

Decidim: a political and technopolitical network for participatory democracy

Antonio Calleja López, IN3/UOC, Decidim
After Festival: Futuri Digitali
Bologna, October 25th 2019

2011



2015

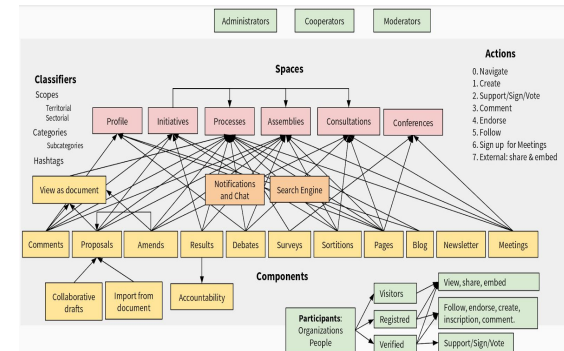


2016





- A political network & participatory democracy matrix for cities, public and social organizations
- Free software, openly and collaboratively developed in github, in an open and inter-institutional manner
- A local and global technopolitical community: meta.decidim to move from free to democratic software



World

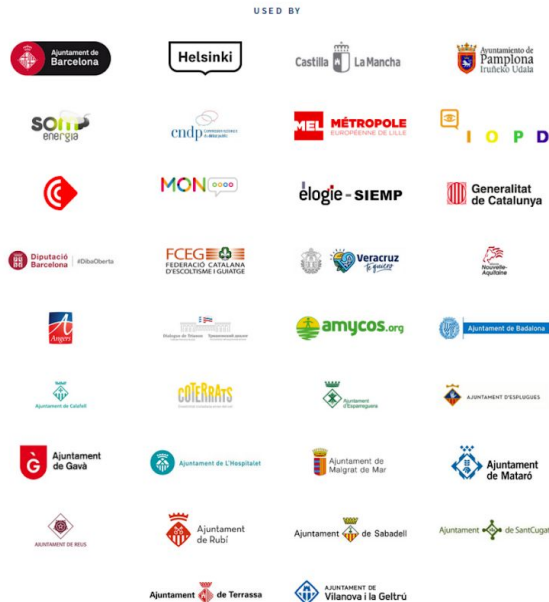
Decidim(s)

More than 100 instances

More than 150000 participants

Cities such as C. of Mexico or Helsinki, Regions such as Catalonia, States such as France and... Italy, social organizations such as Acogida Digna

Barcelona, 34.000 participants, 40+ processes



Case 1: PAM Participatory Strategic Planning



Participatory strategic planning Barcelona's Municipal Action Plan

decidim.org

39.049 participants

10.860 proposals

15.021 physical participants

500+ meetings

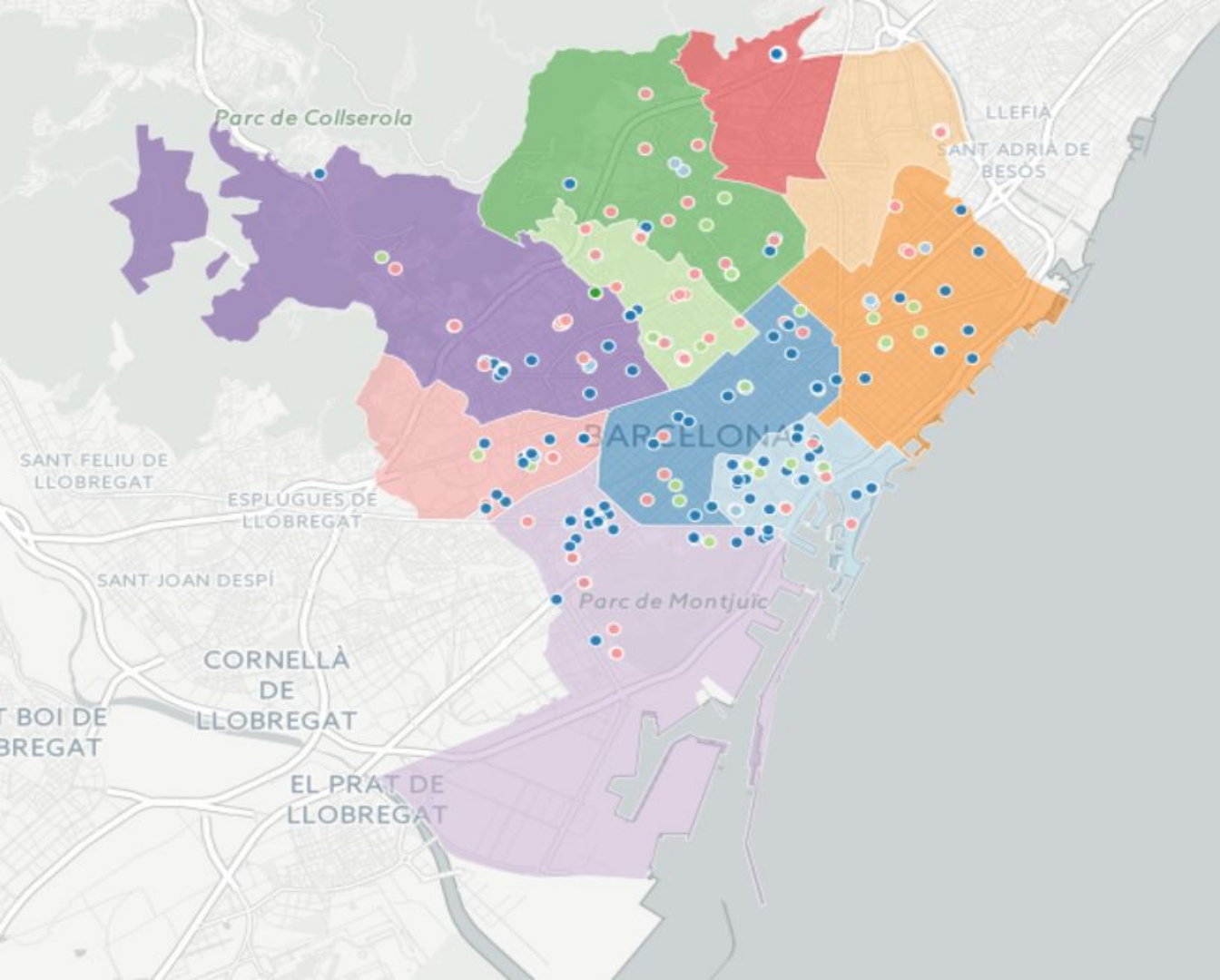
1.700 organizations

165.121 supports

24.028 active users

230.000+ online interactions





CATEGORIES

- BON GOVERN
- BON VIURE
- ECONOMIA PLURAL
- JUSTÍCIA GLOBAL
- TRANSICIÓ ECOLÒGICA

DISTRICTES

- CIUTAT VELLA
- EIXAMPLE
- GRACIA
- HORTA - GUINARDO
- LES CORTS
- NOU BARRIS
- SANT ANDREU
- SANT MARTI
- SANTS MONTJUIC
- SARRIA - SANT GERVASI

decidim.barcelona

Network of replies between users from [Decidim Barcelona](#).

