

# Informing agent-based models of social innovation uptake

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# Goal

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Provide and discuss a real-life example of a complex research designs (i.e., combining more than two methods) that includes an **agent-based model (ABM) integrating information from different sources** (incl. data and theory) in a single, coherent causal mechanism responsible for eliciting an emergent phenomenon in a complex system.



# Agenda

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- 1. H2020 SMARTEES project**
- 2. SMARTEES mixed-method research design**
- 3. Integrating information in ABMs**
  - specification
  - calibration
  - validation



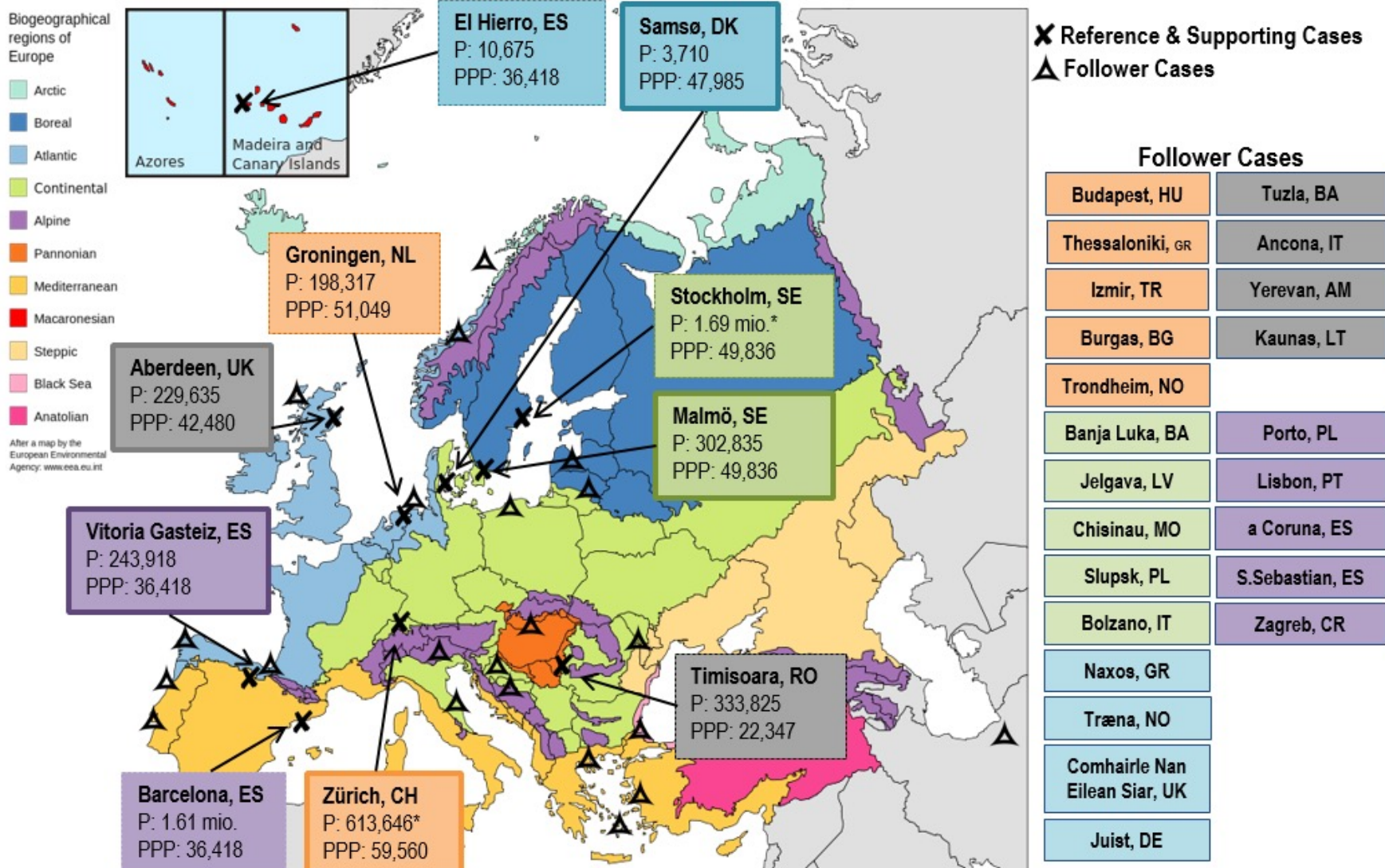
# PART 1

## SMARTEES project

European Union



