

Decidim Association.

Activity Report 2025

—



Index.



Context.



2025 in numbers



Stories of the year



Financial breakdown



01

The year in review



Context.

The year in review

2025 marked a turning point in the relationship between digital technologies and democratic governance. Across the world, institutions and civil society faced the growing impact of artificial intelligence, platform monopolies, data-driven governance, and increasing geopolitical tensions around digital infrastructures. These dynamics reshaped public debates around sovereignty, participation, and the future of democratic decision-making.

The debate around digital commons, open infrastructures and public-interest technologies gained renewed relevance as governments and organizations sought alternatives to proprietary, opaque systems.

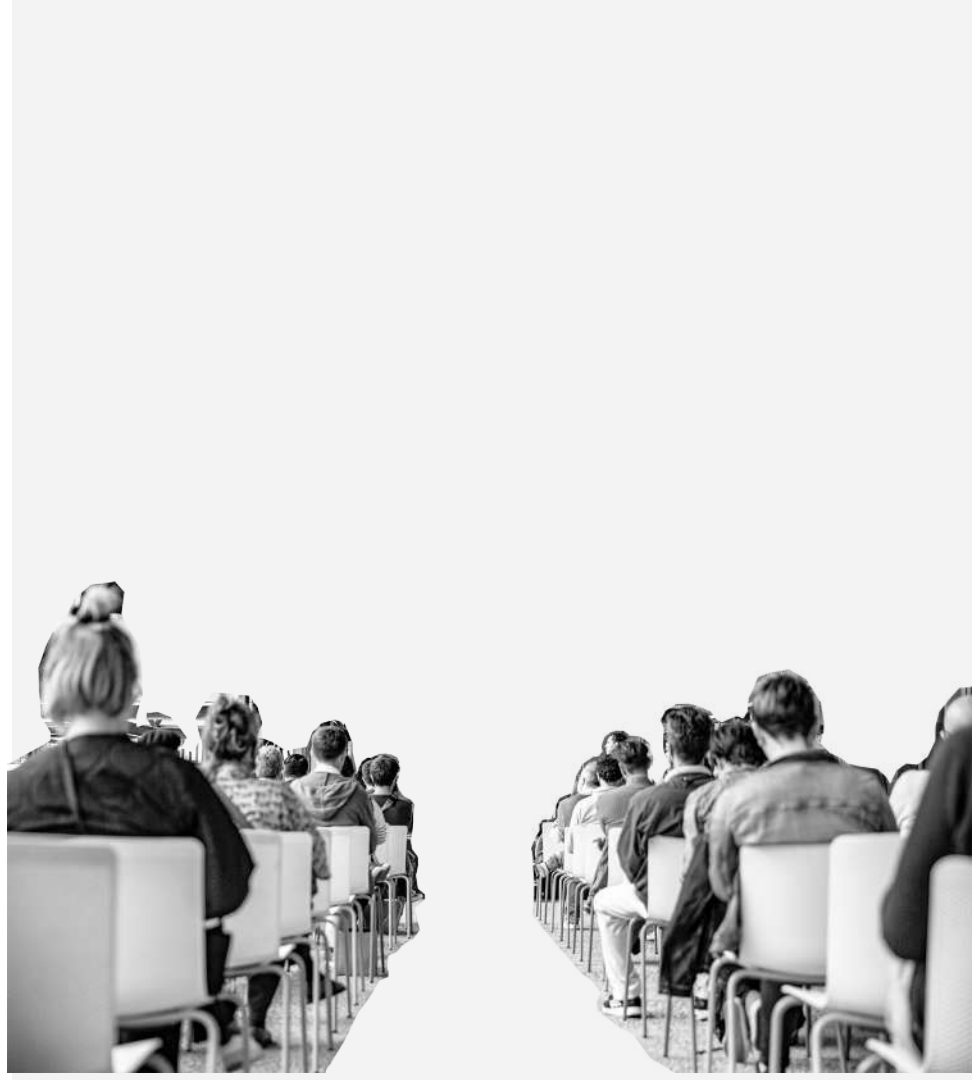


Context.

The year in review

Within this context, Decidim kept positioning itself as a key reference in the field of democratic technopolitics. Decidim deployments expanded across municipalities, regions and organizations worldwide, demonstrating the increase of participatory processes supported by open technologies.

