

# Collective crisis, collective solutions – within hours

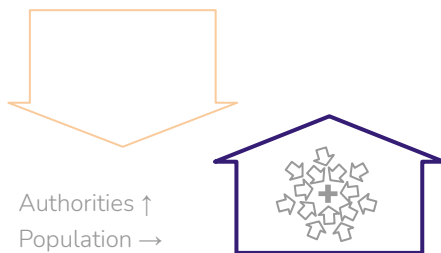
In a national emergency, the population is capable to respond with adequate solutions within hours, provided they have a platform to prioritize needs (popular consensus), and create common projects.

Such participatory process avoids the pitfalls of top-down, centralized decision-making: power stakes, misconception of field realities, limited workload, popular resistance, unintended consequences.

We present how the Swiss culture of direct democracy can be boosted with open-source technology.

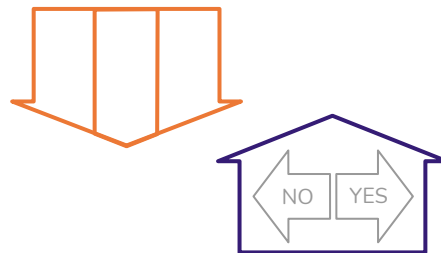
700 years ago

1'000 to 10'000 representatives attend their **Landsgemeinde** each year to vote on their cantonal issues.



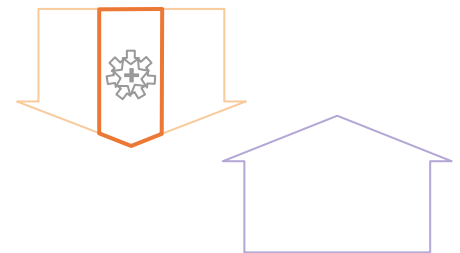
1848

After civil war, a **federal state** is built. **Popular initiative** and referendum are adopted to balance centralized power.



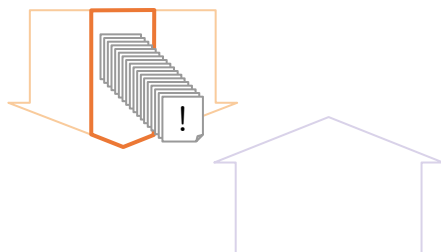
1891-1959

To ensure stability beyond beliefs and cultures, the Federal council adopts rules of proportionality and **consensus**.



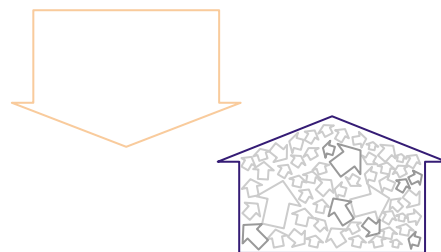
March-May 2020

As covid erupts, the Federal council takes 18 ordinances that **deeply affect** the daily life of **eight million citizens**.



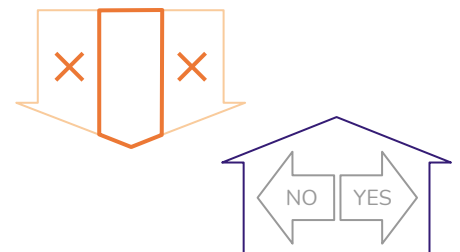
May 2020

Thousands of **citizens draft** solutions in 3-day web events. Despite urgency, they multiply **competing projects**.



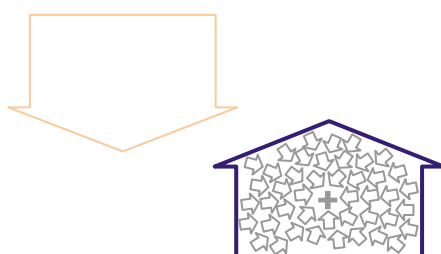
July 2021

Citizens vote on reinforcing executive powers **till 2031**. **Citizens capacity** to define their future together **is ignored**.

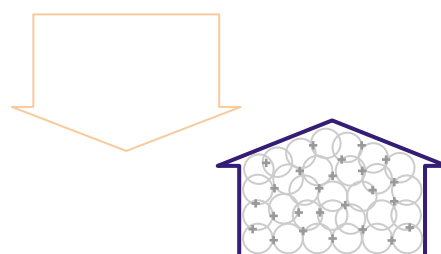


Our proposal

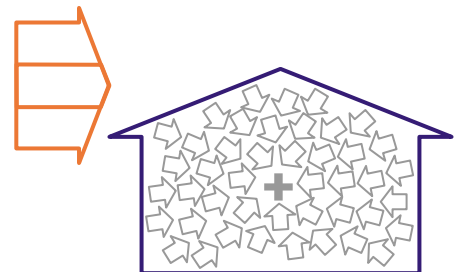
We adapt the Landsgemeinde and consensus rule to **technology** that enables **to mobilize millions** of people.



We invite **citizens to create federated, open-source initiatives** that benefit all (software, hardware, law projects, etc).



Over time, **citizens health and wealth improves** thanks to mutual care, as the capacity to cope with future crises.



21<sup>st</sup> century democracy, Swiss made. [houseofcommons.ch](https://houseofcommons.ch)