Steps for building the network:

- The communities (colors) are identified by the Louvain Method
- The size of the node is the PageRank

i **More about this visualisation**

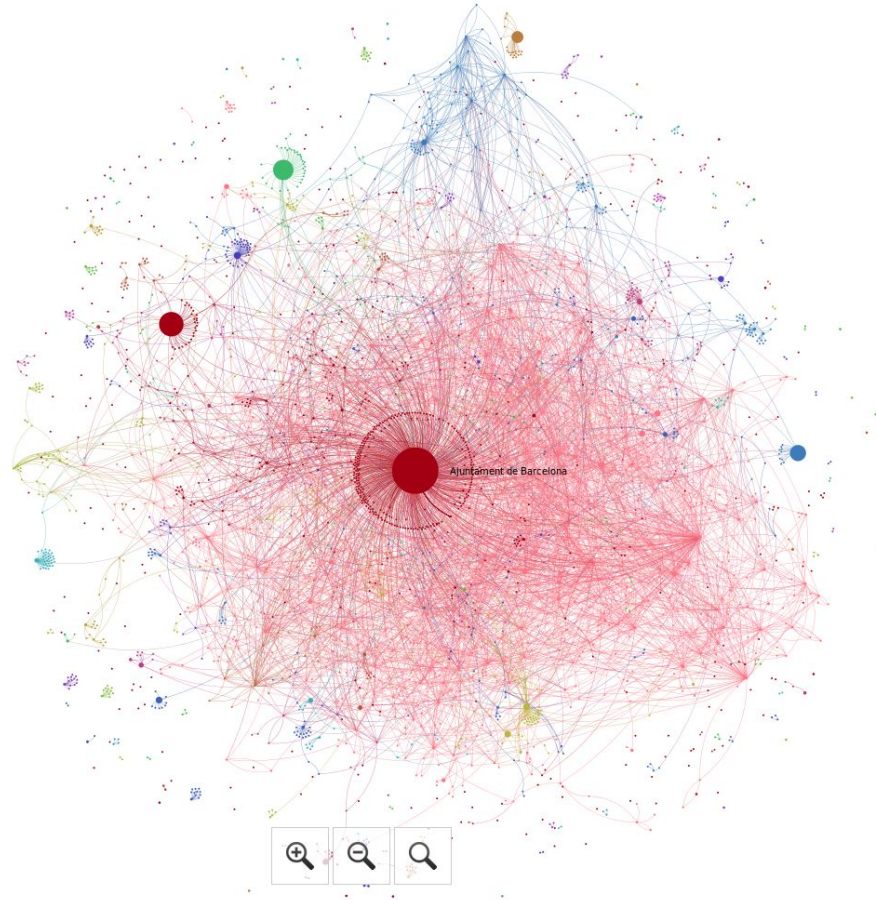
Legend:

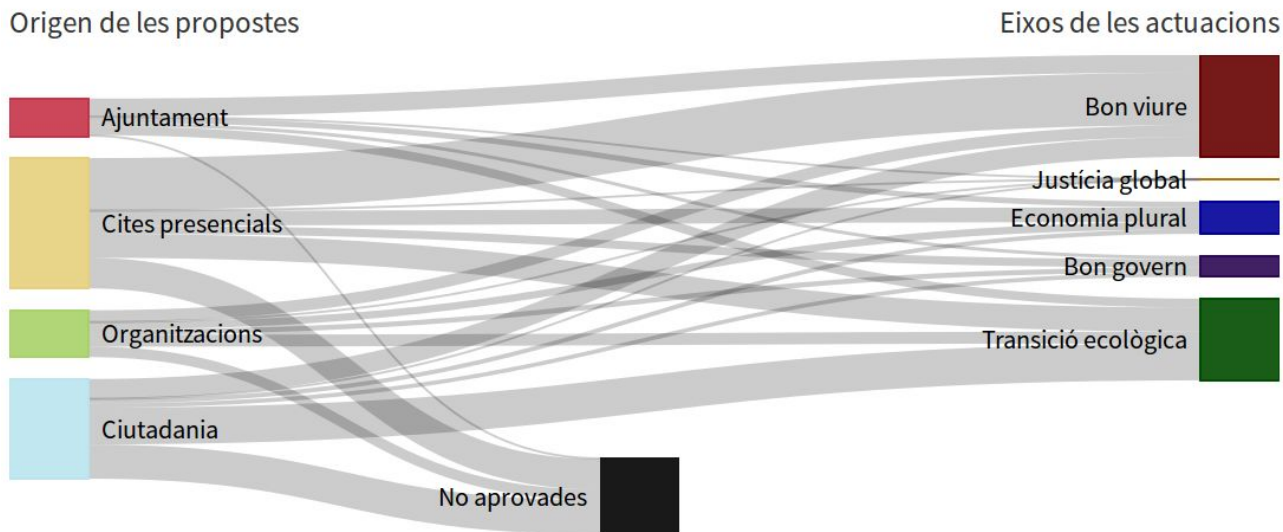
- User
- ↘ Reply
- Community

Search:

Group Selector:

Powered by the SigmaJS exporter plugin:
[- Oxford Internet Institute](#)
[- JISC](#)





10.860 proposals

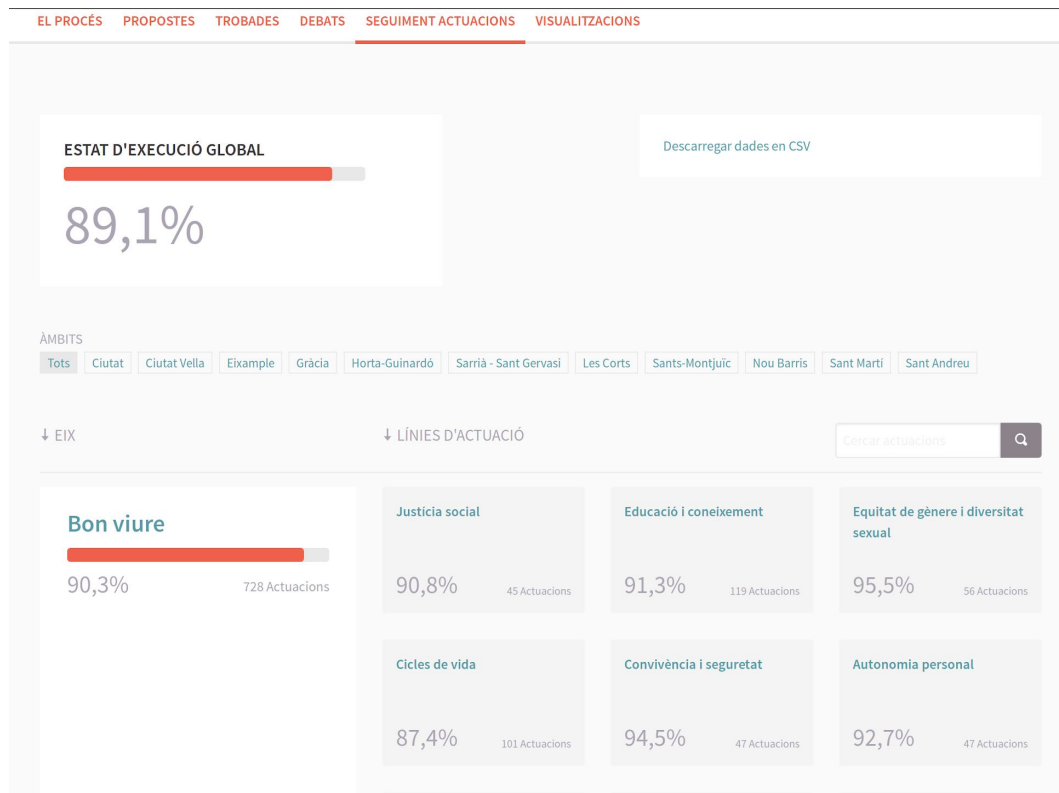


+70% of proposals approved and combined into policies

1.467 policy actions
+5000 projects

Accountability and result monitoring

Participatory Strategic Planning is accountable. Decidim displays the % of execution of the whole action plan, by district, topic, down to the level of 7000 projects.