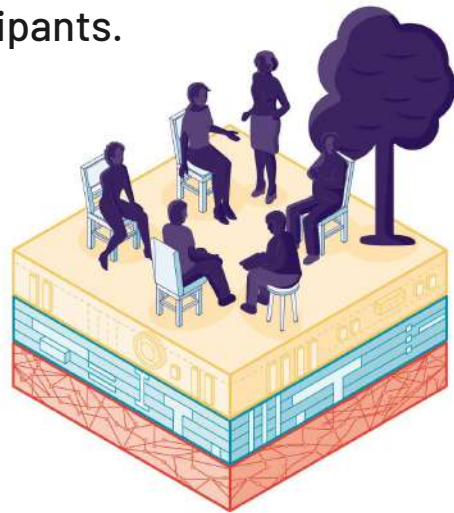
In a year marked by the raise of technofascism, Decidim reaffirmed the importance of public, auditable, and participatory digital infrastructures by reinforcing democratic control over digital processes, fostering collective intelligence and promoting technological sovereignty.



2025 impact

Maintaining and growing a digital commons for democracy

1. We are **evolving our governance** model to make it actionable for a global community.
2. We are **growing our presence** and become a reference on the open source field.
3. We are **building and improving Decidim** in contact with participants.



02

2025 in numbers



26

New enhancements to
Decidim product

+430

Number of code
errors fixed

+500

Decidim installations

+140

Attendees at
Decidim Fest 2025



03

Stories of the year



Product & Devs

—



Improvements in the Decidim platform

Two new releases

Stories of the year

Two New Releases

v0.30

Decidim 0.30.0 focuses on making participation easier and more accessible. Its main new feature, “ephemeral verification,” allows users to take part in processes like voting without creating a full account, reducing friction and encouraging broader participation. Administrators can enable this option flexibly for specific components, helping platforms engage more occasional users while maintaining existing verification systems.

v0.31

Decidim 0.31.0 focuses on technical upgrades and new participation tools. The main change is the upgrade to Rails 7.2, improving performance and maintainability, alongside the introduction of two new components: an Elections module that enables flexible voting processes without complex cryptography, and a Collaborative Texts component for collective content creation. Overall, the release strengthens the platform’s technical foundation while expanding participation features and refining existing functionalities.



New Elections Component

Stories of the year

Elections components

Version 0.31 of Decidim is a success story in the crowdfunding of digital commons. It includes a new official elections component, designed to manage internal electoral processes in a transparent and secure manner, in line with the values of digital democracy.

Beyond its functional innovation, this component, developed by Decidim's official partner, Pokecode, is particularly significant because it is the result of a collective and cooperative funding model that demonstrates how digital infrastructure can be built and maintained as a common good.

Voting began on: 14/10/2025 08:52
Active voting until: 30/05/2026 00:00

Vote

Northern District Assembly: Community Development and Future Vision

The Northern District Assembly is convening to engage local leaders, stakeholders, and community members in discussions about the future of the district. The assembly will focus on key areas such as infrastructure development, education, healthcare, agriculture, and youth empowerment. The goal is to prioritize the needs of the community and collaboratively work towards sustainable growth and prosperity for the region. Your active participation and input are essential for shaping the future of the Northern District.

Election questions

These are the questions for this voting process:

What are the most pressing infrastructural needs in the Northern District, and how can we best allocate resources to address them?

How can the assembly better support the youth of the Northern District in terms of education, employment, and entrepreneurship opportunities?



