



# Citi-sense WP5:

Participation and Empowerment

Newsletter No. 23

September 2014



## Articles and Publications.

### **Citizen participation and technology.**

Those are among the conclusions of a new NDI study, "Citizen Participation and Technology," that examines the role digital technologies – such as social media, interactive websites and SMS systems – play in increasing citizen participation and fostering accountability in government. The study was driven by the recognition that better insights are needed into the relationship between new technologies, citizen participation programs and the outcomes they aim to achieve. What do you think?

<http://thegovlab.org/citizen-participation-and-technology/>

### **Can you hear me? Citizens, Climate Change & Open Local Government.**

We explore the extent to which greater citizen engagement as part of a wider system of open governance – in particular greater transparency and more effective accountability mechanisms – could lead to more effective action on climate change.

[http://www.involve.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/Involve\\_Climate-Change-and-Open-Local-Government.pdf](http://www.involve.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/Involve_Climate-Change-and-Open-Local-Government.pdf)

### **Transparency in Global Environmental Governance.**

Transparency is a hot issue in global environmental governance. In a new book, just published by MIT Press, Aarti Gupta, Associate Professor at the Environmental Policy Group, explores whether and how transparency enables new types of politics in global environmental governance.

<http://www.wageningenur.nl/en/Expertise-Services/Chair-groups/Social-Sciences/Environmental-Policy-Group/Show/New-Book-Transparency-in-Global-Environmental-Governance.htm>

### **Citizen Air Quality Sensors Cover The Places Governments Can't Reach.**

Projects like Smart Citizen and Air Quality Egg promise a future of cheap, open-source air quality sensors--and a world where we know what's happening everywhere.

<http://www.fastcoexist.com/3031162/citizen-air-quality-sensors-cover-the-places-governments-cant-reach>

### **Essential Concepts of Global Environmental Governance. Jean-Frédéric Morin, Amandine Orsini.**

Aligning global governance to the challenges of sustainability is one of the most urgent environmental issues to be addressed. This book is a timely and up-to-date compilation of the main pieces of the global environmental governance puzzle.

The book is comprised of 101 entries, each defining a central concept in global environmental governance, presenting its historical evolution, introducing related debates and including key bibliographical references and further reading. The entries combine analytical rigour with empirical description.

<http://www.routledge.com/books/details/9780415822473/>



## Experiences.

### **La Montre verte / City pulse (Green watch/City pulse).**

La Montre verte / City pulse (Green watch/City pulse) is one of the 16 prototypes that won the call for project launched by Cap Digital, for the "Futur en Seine" event, financed thanks to the major support of the Île de France Regional Council.

Imagined within the framework of the Ville 2.0 Programme – based on similar experiences carried out in London, New York and San Francisco, the "Montre verte (green watch)/ Citypulse" project serves one simple objective: to multiply by 1,000 the number of urban environmental sensors and to associate directly the inhabitants to the construction of a sustainable city by involving them to the environmental measurement.

<http://www.fing.org/?La-Montre-verte-City-pulse-Green&lang=en>

### **CityWatch. Real opportunities to work together, better.**

Exploring how citizen contributed sensor data in combination with data from sensors deployed by municipals and utilities can be used to make cities sustainable and connected. Collaborative Research project between Trinity College Dublin, Intel Labs Europe & Dublin City Council ,exploring themes such as: Citizen-Enabled Sensor Networks, cities Informing Its Citizens, gamification and Incentivization and civic engagement.

<http://www.citywatch.ie/>

### **ECODISTR-TIC Project.**

The ECODISTR-ICT project is funded by the European Union through the Seventh Framework Programme. It is coordinated by VITO and involves Arup, Bipolaire Arquitectos, CSTB, Omgeving, Sigma Orionis, SP, Strusoft, TNO, VABI and White.

The ECODISTR-ICT project aims at developing an integrated decision-support tool that facilitates decision making on the retrofitting and renewal of existing districts and their composing buildings.

It will connect the main decision makers in urban district transformation programmes, acting from different perspectives, with different time scales, to reach a coordinated approach that joins building retrofitting with district renovation.

It will provide trustworthy insights on (i) retrofitting and renewal projects, (ii) the associated costs and benefits over the life cycle of the buildings, and (iii) the impacts on resource efficiency, social aspects, indoor and outdoor quality of buildings and districts, and other environmental concerns.

The ECODISTR-ICT tool will be tested in five demonstration sites located in Belgium, Sweden, Spain, the Netherlands and Poland.

<http://ecodistr-ict.eu/>



## Congresses, Seminars, Courses, etc.

### **EcoProcura 2014 conference: Sustainability, innovation and cost efficiency: taking procurement forward.**

The EcoProcura 2014 conference is just a few months away, taking place over three days from 24 - 26 September 2014. A detailed programme was released recently, with all the latest information about the conference programme, including details of the sessions, confirmed speakers and much more.

<http://www.ecoprocura.eu/ghent2014/>