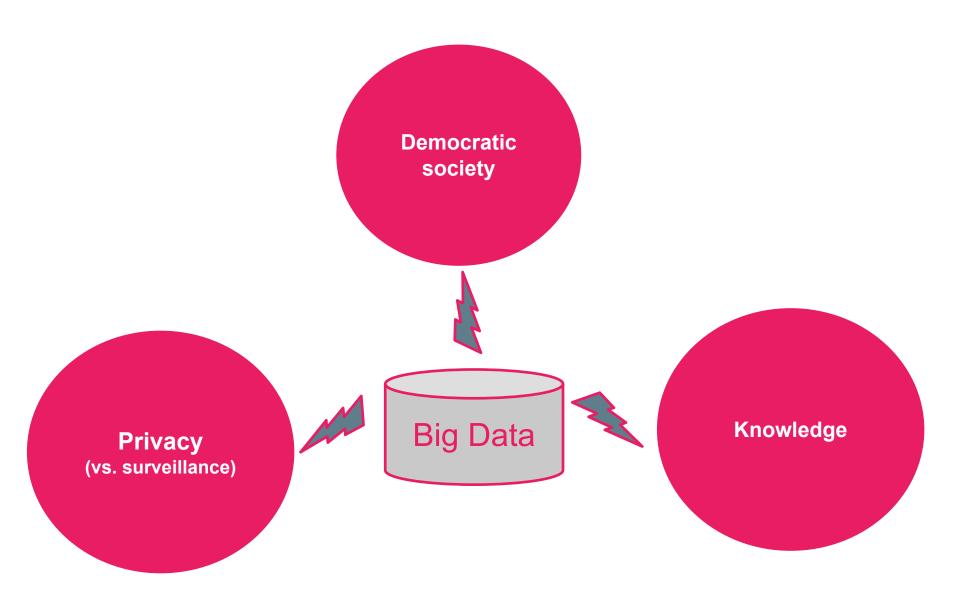
Session IV Participatory platforms

Critical Questions for Big Data

Boyd, D., & Crawford, K. (2012). Critical questions for big data: Provocations for a cultural, technological, and scholarly phenomenon. Information, communication & society, 15(5), 662-679.





"Big Data has emerged a system of knowledge that is already changing the objects of knowledge, while also having the power to inform how we understand human networks and community. 'Change the instruments, and you will change the entire social theory that goes with them', Latour (2009) reminds us.

(...)

Rather, it is a profound change at the levels of epistemology and ethics. Big Data reframes key questions about the constitution of knowledge, the processes of research, how we should engage with information, and the nature and the categorization of reality."



- Big data changes the definition of knowledge
- Attributing great objectivity and precision to Big Data is misleading
- More data does not mean better data
- Without context, (Big) Data loses its meaning
- Its accessibility does not imply that its research is ethical
- Limited access to Big Data creates new digital divides



Does data speak for themselves?

NO! Datasets and technology imply biases





"In reality, working with Big Data is still subjective, and what it quantifies does not necessarily have a closer claim on objective truth"

- There is a risk the Big Data in widening the division between "subjective" qualitative research and "objective" quantitative research.
- The process and analysis of Big Data contains many consecutive steps that are sometimes not recognized as subjective:
 - Data cleaning.
 - \circ Methods of analysis and how they are applied.
 - Interpretation of the results.



"In reality, working with Big Data is still subjective, and what it quantifies does not necessarily have a closer claim on objective

- What about the reliability of the datasets?
 - Errors in the datasets
- Data capture is generally very non-transparent
 - Biases and limitations of the data



truth"

Just because Big Data presents large amounts of data does not mean that the methodology is not relevant.

Understanding data is more important now than ever:

- Validity
- Reliability
- Does it fit the research questions?



Twitter is an excellent example of the limitations and biases of Big Data:

- It doesn't represent the whole population even though millions of people appear on the dataset
- There is no visibility of the dataset sampling
- Size is not equivalent to representativeness
- Restricted access to Twitter firehose, etc...



Data and digital methods do not have to be transferable from one context to another:

- The Facebook Graph may mean something on Facebook, but it's not a complete representation of people's real social network.
- The activity and intensity in the social network context may not have the same meaning in real life.

