Foundation for Public Code

# Introduction to Public Code


## Jan Ainali

@ainali@social.coop
@jan_ainali
jan@publiccode.net


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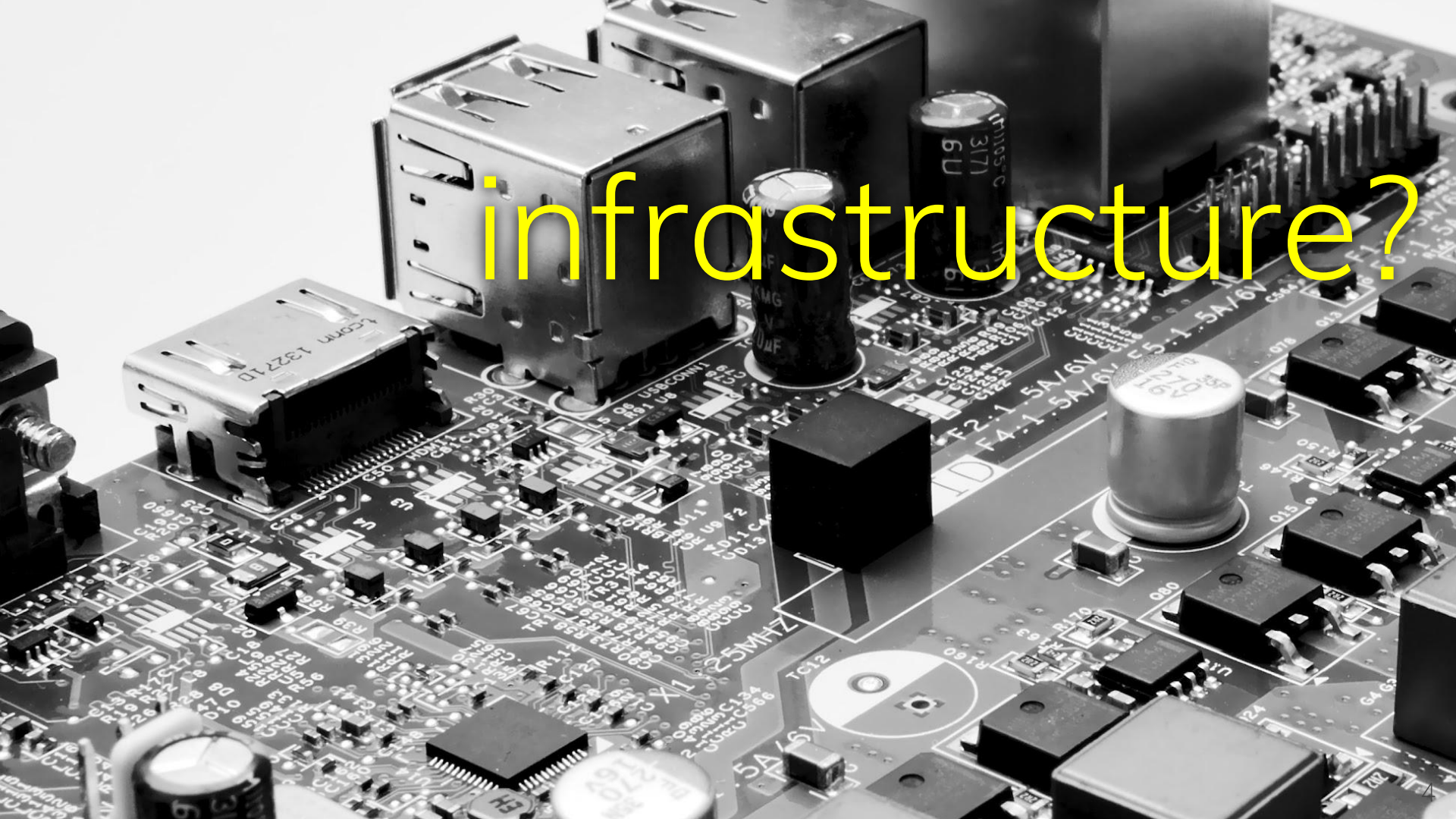
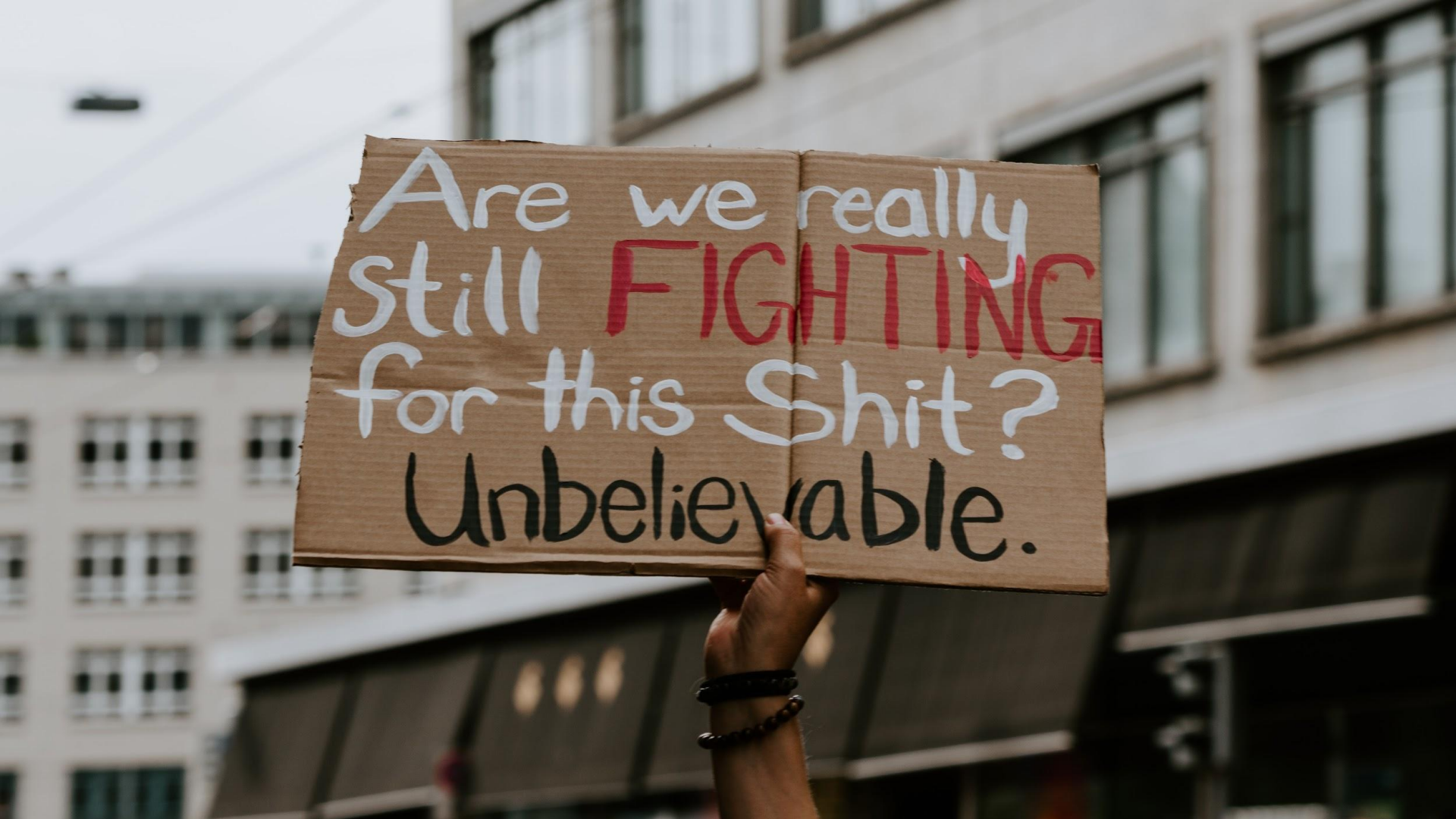
# rapid technological acceleration