PAM

Future

Increase digital richness and integration with face to face meetings: augmented democracy

Managing and reducing complexity

Move into the territorialized co-supervision and co-implementation

Processes that matter and that increase people's agency in (inter)subjective but also objective terms — demos + kratos

Landmarks of the 2019-2023 roadmap

Summer 2019

Climate emergency table

Low emissions zone

Spring 2020

PAM

Participatory Budgeting

Spring 2022

Multi-consultation

Participatory Budgeting

**Winter 2019 /
2020**

District mayoralty

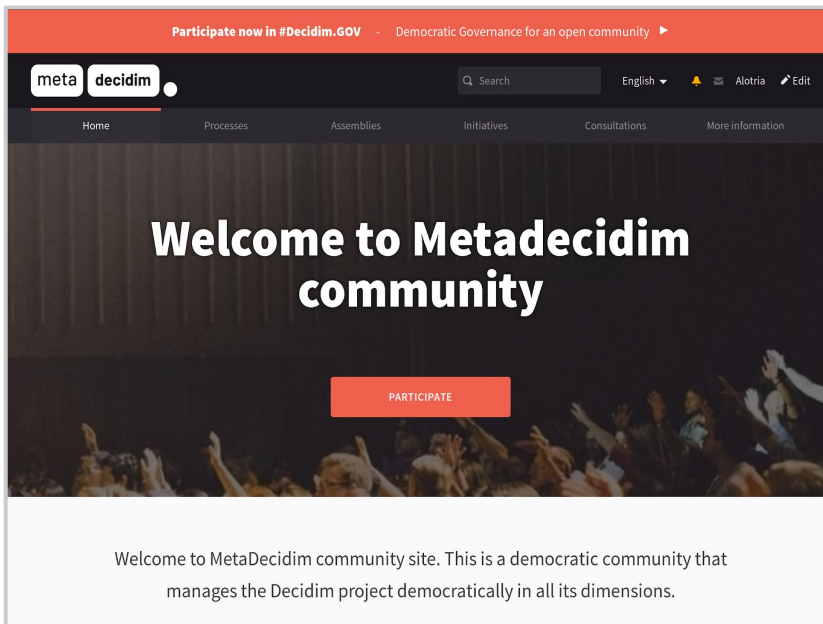
Councillors accountability

Spring 2021

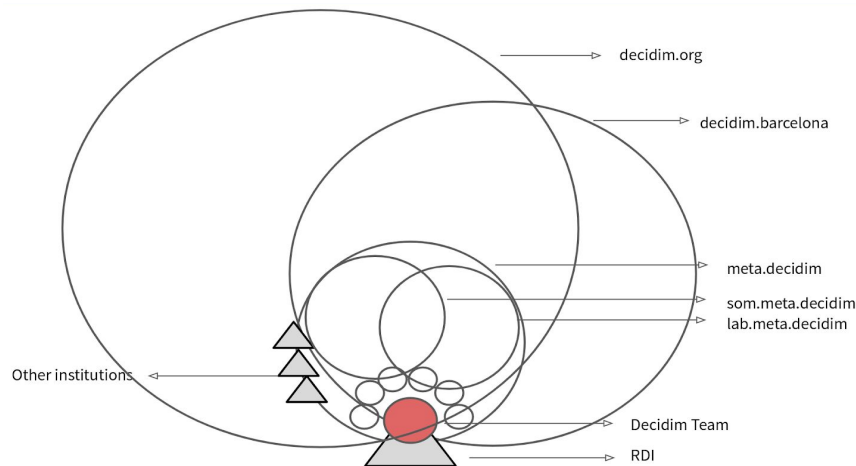
Multi-consultation

Citizen Agoras

Case 2: Metadecidim. Democratizing Decidim



870+ members worldwide
SOMs, Decidimfest, Decidim Day, LABs



Metadecidim

Building a technopolitical community for a public-common project

SOMs: 19 since April 2017

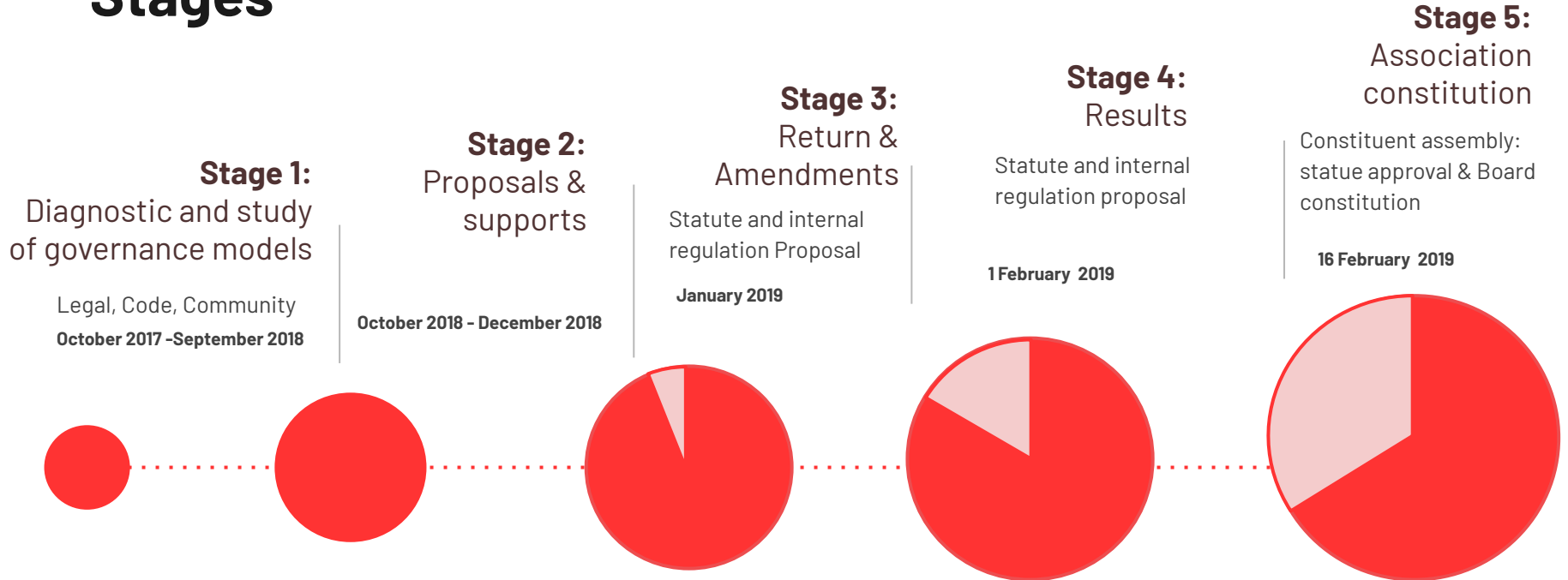
DecidimFest: 3 editions

Decidim Day: 1 edition Paris, 2019



Governance process

Stages



Governance process

The debate in numbers

1. 80-100 participants, 130 followers, 275 supports
2. 5+ meetings, 67 proposals.
3. 24 amendments, 100+ comments



