

New Cities a New Administration: New Technologies and the Change of Urban Institutions

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ABSTRACT

Technological innovation does offer tremendous opportunities for local governments to effectively coordinate social life and social issues. However, a smart city inherently carries a governance challenge that has to be addressed to prevent institutional instability (Landry, 2006; Batty et al. 2012; Meijer et al. 2015). The aim of this study is to conduct an international comparative research on the governance of smart cities and which factors mitigate a possible institutional misbalance within the city. The main research question is: What is the effect of governance on urban institutions during the development of Smart City solutions?

The introduction of new technologies in cities has changed the relationships between governmental and non-governmental local stakeholders. Cooperative networks increasingly use digital technologies to develop smart solutions to contemporary social problems. These technologies are not in-house developments, but are owned by private, knowledge-driven organizations (Kourit et al. 2012). As such, the shift to innovative governance structures introduces a new dimension (or dynamic) to collaboration in the public sphere (Aurigi, 2005): Smart stakeholders without strong local political or civil legacy are starting to claim a eminent position in the administrative arena because of their unique technological knowledge.. The position of these new stakeholders in local government networks has modified. Smart stakeholders will be entitled to influence public changes within the city by exchanging smart solutions that local governments can implement in their day-to day urban practice. The manifestations of smart stakeholders, which own unique technologies in existing governance networks, request the institutional surrounding to adjust. Urban institutions/conventions, traditions and formal rules/define the rules of the game within the governance regime that is in place: who is in charge in the city, who participates in creating solutions to social issues, and which public issues are important (Willke, 2007). Technological innovation does offer tremendous opportunities for local governments to effectively coordinate social life and social issues. However, a smart city inherently carries a governance challenge that has to be addressed to prevent institutional instability (Landry, 2006; Batty

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et al. 2012; Meijer et al. 2015). The aim of this study is to conduct an international comparative research on the governance of smart cities and which factors mitigate a possible institutional misbalance within the city. The main research question is: What is the effect of governance on urban institutions during the development of Smart City solutions? - What are characteristics of governance in relation to the development smart solutions? - What is the definition of urban institutions within a smart city? - Does the governance regimes within smart cities transform urban institutions? - Which lessons can be drawn to diminish institutional misbalance within smart cities?

KEYWORDS

Keyword 1	Smart City Comparative research
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WORKSHOP

Workshop IV: The Smart City