infrastructure?

- cities turn technology into infrastructure

Cities work to transform **technology into infrastructure** through iterative generation of **policy, or 'civic code'**.

Policy defines the
possibility space of society.


Are we really
still FIGHTING
for this Shit?
Unbelievable.

4KWIK
ICT48SM

Hawaiian Chieftain

22 Utrecht Centraal
Centrumzijde
6018

<?php echo
"Hello World!"
?>

policy

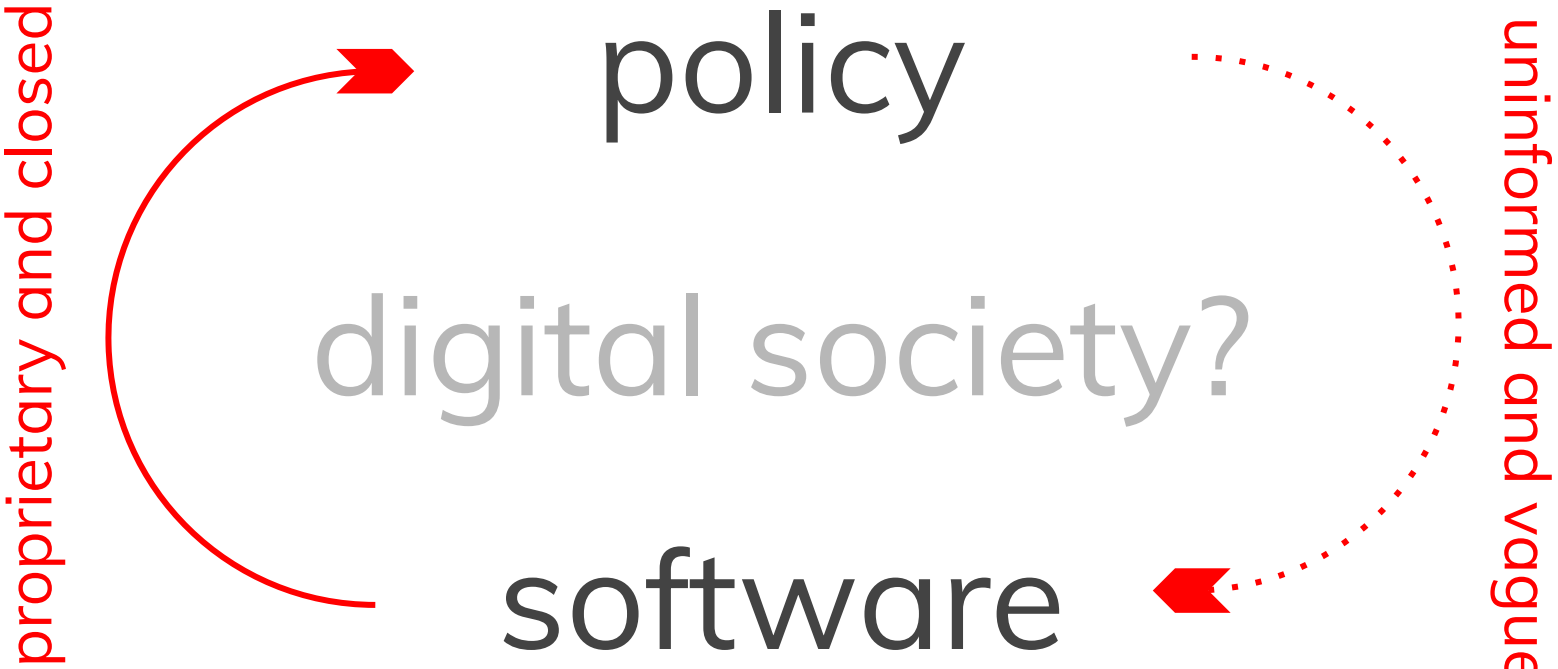
digital society?

software

policy

digital society?