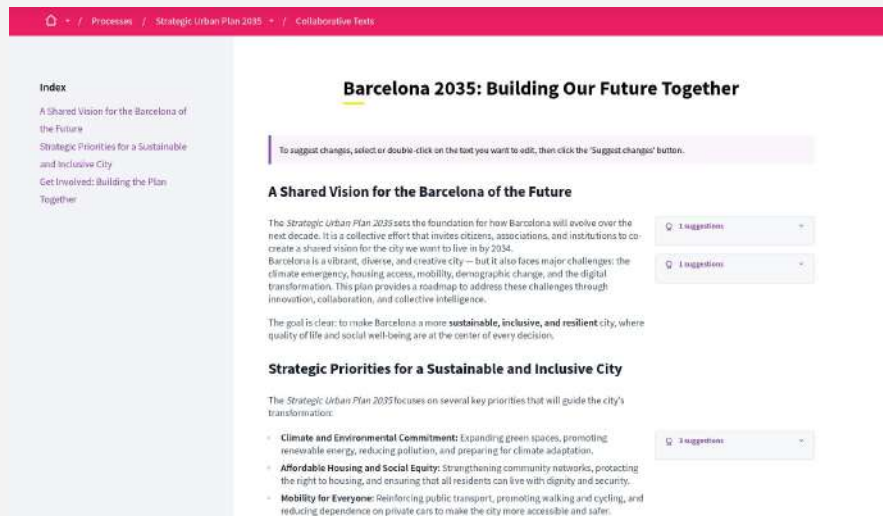
New Collaborative Texts Component

Stories of the year

Collaborative Texts

The platform launched a first iteration of a new component designed to replace the old Participatory Texts, which is currently tied to the Proposals component and comes with several usability issues. Instead of extracting the existing functionality into a new module, we chose to rebuild it from scratch, informed by years of accumulated experience and diverse use cases.

The plan is to add a couple more iterations to cover all required functionalities and then deprecate the old Participatory Texts, helping to simplify and lighten the Proposals component.



Ephemeral Verification

Stories of the year

Ephemeral Verification

The new ephemeral verification allows one time participation, a game-changer for occasional participants, those who engage just once. It allows users to take part in processes like voting without creating a full account, reducing friction and encouraging broader participation.

This method let users verify their identity without creating an account, reducing drop-offs and boosting participation. Admins can enable this feature per component, linking it to existing verification systems (like a census), while ensuring data privacy and minimizing conflicts.



Product Roadmap & Strategic Directions 2026-2027

Stories of the year

Strategic Directions 2026-2027

- **Reduce technical and functional debt:** By addressing both types of debt, we aim to simplify the architecture, improve performance and stability. Reducing technical debt means cleaning up legacy code, removing dependencies that slow down maintenance, and making upgrades easier. Reducing functional debt means retiring unfinished or redundant features and, if necessary, replacing them with more coherent, widely useful solutions.
- **Expand integrations and interoperability:** In this strategic direction, we focus on enhancing Decidim's API capabilities to support write operations. By opening up secure write endpoints, the platform will empower richer integrations and automated workflows.
- **Build a consistent experience:** We'll focus on consolidating the design system, review to identify and fix the UI inconsistencies to keep continuously improving accessibility and bring full visual and interaction consistency to the platform.



Decidim more accessible: Improving Documentation

Stories of the year

Documentation

- On 2025, the Association updated the documentation and step by step guide on how to install, configure and develop Decidim on your own.
- We organised a series of events to review, collaboratively, the articles and information to ensure that the documentation was as clear and complete as possible.
- The documentation helps any individual, organization, institution or community to understand Decidim.
- The main goal is to progressively make it available in several languages by 2026, in order to expand it and have common guidelines to deploy it.

[Documentation](#)



Participant Experience & Design



—



User research with civil servants

Stories of the year

Hackató Participa 11

This in-person session was designed to share the latest developments of the Decidim project with municipal technical teams and to gather their experiences and needs when managing the platform.

We combined an informative part with a **participatory exercise** that will allow us to identify the main points of friction and areas for improvement. We also provided a space for **one-to-one interviews** with those who wish to share specific cases or situations in more detail.

The session was aimed at municipal technical staff from the province of Barcelona who administer the Decidim-based 311 platform.



Building a Design System

re for participatory democracy.

Stories of the year

Design System Activation

Throughout 2025, the team initiated the creation of a **design system** for the project. This work began with the definition of core design atoms and molecules. Design token integration was also explored; however, after several meetings and working sessions with the community design group and developers, a shared decision was made to adopt the terminology and structural approach of an existing design system.

Throughout 2025, continuous work was carried out on the development of the design system, advancing its various components with the aim of ensuring consistency, efficiency, and accessibility in the organization's digital products to facilitate teamwork. Efforts focused on establishing clear foundations and refining its definition. Significant progress was made; however, the design system is not yet finalized and is expected to be completed by mid-2026



Community

—



Decidim Association Public Institutions Committee

Stories of the year

Decidim Association Public Institutions Committee

The Barcelona City Council, the Generalitat of Catalonia, the Barcelona Provincial Council, Localret, the City of New York and the Federal Government of Brazil have joined forces to coordinate the democratic digital platform.

