

Connected Smart Cities Conference 12th January 2017

Afternoon Keynote Session

A final panel of high-level keynote speakers presented and spoke to the audience on their experiences and visions. The keynote panel consisted of Ben Levine, Executive Director of MetroLab Network, USA, Chi-Hyung Lee, President, Seoul Digital Foundation, Republic of Korea, Alberto Martin Torras, Smart City Expo and Nikolaos Isaris, Deputy Head of Unit, Internet of Things, DG CONNECT, European Commission.

Ben Levine, Executive Director of MetroLab Network, USA explained how MetroLab Network were launched as a part of the White House Smart Cities Initiative, in the fall 2015, not part of federal government but a non-profit organization. The organization is designed to create institutionalized partnerships between cities and universities to help urban innovation by letting students apply their knowledge and make a positive impact on cities. MetroLab consists of 40 cities & counties as well as 50 universities which are working on translational research.

Technology innovation is fundamentally changing society and cities. People consider cities as marketplaces where supply meets demand. For education, business, job-opportunities, health-care, cultural experiences etc. However, the demand side is missing.

How do we make cities more responsive to the demand part?

The technology opportunities are opening up for cities to be directly responsive to the demand side of the curve. We are for example able to build transportation systems that are directly linked to who wants mobility in a specific moment, catering individual needs. This is a fundamental disruption in business models for cities.

How do we facilitate this transition?

City-University connections can help on this matter. They drive the cultural ecosystem of the cities. Can universities be more than an anchor institution? Yes! They have untapped resources and a unique set of skills that are in demand in the public sector. MetroLab Network is designed to create partnerships between cities and universities, so students and faculty can apply the work they are doing in a real life public policy setting. Cities are looking for the creative and technical expertise that students have.

MetroLab Network are trying to build these institutionalized partnerships that are cross disciplinary, cover multiple agencies within city governments, structured in a way that foster this relation, time and resources the best way possible.

Chi-Hyung Lee, President, Seoul Digital Foundation, Republic of Korea, spoke about Building Smart City and Building Social Capital. Seoul Digital Foundation is using IoT and Big Data to address the urban problems that are apparent in Seoul, in order to improve the citizens' quality of life. Of projects they are testing in the city is an example the "Late Night Bus" project. This project creates public transportation opportunities for citizens from 1AM to 5AM. This is made possible by predicting people movement using big data analysis.

In order to invoke citizen engagement, Seoul has created the mVoting application. The application allows citizens to give their opinion on administrative decision making, policy planning and where budgets should be spent. The result is of this application and citizens' participation is the creation of a "cooperative governance".

Alberto Martin Torras, Smart City Expo World Conference, described how in 2011 there was three main trends or challenges: increasing population, urbanization and increasing energy consumption. As a response, The Smart City Expo World Congress was created to bring people together for three days from all over the world to interact and to solve the challenges they face together. It is meant to be a meeting point for different layers of the industry and city: businesses, universities, cities, CEOs and investors. The layers of private and public sector present at the conference are bridged by several other institutions such as the European Commission and the United Nations.

Smart City Expo World Conference cover the entire spectrum that is related to smart cities, and in addition to this also present several side events happening on the days of the conference.

Nikolaos Isaris, Deputy Head of Unit, Internet of Things, DG CONNECT, European Commission, spoke about the main topics; the role of IoT to work for cities and citizens and EU funding opportunities within the area. The day also serve as the kickoff for a number of LSPs have been launched within the areas of IoT and smart cities.

Leadership and research by the front-runner cities are crucial for implementing, in real life and based on real needs, the three IoT action plan pillars. These three pillars are defined as:

1. Achieving a single market for IoT: where IoT devices and services in the EU work and connect seamlessly like plug-and-play
2. Creating thriving IoT systems: using open platforms and standards across vertical silos to help end-users innovate.
3. Human centered IoT: respect for EU values, empowering people along with machines and businesses, maintaining high standards for protection and data security and finally increasing trust in IoT.

What does IoT mean under this umbrella strategy for digitizing European industry?
The IoT objectives indicated in the strategy come under three major headings:

1. Achieving partners for leadership in digital technologies
2. Boosting EU digital innovation capacity through standardization
3. Providing appropriate regulatory framework conditions - 3 priority areas:
 - a. Building and IoT reliability framework – rules for who is reliable when it goes wrong.
 - b. Build trust in IoT – a number of options are identified such as 'trusted IoT' label.
 - c. Looking into promotion of an interoperable numbers scheme.

A high level governance group is created with member states and industry representatives. Under this group is a number of working groups, one of these is specifically on the IoT. This

governance group will be instrumental for the high level action plan and dialogue with cities and citizens.

EU funding opportunities are available through the many open-calls sent out by already funded projects. These are happening now and will continue in the following years. Examples right now are SELECT4CITIES, OrganiCity and the IoT EU Platform Initiative who will all have open calls out soon.

Nikolaos Isaris advice all to follow the learnings of these projects and pilots. The European Commission is very interested in all research being performed as it will allow them to produce better work programs. He welcomes the continued collaborative spirit of all the projects and participants at the conference.

Closing

For closing **Chair Martin Brynskov, OASC**, made the closing note and concluded that none of this will work unless it works everywhere and none of it will work everywhere. It is important to put the emphasis on the fact that the OASC is a global initiative and the goal is to solve the equation mentioned above together.

Thank you everyone for participating and helping us organize the event. We will see you next year!