

DECIDIM SWITZERLAND · OFFICIAL MEETING

Founding Event

Decidim Swiss Local Chapter

Politforum Käfigturm, Bern · June 11th 2026

THIS AFTERNOON

Agenda

14:00 – 14:15	Round of introductions Get to know each other
14:15 – 14:30	Official welcome Decidim Free Software Association, Barcelona
14:30 – 14:45	How did the Local Chapter come about? Short presentation on our journey
14:45 – 15:30	Brainstorming in small groups Structure and future direction of the Chapter
15:30 – 16:00	Founding assembly Signing of the Trademark Agreement
16:00 – 17:00	Signing of documents, Finish & Apéro Celebrate together

01

Round of Introductions

Who are you? Please state your name & organization and why you believe the Local Chapter is necessary.



02

Official Welcome

Nil Homedes Busquets, President

Pauline Bessoles, Coordination Committee

Decidim Free Software Association



switzerland

03

The Local Chapter

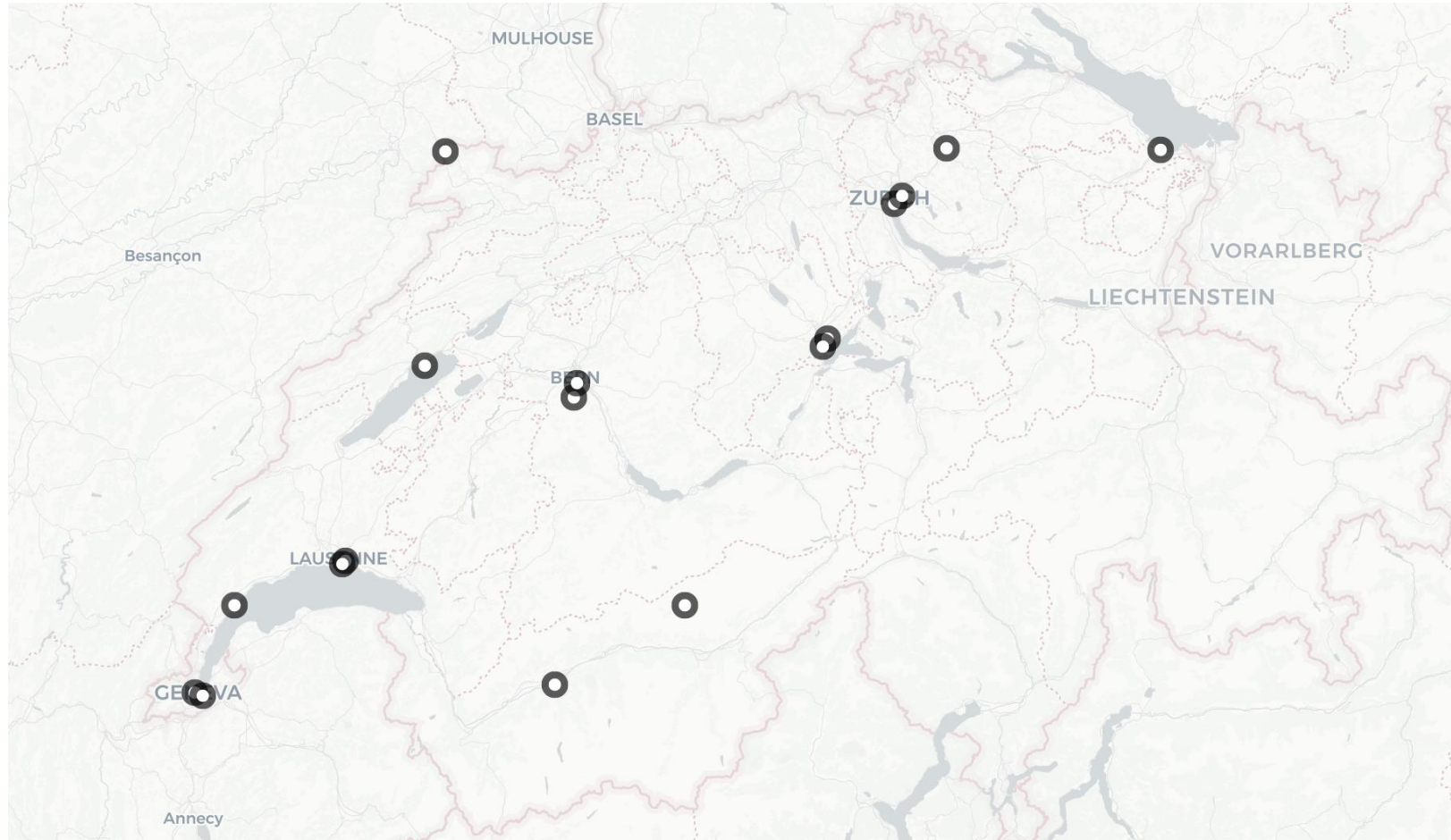
A shared home for all Swiss actors around Decidim.