The Decidim Association establishes an international collaboration space to strengthen the governance of Decidim. This alliance between Catalan institutions and international governments is a pioneering collaboration within the Decidim ecosystem, demonstrating Catalonia's leadership in democratic innovation and reflecting a growing international recognition of the project as a digital public infrastructure.



Barcelona 



**Diputació
Barcelona**



**Generalitat
de Catalunya**



Localret



Decidim Fest 2025

y democracy.



Stories of the year

Decidim Fest 2025

- We held the General Assembly of the Decidim Association with more participants than in recent years. Around 60 people attended.
- **Digital sovereignty and radical imagination in the spotlight**
 - Speakers warned that we are losing the ability to design our own technological spaces, as oligopolistic actors impose infrastructures that undermine democratic capacity.
 - We don't just need "ethics"—we need power, protocols, and democratic governance structures to ensure social media belongs to the people.
- **Ruha Benjamin, Sociologist and Professor at Princeton University, delivered a moving keynote connecting artificial intelligence, social justice, and collective imagination.**
 - She invited the audience to cultivate a critical, creative imagination capable of envisioning just and democratic digital infrastructures.



Partnership with the Mozilla Foundation

The collaboration between Decidim Association and the Mozilla Foundation during the first edition of Open Tech Week represents much more than a partnership around a festival. It reflects a shared commitment to strengthening the open digital ecosystem and advancing technologies that serve the public interest.

Both organizations have long championed the idea that digital infrastructures should be transparent, accountable, participatory, and governed by the communities that use them.

Through this collaboration, both organizations contribute to a broader movement that supports open-source software, digital commons, community governance, and public-interest technology.



Stories of the year

Decidim at Mozfest

The first BCN Open Tech Week

- This year we collaborate with Mozilla to organize the Barcelona Open Tech Week, an event that put the city as the center of technology for the common good at the crossroads of democracy, technology, and digital rights.
- We organised a round table around activism and technology at the Mozilla Festival to discuss about how platforms like Decidim can push social movements.



Internal Regulations

Stories of the year

Internal Regulations

IR

01

Why & Topics

04

02

- This process aims to define an Internal Regulation for the Decidim Association, in order to clarify procedures, rules and methodologies to organise decision-making and governance in the Association.
- A series of topics has been tackled to define a coherent texts in dedicated articles:
 - Conflict Resolution & Sanctions
 - Rights & Duties of Members
 - Technological Governance
 - Election & Renewal of the Coordination Committee
 - Technical Office



WHAT ARE THE

Internal Regulations

Shaping the rules of the
Decidim Association,
together

decidim

Stories of the year

Internal Regulations



- Draft texts of each topic were opened for discussion through participatory texts, online events, and expert-facilitated discussions.
- They were structured in two deliberation cycles.
- The idea was to collect feedback and generate an exchange of ideas. We have enabled a debates component to allow asynchronous discussion on each of the open texts.
- A drafting committee will integrate and finalised the texts for the Coordination Committee final review. The consolidated articles will be approved in the upcoming General Assembly in June.



How can I participate?

Internal Regulations

- 1 Review the texts open for deliberation.
- 2 If you have comments or questions, leave them in the corresponding debate.
- 3 For specific wording changes, you can suggest edits directly in the text.

Projects

—



MultiPoD: A EU Public Space for Citizen Deliberation

Stories of the year

MultiPod project

At a time of polarisation and political biases, can we foster an open and inclusive political deliberation across linguistic and socio-cultural boundaries?

The Decidim Association is participating in a new EU-funded project, MultiPoD, contributing to the conceptualisation and development of a digital collaborative infrastructure to foster political participation across Europe.

This infrastructure will enhance dialogues, deliberations and decision-making processes among citizens by using Decidim technology.



NGI and the Decidim Revamp project

Stories of the year

NGI & Decidim Revamp

Decidim has been selected as part of the projects funded by the **NGI Zero Commons Fund** which is enabling the Association to implement significant enhancements to the platform through the **Decidim Revamp** project.