Big Data are not generic data about social interactions in general, they are specific to the given network.



Only social media firms have full access to data, researchers in general don't

Access to data is expensive → Inequalities for research

• Top universities improve their capabilities

The skills required for access to data are limited to researchers with computer skills:

Gender divide (among others)

Limited access creates a great bias in relation to the questions:

• Who decides the purposes of the Big Data?



Conclusion(s)







Decidim (Barcelona)

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hola@decidim.org

Website: decidim.org

Twitter: @decidimbcn @decidim_org



online demo



http://decidim.org/





















What is Decidim?

3 layers of the project



/politics

Enabling democracy

Decidim is a multi layered project, each layer enables the next producing a vertical integration of democratic processes.

Political Decidim.barcelona City: co-decision **Technical** Decidim Factory: co-production **Technopolitical** Meta.decidim Community: co-design



O FASES DEL PROCÉS

03 - 27

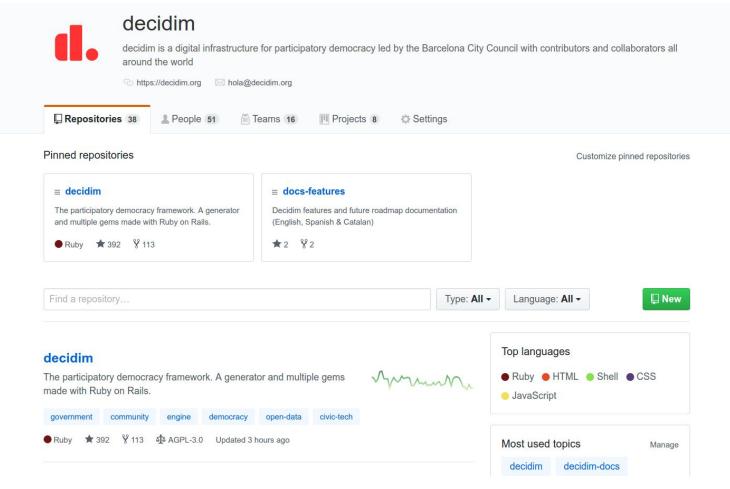
Recollida de projectes i propostes

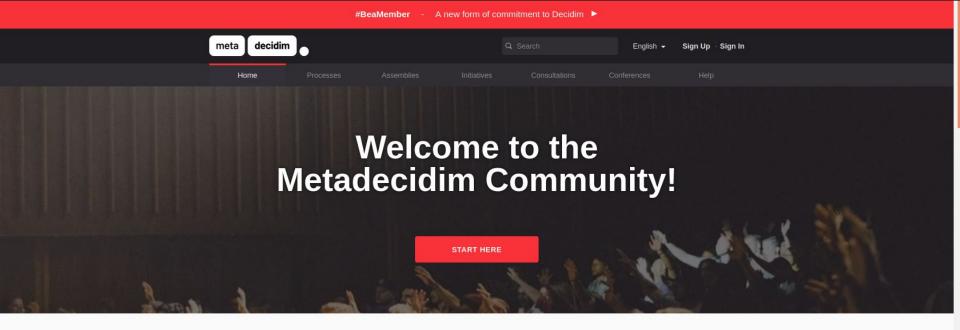
20 - 30 ABR ABR

Priorització de projectes

26 - 7

Votació final dels projectes





Welcome to Metadecidim community site. This is a democratic community that manages the Decidim project democratically in all its dimensions.

REGISTER >





decidim.barcelona

Barcelona City Participation Platform

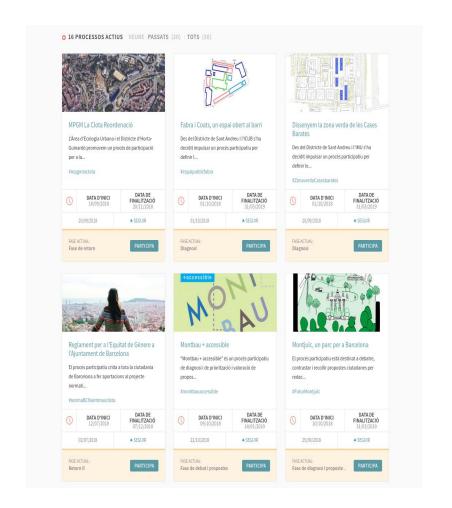


/decidim.barcelona

38 participatory processes

15 Citizen Initiatives

70 Participatory Councils





Barcelona's Municipal Action Plan 2015-2019

39.049 participants
10.860 proposals
1.467 action plans
15.021 physical participants
500+ meetings
1.700 organizations
165.121 supports
72,2% citizen proposals accepted
24.028 active users
230.000+ online interactions