# What is SMARTEES project about?



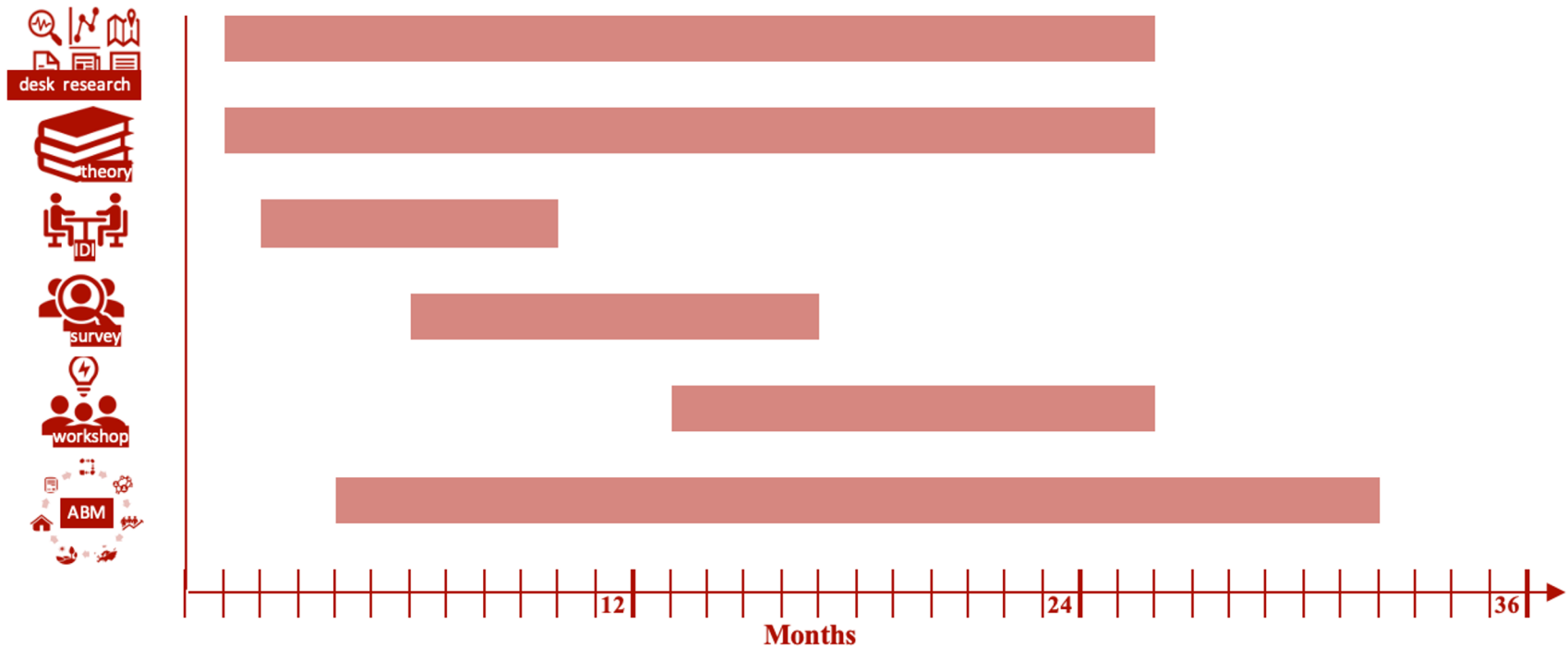
# PART 2

## Research design

SMARTTEES



# SMARTEES mixed-methods



# Primary data collection by case

		IDI N	Survey mode	Survey N	Workshops N
CC1: Urban mobility	Zurich (CH)	8	CAWI	1001	3
	Groningen (NL)	6	CAWI	703	
CC2: Island renewable energy	Samsøe (DK)	9	-		3
	El Hierro (ES)	8	PAPI	373	3
CC3: District regeneration	Malmö (SE)	5	-		3
	Stockholm (SE)	5	-		3
CC4: Super-blocks	Vitoria Gasteiz (ES)	11	CAPI/CATI	865	3
	Barcelona (ES)	13	CAPI	643	3
CC5: Fuel poverty	Aberdeen (UK)	14	CAWI/PAPI	840	3
	Timisoara (RO)	6	CAWI	439	3

**CAWI** - Computer Assisted Web Interviews, **PAPI** - Pen and Paper Interviews, **CAPI** - Computer Assisted Personal Interviews, **CATI** - Computer Assisted Telephone Interviews.