software

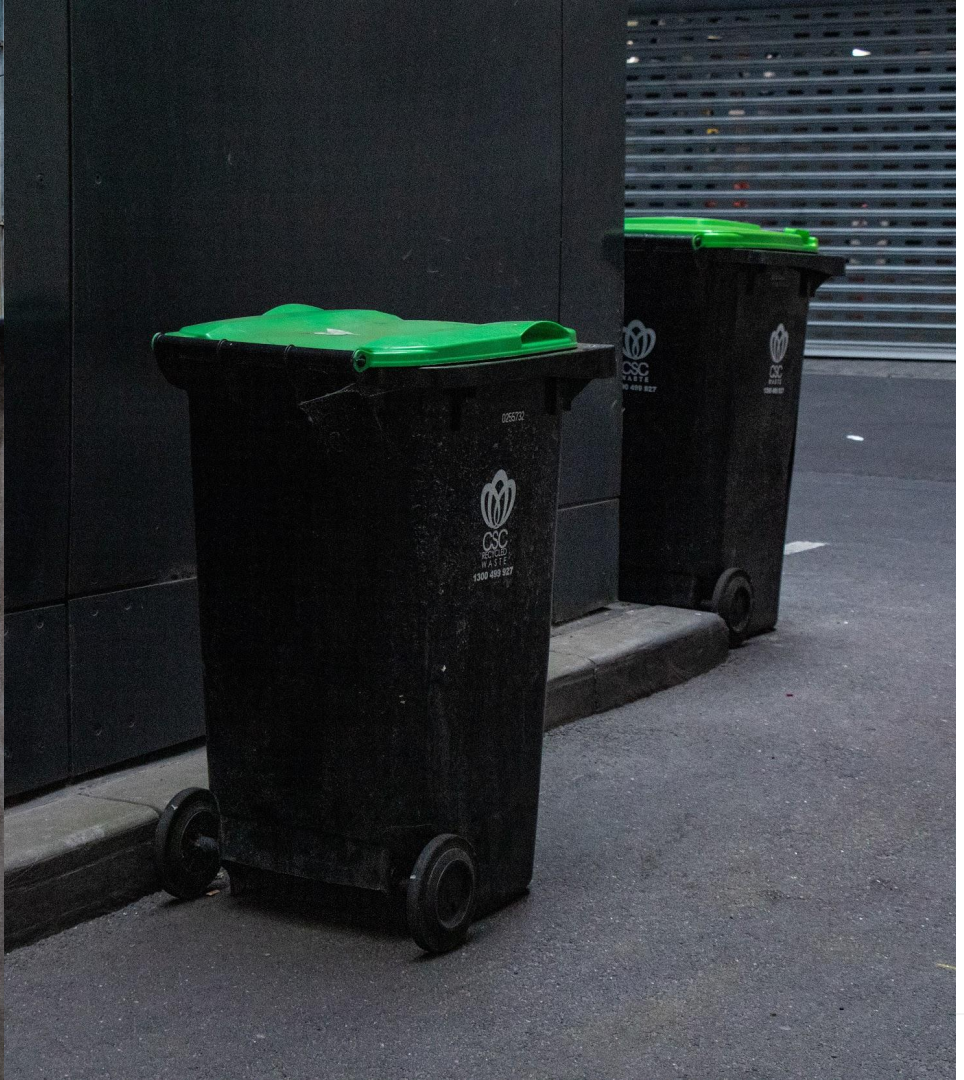

policy
digital society?
software
proprietary and closed
uninformed and vague

We believe software that runs our society can no longer be:

- hidden in **proprietary codebases**
- producing data not owned by the public
- licensed at ever-increasing cost from outside companies

governments need
**technological sovereignty**

Public software must
reflect the values of
the society it serves


QSC
RECYCLED
WASTE
1300 499 927

Forward thinking cities are already building **public digital infrastructure** for themselves

# software + policy

produced by
and for the public

# = public code

OPEN

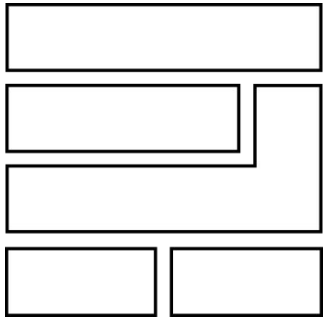
software has ‘terroir’

sharing

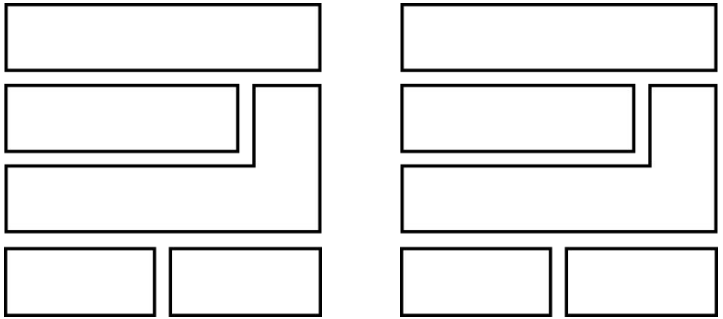
Cities need to develop open, adaptive and **reusable** public codebases **together** as part of their core civic functions.