In use since 2019



Decidim in Switzerland



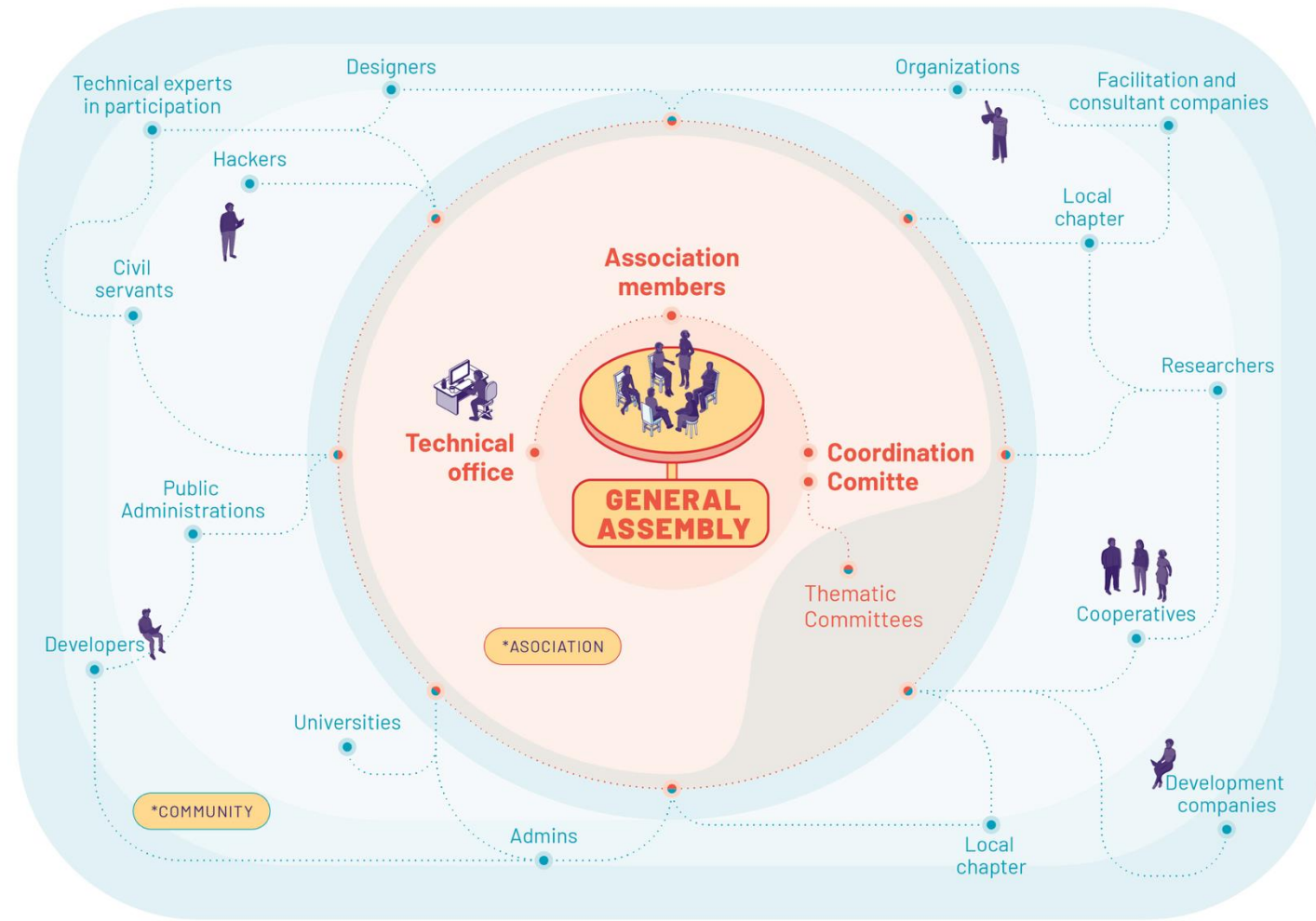
LOCAL CHAPTERS

What is a Local Chapter?

Local Chapters are regional branches of the international Decidim community. They enable exchange at the local level, the pooling of strengths and know-how, and a stronger voice within the global Decidim ecosystem.

Decidim Switzerland will be the first Local Chapter in the entire Decidim ecosystem

-> A learning field for everyone involved



W H Y

A coordination gap to fill

Effective coordination between Swiss administrations using Decidim and the Decidim project requires collaboration between providers – who are not all partners, sometimes in competition, and not always active members of the Decidim community.

THE GREY ZONE

Cities are the most concerned – yet the most distant

- Only partners and individuals are officially represented in the Decidim community
- Cities have no formal seat to steer the Decidim project
- Decidim Netzwerk Schweiz, open only to public servants, lacks technical and operational depth

THE ANSWER

A neutral, not-for-profit Swiss association

- Different legal form than providers – no competition for the market
- Pools Swiss needs and resources around Decidim
- Fills the gap without acting as a service provider

Two concrete examples

01

CO-FUNDING

Refactoring the Surveys feature

Swiss administrations have no direct way to support or collaborate with the Decidim Association. Partner providers are not always the right point of contact. A recognised Swiss association can provide that bridge.

02

RESEARCH & SECURITY

Prioritising security standards for Switzerland

The association also offers a legal structure to collaborate with civil society and academia – in Switzerland or the EU. Cities using Decidim benefit from research opportunities that need real-life applications.