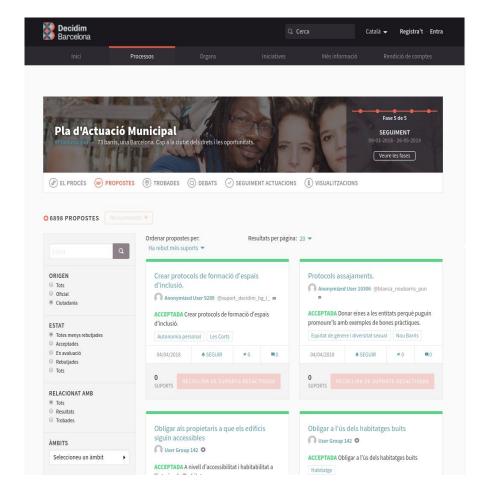








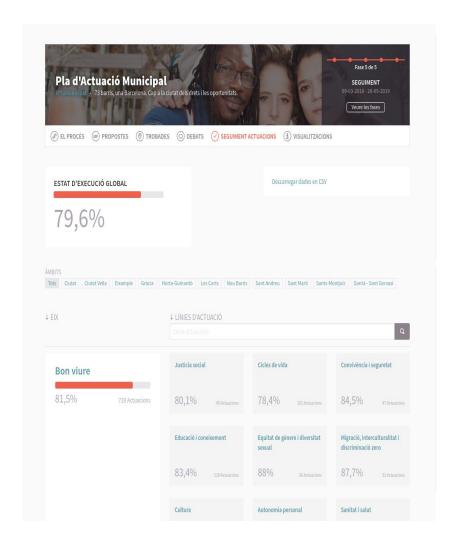
Strategic planning





Monitoring results

80% execution of the projects





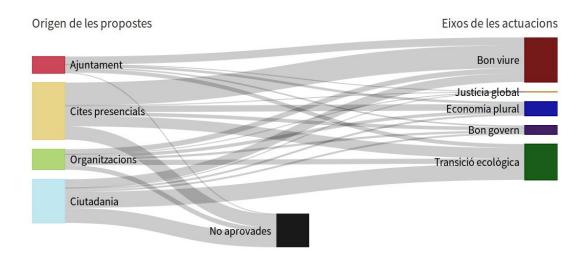
10,870 proposals

72% acceptance rate

converted to

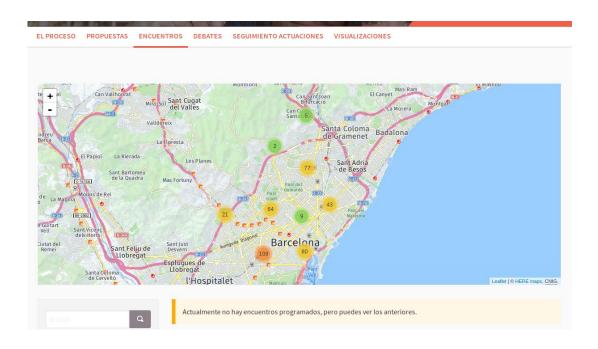
1,500 Actions

~7,000 accountable projects





Meetings



d

decidim.barcelona/participatory strategic planning

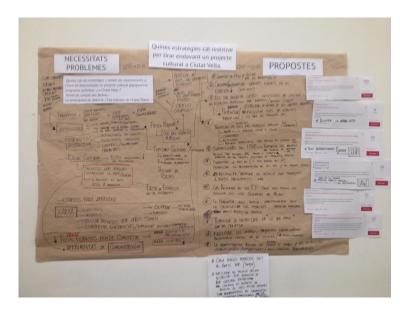
Meetings





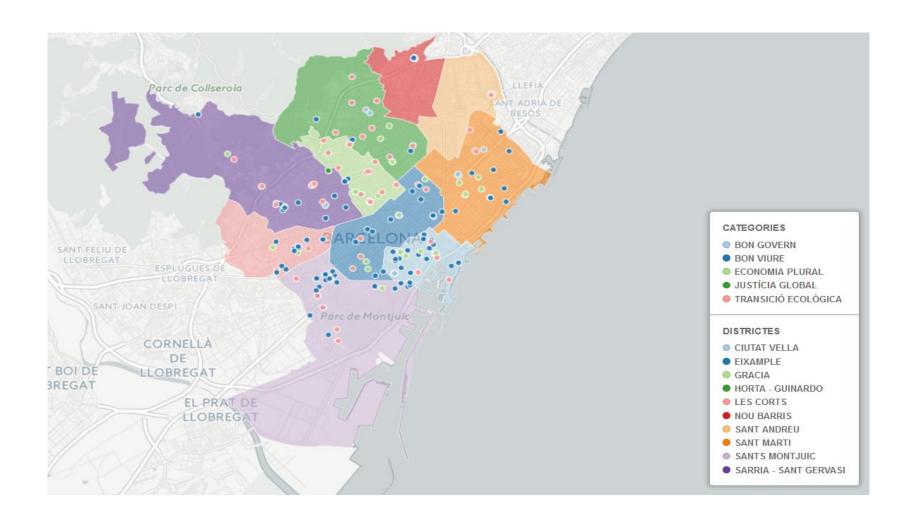


Meetings











Decidim

How does it work?



/definition

decidim.org

Stage 5: Stage 4: Stage 3: Political network **Multi-organization** Assemblies, **Initiatives and** Decidim.barcelona as a Decidim.barcelona as a **Consultations** service to the city socio-political **Stage 1:** PAM: municipal Stage 2: self-organized network for **Multiprocess** Decidim.barcelona as the city action plan an integral service to Decidim hosts multiple participatory participatory processes Decidim as a platform democracy for massively participated strategic planning



decidim features



proposals your ideas in detail

The participatory texts component can be used to convert lengthy text documents into various proposals or results and, vice versa, to compose and display a unified text based on a collection of proposals or results.



results no proposal without an answer

various proposals into a single result.

The results component is used to turn proposals into results and give official responses concerning their acceptance or rejection, merging



meetings to meet and not miss anything

The meeting component offers organizations and participants the opportunity to convene meetings, determine their location and time, register and limit attendees, define the structure and content of the meeting as well as publishing the minutes, and the resulting proposals.



voting

decide your vote

The voting component offers organizations the possibility of activating different voting or support systems around proposals: unlimited, limited to a given threshold, weighted, cost-based, etc.



