



Citi-sense WP5:

Participation and Empowerment

Newsletter No. 4

December 2012



Articles and Publications.

The intelligence of a city is on the streets.

Smart City is an expression I try to avoid, precisely because in its current state it has only served to confuse things. I prefer to speak of technologies for urban services when I think of improving public services, and civic empowerment enabling technologies when it comes to new forms of digital intervention in the collective creation of the city or simply in city life experiences.

<http://www.ciudadesaescalahumana.org/2012/03/the-intelligence-of-city-is-on-streets.html>

Transforming Democracy Through Digital Technology. Five lessons from groundbreaking women.

I had the honor of hosting a panel on the "Power of Technology to Transform Democracy," sponsored by the Knight Foundation, at this year's annual TEDxWomen conference last weekend. There were 300 people at the event in Washington D.C. and more than 150 independently organized TEDx events in every time zone in the world—nearly 150,000 people total—tuning in via live stream!

Here are five of the smartest lessons I learned from the incredibly smart women flanking me on both sides.

http://www.ssireview.org/blog/entry/transforming_democracy_through_digital_technology

Response Learning for Daily Student Participation and Assessment.

If you're looking for that one thing to do during your next professional development, it is to make sure all of your teachers know how to use response learning devices, systems, apps and software, on handhelds, for student participation and assessment on a daily basis. Devices and solutions differ, and I'm sure their design, tech, and features will morph further. Some solutions need great Internet connections and WiFi, and others self-contained Bluetooth, or Internet Radio (IR), but professional development for educators on how to use response learning to archive daily student data and results for use during parent meetings, conferences, faculty meetings, IEPs, and anywhere students are discussed, is imperative. This also requires a deeper look at how response-learning devices are used.

<http://www.royalreports.com/2012/12/03/response-learning-for-daily-student-participation-assessment/>

Does Participatory Governance Matter?: Exploring the Nature and Impact of Participatory Reforms.

This publication presents conclusions from a May 2011 workshop on the impact of participatory governance on the lives of citizens, the organisation of civil society, the contours of state reform, and most broadly, the quality of democracy. Authors Brian Wampler and Stephanie McNulty offer case studies, policy recommendations, and a new research agenda in an effort to reshape understanding of the role participatory institutions can play in improving democracies and public life.

<http://www.comminit.com/democracy-governance/content/does-participatory-governance-matter-exploring-nature-and-impact-participatory-reforms>

Beyond the Click: How Social Networks Impact Real Participation.

I can almost certainly say your organization is using social media, but do you know which networks drive what type of actions? For example, if you tweet, will people attend your event? If you pin an image to Pinterest, will people contact you?

<http://www.activecommunities.com/blog/beyond-the-click-how-social-networks-impact-offline-participation-infographic/>

Internet fomenta la participació política dels ciutadans.

Investigadores de la UOC i de la Universitat de Salamanca han estudiat l'impacte del web en la participació política des del punt de vista de la relació entre l'ús d'internet, l'interès polític i la participació política. Els seus resultats indiquen que, encara que un individu no tingui motivació per aquesta matèria, si té habilitats en l'ús d'internet, emprendre accions polítiques en línia.

http://www.uoc.edu/portal/ca/sala-de-premsa/actualitat/noticies/2012/noticia_164/internet-fomenta-participacio-politica-rosa-borge-anna-cardenal-claudia-malpica-revista-arbor.html

Global warming and global civics.

In his book "Global Civics", Altinay asks whether the citizens of the world can be made to feel genuine obligations to each other. His argument is that the future of humanity may depend on whether such a sense of "global civics" emerge. For, as he points out, many of the world's most troubling problems are inherently international in nature, and can only be solved through international co-operation. The obvious ones include climate change, the protection of the environment, nuclear proliferation, trade and so on.

<http://blogs.ft.com/the-world/2012/12/global-warming-and-global-civics/>

Innovations in public engagement and participatory performance of the nations.

In this paper we analyse innovations in public engagement in 37 countries in the context of science and technology policy, answering the following research questions: What types of public engagement procedures have in recent years been developed and experimented with in these countries? How have these processes been reflected in national policy discourses? How do the different countries perform in their public engagement activities? The main research focus will be on the study of the most innovative processes and practices. Using the results from the research, we construct a model of 'participatory performance' and classify the countries on the basis of their performance levels.

<http://spp.oxfordjournals.org/content/39/6/710.full>

Siete ideas para hacer más sostenibles las ciudades españolas.

Las ciudades españolas podrían ser mucho más sostenibles y, con ello, mejorarían su economía, su medio ambiente y la calidad de vida de sus habitantes, según diversos expertos en sostenibilidad. Este artículo ofrece siete ideas que las instituciones, las empresas y los consumidores pueden hacer para que las ciudades españolas mejoren su sostenibilidad.