The goal of is to consolidate Decidim's main functionalities, fix critical bugs, and organize the code after years of continuous development. This project focuses on the less visible but essential work needed to ensure clean and sustainable code for the long term. By the end of the project, we aim for the software to be more accessible for people with disabilities, have better-structured and fully updated documentation, and optimize module functionality with a cleaner and more efficient codebase.



OpenEU Trainings

Stories of the year

OpenEU Trainings

The Association provided a training plan for the Open European University project to help partners to get to know the basic concepts of Decidim and to be able to start managing the platform autonomously. This training showcased an overview of how the platform works and how to take the first steps to implement it successfully.

The project aims to establish a learner-centred, inclusive, digital and green open university with a European scope, widening access to quality higher education and lifelong learning to all. It also contributes to the digital transformation of Higher Education Institutions, supporting them in the



integration of digital technologies for education.

Events

—



FOSDEM 2025

Stories of the year

FOSDEM 2025

The Decidim team actively participated in FOSDEM 2025 in Brussels, delivering three presentations:

- **FLOSS as a Public Policy: The Case of Decidim** – Discussing how public organizations can implement FLOSS solutions, sharing insights from global governmental collaborations. [Watch the talk.](#)
- **Building Sustainability: A Case Study in Funding Diversification for Decidim** – Highlighting our journey towards financial sustainability and challenges faced along the way. [Watch the talk.](#)
- **How a City Platform Became a Global Community** – Exploring Decidim's evolution, governance challenges, and how the social contract ensures transparency. [Watch the talk.](#)



UN Open Source Week

Stories of the year

UN Open Source Week



We presented Decidim as an example of a Digital Public Good that embodies the values of public technology, free software, and democratic governance.



We met with our colleagues from the Civic Engagement Commission (CEC) at New York City Hall.



The Association attended the UN Open Source Week at the UN Headquarters that showcased how public institutions around the world are adopting and supporting open source technologies.

OGP Vitoria Summit

Stories of the year

OGP Vitoria Summit

- We attended the Open Government Partnership (OGP) Global Summit 2025, in Vitoria-Gasteiz with a talk on *Participation as a cross-cutting theme: lessons learned and the way forward*.
- The event brought together experts, institutions and communities from around the world.

