

Towards an ecosystem of citizen participation

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Atheory of change

- Efficiency, efficacy and legitimacy of public decisions improves
- Populism has decreased in institutions and the public sphere
- Citizens understand the complexity of public decision-making
- Citizen participation and political engagement clearly shifts towards a technopolitical paradigm

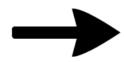
- Elections
- Direct democracy
- Deliberative participation
- Internal participation
- Collaboration

- New intermediaries
- Infrastructures
- Open Government

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Ajuntament de Barcelona

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meta decidim

Software Governance







Methodology





















Methodology



























Accountability
Consultations
Participatory budgeting
Deliberative processes

Crowdlaw
Citizen initiatives
Citizen councils
Co-management

+citizenlab



Technology



Consorci

Administració Oberta de Catalunya

Training



Generalitat de Catalunya
Escola d'Administració Pública
de Catalunya

Ecosystem of citizen participation

Software Governance





Methodology







FLUURWOOÓ DE **M**UNICIPIS DE **C**ARRLUWA



Associació Catalana de Municipis









+ID





Technology

LOCALRET

Ajuntament

de Barcelona



Training



Accountability Consultations Participatory budgeting Deliberative processes

Crowdlaw Citizen initiatives Citizen councils Co-management



+civil society organizations +hackers +facilitators

+artivists +legal

+media +politics

Shifts in meaning (i)

- Legitimization of (1) participation
 (2) at any level/commitment.
- Participation means not direct democracy (substitution), but dialogue (complementation).

Shifts in meaning (ii)

- "Horizontalization" of governmentcitizen in decision-making.
- Sovereignty over (1) agenda setting
 (2) institutions (3) the system.
- ICTs not as substitutes, but as enablers and boosters and to increase efficacy and efficiency.

Shifts in norms (i)

- Institutions as neutral enablers, as rich nodes, as hubs.
- All contributions matter: the power of granularity in participation.
- Dire change of culture within the Administration.
- (Digital) infrastructures are public, including its governance.

Shifts in norms (ii)

- Participation is binding and has an impact.
- Transparency as a PRE-requisite for policy-making.
- Against disenchantment and disaffection: no "listening" but "engaging".

Shifts in power (i)

- Small in size, significant in qualitative terms.
- Agenda setting is now public/open/ participated.
- Decrease of the layers of intermediation (openness of the rest).
- Total disclosure of the full process and outputs.

Shifts in power (ii)

- Real devolution of sovereignty:
 - From institutions to citizens.
 - From civil organizations to individual citizens.
 - From media to participants.
- A network of open participatory governments and citizenries?

Conclusions (i)

- Deliberation becomes the new democracy standard.
- Openness as the pre-requisite for deliberation.
- Accountability and legislative footprint to achieve legitimacy.
- Participation for more pluralism and stronger social capital (& GOTO 1)

Outcomes (ii)

- Lesser role of intermediation and traditional institutions.
- Major role of informed deliberation.
- Balance between institutions, experts/ leaders and individual citizens in a new ecosystem of actors, roles and relationships: networks and communities with liquid and reconfiguring affiliation.

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