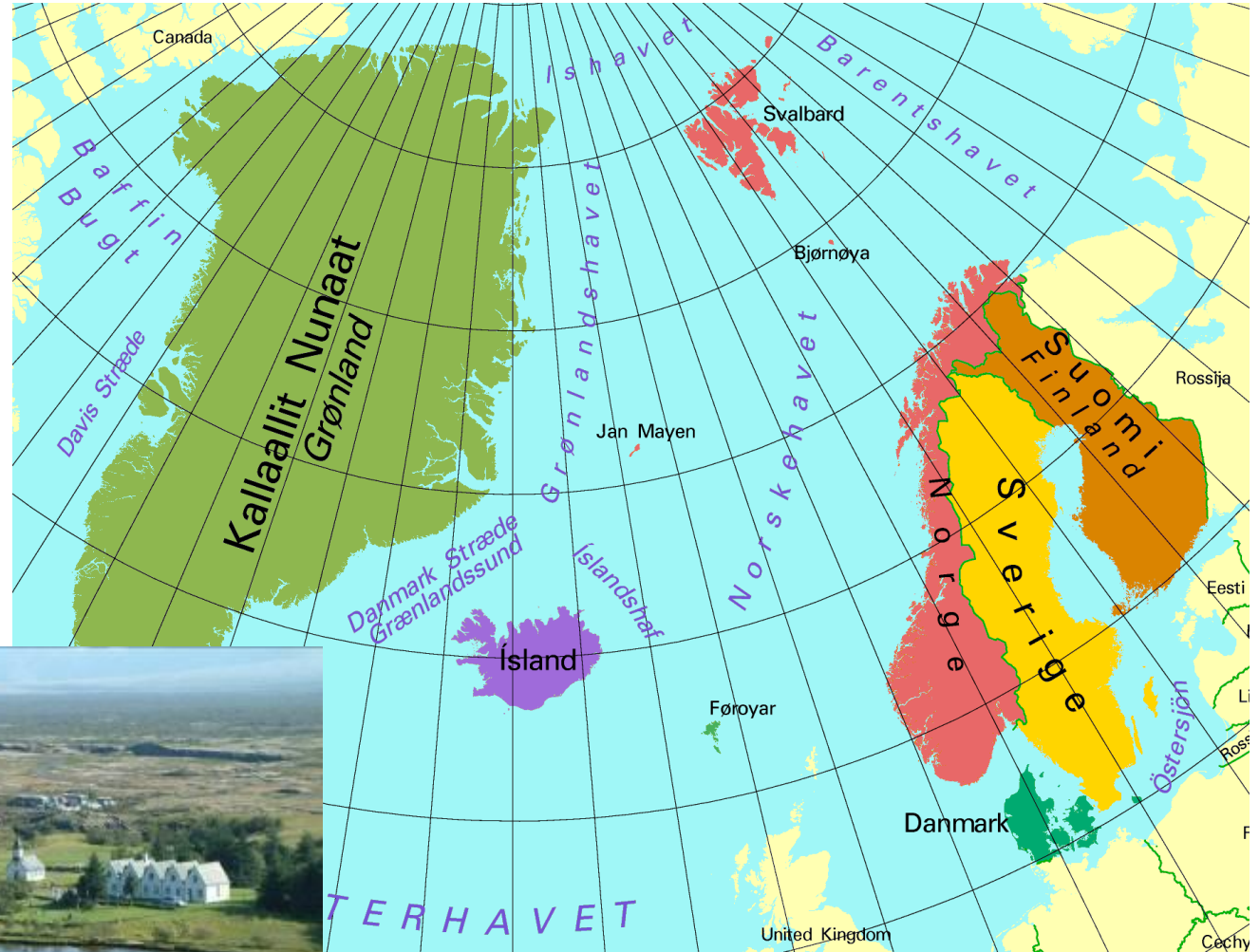
Anna G. Björnsdóttir
Icelandic Association of Local Authorities