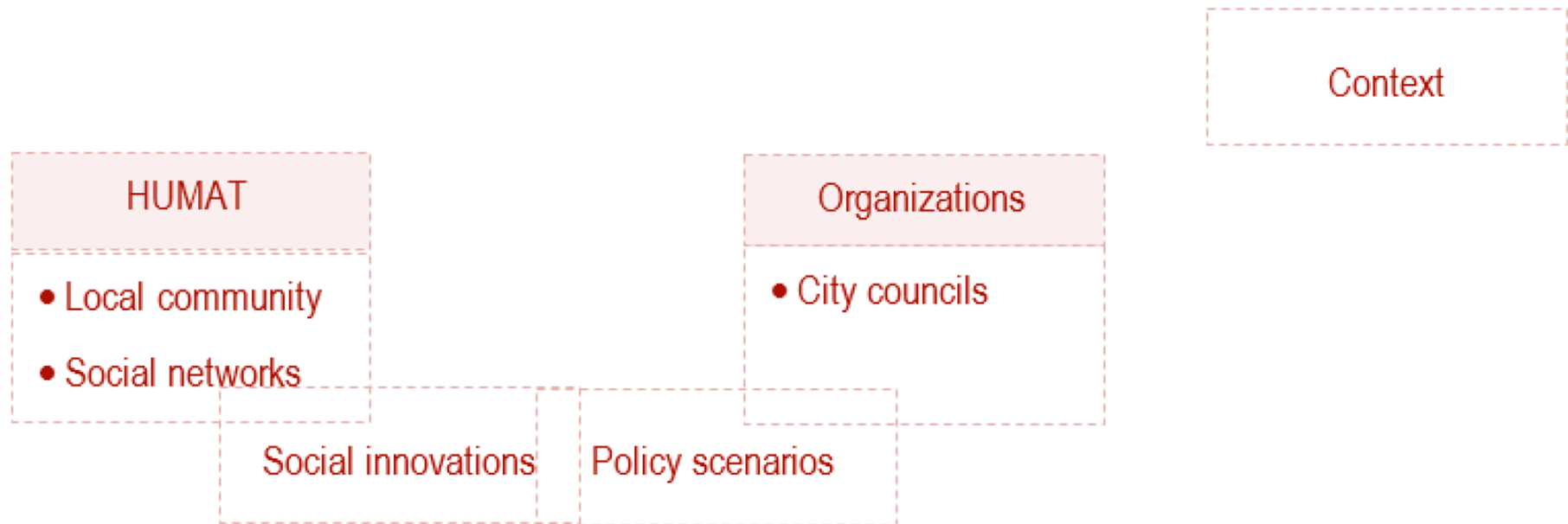
# PART 3

## Integrating information

European Union



# 1) ABM specification



# HUMAT – socio-cognitive architecture

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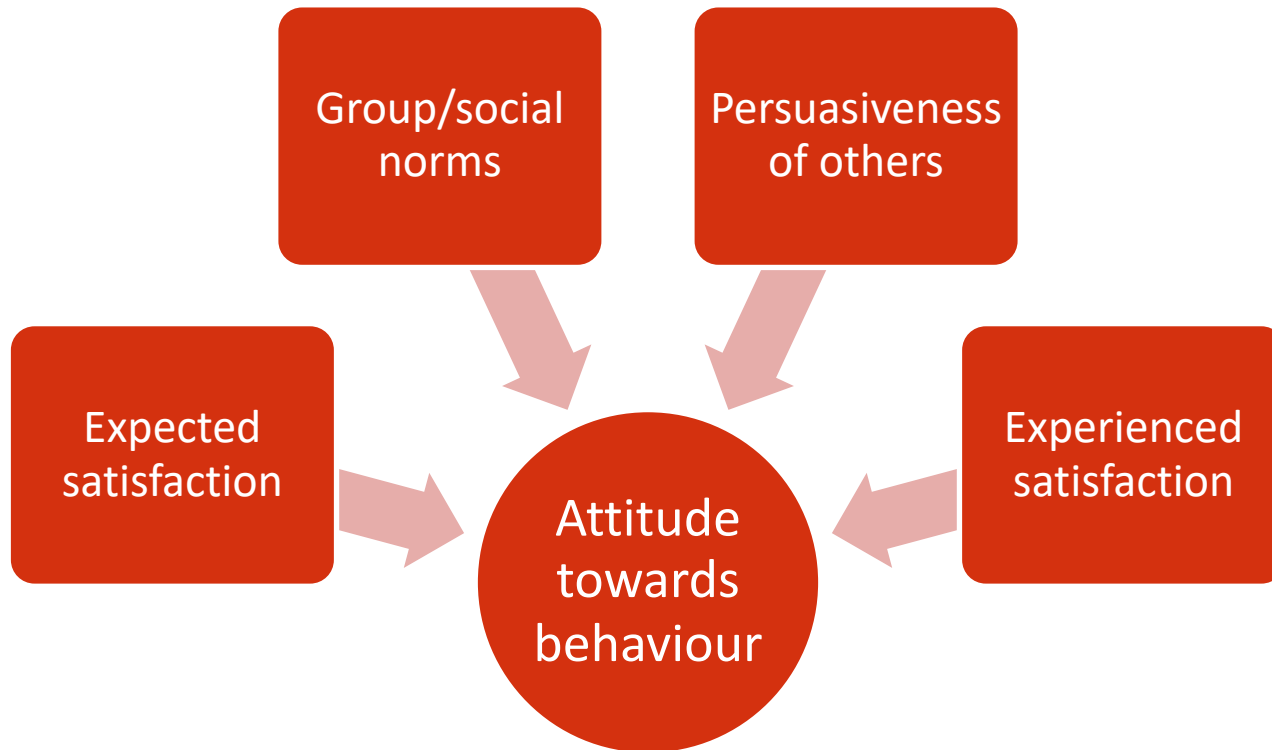
HUMAT = **Decision-making** process + **Opinion diffusion** in social networks

Individual and social factors in forming an attitude (towards a behavior):

- Should I do A, B or C?
- Am I for or against A?