A simple Swiss association, recognised on two levels

01

Internal regulation on Internationalisation

The Decidim Association recognises “Local Chapters” as a new role within its statutes.

This proposal has been approved

This proposal was accepted and discussed across several CC meetings:

- <https://meta.decidim.org/assemblies/coordination-committee/f/1037/meetings/2033>
- <https://meta.decidim.org/assemblies/coordination-committee/f/1037/meetings/2034>
- <https://meta.decidim.org/assemblies/coordination-committee/f/1037/meetings/2095>
- <https://meta.decidim.org/assemblies/coordination-committee/f/1037/meetings/2134>
- <https://meta.decidim.org/assemblies/coordination-committee/f/1037/meetings/2137>

In progress state: The official launch of the Swiss Local Chapter will happen in June

Creation of a Local Chapter for Switzerland

Approved

 **Lucien Langton** 
18/10/2024 16:12

Purpose

The highest purpose of the *Swiss Decidim Local Chapter* is to support, promote and apply the mission of Decidim in Switzerland as expressed in the [Social Contract](#).

Moreover, the *Swiss Decidim Local Chapter* commits to:

- Stand as a non-profit & neutral Decidim expert in Switzerland
- Improve collaboration between actors and with the Decidim Association on common useful resources such as documentation, tutorials and best practices as well as index available modules and existing use cases in the country.

Actors

Participants in the *Swiss Decidim Local Chapter* CAN be the following:

- Cities & cantons
- Associations & civil society representatives
- Participation experts

02

Licensing Agreement

A bilateral agreement between the Swiss Association and the Decidim Association sets rights and obligations.

Result of multiple iterations within the Decidim Community 

The Licensing Agreement

Rights and obligations of the Swiss Association toward the Decidim Association.

