

# **Decidim: open source digital infrastructure for participatory democracy**

Nil Homedes (Decidim Association)





# Decidim is a digital platform for citizen participation

Free/libre, open and safe technology.  
With all democratic guarantees.  
Reprogramming democracy is now possible with Decidim.





## Strategic planning



## Participatory processes



## Assemblies



## Initiatives and citizen consultations



## Participatory budgeting

meta

decidim

Search



Processes / Propose new features

### Propose new features

New proposal +

The form below filters the search results dynamically when the search conditions are changed.

Search

#### Status

All

Finished

Accepted / In progress

Not answered

Rejected

#### Scope

All

Awaiting funding

Funding available

To propose a new feature or functionality or an improvement or change upon an existing one, first please check out that it is not already on the roadmap, or that it hasn't been discussed already. Try to be as clear as possible when making a new proposal and take into account the instructions provided on "The Process" section. **Thanks for contributing, your ideas and proposals are very valuable for this project.**

### 808 proposals

Recent Random Most endorsed Most commented Most followed With more authors

#### Adding dropdown single select option to surveys

Open Source Politics 2 3

#### Make sure admins save their changes before leaving

Simonas Zilinskas 0 4

#### Add webp format for images

CodiTramuntana 0 3 Finished

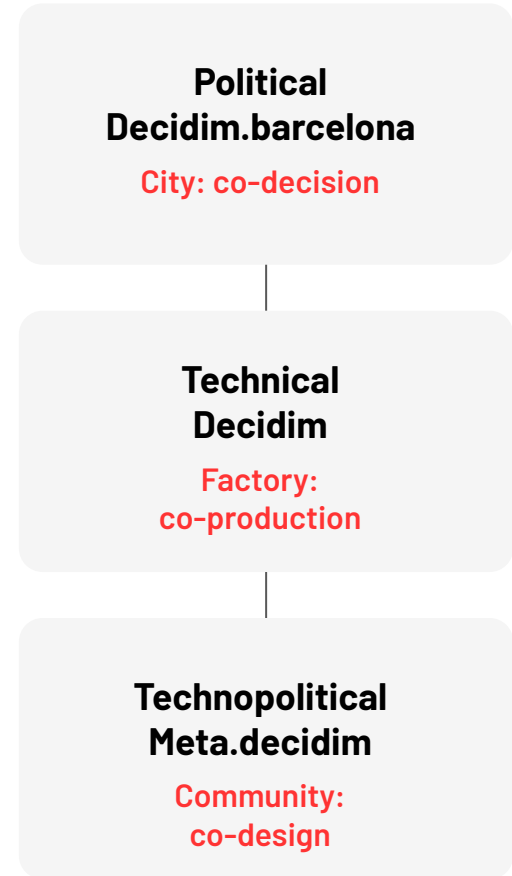
#### Announce your Decidim Web App?

John Willson 1 2

#### Role for Translators which doesn't require full admin rights

Ruth Cheesley 0 0

# 3 layers model of Decidim



# What makes Decidim unique?

1. **Participation model:** Open, flexible and replicable, a model to maximise citizen participation.
2. **Public-common code:** Building a FLOSS project from public sector
3. **Democratic governance:** Public-community governance of a digital common



# Participation model

The political layer: Open, flexible and replicable, a model to maximise citizen participation 🚀

- A standard for citizen participation adaptable to different local realities
- Core values defined in the code and the Social Contract
  - Transparency
  - Traceability
  - Integrity
  - Democratic Quality
- Decidim takes participation to the next level, allowing thousands of people to interact at the same time.



# +450

democratic organizations  
are using decidim today

30 countries  
240 cities and govern organizations  
180 social organizations

2023



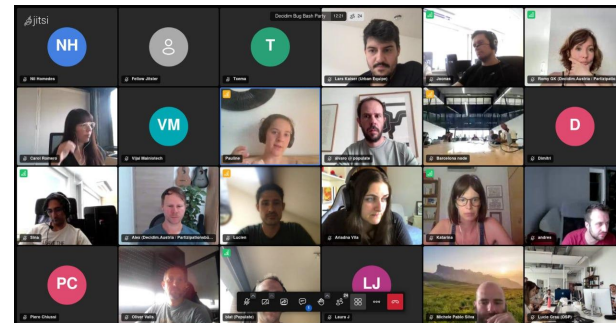
# Public-common code

The technical layer: Building a FLOSS community project from public sector 

- Open to contributions from the first day.
- The community can propose new features and participate in the roadmap definition.
- Building alliances with local partners to implement Decidim around the world.

*“What makes Decidim special is the community” (Simonas Zilinskas, OSP)*

# Community participation



# Translate Decidim

- **33** languages
- **320** project members
- **47,000** words translated

Decidim (decidim)



## Decidim

Home Activity Discussions

Translations:

 ★ Catalan 99% • 99%	 ★ Spanish 99% • 99%	 Arabic 93% • 0%	 Basque 94% • 9%	 Czech 99% • 0%
 Dutch 99% • 37%	 Esperanto 1% • 0%	 Finnish 100% • 100%	 Finnish (plain) 98% • 0%	 French 98% • 96%
 Galician 94% • 0%	 German 95% • 2%	 Hungarian 99% • 76%	 Indonesian 94% • 0%	 Italian 97% • 14%
 Norwegian 0% • 0%	 Polish 94% • 0%	 Portuguese 94% • 2%	 Portuguese, Brazilian 94% • 4%	 Russian with many plural form 52% • 40%
 Spanish, Mexico 97% • 0%	 Spanish, Paraguay 97% • 38%	 Swedish 96% • 90%	 Turkish 96% • 0%	 Ukrainian with many plural form 52% • 40%



