# CITY@PATH: A COLLABORATIVE SMART CITY PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT TOOL

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### ABSTRACT

'The lack of strategic planning has increased urban pressure and accumulated traffic in cities. Smart Cities are replacing the short-time perspective with a long-term approach. The objectives align with city strategic goals, and citizens play an essential role in the decision-making process. High-level guidelines have emerged over the years to guide Smart Cities' vision and implementation. However, the lack of a tool that combines top-down and bottom-up approaches to help local policymakers plan and assess cities is still notorious. Moreover, this paper provides a methodology that allows the definition of structural priorities and contextual preferences while comparing policymakers' statements and citizens' opinions. Furthermore, this paper designs an approach to fill the existing gap and give policymakers a framework to monitor and measure their performance based on standard Key Performance Indicators and select relevant initiatives toward meeting the defined goals. This way, policymakers possess a tool that allows on the one hand, the standard comparison between cities and, on the other hand, the personalized comparison of their territory over time. Finally, a test case with the premise of improving city logistics is described to practically detail the guidelines of the proposed tool'.

Keywords: assessment, logistics, participatory development, smart city, transportation.

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

More than half of the World's population now lives in urban areas [1]. By 2050, around 70% of the population will live in cities and neighboring regions [2]. The mass migration to the cities will increase the number of densely populated areas, further complicating urban mobility and logistics [3]. Rapid urbanization also harms the environment. Although cities occupy 2% of the planet, they already account for 60% to 80% of energy consumption and 75% of carbon dioxide emissions. Increased traffic, pollution, waste and energy costs continue to present a growing threat to human health and city's sustainability [4].

Urban planning defines the rules of land usage to maximize economic development, with concerns to a high quality of life, wise management of natural resources and efficient operation of infrastructures [5], [6]. Smart Cities are an innovative view of urban development [7], [8] The concept from its origin advocated new policies for urban planning [9]. Nevertheless, urban planning has neglected social and sustainable practices by promoting private car usage [10]. Nowadays, policymakers' tendency to return city centers to citizens can be explained by the cultural misrepresentation noticed mainly because of tourism and associated economic activities. These increased inequality and housing unaffordability to inhabitants. Several authors refer to the need to restudy the concept of modern urban planning since it led to unsustainable urban trends [11], [12].

In addition, Covid-19 pandemics accelerated the necessity to re-think cities. Moreno et al [13] noted the need to assist citizens with closer public services, who proposed a '15-Minute city' conceptual approach to help policymakers to reflect on the strategic vision for their cities. In a nutshell, the four-dimensions concept (density, diversity, digitalization and proximity) aimed to help plan cities toward the availability of essentials to inhabitants, by foot or bicycle, promoting citizens' quality of life and combat the need of car usage. The application

of this concept allows access to services in an outbound way, considering the citizens' movement from their homes. However, the same can be considered for the inbound transport of goods to the citizen, using transport modes such as scooters, bikes and cargo bikes [14].

The new paradigm of fulfilling citizens' real-time needs will represent a significant effort of urban planners and policymakers. Thus, it will require closer collaboration with citizens and the remaining stakeholders to plan the city accordingly. Traditional decision-making models do not allow the implementation of co-creation processes. Existing participation can sometimes have an opposite effect, as they do not mirror the majority's will because of the poor representativeness of the sample.

Smart Cities are replacing the short-term perspective to a more sustainable and long-term sustainable approach where objectives are aligned with the city's strategic goals. Municipalities are increasingly adopting open governance and promoting citizens' interaction by creating programs for a more efficient, transparent and collaborative environment [15], aligned with the noticed evolution of the Smart City concept.

Nevertheless, Smart city scholars are not the first to consider the role of citizens in policymaking. The discipline of development geography has been the first to address these and consider the citizens' role in development initiatives in the Global South [16].