accountability

transparency from beginning to end

The accountability component offers the possibility of subdividing results into projects, defining and applying progress statuses around their implementation, as well as displaying the extent of the results' implementation grouped by categories and scopes.



participatory texts

to analyze, synthesize, and build in common

The participatory texts component can be used to convert lengthy text documents into various proposals or results and, vice versa, to compose and display a unified text based on a collection of proposals or results.



conference

where big events are premiered

The conference component allows an organization to create a website for a big event by joining up a series predefined meetings (chats, workshops etc.), putting together a unified program and managing attendees.



comments

building a collective intelligence

The comments component enables users to add comments, to identify the comment as being in favor, against or neutral in relation to the commented object, to vote comments, respond to them and to receive notifications about



matters

their results.

pages and blogs

The pages component is used to create

because the opinion of your community

The surveys component can be used to design

and publish surveys and to display and download

informative pages with rich text formatting, embedded pictures and videos. The blog component makes possible the creation of posts or news, and to navigate them chronologically.



sortition

equality and the justice of randomness

The sortition component allows to select a number of proposals (e.g. candidates for a jury) with random, yet reproducible, procedures that guarantees non-biased and uniform distributions.



notifications

personalized information on interesting contents

Decidim enables you to track any space or component to receive updates every time they



newsletter simple but powerful

The newsletter component makes possible to send emails to everyone registered in the platform or, more selectively, to those who participate in a specific space.



