

CALL FOR PAPERS

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“The Strategic, Organizational, and Entrepreneurial Evolution of Smart Cities”

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Full Paper Submission Deadline: 31 December 2018

The interest in understanding how to enable smart city development has grown significantly over the years, along with the number of cities seeking to become smart by deploying ICT-related solutions to meet urban challenges. Strategies for enabling smart city development can be found all over the world and researchers have made significant efforts in investigating their design and implementation processes.

Leydesdorff and Deakin (2011), Sauer (2012), Vanolo (2014), Bolici and Mora (2015), Cowley et al. (2017), Grossi and Pianezzi (2017), Taylor Buck and White (2017) and van Winden and van den Buuse (2017) report on the smart city development strategies promoted in Europe by analyzing the cities of Amsterdam, Barcelona, Bari, Bologna, Birmingham, Bristol, Edinburgh, Genoa, Glasgow, London, Manchester, Milan, Milton Keynes, Naples and Turin.

Lee et al. (2014) compare the strategies of San Francisco and Seoul, and further studies focusing attention on Asian and American smart city cases are published by Alawadhi et al. (2012), Shwayri (2013), Fietkiewicz and Stock (2015), Wiig (2015a; 2015b), Alvin Yau et al. (2016), Cugurullo (2016), Lee et al. (2016), Schreiner (2016) and Gupta and Hall (2017). This research investigates the experiences of Dholera, Masdar, Songdo, Philadelphia, Rio de Janeiro, Seattle, Quebec City, Mexico City, Tokyo, Yokohama, Osaka, Singapore, Kyoto and Kuala Lumpur.

In addition, research by Kitchin (2015) and Paroutis et al. (2014) reports on the IBM's Smarter Planet initiative and its Smarter City Challenge, which was launched in 2010. The cities which have already been selected and included in the initiative exceeds 130.

Despite this growing interest in smart cities and almost three decades of literature dealing with this subject (e.g., Appio et al. 2018; Mora et al. 2017; Neirotti et al. 2014), however, research is still unable to clearly explain what are the strategic, organizational and entrepreneurial conditions enabling smart city development in urban environments (Leydesdorff and Deakin 2011; Deakin

2014; Kraus et al. 2015; Richter et al. 2015; Mora et al. 2017; 2018; Komminos and Mora 2018).

Recent studies from Mora and Bolici (2016; 2017), Mora et al. (2017; 2018) and Komminos and Mora (2018) clearly express the need of strategizing the smart city and demonstrate the lack of understanding on what strategic principles drive smart city development. This research also shows the lack of understanding which surfaces when trying to understand how smart city governance systems are organized. On the one hand, ICT companies suggests smart city strategies require a closed collaborative model in which the interaction is only between: (1) solution providers acting as consultants that try to sell their smart technologies; and (2) local and regional governments, which are persuaded to underpin smart city development by adopting such proprietary technologies (Grossi and Pianezzi, 2017; Soderstrom et al. 2014; Paroutis et al., 2014; Hollands 2015). The double-helix structure of this collaborative model generates an entrepreneurial mode of governance in which information technology corporations working in the market of smart city services become the main providers of ICT solutions to urban problems. On the other hand, a significant body of research suggests this double-helix collaborative model does not provide the intellectual capital which is necessary to drive smart city development and face the complexity that this socio-technological transformation process poses. This research calls for a much more open and inclusive collaborative ecosystem based on either a triple or a quadruple-helix structure in which all the city stakeholders representing governments, universities and businesses are involved, along with citizens and civil society organizations (Baccarne et al. 2014; Dameri 2017; Leydesdorff and Deakin 2011; Gardner and Hespanhol 2017; van Waart et al. 2016).

Yet another research stream mainly concerns the role cities can have on stimulating and developing entrepreneurship. Precisely, Neirotti et al. (2014) and Giffinger et al. (2007) argue in favor of a causal link between investments in communities and the attainment of better innovations and entrepreneurship through their learning capabilities. This *Entrepreneurial Renaissance* of cities (Formica 2017) may be enabled not only by digital-driven innovations (Vanolo 2014) and new business models, but also from the empowerment of citizens (Kummitha and Majumdar 2015) who increasingly tolerate the pervasiveness of technology and get used to adopt (and adapt) it in order to address their own problems (Almirall et al. 2016). However, systematic empirical evidence is lacking when it comes to understand what really means promoting bottom-up innovation and entrepreneurship based on active citizen participation in smart cities (Hollands 2008; Datta 2015). Furthermore, we can speculate that this process can find a natural extension to other actors of the business ecosystem namely, universities, industries, and local governments who, alongside the citizens, form a quadruple-helix dynamic giving rise to and sustaining a urban-based entrepreneurial movement (Munoz and Cohen, 2016). A synchronization among the actors is then necessary in order to make entrepreneurship flourishing and conducive of a 'smarter' smartification of cities.

Against this background the aim of this Special Issue is to combine the debate on the various evolutionary trends of smart cities and thus addressing this field in a broader than usual way. In doing so, we achieve to gain new, continuative and contrasting insights through widening the established focus.

We welcome high quality manuscripts that analyze the strategic, organizational, and entrepreneurial evolution of smart cities. Manuscripts can be both international in scope as well as investigating domestic issues with global relevance. Manuscripts accepted for publication should include implications for business practice. Both conceptual and empirical papers, from different analytical and methodological perspectives, can be submitted. In doing so, we can together build a body of high quality, cumulative research that extends our current knowledge.

Topics of interest include, but are not limited to the following aspects:

- Entrepreneurial processes and new business opportunities in smart cities;
- Business model innovation for the value creation by smart cities' stakeholders;

- Start-ups' ecosystems in smart cities;
- Resource and competencies for value creation and innovation in smart cities;
- Business-driven urban development and innovation;
- New digital services for smart institutions (e.g. hospitals) in smart cities;
- Building high-tech and creative industries in emerging smart cities;

Important dates

- First Submission date: March 2018
- Submission deadline: December 31, 2018
- Acceptance Deadline: June/July 2019
- Expected Publication Date: Winter 2019

Submission Guidelines

Please submit your paper directly to the Guest Editors. All the submissions will go through the journal's standard peer-review process. For guidelines on how to prepare your manuscript, please visit [follow the Submission Guidelines available at: http://www.springer.com/business+%26+management/entrepreneurship/journal/11365](http://www.springer.com/business+%26+management/entrepreneurship/journal/11365)

Papers should be a maximum of 10,000 words in length.

For any inquires on the Special Issue, proposed topics and potential fit of your work with the Special Issue's objectives, please send your abstract (250 words) to the Guest Editors until July 31, 2018.

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