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The Catalan ecosystem of citizen participation

Open infrastructures for community building

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Four Motors for Europe in a Dialogue with Citizens, 25/11/2020

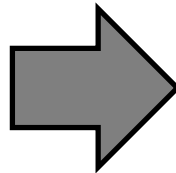# Theory of change (most abridged)

Electoral processes

Direct democracy

Deliberative processes

Transformation of

the Administration

Open Government

Engagement Ecosystem
New actors & new spaces

Improve efficacy and efficiency
of public policies

Understanding the complexity of
public decision-making

Reduce populism (fascism)

Foster a shift towards a
technopolitical paradigm
of collective action

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Vision & Mission of Citizen Participation

Vision

The Administration keeps a constant dialogue with citizens.

Mission

To transform the Administration by means of citizen participation, and to transform the Administration to enable citizen participation.
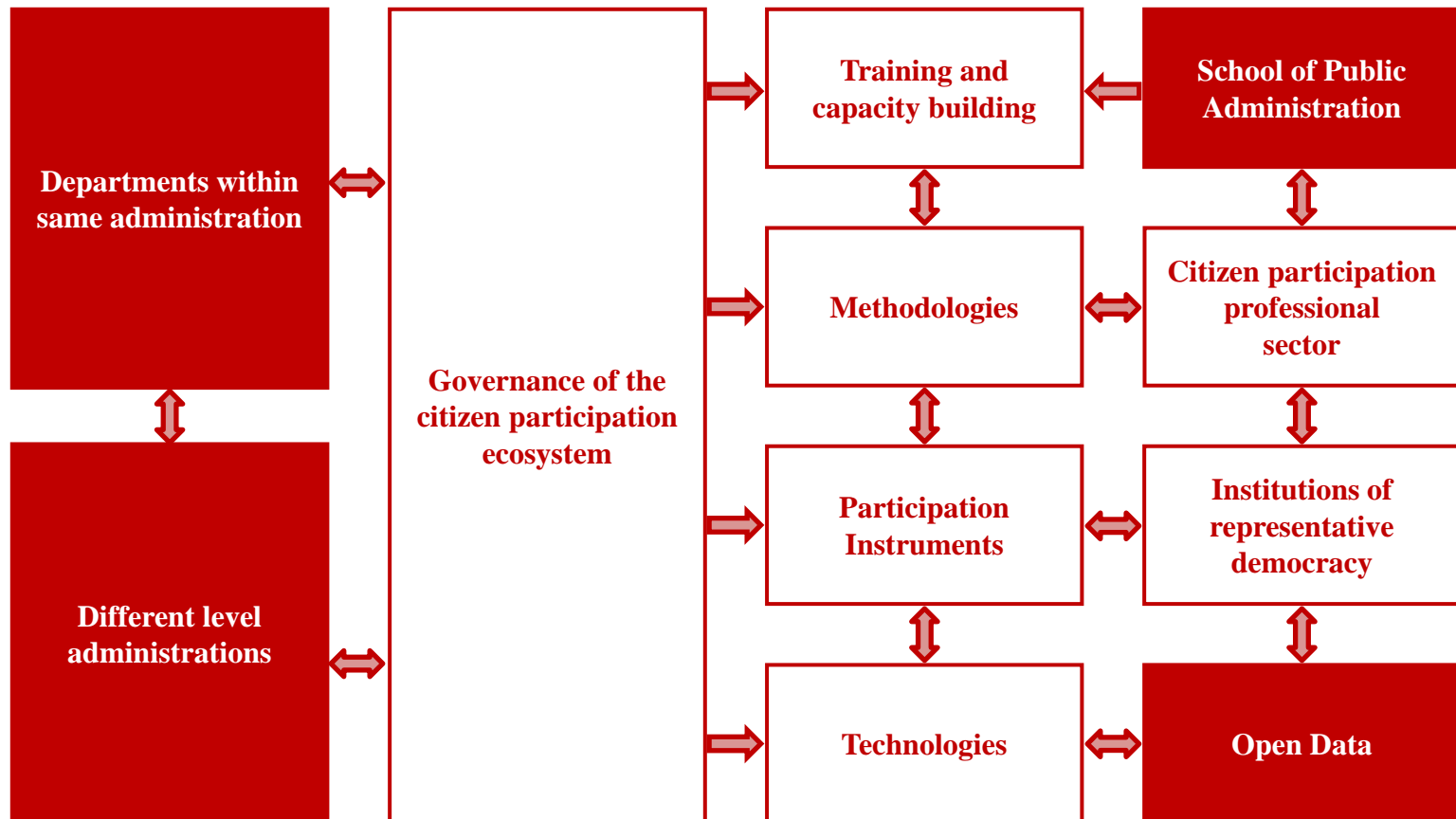
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Ecosystem of citizen participation