Decidim Community

Advisory Council

General Assembly

Product
Committee

Research
Committee

Economic
sustainability
committee

Communication
& promotion
committee

Technological
committee

Democratic
warranties
committee

Coordination Committee

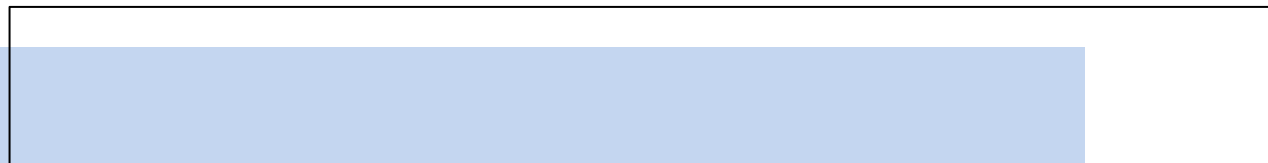
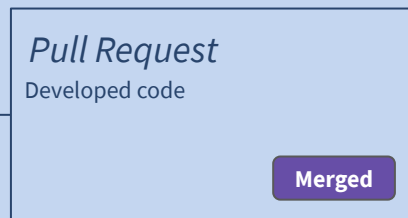
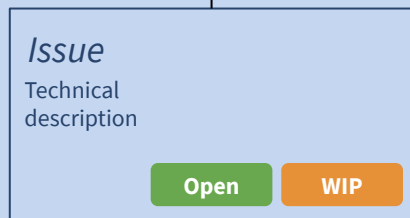
Council of cities
and public
administrations

Technical Office

Certified companies

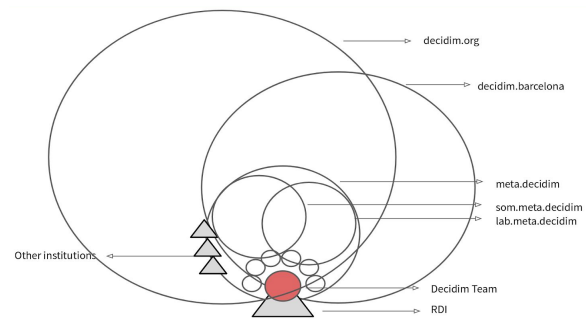
Metadecidim

Interinstitutional collaboration





Lab sessions & workshops: 17 since Spring 2017
Research & innovation projects
Funding
Institutions & researchers



Metadecidim

Future

Further increase relations between research and development

Economic sustainability

Governance for a global community of developers and practitioners

Observatory and lobby for democracy



Thanks!

More info

Decidim Web: www.decidim.org

Twitter: @metaacidim

Tecnopolitica Web: www.tecnopolitica.net

Twitter: @tecnopolitica_



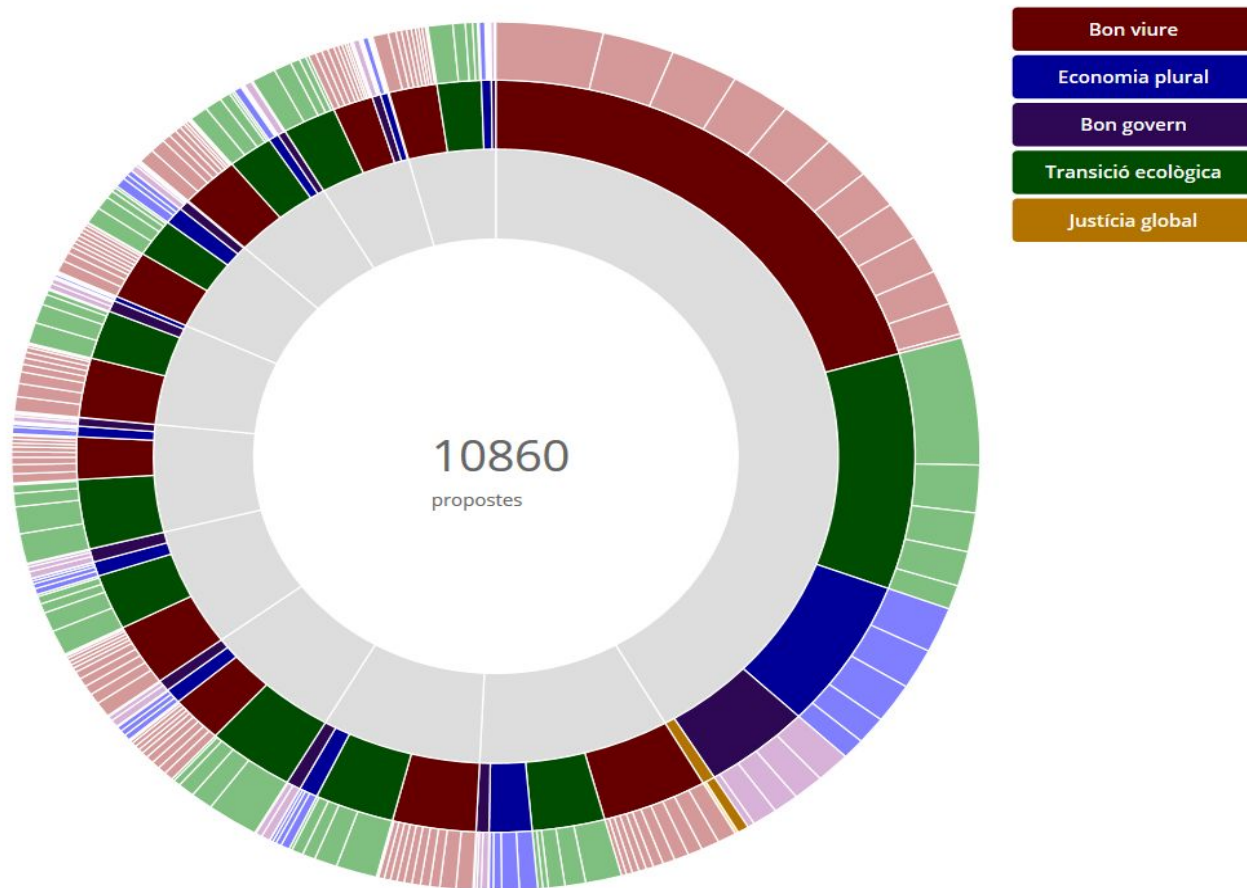
Layer	Relation	Platform	Mode	Escala
Political	Superstructure	decidim.x	Co-decision	Local
Technopolitical	Structure	meta.decidim	Co-design	Local/global
Technical	Infrastructure	Git	Co-production	Global



Slide 3. Technopolitical. Community

Proposals

Proposal distribution
by subject and
categories



Slide 3. Technopolitical. Community

SOM, LAB, Fest, Days SOM – LAB research — crowdlaw –
crowdcode

Led by the Barcelona city council and the metadecidim
community through a public-common partnership,
Decidim is a project that aims to help democratize
society.

Decidim as institution

Lab: descriptive analysis and prescriptive



Political plane: superstructure

Decidim and participatory government of the State.

Decidim and participatory governance of society.

Decidim and participatory governmentality of life.

Technopolitical plane: structure

Decidim.pars: Decidim as a project of augmented participation.

Decidim.dsg: Decidim and its technopolitical design.

Decidim.meta: Decidim's participatory governance & community.

Technical plane: infrastructure

Decidim.dev: code development and deployment.

Decidim.lex: regulations, public procurement, copyright licenses.

Decidim.edu: training, empowerment and mediation.

Decidim.lab: research and innovation.

Decidim.data: from open data to data commons.





Political plane: superstructure

- Decidim and participatory government.
- Decidim and participatory governance.
- Decidim and participatory governmentality.