MUST

- Agree to the social contract and statutes of the Decidim Association
- Provide governance transparency (decidim.ch)
- Provide financial transparency – opportunities and yearly reports

CAN

- Pool and coordinate needs and priorities for Switzerland
- Promote Decidim in Switzerland – use the Decidim image
- Facilitate the onboarding of a Decidim community in Switzerland

CANNOT

- Provide hosting services
- Provide software development services
- Maintain its own list of partners

What members expect from the Decidim Swiss Local Chapter

Priorities & vision, clustered by theme | n=21 respondents



W H A T

Expectations



Easy way to take part in Decidim CH
Research to practice / digital sovereignty
Lead joint development projects
Mutual support across actors
Networking with peer organisations
Equitable module co-funding
Adoption by civil society
Active role in Decidim roadmap
More cities adopt Decidim
Translated documentation & FAQs Discuss technical issues
Discuss participation strategy

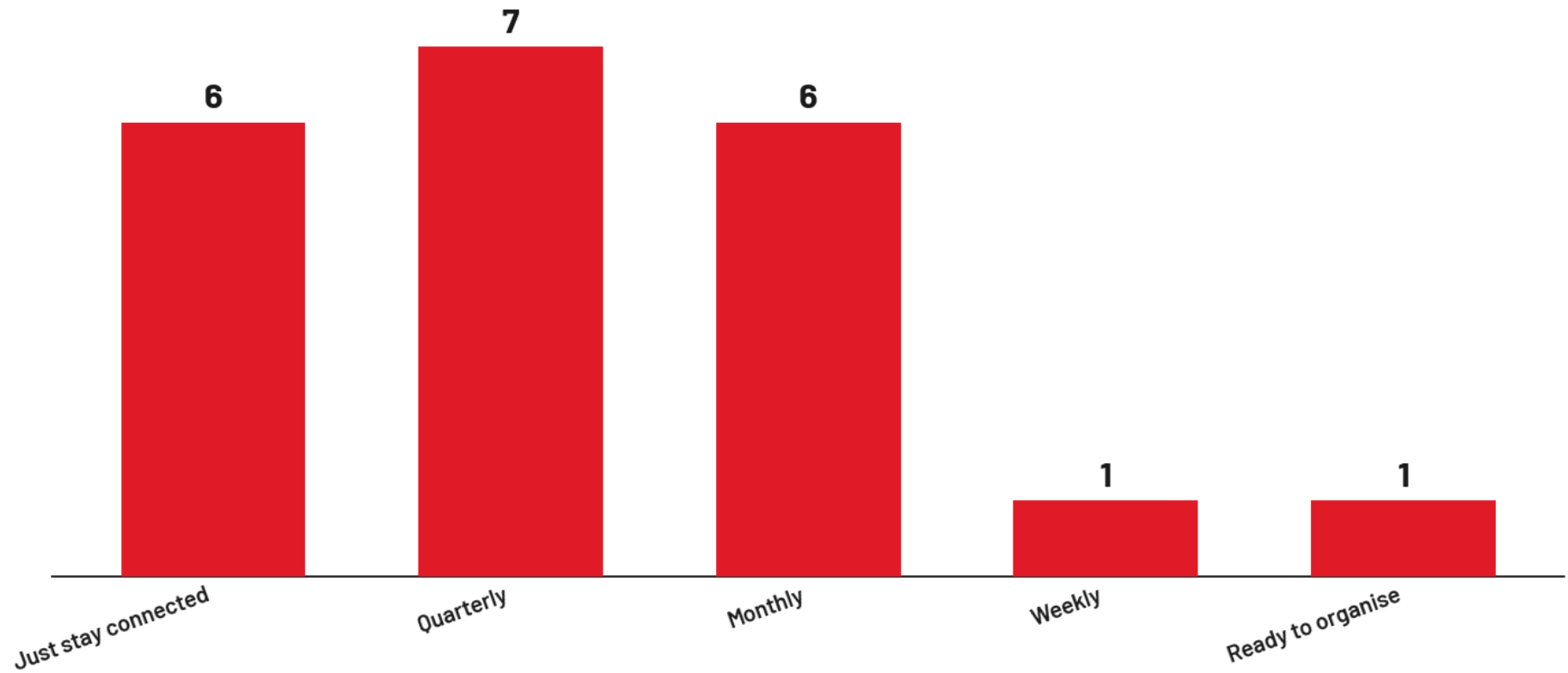
■ Networking & Collaboration ■ Knowledge & Peer Exchange ■ Growth & Adoption ■ Development & Roadmap