☐**Ecosystems:** knowledge communities and infrastructures

☐**Shared** infrastructures and the digital commons

☐The State as a **platform**

☐Towards the ecosystem of public **governance**

Goals when building and nurturing the ecosystem

☐ **Nationwide** ecosystem of citizen participation, coherent and consistent in methodology and infrastructures, efficient and effective

☐ Space of **coordination** and exchange of knowledge

☐ Foster **instruments** collectively

☐ Coordinate **training** activities

☐ Promote **synergies** between public bodies

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A citizen participation ecosystem

Horizontal coordination: governance at the CAT Govt.

☐ **CITGO:** inter-departmental commission for Transparency and Open Government

☐ Department participation **units**

☐ Citizen participation thematic/sectoral **strategic plans**

☐ Citizen participation **law**

(different stages of development)

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Vertical coordination: inter-administrations governance

☐ Network of Transparent Governments

- Catalan government
- Provinces
- Local administration consortia and federations/associations
- School of Public Administration
- Secretaries, controllers and treasurers' association

☐ Working groups

- Training
- Transparency and open data
- Participation
- Technology

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ParticipaCatalunya.cat (I)

Open infrastructures for community building

A meeting virtual space for **all actors** working in the field of citizen participation.

governobert.gencat.cat
government action | target: society at large

participa.gencat.cat
participative processes | target: citizens

participacatalunya.cat
sectoral portal/community | target: professionals & experts

Communities of practice and learning	Training	Resource bank
Events	*Decidim* Catalunya Observatory of Participation	Institutional space of the Network of Transparent Governments

Key

Implemented	Stage 2
Implementing	Stage 3

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ParticipaCatalunya.cat (II)

Communities of practice and learning

Methodological and technological support to articulate and facilitate communities of practice and learning at several levels for **governance and knowledge management** in the ecosystem of citizen participation.

Knowledge management

Resource Bank, Training & Events
On policies and methodologies
On *Decidim* (sandbox)

Interdepartmental communities
Governance of citizen participation *within*
the Catalan Government

Trans-administration communities
Governance of citizen participation *across*
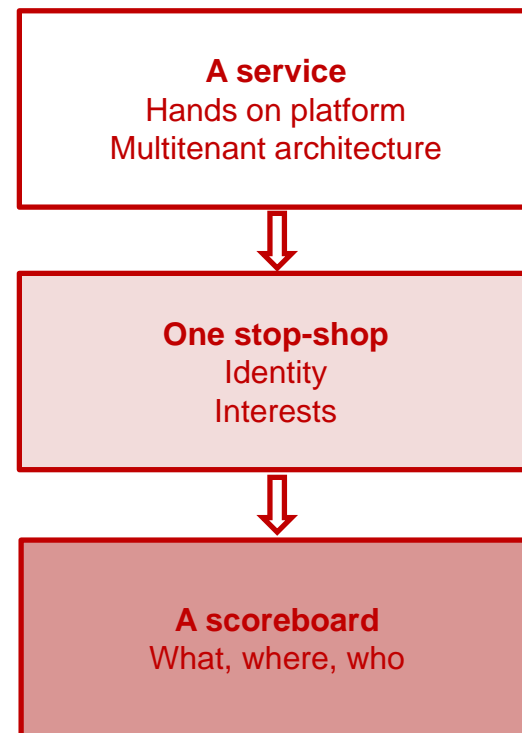different levels of the Administration