Iceland an island in the middle of the North Atlantic

- 103.000 km² with 370 thousand inhabitants
- Two tiers of government: municipalities and the state
- 69 municipalities of various size from 130 thousand to 50 inhabitants
- The Icelandic Association of Local Authorities is recognised in the Local Government's Act as an interest guarding body on behalf of the municipalities

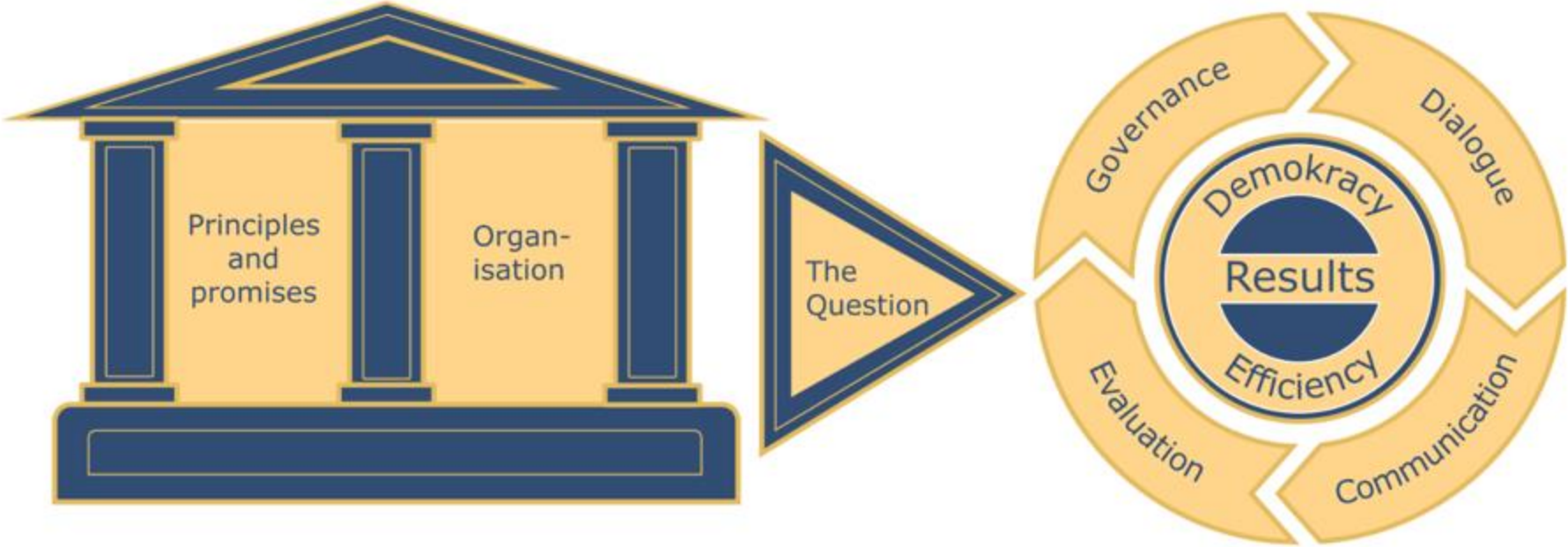