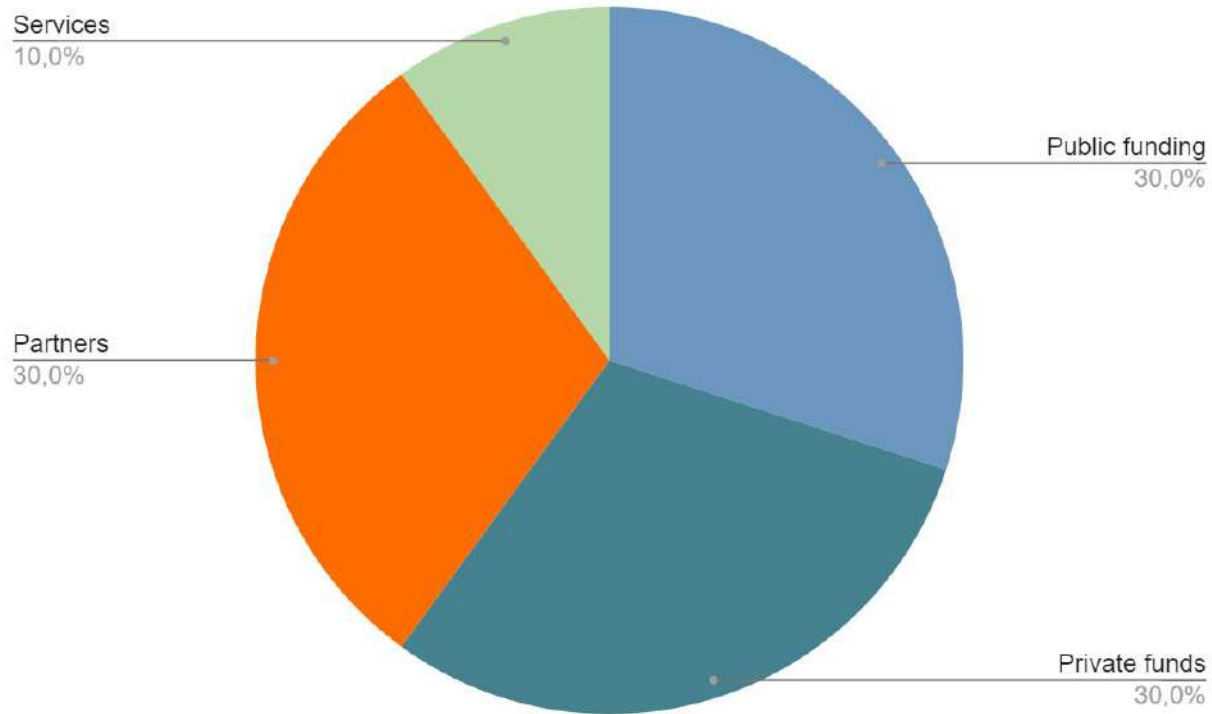


04

Financial Breakdown

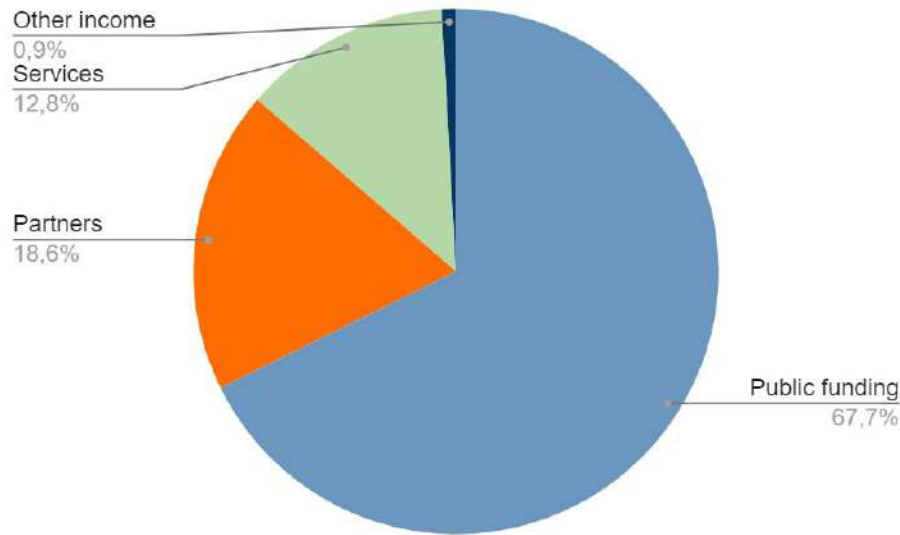


Ideal distribution outlined in the sustainability plan