WHAT

Meetings

How often members want to interact

Desired interaction frequency | n=21 respondents

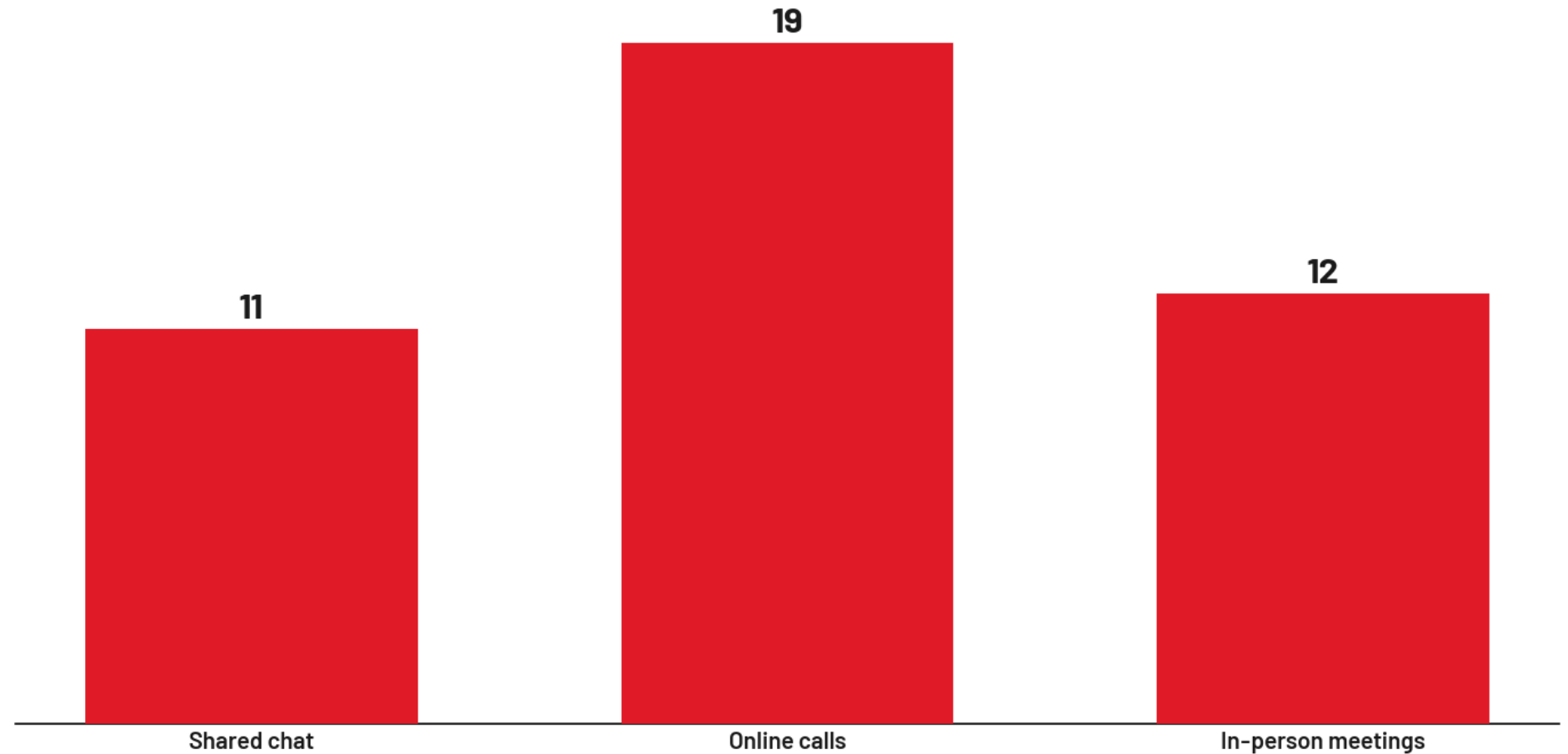


W H A T

Meetings

Preferred form of interaction

Members could choose several channels | n=21 respondents



04

Brainstorming

A shared home for all Swiss actors around Decidim.