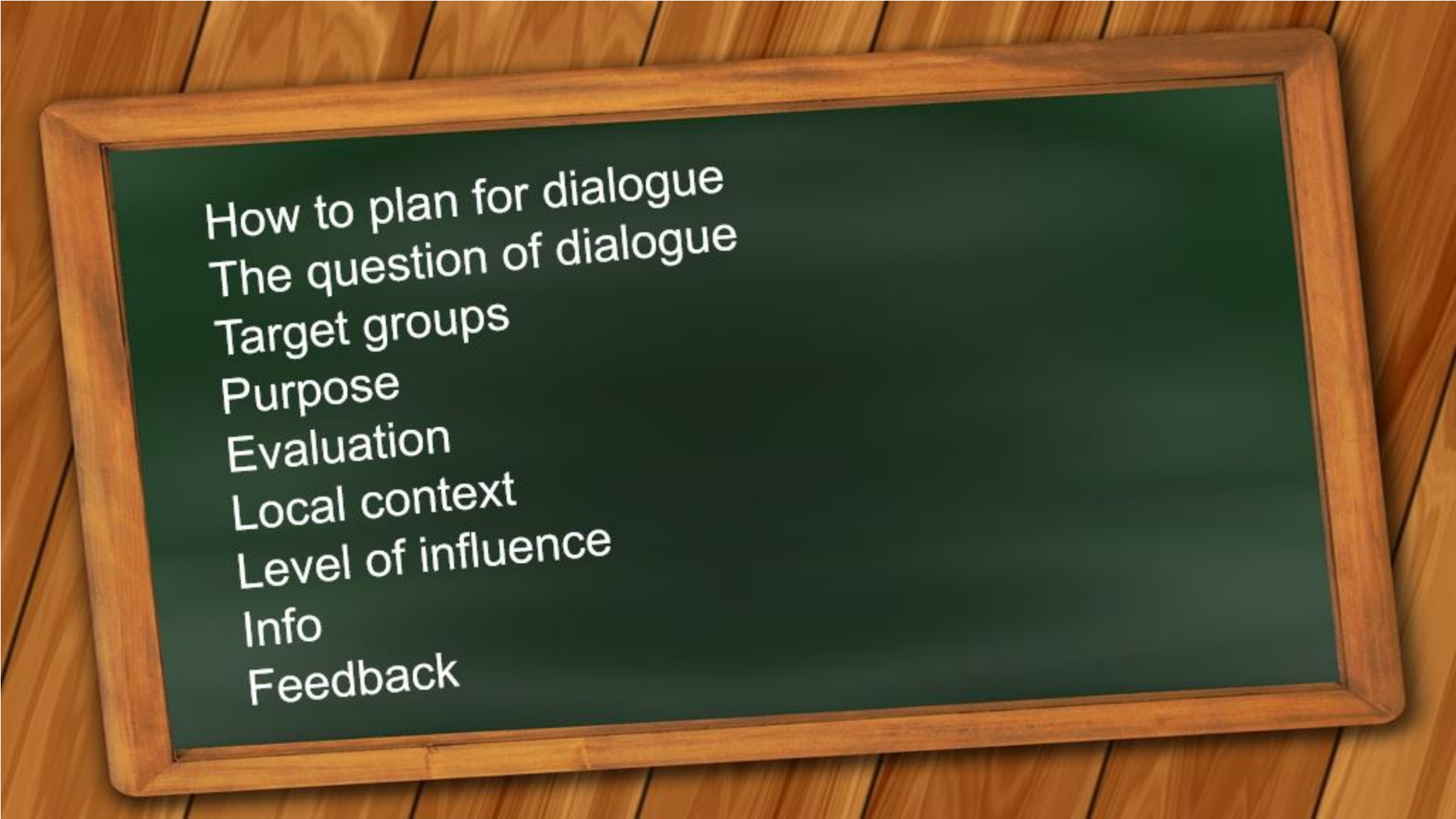
Cooperation with a Swedish sister association, SALAR, to promote citizen participation in Icelandic municipalities

- Study tour
- Handbook
- Pilot municipalities
- Website



Citizen dialogue into the steering process





How to plan for dialogue
The question of dialogue
Target groups
Purpose
Evaluation
Local context
Level of influence
Info
Feedback