Technopolitical plane: structure

- Decidim.pars: Decidim as a project of augmented participation.
- Decidim.arc: Decidim's functional architecture for participation.
- Decidim.dsg: Decidim and its technopolitical design.
- Decidim.meta: Decidim's participatory governance & community.

Technical plane: infrastructure

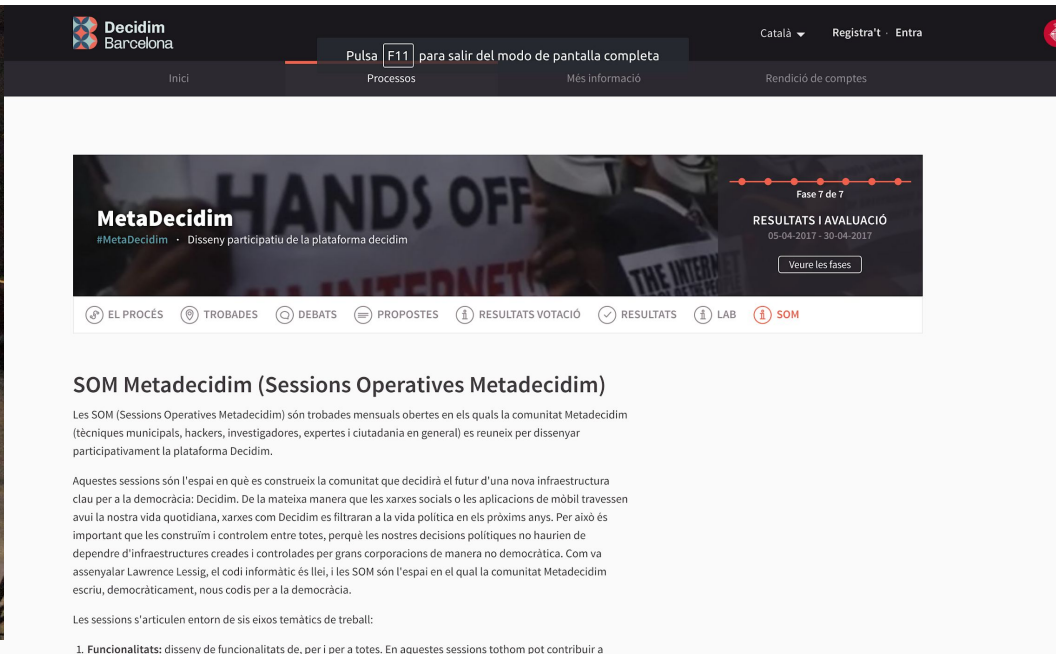
- Decidim.dev: code development and deployment.
- Decidim.lex: regulations, public procurement, copyright licenses.
- Decidim.lab: research and innovation.
- Decidim.edu: training, empowerment and mediation.
- Decidim.data: from open data to data commons.

Political
Decidim.barcelona
City: co-decision

Technopolitical
Meta.decidim
Community: co-design

Technical
Decidim.org
Laboratory: co-production

Online-offline governance



Decidim
Barcelona

Pulsa **F11** para salir del modo de pantalla completa

Inici Processos Més informació Rendició de comptes

Català Registra't Entra

MetaDecidim

#MetaDecidim · Disseny participatiu de la plataforma decidim

Fase 7 de 7

RESULTATS I AVALUACIÓ
05-04-2017 - 30-04-2017

[Veure les fases](#)

- EL PROCÉS
- TROBADES
- DEBATS
- PROPOSTES
- RESULTATS VOTACIÓ
- RESULTATS
- LAB
- SOM**

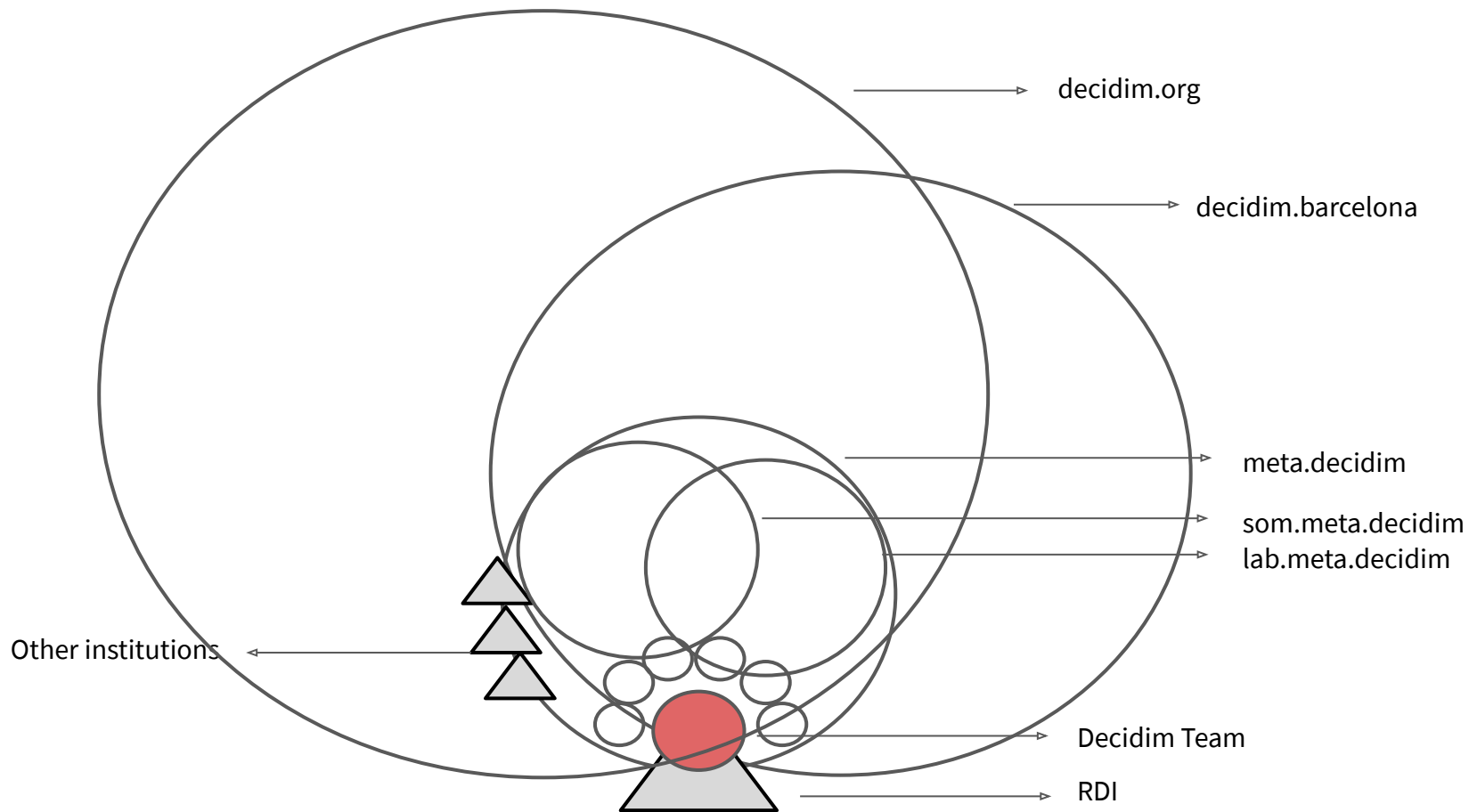
SOM Metadecidim (Sessions Operatives Metadecidim)

Les SOM (Sessions Operatives Metadecidim) són trobades mensuals obertes en els quals la comunitat Metadecidim (tècnics municipals, hackers, investigadors, expertes i ciutadania en general) es reuneix per dissenyar participativament la plataforma Decidim.