# codebase?

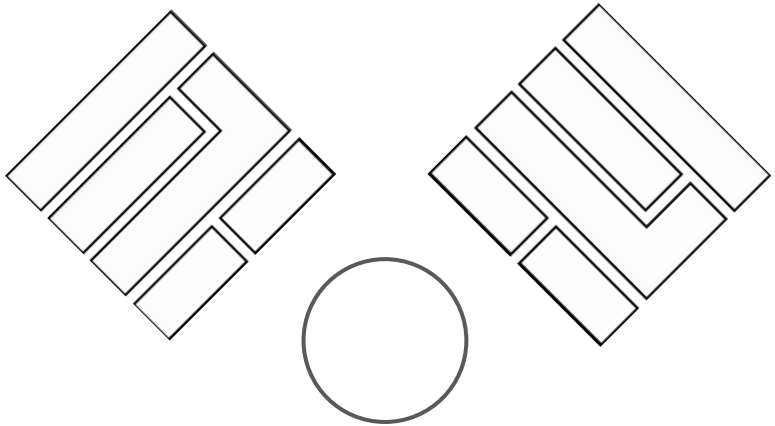
# Code



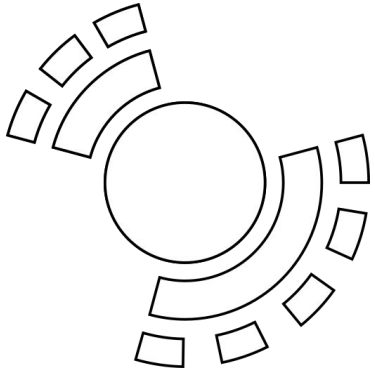
# Code can be shared



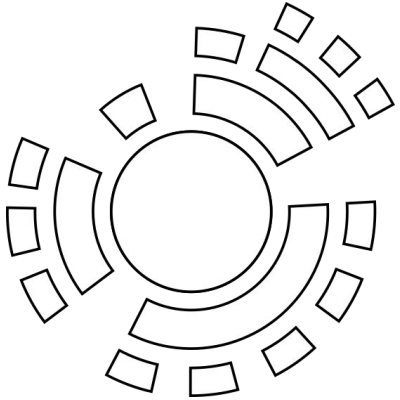
# Codebases can be shared