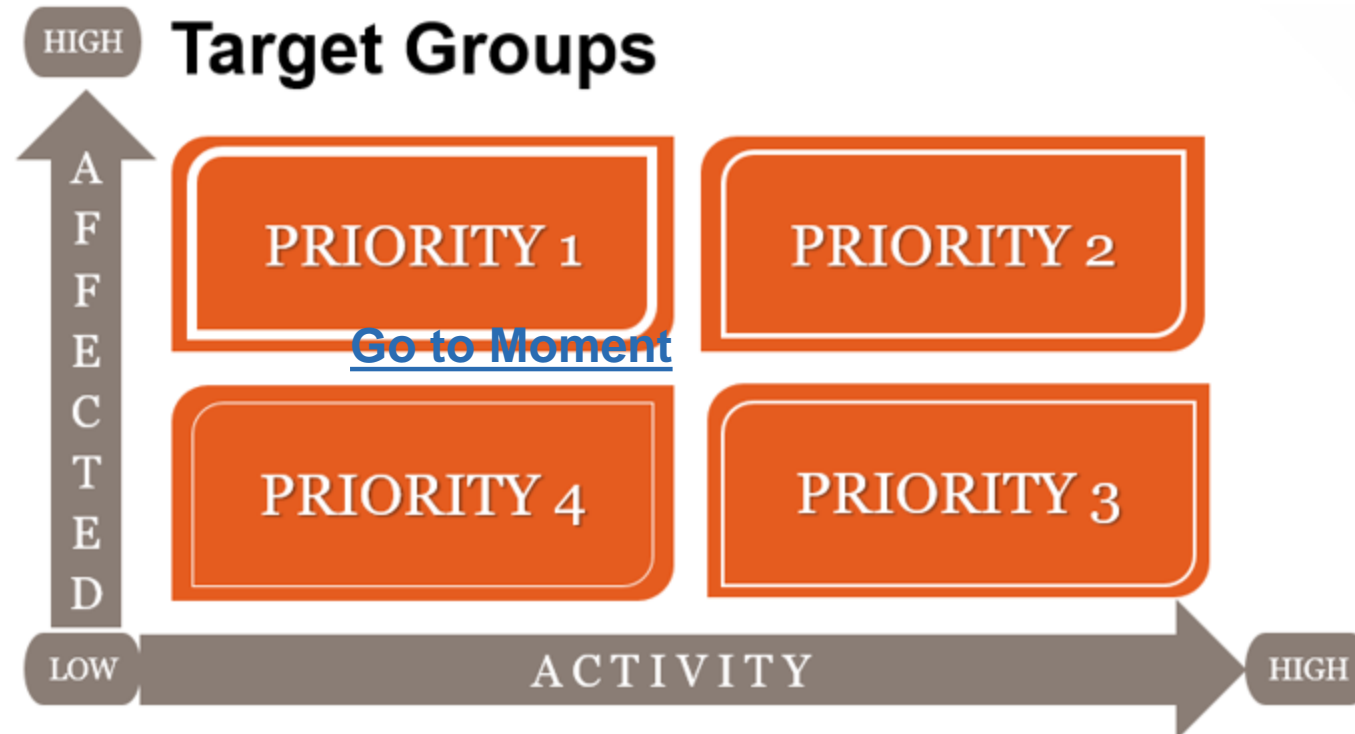
Project plan

- ✓ Develop issues for the dialogue that correspond to the goal of the dialogue
- ✓ Do stakeholders analysis
- ✓ Determine the degree of influence for the participants
- ✓ Choose methods for the dialogue
- ✓ Calculate budget
- ✓ Design timeline
- ✓ Appoint responsible for the various steps
- ✓ Establish a communication plan
- ✓ Find a suitable form of documentation
- ✓ Decide how follow-up and evaluate



Ladder of participation





Retrieved from German researchers

You can be low or high active as a citizen, the question may concern you a little or a lot.

1- Which are the low-active people who are much affected by the issue we want to have a dialogue about?

2- which are the ones that are highly active and are greatly affected

3 - which are those that are highly active but that are not affected as much

4- which are the low active ones that are not affected so much
How do we reach the different groups? Who are they?





The task ahead is to inspire more municipalities to use citizen consultation as a base in their decision making processes