<http://www.sostenibilidad-es.org/es/plataformas-de-comunicacion/sostenibilidad-urbana-y-territorial/noticias/siete-ideas-para-hacer-mas-sostenibles-las-ciudades-esp>

Participation in an Age of Social Media.

This article examines the role social media will play in citizen participation.

http://www.businessofgovernment.org/sites/default/files/Forum_Gadi.pdf

EQUIciudad 2012. El valor cívico de las aplicaciones móviles.

Mobile technologies have become a new way to break the traditional model of institutional intermediation between citizens and public policy, who now see how their capacity to intervene and hack the government to create collective solutions outside of



traditional circuits widens. This new escenario raises the possibilities offering a citizen-led approach to the prevailing discourse of the role of technology in the city.

http://www.ciudadesescalahumana.org/2012/12/equiciudad-2012-el-valor-civico-de-las_13.html

Experiencias.

UK cities: from privatized dystopias to fertile soils for community projects?

How citizens and communities taking control of their neighbourhoods are outlining hopeful urban futures

<http://citybreaths.com/post/37288430236/uk-cities-from-privatized-dystopias-to-fertile-soils-for>

'We see this digital space of empowering our citizens as the next generation of city government.'

Great "Connected Empowerment" video featuring San Francisco Chief Innovation Officer Jay Nath and civic action platform, Neighborland.

<https://neighborland.com/>

Mapumental: el uso de datos públicos para elegir vecindario.

La organización ciudadana MySociety ha lanzado el espacio Mapumental, una herramienta que ayuda a elegir donde vivir según variables de transporte público, belleza del entorno y precio del suelo. Aunque el mapa por ahora sirve sólo para Londres, es un ejemplo de uso social de la información pública y de los contenidos generados por la ciudadanía.

<http://www.euskadinnova.net/es/innovacion-social/noticias/mapumental-datos-publicos-para-elegir-vecindario/5368.aspx>

Poder ciudadano en un clic.

La plataforma www.analizo.info, que es accesible ya en internet, se estrenó el pasado jueves con una propuesta para examinar las propuestas electorales en materia de desarrollo sostenible que presentaron los diferentes partidos políticos en las últimas elecciones europeas. La aplicación informática desarrollada por estos investigadores valencianos permite a todo aquel que esté interesado participar de una manera sencilla en el análisis de los datos. Serán pues los ciudadanos quienes determinen hasta qué punto el compromiso de los partidos políticos con el medio ambiente era real o una mera pose.

<http://www.levante-emv.com/ingenio/2012/12/10/ciudadano-clic/958470.html>

Pon tu nombre a un árbol de Vitoria.

Esta acción se enmarca dentro de las acciones de promoción de la ciudad y su actividad en el entorno online, ya que mediante Facebook, una de las redes sociales más utilizadas, se pretende difundir los valores sostenibles más allá del ámbito municipal ya que tiene vocación de viralizarse a través de las redes sociales, Twitter y Facebook.

https://www.facebook.com/pages/Somos-green-gara-Vitoria-Gasteiz-European-Green-Capital-2012/290923710951366?ref=ts&sk=app_440056232698417



Dynamics and methodologies.

Civic Apps Competition Handbook. A Guide to Planning, Organizing, and Troubleshooting.

Organize a Civic Apps Competition (CAC) in your city. This practical guide provides best practices for each phase of the process, based largely on the authors' firsthand experience planning and managing Apps for Metro Chicago (A4MC). You'll learn everything from setting goals and creating a budget to running the competition and measuring the outcome.

<http://shop.oreilly.com/product/0636920024484.do>

Bringing Citizen Voices to the Table: A Guide for Public Managers.

This important 2012 book by Carolyn Lukensmeyer (founder of AmericaSpeaks and now director of the National Institute for Civil Discourse) offers seven field-tested strategies for public managers to help them maximize citizen engagement as they implement the President's Open Government Directive.

<http://ncdd.org/rc/item/7220>

Congresses, Seminars, Courses, etc.

Vitoria-Gasteiz reúne a más de 130 expertos para debatir sobre Inteligencia Ambiental en clave de sostenibilidad.

La conferencia abordará temáticas como las Smart Cities, los coches inteligentes o los dispositivos electrónicos conectados a Internet, conceptos que pueden facilitar y mejorar la vida cotidiana al tiempo que preserva el medio ambiente. A su vez, otra disciplina muy relacionada como es AAL, o vida asistida por entornos inteligentes, también tendrá un lugar destacado en la conferencia. De hecho, la 4ª edición del Workshop en Vida Asistida por el Entorno (IWAAL 2012) también tendrá lugar en la capital alavesa durante estas mismas fechas.

<http://blogs.vitoria-gasteiz.org/medios/2012/12/03/vitoria-gasteiz-reune-a-mas-de-130-expertos-para-debatir-sobre-inteligencia-ambiental-en-clave-de-sostenibilidad/>