# Attitude formation in HUMAT



## 2) ABM calibration

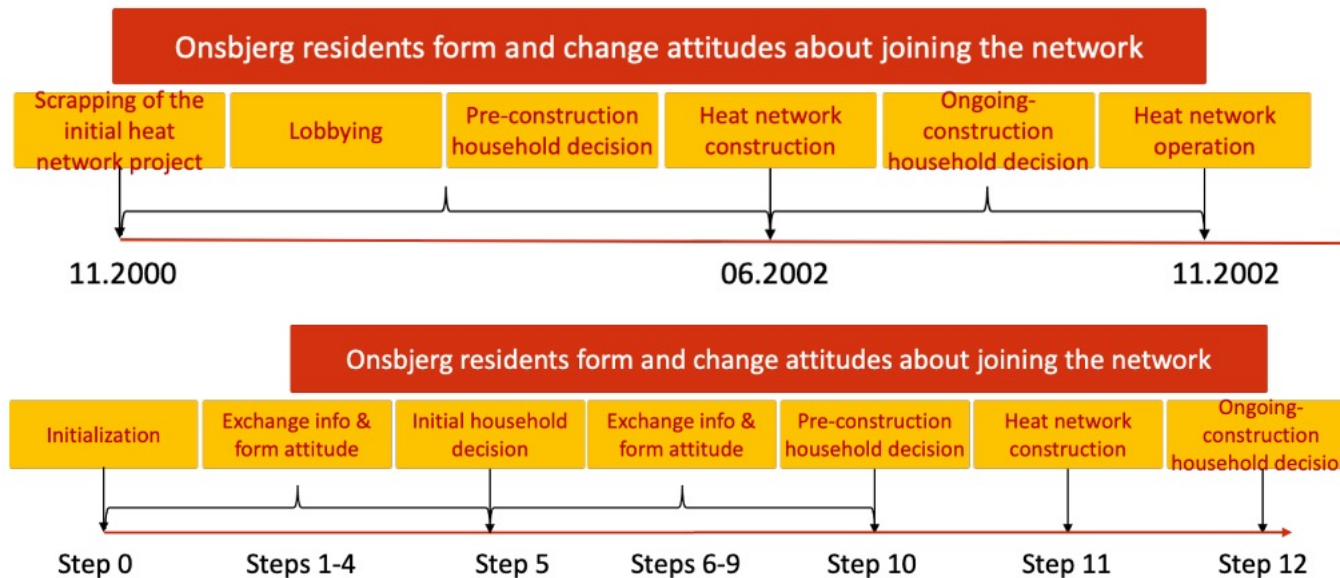
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- **Timeline of relevant events** -secondary data + IDIs
- **Geo-socio-demographic characteristics of the resident population** - secondary data
- **Motives/needs of residents** - secondary data + IDIs + SMARTEES survey
- **Social networks of residents** - IDIs + workshops + theory
- **Policy scenarios** - workshops



# Timeline of relevant events

## Samsøe case



# Geo-soc-dem resident profiles

## Groningen case

gender F M

18-24 25-64 65+ age

main activity  
students, employed, inactive, retired



residency



## 3) ABM validation

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- the use of empirical data to test artificial data produced by the simulation, through intensive analysis and comparison with data on empirical reality (Boero, Squazzoni 2005);
- randomness in the artificial data produced by the model;
- point validation vs pattern validation.



