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CASI WEBINAR 2015
Sustainable Innovation and Public Participation:
An Assessment
and Management Framework
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Public participation as a success factor for sustainability: insight from CASI policy briefs "Smart Cities as Sustainable Innovation Actors"

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„A truly 'smart city' should also possess other dimensions - it should be a palimpsest of creative, bottom-up civic engagement."

Prof Carlo Ratti, Director of the Senseable City Lab at MIT, Cambridge, Massachusetts

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The Global Perspective of Smart Cities for the Prosperous Future

❑ The Japanese Government created a "Future City" with a goal to "construct sustainable cities with superior environmental technologies, core infrastructure and resilience all over the world...

❑ Russia is planning to unlock its multi-billion treasury funds to initiate large-scale infrastructural projects: integrating the Trans-Siberian Railroad into Euroasian Rail Network with industrial and business hubs and innovation clusters along the way.

❑ China's future "smart cities" are to become a main driver of its urbanization process, with 2 trillion yuan ($322 billion) allocated to more than 600 cities nationwide.

❑ Closing the gap and following the new investment policies, Japan - India are to build 7 smart cities in India, as the growth points of the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) project, estimated to cost around $100 billion overall, and expected to attract an investment of $90-100 billion over the next 30 years.

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SEVENTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME

European Cities in the Role of Economic Drivers

❑ Due to global econimic crisis, the European countries continue to struggle in finding ways to recover their respective economies.

❑ The challenges that European governments are facing in that respect ask for fast measures and novel tools and solutions.

❑ Endorsement and implementation of innovative solutions under the scope of severe budget and human resources restrictions lead to the increase complexity of societal challenges, to which Smart Cities can be looked from the perspective of „*sustainable innovation eco system enablers*".

❑ The „Smart Cities for Sustainable Future" concept could bring Europe closer to more developed international markets by creating conditions for development of highly educated talent and high tech industries supported by pervasive electronic connections.

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The Top 10 in Europe

- 1.**Copenhagen**: the leading green city across the globe;

- 2.**Amsterdam**: using the city as an urban laboratory;

- 3.**Vienna:** a sizable range of smart cities activities (more than 100 projects implemented) and a planning department;

- 4.**Barcelona**: impressive portfolio of smart city initiatives due to which provides support for the global smart cities movement;

- 5. **Paris** a pioneer in the smart cities arena, complete embrace of shared mobility (Paris has led the world in their expansive and widely used bikesharing network, Vélib').

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The Top 10 in Europe

- 6.**Stockholm**: green, carbon neutral city, committed to the digital governance;

- 7.**London**: smart economy driven with a focus to entrepreneurship.

- 8. **Hamburg**: the European Green Capital that offers a high standard of living;

- 9. **Berlin:** concept closely tied to smart cities is the creative class work led by famed researcher Richard Florida (the creative class who will lead urban renewal and economic growth through innovation and entrepreneurship);

- 10. **Helsiniki:** more than 1,000 open datasets and have been actively promoting engagement with developers through hackathons fora improving quality of life.

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Smart City Drivers-Engagement of Stakeholders and Citizens

❑ A strong local government partner as a key strategic player.

❑ Public-private partnerships are highly valuable, especially when private partners bring in developer expertise, finance and technology capabilities.

❑ Citizens empowered through active participation to create a sense of ownership and commitment. Participative environments, in turn, facilitate and stimulate businesses, the public sector and citizens to contribute.

❑ The European Innovation Partnership on Smart Cities and Communities (engaging cities and communities, industries, innovative SME's, research organizations and civil society actors, as well as other stakeholders at all levels) utilizes the complementary approach when aiming for a significant improvement of citizens' quality of life, an increased competitiveness of Europe's industry and innovative SMEs together with a strong contribution to sustainability and the EU's 20/20/20 energy and climate targets.

❑ Engagement at a high European level is central for progress in the field. Accordingly, the European Commission, the Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content - and Technology, the Directorate-General for Energy, the Directorate-General for Mob. and Transport as well as the Sherpa Group are active players.