Topic-based communities
Informal coordination, knowledge dissemination,
social innovation, open innovation

ParticipaCatalunya.cat (III)

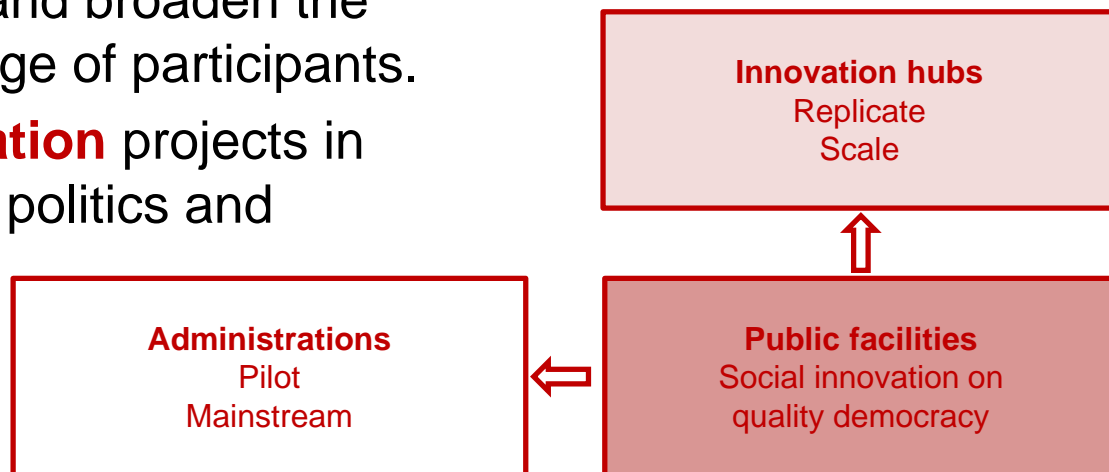## *Decidim* Catalunya & The Citizen Participation Observatory

The online platform for citizen participation management and online deliberation.

- ☐ A tool for a **methodology**: Technology is *NOT* neutral
- ☐ A **service** for all and from all
- ☐ 1 solution for everybody
  - ▪ Economies of scale (saving 90% of costs)
  - ▪ Economies of network
- ☐ Build on the models of e-Administration and Transparency
- ☐ Digital **identity**
  - ▪ 1 citizen, 1 single digital identity
  - ▪ 1 citizen, 1 multilevel identity
- ☐ An actor with their own voice in a big community

A service
Hands on platform
Multitenant architecture

⇩

One stop-shop
Identity
Interests

⇩

A scoreboard
What, where, who

ParticipaLab network: Goals

☐ Turn **public facilities** into reference sites in the municipality on citizen participation and engagement.

☐ Raise **awareness** on quality democracy, citizen participation and innovation on political and democratic processes.

☐ **Coach the local Administration** in citizen participation projects and social innovation for political and democratic processes.

☐ **Guide citizens** through citizen participation processes, increase their willingness to engage and broaden the socio-demographic range of participants.

☐ Promote **social innovation** projects in the field of civic action, politics and democracy.

Innovation hubs
Replicate
Scale

Administrations
Pilot
Mainstream

Public facilities
Social innovation on quality democracy

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Electoral processes as a service

☐ Strategic goals

- Promote voting as **participation** including electoral processes as part of the Catalan citizen participation ecosystem
- **Improve** electoral processes quality, turnout and, in general, legitimacy
- **Optimize** resources: material, people, methodologies, knowledge

☐ Operational goals

- Implement the **Electoral processes coordination and mentoring service**.
- Develop a unique, corporate electoral processes **management tool**.
- Foster the **e-voting** strategy.

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