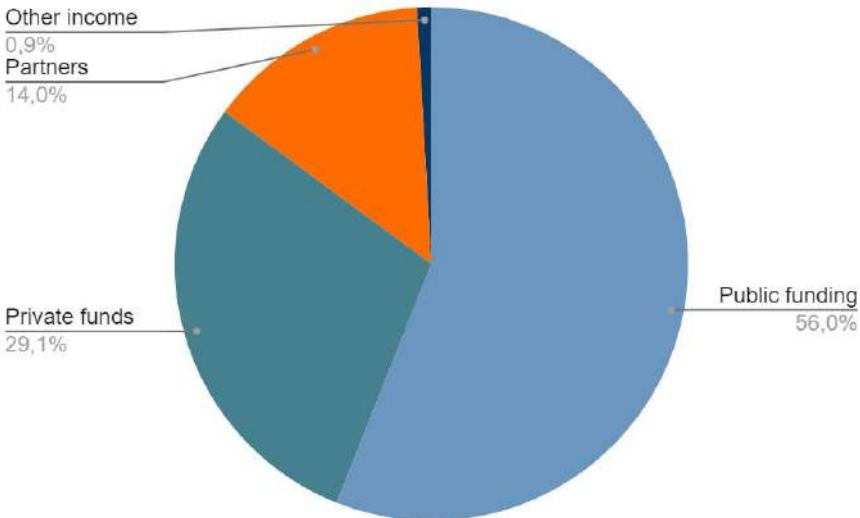


Evolution in the distribution of income sources

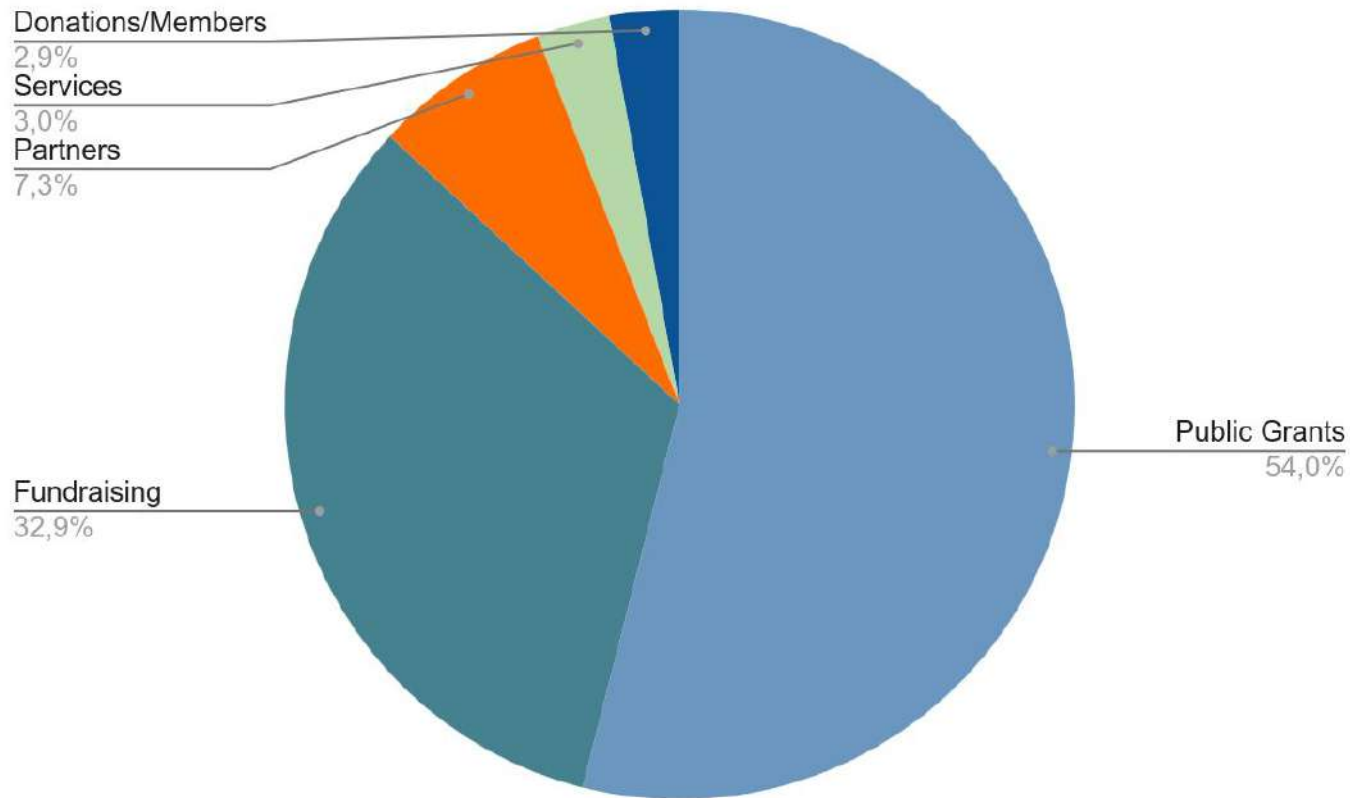
2023



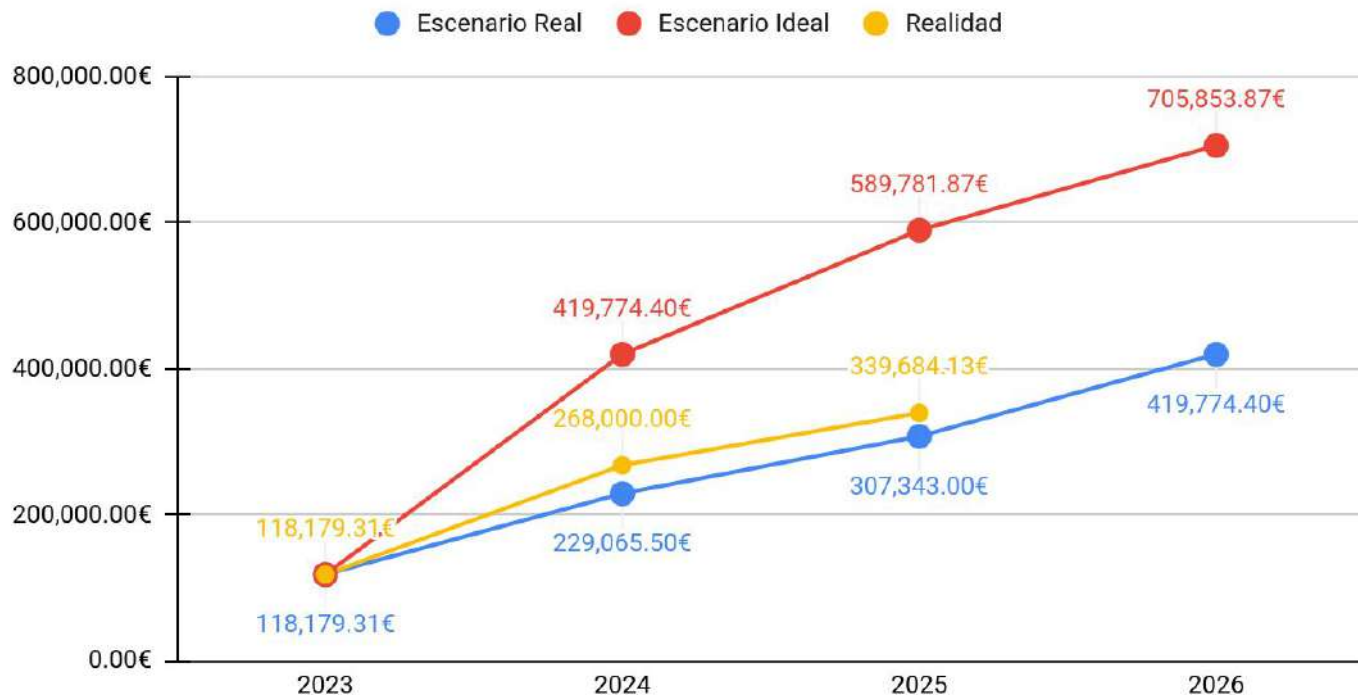
2024

