



# Citi-sense WP5:

Participation and Empowerment

## Newsletter No. 20

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## Articles and Publications.

### **Royal Society of Edinburgh interim report on Digital Participation.**

Members of the public across Scotland were invited by the Royal Society of Edinburgh to take part in a national inquiry into the changing role of digital technology and how everyone can share in the benefits of the digital society.

<http://talkaboutlocal.org.uk/royal-society-of-edinburgh-interim-report-on-digital-participation/>

### **How government can engage with citizens online – expert views.**

Digital public services are not just for 'techno wizzy people', so government should make them easier for everyone.

<http://www.theguardian.com/public-leaders-network/2014/mar/04/public-service-reform-technology>

### **Citizen Science: Public Participation in Environmental Research.**

In Citizen Science, experts from a variety of disciplines—including scientists and education specialists working at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, where many large citizen science programs use birds as proxies for biodiversity—share their experiences of creating and implementing successful citizen science projects, primarily those that use massive data sets gathered by citizen scientists to better understand the impact of environmental change.

<http://www.amazon.co.jp/Citizen-Science-Participation-Environmental-Research-ebook/dp/B007NK5116%3FSubscriptionId=AKIAIXQ27QI66FIXR3CQ&tag=saleebook-22&linkCode=xm2&camp=2025&creative=165953&creativeASIN=B007NK5116>

### **How Important is Youth Civic Engagement in a City?**

YouthfulCities envisions being the go-to resource for all things youthful and urban. Youth add vibrancy, innovation, tech-savviness, and connectness to cities, thus cities need to attract and retain them. Urban planners can learn from YouthfulCities' data to improve cities; businesses can learn to tailor their business to the youthful demographic; and youth can compare their city to others in which they might want to live, work, and play.

<http://sustainablecitiescollective.com/global-site-plans-grid/234461/how-important-youth-civic-engagement-city>

<http://www.youthfulcities.com/>

### **The new smart city – from hi-tech sensors to social innovation.**

The evolution of the smart city will involve all the above. At the end of 2013, no city can truly claim to be a smart city, and it would take a complex set of collaborations to achieve that status. Centralised operations systems must engage with citizens not simply monitor them; citizen groups must question policy and the use of big data, while also contributing to it; smart sensors in streets are still needed, as are those we choose to put into our houses. An holistic approach to smart city planning seems possible, but we are not there yet. And in the defence of the major technology firms, the political infrastructure is not there yet either.

<http://www.theguardian.com/sustainable-business/smart-cities-sensors-social-innovation>

## Experiencias.

### **HOYRESPIRO es un servicio de ciudad inteligente desarrollado en el marco de las actividades del proyecto europeo PEOPLE.**

El servicio HOYRESPIRO (proyecto co-financiado por la Unión EUROPEA dentro del Programa Marco de Competitividad e Innovación CIP – ICT PSP) utiliza la red existente de control medioambiental de la ciudad, y los indicadores elaborados con sus datos. Estas redes consisten en una serie de estaciones conectadas en red, que miden las variables atmosféricas y otras relacionadas con la polución, niveles de polen en el aire, etc.

<http://hoyrespiro.people-project.eu/>

### **Can Cities Make Us Happy?**

Cities are attracting considerable research interest. In Computer Science circles, the agenda behind smart cities has gained traction: new monitoring technologies promise to allocate urban resources (e.g., electricity, clean water, car traffic) more efficiently and, as such, make our cities 'smarter'. A rare counterpoint to that dominant efficiency-driven narrative is recent research on the relationship between happiness and cities: which urban elements make people happy?

<http://labs.yahoo.com/news/can-cities-make-us-happy/>