Aquestes sessions són l'espai en què es construeix la comunitat que decidirà el futur d'una nova infraestructura clau per la democràcia: Decidim. De la mateixa manera que les xarxes socials o les aplicacions de mòbil travessen avui la nostra vida quotidiana, xarxes com Decidim es filtraran a la vida política en els pròxims anys. Per això és important que les construïm i controlem entre totes, perquè les nostres decisions polítiques no haurien de dependre d'infraestructures creades i controlades per grans corporacions de manera no democràtica. Com va assenyalar Lawrence Lessig, el codi informàtic és llei, i les SOM són l'espai en el qual la comunitat Metadecidim escriu, democràticament, nous codis per a la democràcia.

Les sessions s'articulen entorn de sis eixos temàtics de treball:

1. **Funcionalitats:** disseny de funcionalitats de, per i per a totes. En aquestes sessions tothom pot contribuir a



Governance process

Problems & Objectives

1. Mission and sustainability: Decidim long-term mission and sustainability.
2. Autonomy & quality: To provide citizen autonomy & guaranteeing democratic quality in the management of Decidim repositories and the project.
3. Formality & democracy: Strengthening and formalizing (part of) the community.



Challenges

Advancing Decidim mission through the project: pushing democracy forward

Formal tools

- Code (default)
- Social contract (high)
- License (low)
- Other: pedagogic courses, community practices

Possibilities

- Membership & quality seal for organizations (using our code # being one of us)
- Supervision quality
 - Observatory of Democracy
 - Evaluation & ranking module
- Lobbying / communication

Challenges

Building a democratic, global community

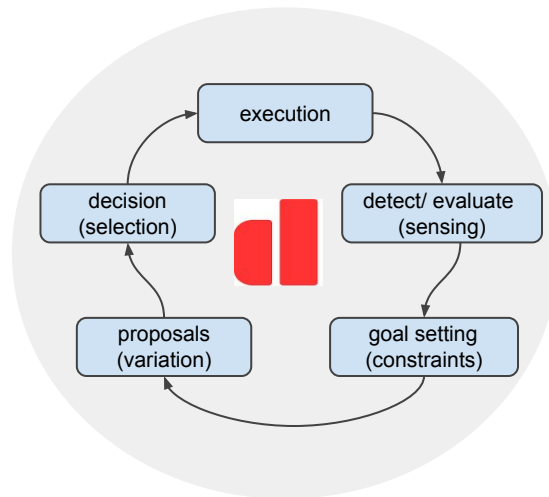
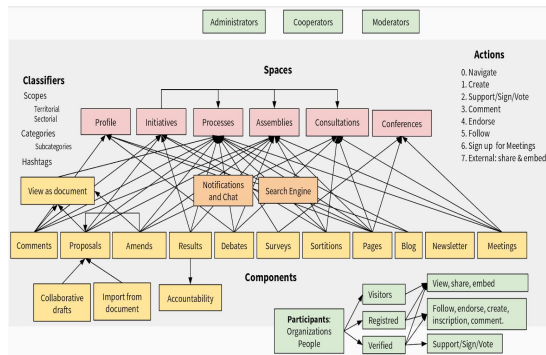
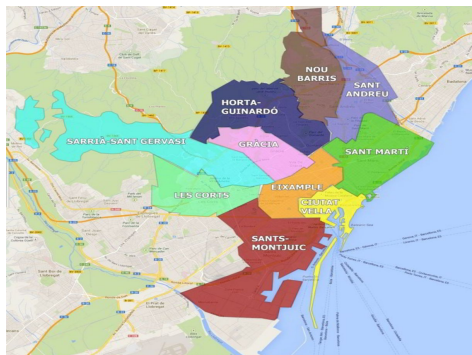
Tools

- Association (formal)
- Metadecidim
- Face to face events (Fest)
- Github (autonomy)

Challenges











World

Decidim(s)

More than 100 instances

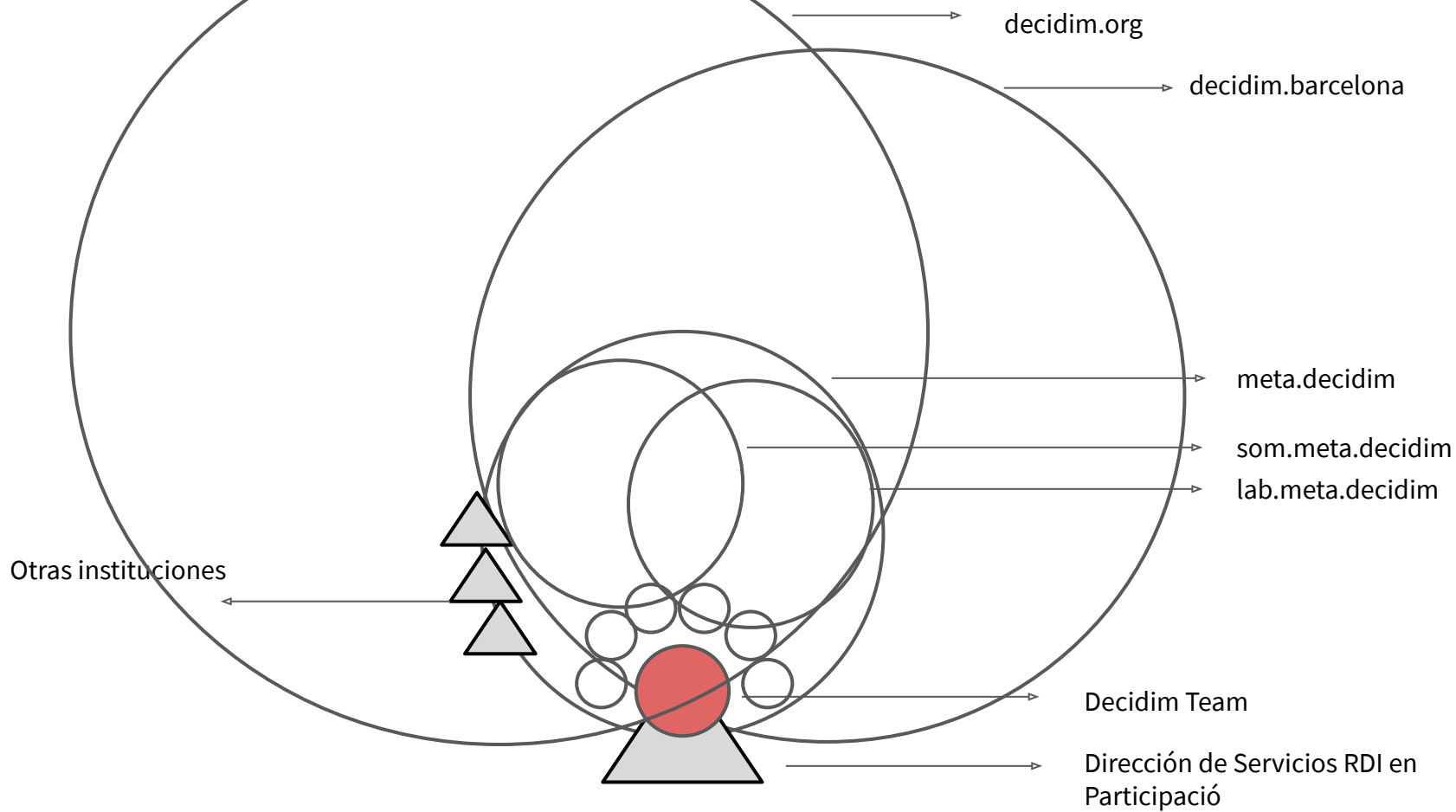
More than 150.000 participant

Translated to more than 12 languages

Cities such as City of Mexico or Helsinki, governments in Europe and Latin America at different scales, cooperatives and social such as SOM Energia or Acogida Digna