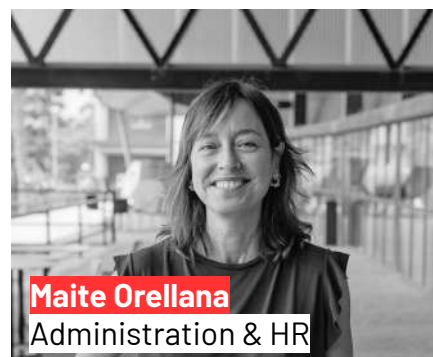
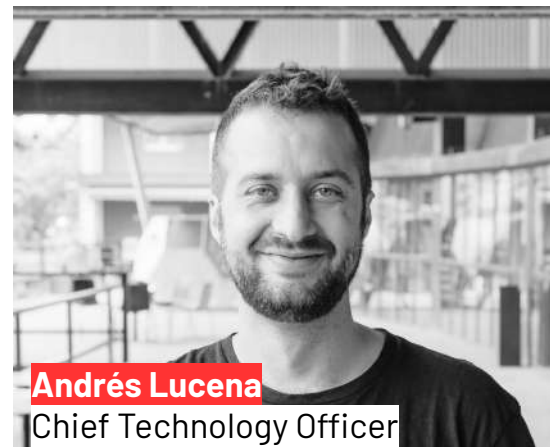
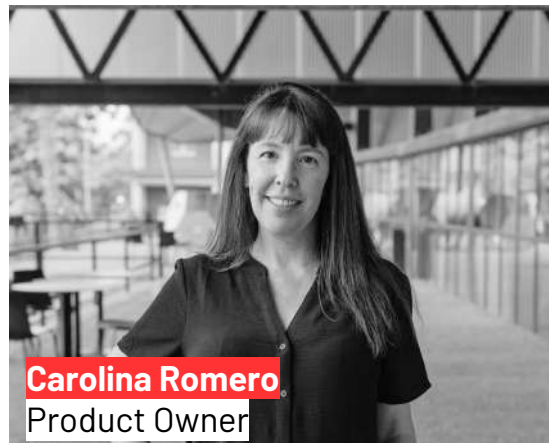


2025



Growing scenarios





Thanks!

With the support of:



Localret

