

Theme: Transitions to sustainability

SESSION 16: De-constructing the Smart City, Reassembling Urban Life

Author: Stefania Pizza

PhD Student of Communication, Technologies and Society at Università “La Sapienza” di Roma

Title

Smart cities stand up while smart people drive fast

One of the biggest limitations of the Smart City model is the impossibility of finding a precise and shared definition. So the concept could lose its impact on reality.

There are in the literature different definitions of smart cities. Many of them are “technology oriented”: imagine a city more efficient and totally digitized. Other authors hope to achieve a city that is creative that is based on its human capital.

The smart city does not have to be configured as a new tool of control, a sort of “big brother 2.0”, but as a system of monitoring of social behavior to improve people's lives.

Technology must be seen as a instrument that people use to meet their social, cultural and economic needs. As we know technology is socially determined and for this reason the new technologies used in smart city must be accepted by people to work well and to be useful, and come into their daily practices to satisfy their individual and social needs.

Therefore, we propose an overview of smart mobility, in particular we focusing on those urban practices increasingly common that start by citizens and city users: car/bike sharing and car pooling.

Because only thanks to smart people’s behavior and choices we can realize the smart cities.