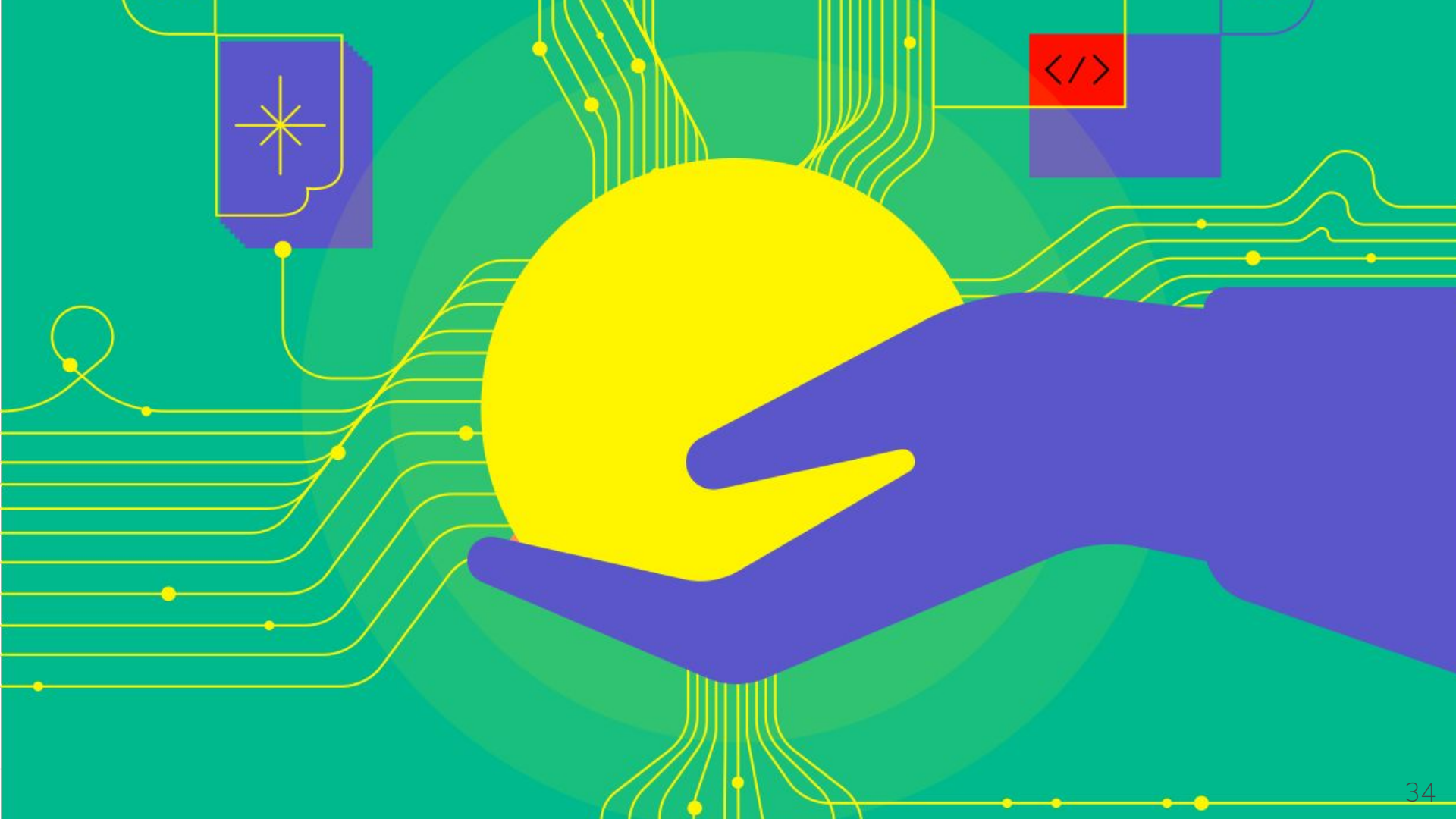


# Codebases can be modified

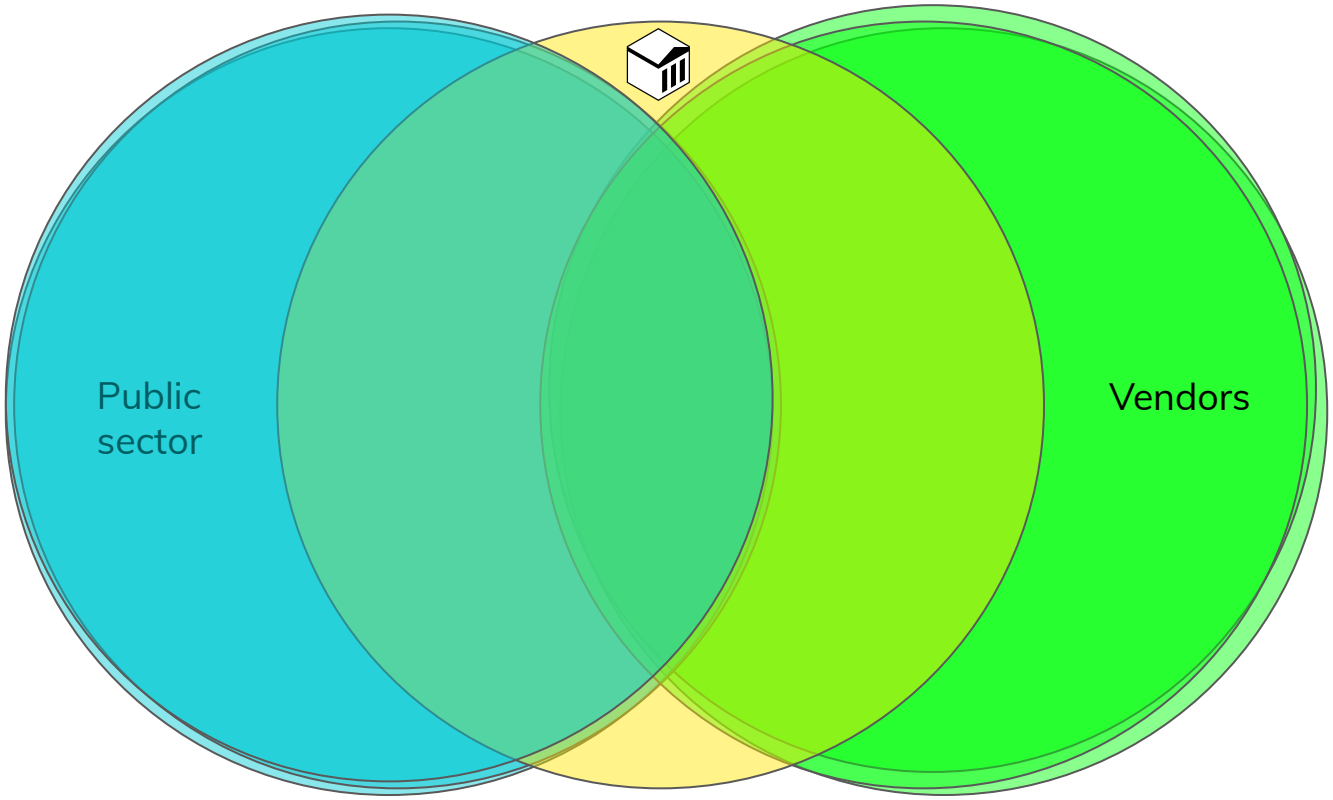


# Codebases can be collaborative





What a community needs



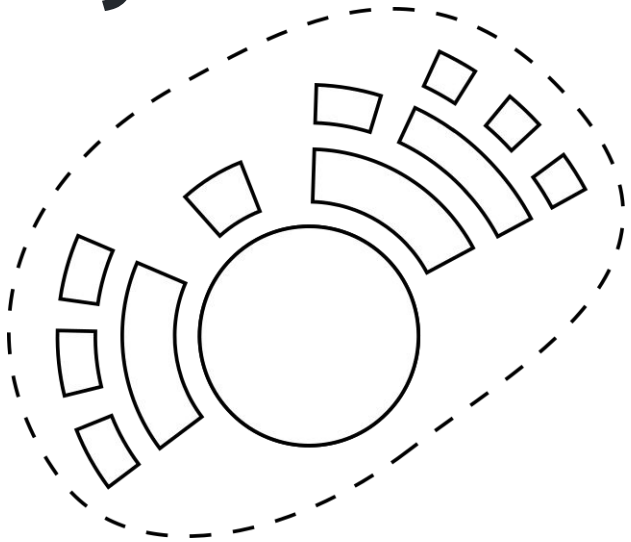