05

Founding Assembly

Let's get things started!



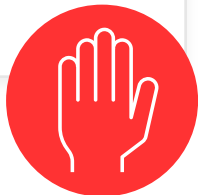
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Founding Assembly

01

Formal opening

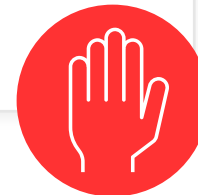
Chair of the assembly: **Lars Kaiser**
Minutes taken by: **Sabeth Töttli**



02

Resolution to found

The assembly resolves to establish, under the name "**Decidim Switzerland**", an association pursuant to Art. 60 ff. of the Swiss Civil Code (ZGB/CC), with its registered seat in Bern.

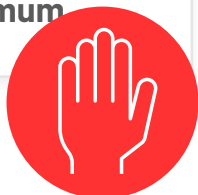


03

Election of the Board and the Presidency

The following people have submitted their candidacy:
Lucien Langton, Octree
Lars Kaiser, Urban Equipe

Who else? 3 people is the minimum



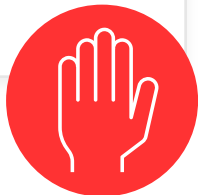
Founding Assembly

04

Election of the Auditors

The following people have submitted their candidacy:

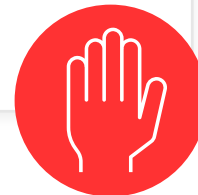
Nil Homedes,
XXXX



05

Membership Fees

Proposed fees:
CHF 50 – Individual persons
CHF 200 – Organizations
Associations /cities/companies



07

Budget

Budget

Decidim Switzerland – Budget

Founding year (Jun-Dec 2026) and first full year (2027) - all amounts in CHF

Budget line	Jun-Dec 2026	2027	Notes / assumptions
Income			
Membership fees – individuals	1'000	1'500	CHF 50/yr · –20 members 2026, –30 in 2027
Membership fees – institutions	1'200	2'000	CHF 200/yr · –6 entities 2026, –10 in 2027
Grants / subsidies / sponsorship	3'000	15'000	Public-sector & foundation contributions
Donations	-	-	Individual & in-kind donations
Income from own projects / events	-	-	Workshops, trainings (net)
Other income	-	-	Consulting / setup support
Total income	5'200	18'500	

Expenses			
Trademark agreement contribution	-	-	To Decidim Free Software Association (Art. 6)
Salaries office	-	8'000	10% mandate
Platform hosting & infrastructure	1'200	2'400	Decidim instance hosting / maintenance
Website & domain	300	300	Domain, mail, basic web
Founding & General Assembly	800	1'000	Founding event 2026; annual GA
Events & workshops	500	2'500	Community events, meetups
Travel & meeting costs	400	1'000	Board / member travel
Communication & translation	1'000	1'500	DE/FR/IT/EN materials, design
Administration & banking	300	600	Bank fees, tools, postage
Insurance & legal	200	400	Liability insurance, registration
Reserve for unforeseen circumstances	500	800	-5% buffer
Total expenses	5'200	18'500	

Net result (surplus / deficit)

- -

Founding Assembly

07

Varia

Any remarks? Questions?

06

Signing of documents

And let's take some pictures!



switzerland

07

Last questions



switzerland

Time for Apéro!

Let's celebrate!

V e n u e
Café des Pyrénées
Kornhausplatz 17, 3011 Bern

Stay in touch
decidim.ch
[linkedin.com/company/decidim-switzerland](https://www.linkedin.com/company/decidim-switzerland)

