Editorial Preface

Smart Cities, Digital Inclusion, and Digital Participatory Platforms

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This issue of the *International Journal of E-Planning Research* deals with the complexity of smart cities, with the digital inclusion of specific social groups, and with digital participatory platforms, all key themes in the ongoing debate about the changes and challenges associated with the development of urban e-planning as a new planning paradigm.

In the first article, "Smart City Planning: Complexity," Ulrik Ekman, from the University of Copenhagen, Denmark, explores the challenges for urban planning associated with the emergence of smart cities in network societies, dealing in particular and critically with the reductionist tendencies that exist in the actual planning of smart cities, which seem to ignore or reduce the complexity of these processes. In alternative, Ulrik Ekman proposes an approach to smart city planning via complexity planning.

The theme of smart city is also addressed in the following article, "Advertising-Cities Face to Smart-Cities: The Trends of Integration Policies for New Information Technologies in Madrid" by Leticia Jácomo, from the Autonomous University of Madrid, Spain. The author argues that it is essential to study exemplary cases as there is no overall consensus about the meaning of smart city in practice, and examines in this article, as an example of smart urban redevelopment, the actions carried out in the Gran Vía de Madrid, which includes urban screens, in their diverse sizes and formats, and surveillance cameras, seen as essential components of this process, and perceived as the vanguard of the transformation of Madrid into a smart city.

Paul Hepburn, from the Heseltine Institute for Public Policy and Practice, University of Liverpool, United Kingdom, deals in "A New Governance Model for Delivering Digital Policy Agendas? A Case Study of Digital Inclusion Amongst Elderly People in the UK," with an important challenge confronting the development of urban e-planning—the various forms of digital exclusion—which often overlaps and accentuates other forms of pre-existent social exclusion, examining, in a case study in the UK, how the local authority developed a project to co-create digital applications for elderly people, which to some extent represents a new, more collaborative and innovative approach.

In the fourth article, "Digital Participatory Platforms for Co-Production in Urban Development: A Systematic Review," Enzo Falco and Reinout Kleinhans, both from the TU Delft, Department OTB Research for the Built Environment, The Netherlands, explore the renewed interest in citizen co-production of public services, in part due to financial pressure on governments, which has been developed to facilitate co-production between citizens and governments in the context of urban development. The article provides a more comprehensive picture of the availability and functionalities of Digital Participatory Platforms than is usual in the literature published so far, and do this through a systematic review of 113 active Digital Participatory Platforms that the authors analysed and

classified by reference to a citizen-government relationship typology they propose, concluding that a quarter of these participatory platforms have a clear potential for online and offline co-production between governments and citizens.

This third issue of volume 7 includes also a report on the second International Conference on Urban e-Planning, promoted by the *International Journal of E-Planning Research*, which was held at the University of Lisbon, in April 2017.

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