# Codebase stewardship

SAINTS

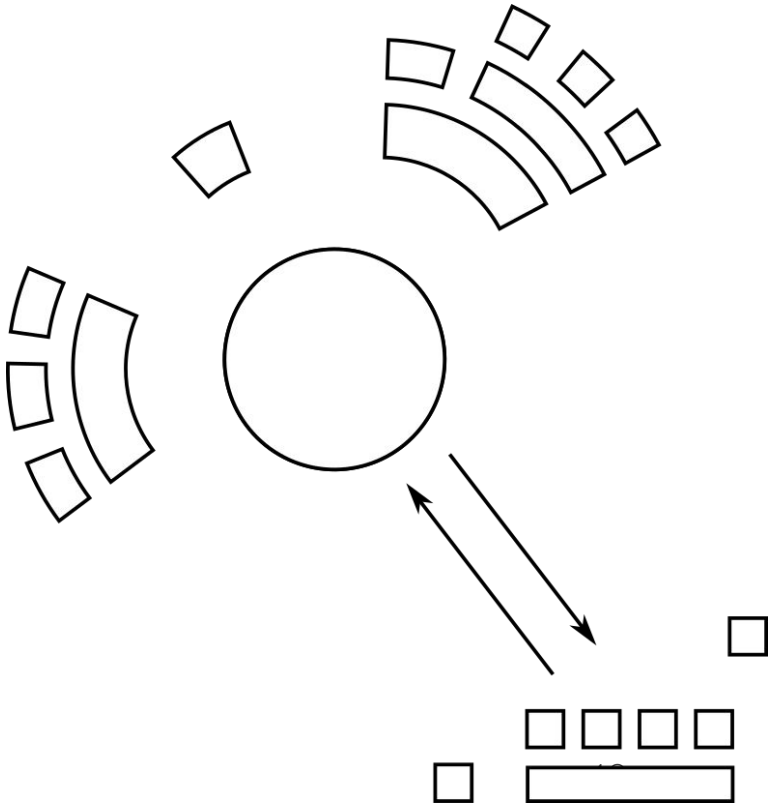
# Codebase stewardship

- community development
- product management
- quality assurance
- support for success

