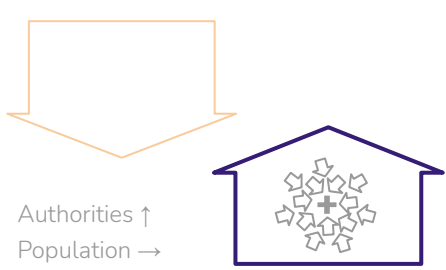
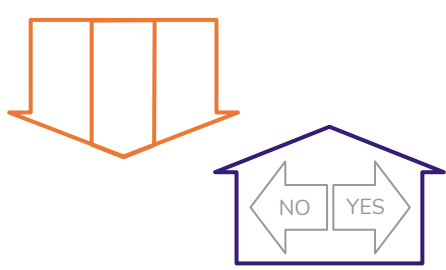
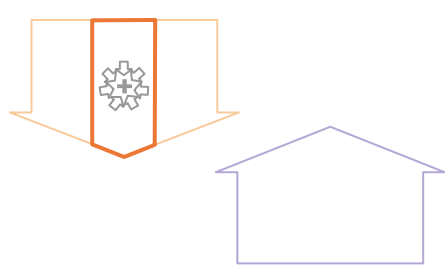
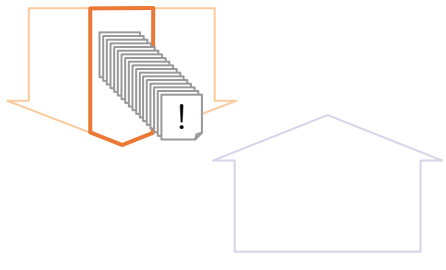
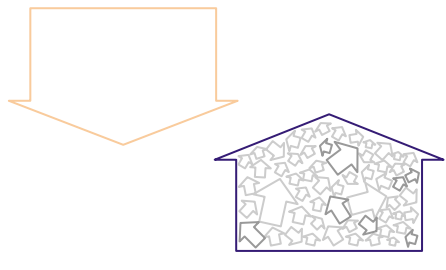
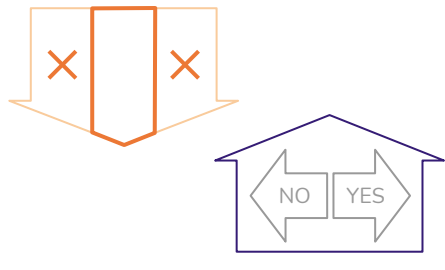
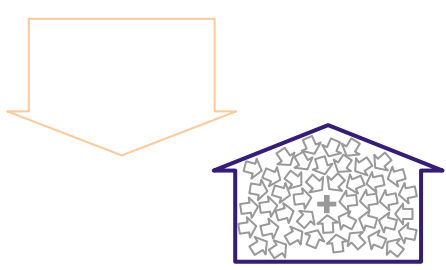
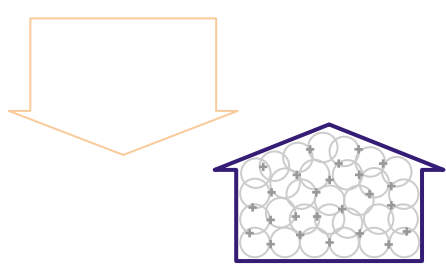
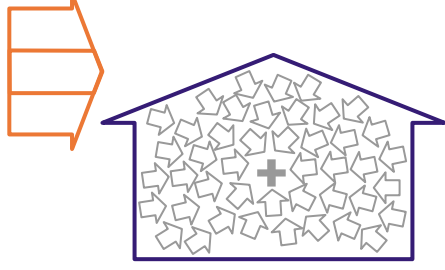


# Collective crisis, collective solutions – within hours

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.

<p><b>700 years ago</b> 1'000 to 10'000 representatives attend their <b>Landsgemeinde</b> each year to vote on their cantonal issues.</p>  <p>Authorities ↑ Population →</p>	<p><b>1848</b> After civil war, a <b>federal state</b> is built. <b>Popular initiative</b> and referendum are adopted to balance centralized power.</p> 	<p><b>1891-1959</b> To ensure stability beyond beliefs and cultures, the Federal council adopts rules of proportionality and <b>consensus</b>.</p> 
<p><b>March-May 2020</b> As covid erupts, the Federal council takes 18 ordinances that <b>deeply affect</b> the daily life of <b>eight million citizens</b>.</p> 	<p><b>May 2020</b> Thousands of <b>citizens draft</b> solutions in 3-day web events. Despite urgency, they multiply <b>competing projects</b>.</p> 	<p><b>June 2021</b> Citizens vote on reinforcing executive powers <b>till 2031</b>. <b>Citizens capacity</b> to define their future together <b>is ignored</b>.</p> 
<p><b>Our proposal</b> We adapt the Landsgemeinde and consensus rule to <b>technology</b> that enables <b>to mobilize millions</b> of people.</p> 	<p>We invite <b>citizens to create federated, open-source initiatives</b> that benefit all (software, hardware, law projects, etc).</p> 	<p>Over time, <b>citizens health and wealth improves</b> thanks to mutual care, as the capacity to cope with future crises.</p> 

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