Smart Citizens?

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@kiddingthecity

The Programmable City
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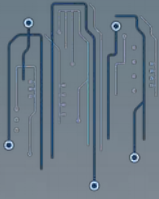
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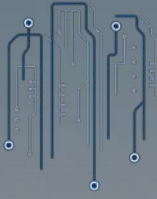**sfi** Science Foundation Ireland

Summary of research

Problem: Smart City been criticized because too technocratic and top-down

Solution: 'citizen-centric' smart city (ex. EIP-SCC €365 million in 2013)

In 2014, **370 commitments** around smart city projects & solutions were submitted by more than **3 000 partners**. The lead organisations come from **31 countries**.

■ high / ■ medium / ■ low participation

Classification of lead organisations

Private individuals **2%**

Others **14%**

NGOs **6%**

Business **26%**

Public Authorities **36%**

Academic/Research Institutions **16%**

BUT…. What does it mean to be a 'citizen' in the smart city?

Form and Level of Participation		Role	Citizen Involvement	Political discourse/ framing	Modality	Dublin Examples
Citizen Power	Citizen Control	Leader, Member	Ideas, Vision, Leadership, Ownership, Create	Rights, Social/Political Citizenship, Commons	Inclusive, Bottom-up, Collective, Autonomy, Experimental	Code for Ireland, Tog
	Delegated Power	Decision-maker, Maker				Civic Hacking, Living Labs, Dublin Beta
	Partnership	Co-creator	Negotiate, Produce	Participation, Co-creation	Top-down, Civic Paternalism, Stewardship, Bound-to-succeed	
Tokenism	Placation	Proposer	Suggest			Hackathons, Fix-Your-Street, Smart Dublin Advisory Network
	Consultation	Participant, Tester, Player	Feedback	Civic Engagement		CIVIQ, Smart Stadium
	Information	Recipient	Browse, Consume, Act			Dublinked, Dublin Dashboard, RTPI
Consumerism	Choice	Resident, Consumer		Capitalism, Market		Smart building/ Smart district
						Smart meters, Mobile/locative media
Non-Participation	Therapy	Patient, Learner, User, Product, Data-point	Steered, Nudged, Controlled	Stewardship, Technocracy, Paternalism		Dublin Bikes, Smart Dublin
	Manipulation					Traffic control

Key lessons

→ *Activate governance which rests on a framework of civic and social rights*

→ *Mobilize resources for truly felt issues rather than for technology's sake*

→ *Slot projects towards 'meaningful' form of citizen participation*

→ *Use our scaffold for evaluating smart city initiatives from the perspective of the citizen* (e.g., How are citizens being considered in the project? In which role or at which stage?)

→ *"To whom am I accountable? Can you get rid of me?"*
(e.g., Have the citizens a say in the planning of the project deliverables and, if so, can they change the project outcome after funding been allocated?)

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Cardullo P and Kitchin R (2018a) Being a 'citizen' in the smart city: up and down the scaffold of smart citizen participation in Dublin. *GeoJournal.*

Cardullo P and Kitchin R (2018b) Smart urbanism and smart citizenship: The neoliberal logic of 'citizen-focused' smart cities in Europe. *SocArXiv.*

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