Digital transition: opportunities & experiences from European cities

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Cities: hubs and places

1. Importance of data (of all flavours)
2. Distributed systems (even of power)
3. Cities as experts (or platforms?)
4. Integration & replication (of the new)
5. Last (and needed) repository?

- Cities working with ends not means
- Megacities, city diplomacy, cities competition

“How digitalization changes cities: Innovations for the urban economy of tomorrow”, Witten, 06/09/2017
Two (or three) ways to read digital transition

1. Transformation of the city administration – its operations and services
2. Creation of a favourable environment for ICT industry
3. A long-term and societal and economic transformation

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Opportunities and challenges

- Better services for the citizens
- More proactive and reactive cities
- More efficient and transparent administration
- Enhanced citizens’ participation
- New business opportunities
- New and better opportunities for customers
- Industry 4.0/urban manufacturing
- Sharing economy

- New social divides
- Vulnerability of city infrastructure
- Privacy and security risks
- Digital exclusion
- Job destruction without job creation
- Disruption of local commerce
- Lack of business models for local business
- Unexpected side-effects (e.g. Uber, Airbnb)
- Platform(-isation) and central(-isation) of key activities
- Data management and ownership
 Strange times

• New technologies = new infrastructure, in an era of tight budgets + demand to change the governance model \(\rightarrow\) can cities react or act?

• Proposition: Cities don’t know what to do!

• Living labs, experimentation, innovation, new business models, ... is this an indirect proof to it?

• Or maybe, this is the correct reaction? A new way of thinking (process instead of result oriented)

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Source: A digital compass for decision makers: toolkit
On disruptive technologies, impact and areas for action
Digital transition

“How digitalization changes cities: Innovations for the urban economy of tomorrow”, Witten, 06/09/2017

Source: Blueprint for cities and regions as launch pads for digital transformation
“How digitalization changes cities: Innovations for the urban economy of tomorrow”, Witten, 06/09/2017
Examples
About OuluHealth

Innovative and proficient integrated health ecosystem

200+ life science companies
12K+ ICT professionals
1,8/0,8 Finland’s healthtech export exceeds import (among only 10 countries in the world)
“How digitalization changes cities: Innovations for the urban economy of tomorrow”, Witten, 06/09/2017
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Amsterdam smart city

“How digitalization changes cities: Innovations for the urban economy of tomorrow”, Witten, 06/09/2017
Bristol is open

In 2015 & 2016 Bristol Is Open is turning on the Platform that will support a wide range of experiments and applications. Details of what will be working when are available on this page.
Thank you!

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