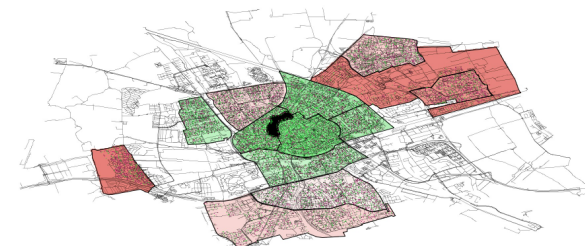


# “Growing” the past

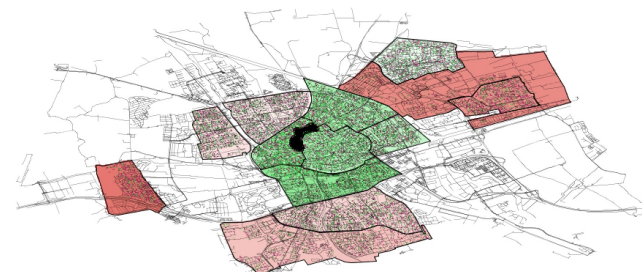
*Referendum vote in 1994*



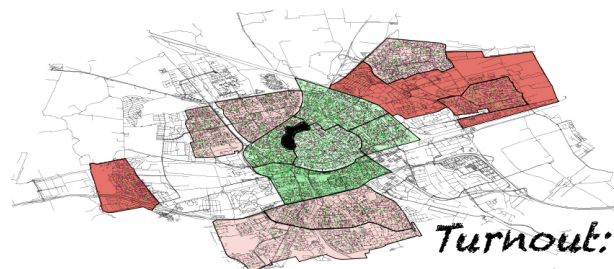
*Turnout: 31%*  
*Car-free: 51,2%*



*Turnout: 32%*  
*Car-free: 50,5%*

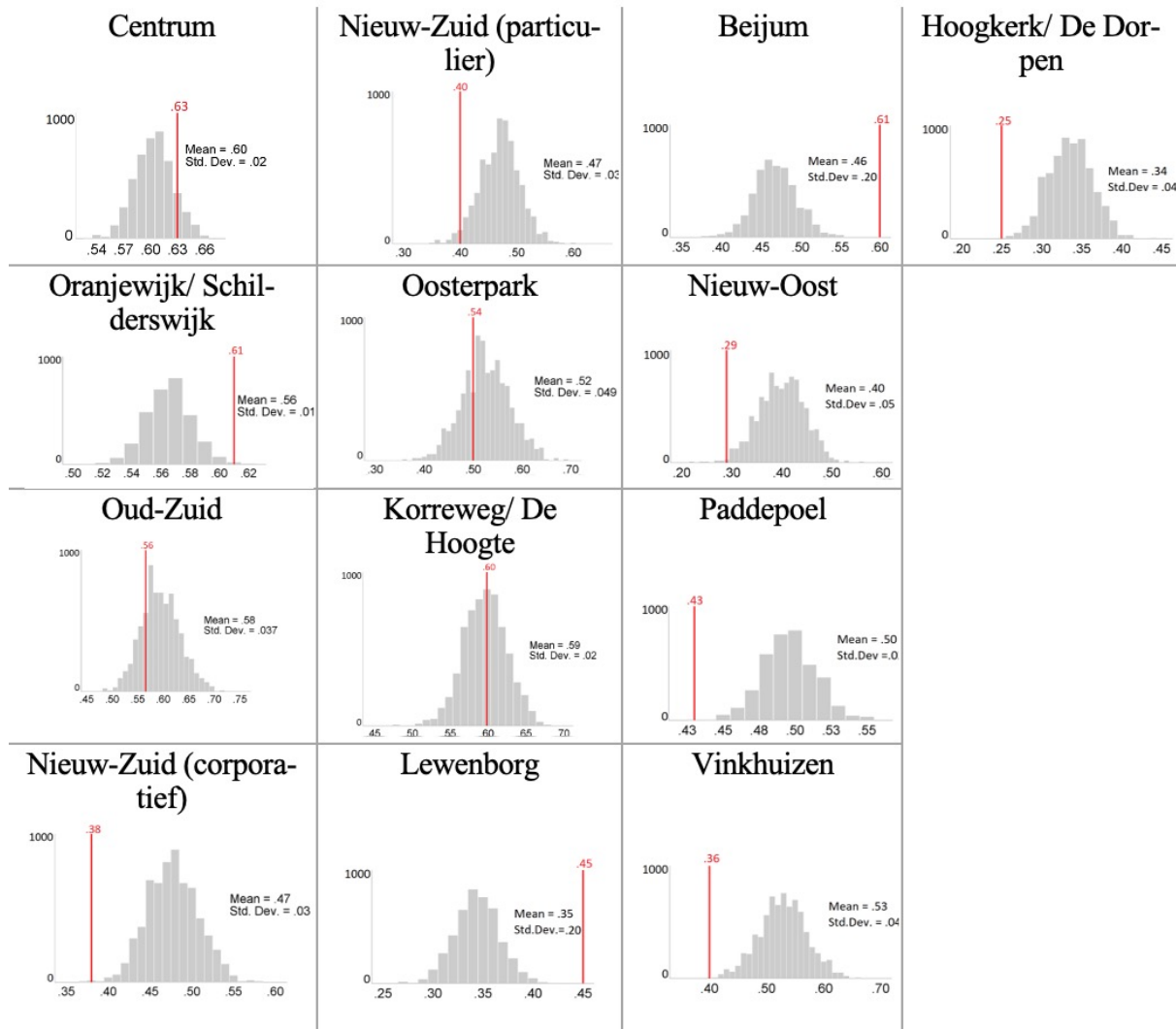


*Turnout: 30%*  
*Car-free: 49,2%*



*Turnout: 30%*  
*Car-free: 47%*

# Validation precision



# Thank you!

Stay in touch!  
(add your name  
and email)

