

# Smart cities and citizenships Critical challenges and action points

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## What is a smart city?

• 1992 – 'smart growth Agenda 21' in Rio summit – 50,000 smart cities globally by 2007

- 'places where information technology is combined with infrastructure, architecture, everyday objects and our own bodies to address social, economic and environmental problems' (Townsend 2013, 15).
- Use of technology conceived in four different ways (Hollands 2008)
  - application of technology in a wide range of urban systems
  - embedding ICT in the city
  - radical transformation of urban life through technology
  - coming together of city regions to enhance innovation and smart growth

## Who is a smart citizen?

- Smart citizens are active digital citizens.
- They contribute their data, participate in e-governance and become part of connected communities (Jackel 2013).
- Where are their rights and responsibilities practiced?
- Are we imagining future citizens or actually existing citizens?

• What challenges might the consideration of citizenship pose to the smart city?



# Challenges and action



### #1 Learning from smart cities

• Formulate measureable parameters

- conduct meticulous project monitoring
  - Reflect in the short term
- create a critical knowledge-base for the long term.



### CityKeys framework

#### **Project - Themes and Subthemes**

People	Planet	Prosperity	Process	Propagation
•Education •Diversity & social	•Energy & mitigation	•Employment	•Multilevel governance	•Scalability
cohesion	•Other resources	•Equity •Green economy	<ul> <li>Organisation</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Replicability</li> </ul>
•Safety	•Climate resilience	•Economic	•Co-creation	
•Health	•Environment	performance	•Community engagement	
•Quality of housing and of the built environment	•Ecosystem	Accessibility     Innovation		
• Access to (other) services				

#2

# Achieving equitable gender relations in the private realm is the litmus test of smart cities.

• Mainstream gender in smart city agendas

- UN Beijing Declaration on women
- SDG 2030 goal 'realize the human rights of all and to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls'
  - Progressive educational institutions that go beyond mere provision of skills

# 10 Top Tips to End Rape

- 1 Don't put drugs in women's drinks.
- 2 When you see a woman walking by herself, leave her alone.
- 3 If you pull over to help a woman whose car has broken down, remember not to rape her.
- 4 If you are in a lift and a woman gets in, don't rape her.
- 5 Never creep into a woman's home through an unlocked door or window, or spring out at her from between parked cars, or rape her.
- 6 USE THE BUDDY SYSTEM!

If you are not able to stop yourself from assaulting people, ask a friend to stay with you while you are in public.

- 7 Don't forget: it's not sex with someone who's asleep or unconscious - it's RAPE!
- 8 Carry a whistle! If you are worried you might assault some one 'by accident' you can hand it to the person you are with, so they can call for help.
- 9 Don't forget: Honesty is the best policy. If you have every intention of having sex later on with the woman you're dating regardless of how she feels about it, tell her directly that there is every chance you will rape her. If you don't communicate your intentions, she may take it as a sign that you do not plan to rape her and inadvertently feel safe.

10 Don't rape.

Looking for information and ideas on how to campaign against rape? Check out the following websites: www.thisisnotaninvitationtorapeme.co.uk www.notever.co.uk

#### #3

#### Legal ambiguity in national laws relating to open data, privacy and mass surveillance

• Adopt and ratify UNCTAD core principles of data protection

 Manifesto of 'rights to the smart city' to include rights to privacy and freedom of speech.

#### #4

#### Balance citizens' rights to land and livelihoods with the economic imperative of smart cities

- Prioritize social, spatial and environmental justice policies in national and UN smart city agendas.
- Implement and uphold nationally binding laws around UN rights to livelihoods and entrepreneurship, UN rights to land and the rights of indigenous people, as well as the UNESCO convention on the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage

#### Top down smart city investments have led to uneven geographic development.

- Uphold the guidelines of power sharing in Agenda 21 by giving more power to local residents.
  - Mainstream bottom-up efforts to empower citizens of smart cities.



(Courtesy of Humara Bachpan)

### Input from in-depth social research into smart cities agendas

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- fund in-depth longitudinal social sciences research on why and how smart cities succeed or fail.
- Multi-disciplinary collaboration with universities needed to understand the impacts of smart cities on individual and collective freedoms, and to train the next generation of socially transformative smart cities experts.