CASI Key Observations

The smart city and community concept has been looked at from the following dimensions: economy, mobility, environment, people, living and governance. To achieve success in all these dimensions there is a need for an adequate set of policies. Other factors for success are vision, people and process. Having that in mind, the following measures are proposed by CASI to be undertaken:

❑ Implementation of structural changes in the shift towards future industries with a new generation of knowledge based companies;

❑ Creation of enabling environment for translation of new technology trends into growth and jobs;

❑ Establishment of an effective ecosystem for nurturing entrepreneurship, innovation and, in general, creating an environment that would enable sustainability;

❑ Increasing efficiency of use of resources;

❑ Paying much more attention to sustainability in innovation activities coming up with set of actions towards fostering an attractive environment for long-term investments;

❑ Introducing new business and financial models, public-private partnerships that combine users, industries, and public resources at different levels.

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CASI Key Observations

❑ Presently, citizens are still insufficiently engaged to contribute to smart cities. There is a will and there are plans, but innovative forms of governance are called for. Public participation brings together policy makers, experts and citizens to work on the identification and mapping of relevant issues. Improvements to regulatory frameworks are called for as well as training and education of city stakeholders. Citizen's behaviour, choices, creativity and entrepreneurship create an enormous potential.

❑ While sustainability is often cited as a driving force behind smart cities, it is being overshadowed by issues relating to economic growth, technological promises, and responses to citizen demands. Sustainable innovations are in the core of sustainability, so paying more attention to them is necessary. Sustainability is smart for cities.

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CASI recommendations

❑ Stakeholder engagement at the broader is essential! Engage citizens, entrepreneurs, talents, academia, industry, international knowledge, public authorities to turn challenges and new technology trends into growth and jobs. The concept of smart cities and communities provide opportunities, infrastructures, networks, know-how and sharing of best practices.

❑ The sustainable innovative actions of a long-term effect require prior mapping of the exisiting innovative and urban eco system at regional and national level that shall be further integrated, developed and built upon into the „future urban outlook and innovative driven eco system."

❑ The national governments shall in particular incentivise and empower local governments and municipalities with needed financial tools and knowledge resources in order to turn smaller cities and regions into innovation hubs and job accelerators.

❑ Endorsement of incentives, innovative financing mechanisms and new business models as integrated solutions to ensure a balanced sustainable urban development supported by corresponding legal framework, with a special focus at regions.

❑ Support partnerships that allow national and regional stakeholders to step out of common network boundaries into strong international alliances.

❑ Share best practices and proven experiences from successful initiatives through peer learning at all levels! The knowledge sharing process shall result in new initiatives/innovations, building of partnerships and networks, sharing of resources and further building of stakeholder and citizen engagement.

❑ Set up indicators and monitor results to track progress based on which further actions and intitiatives shall be built and endorsed by the European institutions to be passed to national and regional governments with clear guidance and tools for implementation.

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SEVENTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME

Upcoming... Innovative Urban Actions EU Initiative

Innovative Urban Actions (Article 8 Reg. (EU) N°1301/2013 ERDF)

❑ New initiative on behalf of the European Commission to identify or test new solutions addressing sustainable urban development of relevance at EU level. The innovative actions will finance studies and specific projects proposed by the urban authorities of more than 50 000 people (Cities, group or association of cities or urban authority).

❑ The programme will have a budget of € 372 million for the period 2015-2024. Calls for projects will be defined and agreed in the annual work programme, approved before the end of October. The first call for projects will be launched in Q4 2015 (January 2016). Projects should consider: a high degree of innovation, good quality, with a strong partnership, transferable at the EU level; results oriented and measurable.

❑ Approximately 15 and 20 innovative actions will be funded each year. Each action can receive up to a maximum of 5 Million € ERDF co-financing. The co-financing rate shall be 80% maximum.

❑ The call shall cover the following four topics:

✓ Energy transition

✓ Urban Poverty (with a focus on deprived urban neighbourhoods)

✓ Investment in the integration of migrants and refugees

✓ Jobs and skills in the local economy.

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