### Description

Free Open-Source participatory democracy for cities and organizations  
<https://decidim.org>

### Share Project



### Details

Source language: English  
Project members: 116  
Words to translate: 23 042  
Created: 3 years ago  
Last activity: 1 day ago

### Managers

- Decidim (decidim)  
[OWNER](#) [Contact](#)
- Andrés Pereira de Lucena (andreslucena)  
[Contact](#)
- arnaumonty  
[Contact](#)



2021



2022

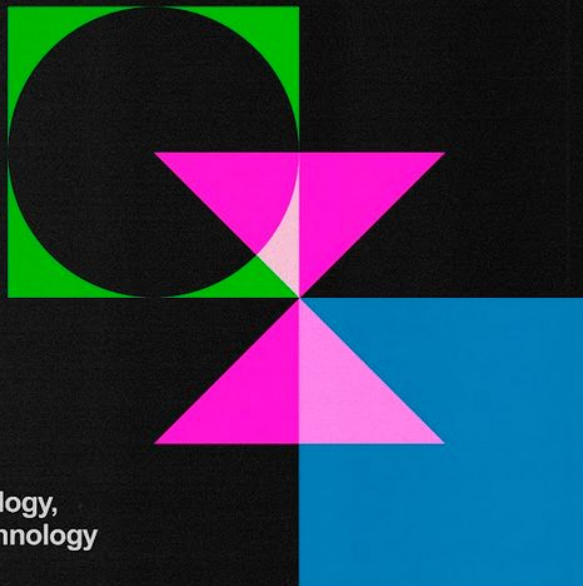


2023



# Decidim Fest

23-25  
October  
2024  
Canòdrom  
Bcn




Ecology,  
Technology  
and  
Democracy:  
Disputing the future in  
a world in flames


↪  
Web: [meta.decidim.org](https://meta.decidim.org)  
#DecidimFest24



# Democratic governance


The technopolitical layer: Public-community governance of a digital common 

- The Decidim Association is the central actor of the project
- Barcelona City Council has ceded to the Decidim Association the management and maintenance of the source code.
- Unique example in the world of how to implement FLOSS as a public policy with a community governance.

 First Decidim version  
released by Barcelona  
City Council

 Creation of the  
**Decidim Association**

Community  
participatory process

 Agreement for the  
management and  
development of Decidim

Renewal of the agreement for the  
management and development of  
Decidim

2016

2019  
February

2019  
May

2023  
May


# Governance model





Localret



 Association

 Community





Localret

 Association Members



**General Assembly**

Coordination  
Comitee

Technical  
Office

Thematic Committees

 Association

 Community





Localret

 Association Members



**General Assembly**

Coordination  
Comitee

Technical  
Office

Thematic Committees

 Association

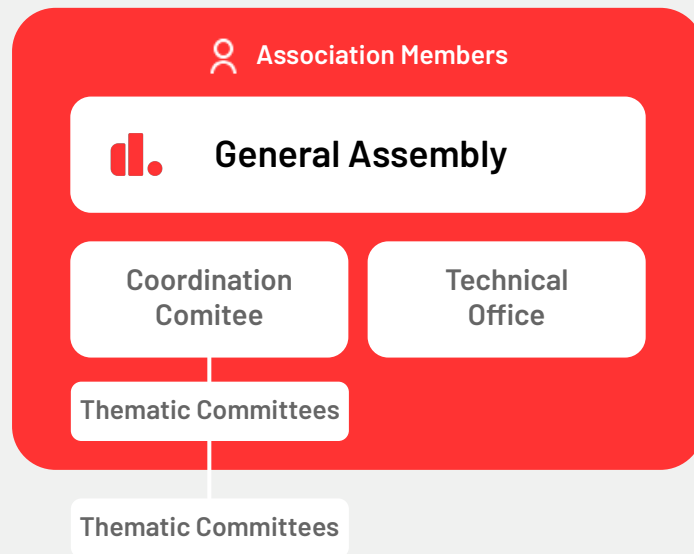
 Community





Localret

- Cooperatives
- Public Administrations
- Civil servants
- Developers
- Tech companies
- Hackers
- Organisations



- Local chapter
- Admins
- Universities
- Researchers
- Technical experts in participation
- Facilitation and consultant companies

- Association
- Community



# Partnership policy

Why?

To ensure the sustainability of decidim as a digital commons.

To enable a path to contribute back to the project maintainers.

Conditions:

- Contribute back to the Decidim Association
- **Fee of the 3% of the yearly income** generated by Decidim activities.
- Every Decidim Partner will be made publicly visible in the Decidim website



# Decidim official partners

Service providers

PokeCode<sup>®</sup>

octree

Colectic

PIPELINE  
TO POWER

CodeandoMéxico

Opensourcepolitics  
l'expérience démocratique

mitgestalten  
Partizipationsbüro

Code for  
Japan

urb  
an equ  
ipe

DIGIDEM LAB

# Decidim in the future

## Challenges and objectives

- New sustainability model
- Becoming an infrastructure for participation of worldwide reference
- Expanding use cases beyond governments



# Thanks!

More info at: [decidim.org](https://decidim.org)

Contact: [hola@decidim.org](mailto:hola@decidim.org)

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**Nil Homedes Busquets**

President

Decidim Free Software Association

With the support of:



Localret