USED BY

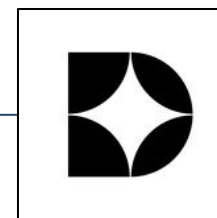
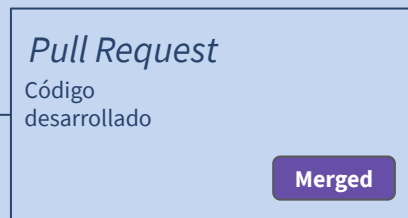
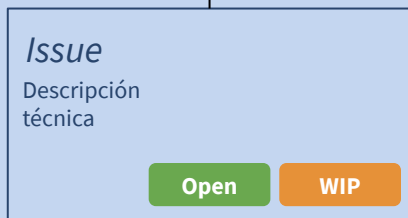
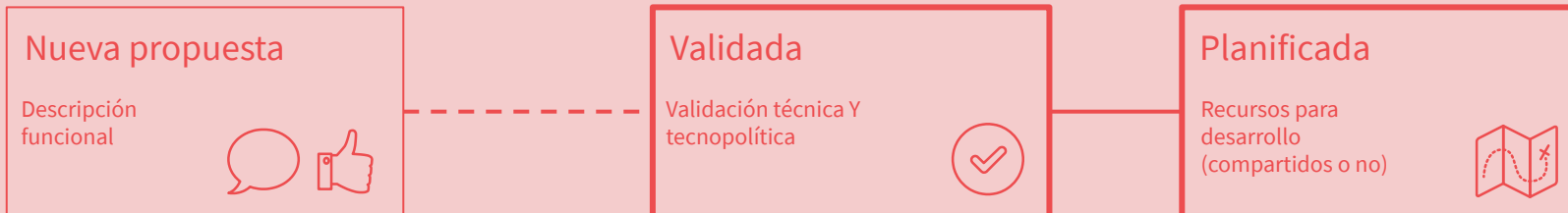






Metadecidim

Colaboración interinstitucional





- Decisions: face to face, online or mixed
- Scope of action: Catalunya and worldwide
- Internal regulation: will define the electoral system, membership criteria, business certification, quotes, ...
- Need to establish an Ethical Code
- Assembly: majority by half+1
- Coordination Committee: election for 4 years, partial renewal every 2 years
- Membership criteria
- Hierarchy among organs



- Name
- Goal, mission, vision & values
- Address
- Scope of action
- Organs
- Rights & duties
- Membership criteria
- Economic regime
- Disciplinary regime (conflict resolution)
- Dissolution

Structure

Governance organs:

- General assembly
- Coordination committee
- Thematic committee
- Democratic warranties committee
- Presidency, secretary, treasury

Advisory body:

- Advisory council
- City and administrations council
- Metadecidim community

1-objetivos y estructura de la asociación y de la comunidad (y su relación)

2-red de ciudades y organizaciones sociales. Retos:
internacionalización comunidad

3- normas decidim: contrato social / certificación / licencia (sobre todo el debate en torno a la relación entre contrato social y licencia, que se abrió en el meta hace unos meses)

Supervision quality: 1-evluation & ranking, 2-lobbying,
3-observatory, 4-membership,
Tools: social contract (high), license (low)

Governance process

The participatory process III

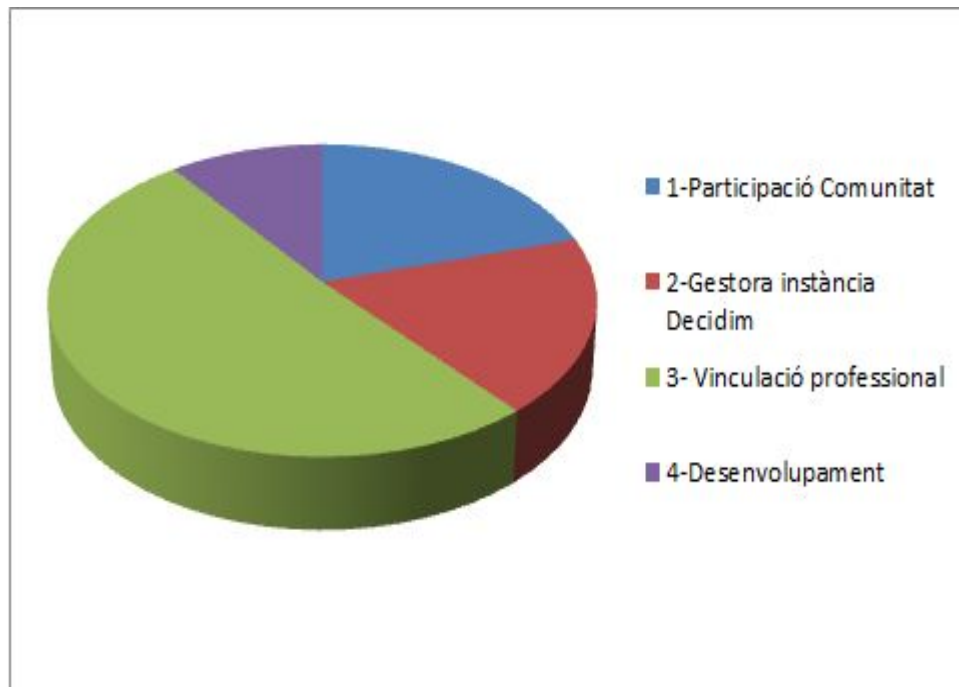
Constituent assembly **February 16th 2019**

- Statute approval
- Provisional Coordination Committee approval
- 1 year roadmap approval
- Members foundational act signature



Total verified: 56

% verification criteria





	Accepted	Rejected	Partials	TOTAL
1-Vision, mission & values	10	4	0	14
2-Members	3	0	0	3
3-Organizational structure	17	3	1	21
4-Decision making & conflicts	8	1	2	11
5-Economic sustainability	5	0	1	6
6-Transparency	4	0	0	4
7-Code governance	3	0	0	3
TOTAL PROPOSALS	50	8	4	62

5 proposals were nules or repeteated

Governance process

Participatory process II

1. Elaboration of a Statute proposal
2. Elaboration of a proposal of internal regulation
3. SOM face to face meeting
4. Amendment gathering
5. Integration of amendments in the Statute





Statute	Amendments	Comments
Cap 1 General Aspects	6	18
Cap 2 Organs:	15	67
Cap 3 Members	3	8
Cap 4 Economic regime	0	0
Cap 5 Disciplinary regime	0	0
Cap 6 Dissolution	0	0
TOTAL	24	93