/Principles

Social Contract

Democratic guarantees code

- Open to collaboration
- Transparency, traceability, integrity
- Democratic quality guarantees
- Privacy and security

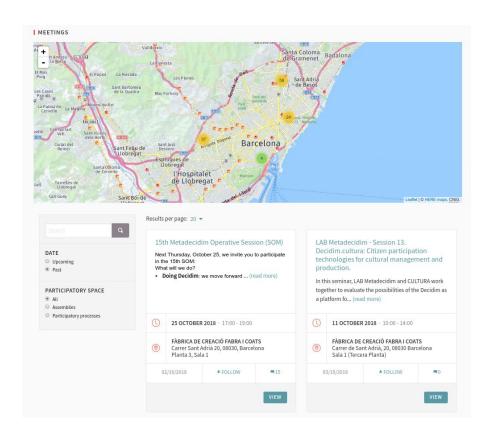




/How it works

Online and offline integration

We are not only a digital platform, we're an application for people from all ages and origins. Decidim is designed to help solving the digital divide and to create new forms of multi-layered, augmented participation. The platform includes call for meeting, minutes, comments, etc.





Other user cases

Participatory Budgeting, Collaborative Texts, General Assemblies

OmaStadi



Tehdään yhdessä Helsingistä vaikuttavien tekojen ja ihmisten kaupunki. Helsinkiläisenä osallistut vuosittain 4,4 miljoonan euron käyttämiseen kaupunkilaisten omien ideoiden toteuttamiseksi. OmaStadi-palvelussa teet kaupungistasi sen näköisen kuin olisit itse sen suunnitellut.

Rekisteröidy >

El espacio donde nos encontramos para decidir.

Plaza Pública es la plataforma de participación de la Ciudad de México donde la ciudadanía puede proponer, debatir, votar y decidir proyectos y disposiciones que afectan su vida en la ciudad.

Consultas

Vota en los temas puestos a consulta por parte del gobierno

Ir a consultas

Asambleas

Próximamente podrás involucrarte en un grupo de decisión temático.

Ir a asambleas

Iniciativas

Pronto podrás crear propuestas y firmas para mejorar la ciudad

Ir a iniciativas

Català -

Inici

Processos

Organs

Iniciatives

Rendició de comptes

Ajuda



Els processos participatius són un seguit de trobades delimitades en un temps concret per promoure el debat i el contrast d'arguments entre la ciutadania, o entre aquesta i les persones responsables municipals. (Més informació)

O PROCESSOS DESTACATS

Procés participatiu del Programa d'Actuació Municipal (PAM) 2020-2023

Aquest és el procés participatiu pel Programa d'Actuació Municipal (PAM) 2020-2023. El PAM és un dels principals instruments de planificació del mandat, ja que estableix els eixos i línies de treball, els objectius i les principals actuacions del govern municipal durant un periode de quatre anys. D'altra banda, els Programes d'Actuació de Districte (PAD) estableixen les principals prioritats i línies de treball a desenvolupar en cadascún dels 10 districtes de Barcelona. L'equip de govern municipal ha elaborat una proposta inicial de PAM i de PADs. La ciutadania, a través d'aquest procés participatiu, pot complementar-ho ap...

Més informació



Pressupostos participatius de Barcelona

Aquest és el procés participatiu per decidir una part de les inversions municipals als districtes. Per primera vegada a Barcelona, es promouen uns pressupostos participatius pel conjunt de la ciutat. S'han reservat 75 milions d'euros del pressupost municipal perquè els veïns i les veïnes decideixin com volen invertir-los.

Més informació



Exercise

- Access to Table 2 Net medialab.github.io/table2net/
- Open the CSV of proposals <u>pam-proposals.csv</u>
- Choose a bipartite network
 - First type of nodes: author_name
 - Attributes: author_official
 - First type of nodes: district_name
 - Weight the edges

Explore the data (filter what is needed!) and the generated network with ForceAtlas2 layout with color by community detection (modularity) and size by PageRank

