

Policy Recommendations Vancouver

Accessibility

Launch digital literacy after-school workshops in Vancouver's inner-city schools, once every week, in addition to providing basic broadband/internet access at home in order to practice and reciprocate through weekly assignments

Citizen Engagement

Create a digital political methodology and platform for citizen engagement in discussions on important urban matters (green spaces, housing, transport...) on various governance levels (city, district, neighborhood). The platform is to connect urban citizens with the work of policy-makers at these different levels. Its goal is to inform citizens about urban developments and empower them to engage in the conversation around decision-making related to their urban environment.

Transparency

Open a new avenue of engagement by implementing quarterly roundtable stakeholder meetings at the provincial and municipal level between private tech companies, local communities, and government actors.

Check out the details: <https://bit.ly/2VuSbWw>

Policy Recommendations Madrid

Expand digital access and skills to fill usage gaps

Many cities are turning on smart and fast solutions to better deliver public services.

However, smart cities might inadvertently not encourage inclusion because of disparities in digital access along geographic and economic lines which generate gaps in digital knowledge and skills. In this respect, we would recommend policy makers to expand digital access and skills by:

1. Simplifying and easing the access for all citizen to public services
2. Providing free and powerful Wi-Fi around the city
3. Reducing the stigma for which citizens are afraid to share certain personal data that would foster security and better services

Increase participation of citizens to governmental activities

To fully exploit digital technologies' potential, cities must understand better citizens' needs. Thus, we would recommend policy makers to ensure civic inclusion and participation by:

1. Creating integrated APPs to provide equal access to public services and amenities
2. Creating a common database for all citizens to access administrative information
3. Securing data protection to all citizens by securing ownership, creating expert committees, increasing cybersecurity and designing more European technologies
4. Raising awareness around city's decisions through a combination of traditional and modern (social) media to reach all generations

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