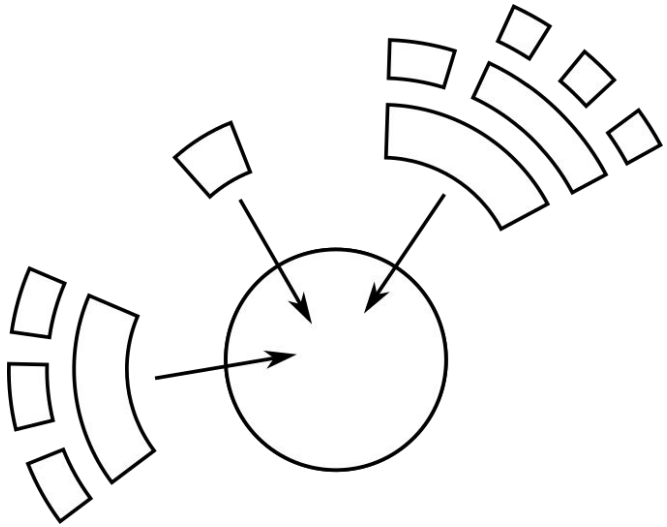
# Community



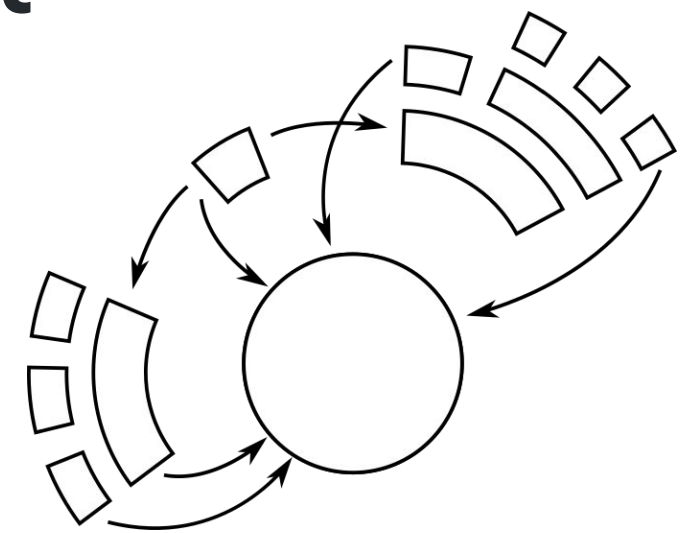
# Product



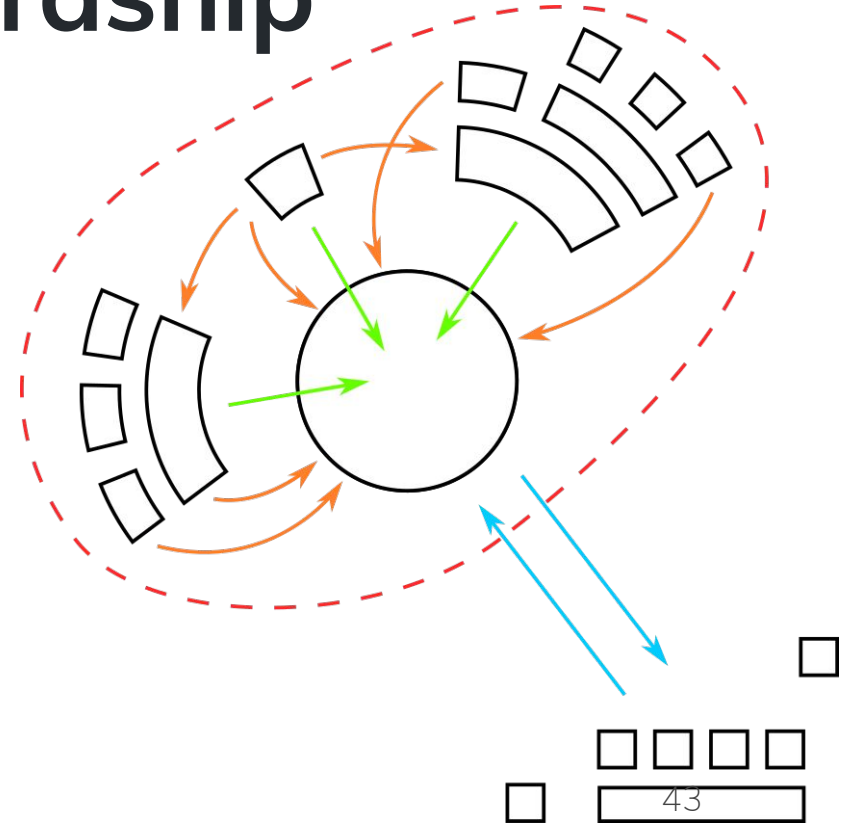
# Quality



# Support



# Stewardship



# Codebase stewardship

- community
- community
- community
- community

https://standard.publiccode.net

# 16 criteria

Code in the open
Bundle policy and source code
Create reusable and portable code
Welcome contributors
Make contributing easy
Maintain version control
Require review of contributions
Document your objectives
Document the code
Use plain English
Use open standards
Use continuous integration
Publish with an open license
Make the codebase findable
Use a coherent style
Document codebase maturity

# Requirements

- Software source code MUST be licensed under an OSI-approved open source license.
- All source code files in the codebase SHOULD include a copyright notice and a license header that are machine readable.
- Codebases MAY have multiple licenses for different types of code and documentation.

# What you need to do

- Policy makers
- Management
- Developers and designers

# 1. Make it theoretically possible to join you

Code in the open
Create reusable and portable code
Publish with an open license
Use open standards
Make the codebase findable

# 2. Tell the world how you would like to collaborate

# Welcome contributors
# Make contributing easy

# 3. Explain details about the codebase

Document your objectives
Document the code
Use plain English
Document codebase maturity
Bundle policy and source code

# 4. Create a process that supports collaboration

Maintain version control
Require review of contribution
Use continuous integration
Use a coherent style

# Community implementation guide

https://publiccodenet.github.io/community-implementation-guide-standard/

- Examples
- Good practices
- Tools
- Templates

# Community translations

https://publiccodenet.github.io/community-translations-standard/

- Spanish
- Danish in review
- Swedish and Finnish just started

# The Foundation for Public Code

provides **tools and processes**
that bring **people** in **institutions** together
to **collaboratively** build and maintain
**software as public infrastructure.**

# Thanks!

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**Jan Ainali** - jan@publiccode.net

@ainali@social.coop @ainali @jan_ainali