Internal Regulation

Amendments: 4



Modifications to the Statute: **31**

Accepted amendments: **18**

Rejected amendments: **6**

Modifications to the text vis comments: **13**

Modifications by chapters

Cap 1: 7

Cap 2: 23

Cap 3: 2

Cap 4: 0

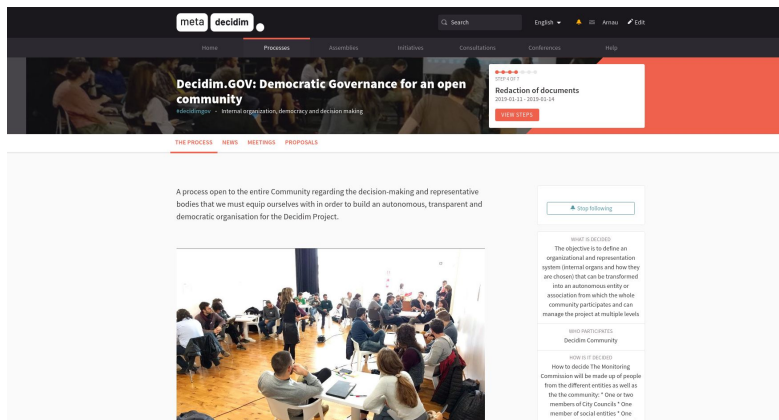
Cap 5: 0

cap 6: 0

Governance process

The participatory process

1. **Verification of people** participating in the community
2. Structuration of the process around 6 axes:
 - a. Vision, Mission, Values
 - b. Membership
 - c. Organizational structure
 - d. Decision making
 - e. Economic sustainability
 - f. Transparency
 - g. Code governance
3. Proposal gathering, supports, amendments & validation
4. Constitution of a supervision commission



Membres Comunitat Decidim

Persones

Activistes

Professionals

Desenvolupadores

Investigadores

Empreses

Proveïdors

col·laboradors

Ciutadania usuària

Persones registrades al
Decidim

Organitzacions

Economia social: ex.

Som Energia

Entitats socials:

Federació Escoltisme, la

fede cat, Fanac

Patrocinadors

Ajuntament de

Barcelona, UOC,

Localret

Decidim Team

Administracions

Ajuntaments:

14 ajuntaments de

Catalunya, Pamplona,

Burgos, 5 ajuntaments de

França, 2 de Mèxic

Supramunicipals:

Generalitat, Diputació de

Barcelona i Girona, Castilla la

Mancha i 3 governs regionals

francesos Govern de Bèlgica

Estats:

Altres organitzacions

interadministratives: CGLU

Membres Comunitat Metadecidim

Integrants segons els criteris de verificació aprovats.
TENEN DRET DE VOT (tenen la consideració de sòcies)

Organitzacions

Entitats i
administracions
usuàries

Empreses
col·laboradores

Persones

Persones Activistes

Persones
Desenvolupadores

PROYECTO IMPULSADO POR



ENTIDADES COLABORADORAS



tecnopolítica



aLabs*



eurecat
Centre Tecnològic de Catalunya



populate
data for social engagement



FUNDACIÓ
FERRER I GUÀRDIA



adabits



USED BY 34 ORGANIZACIONES: Países, comunidades autónomas, ciudades, cooperativas, asociaciones...

decidim.org

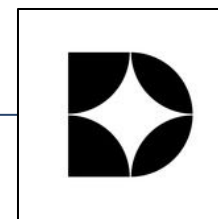
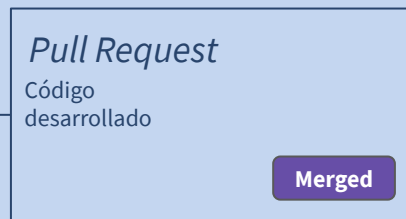
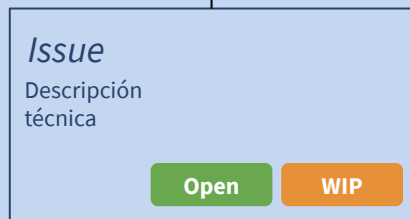
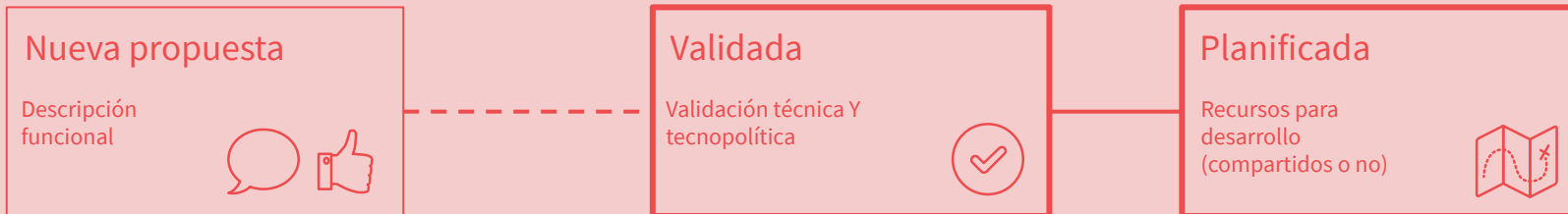
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Metadecidim

Colaboración interinstitucional





Ámbito	Relación	Plataforma	Modo	Tecnología	Escala
Técnica	Infraestructura	decidim	Co-producción	Git	Laboratorio
Tecnopolítica	Estructura	meta.decidim	Co-diseño	Decidim + Git	Comunidad
Política	Superestructura	decidim.barcelona	Co-decisión	Decidim	Ciudad

- **Más allá de la tecnología.** Decidim no es solo un dispositivo para la participación, colaboración, deliberación y decisión de multitudes, sino que aspira a constituir
 - **Comunidad de uso** (ciudadanía activa/participativa): **decidim.barcelona**
 - Agendas y políticas públicas
 - **Comunidad de diseño** (ciudadanía recursiva/colaborativa): **som.meta.decidim**
 - Tecnologías democráticas
 - **Comunidad de influencia** (ciudadanía activa/reivindicativa): **som.meta.decidim**
 - Estándares democráticos
 - **Comunidad de conocimiento** (ciudadanía cognitiva/reflexiva): **lab.meta.decidim**
 - Inteligencias colectivas



The screenshot shows the Decimim Barcelona website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Decimim logo and the text 'Decimim Barcelona'. To the right, there are links for 'Català', 'Registra't', and 'Entra'. Below the navigation bar, there is a main menu with 'Inici', 'Processos', 'Més informació', and 'Rendició de comptes'. The main content area features a banner for 'MetaDecimim' with the text '#MetaDecimim · Disseny participatiu de la plataforma decimim'. To the right of the banner, there is a progress indicator showing 'Fase 7 de 7' and 'RESULTATS I AVALUACIÓ' with the dates '05-04-2017 - 30-04-2017' and a button 'Veure les fases'. Below the banner, there is a horizontal navigation bar with icons and labels for 'EL PROCÉS', 'TROBADES', 'DEBATS', 'PROPOSTES', 'RESULTATS VOTACIÓ', 'RESULTATS', 'LAB', and 'SOM'. The main heading is 'LAB Metadecimim: recerca en xarxa per una democràcia en xarxa'. Below the heading, there is a sub-heading 'Un laboratori per a la democràcia' and a paragraph of text: 'LAB Metadecimim és un espai de recerca oberta i col·laborativa orientat a abordar problemes clau per al desenvolupament de la plataforma Decimim i de la democràcia en xarxa.' Another sub-heading is 'Intel·ligència col·lectiva i complexitat social' followed by a paragraph: 'Així com les xarxes socials o les aplicacions de mòbil travessen avui la nostra vida quotidiana, xarxes com Decimim transformaran la vida política en els anys vinents. Això planteja reptes que requereixen la intel·ligència col·lectiva de comunitats d'expertes encara per construir.' The final sub-heading is 'Investigació oberta i en xarxa'.