The debates in this discipline can be subdivided into three main phases. Top-down interventions with very little involvement of the people marked the first phase, which happened in the post-World War II (WWII) decades [17]. This phase is often referred to as the Washington Consensus [18]. In the second phase, there was a need to involve the people affected by policies in their development [19]. It was also seen as a way to empower the poor and marginalized by giving them a voice and recognition in the development process [20]. This led to the emergence of partnerships between international organizations and local non-governmental organizations. A third phase came as a critique of this move toward participation. Authors such as Cooke and Kothari [21] argued that it was not enough to involve citizens in the policymaking process. It was essential to ask who is being involved and in what way. This was not a critique of participation itself but rather specific ways of involving citizens [22]. Furthermore, a complex understanding of the local context is needed, which sees the power of human relations and the struggles and conflicting interests between individual communities and intra-community groups [16].

Moreover, although high-level guidelines have emerged to guide Smart Cities' vision and implementation, policymakers still stress to comprehend and translate them to a practical tool that helps them define the priorities and monitor their actions according to their local environment. Furthermore, it lacks a comprehensive methodology to help plan and assess cities. Frameworks that assist decision-makers in conceptualizing strategies and implementing solutions toward defined goals by bringing together the various stakeholders, provide greater collaboration represent excellent tools [23], [24].

Thus, this paper aims, on the one hand, to provide a tool for the comparison among cities of their Smart City performance and, on the other hand, the regular cites' assessment to select and define an operational action plan to achieve their goals.

Therefore, after reviewing the literature on the transportation issues within cities and presenting the background on Smart Cities evolution and existing frameworks, this paper details a methodological planning and assessment approach rooted in the findings of previous studies. Ultimately, a test case on city logistics is addresses to allow a practical understanding of how the proposed methodology can be applied.

#### **2 TRANSPORTATION ISSUES WITHIN CITIES**

The urban population growth caused an increase of goods transportation in the city center, impacting traffic congestion, the environment and energy consumption. Urban freight transport is influenced by lands usage distribution within cities. Warehouses throughout the years moved from the city centers to metropolitan areas due to the land costs and availability, meaning more considerable traveled distances and increasing number of vehicles [25]. Moreover, urban logistics is one of the most resource consumer and greenhouse gas emission existing activities, challenging cities' sustainability [5]. It is a primary cause of congestion in cities representing between 8% and 18% of urban traffic, at the same time that road capacity is decreased by 30% because of pick-up and delivery services [26]. Although goods transport is responsible for 14% of the vehicle kilometers, 19% of energy use, and 21% of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in urban areas, city logistics needs are often neglected in urban planning [27].

E-commerce, especially in the case of business-to-consumer (B2C), represents a significant challenge in urban logistics [28]–[31], increasing the difficulties of product distribution with direct impact on traffic congestion and accessibility [32] as well as environmental pollution and global warming [33]. Online sales are expected to increase to 5 US \$ trillion by the end of 2021 [34]. Moreover, parcel and express transports can be expected to grow exponentially, which will cause increased congestion and inflict the environment [35]. Several authors refer to the advantages of simultaneous and integrated proximity approaches between home delivery and client's pick-up [36], [37]. Furthermore, consumers' orders have an impact on logistics activities which interferes with the dynamics of cities. Wasteful travel time due to the significant variation of today's demand, the complexity of transportation networks, and increasing vehicle fleets are some of today's problems cities face [38]. Moreover, the mobility of people and transportation of goods neglected by urban planning are critical challenges for the future.

The above problems require newfangled urban thinking grounded in a holistic approach and long-term perspective. Urban sustainability's desire to balance environmental protection, economic development and social equality can only be achieved with the proper use and development of the land, environment, infrastructure, related ecosystem and human services.

The United Nations sustainable development objectives [39] led cities to consider decarbonization goals, adopting green and sharing policies with an additional focus on improving quality of life. On behalf of the Green Deal, the European Commission hopes to achieve carbon neutrality in the European Union by 2050. Sustainable Industry and Sustainable Mobility are among Green Deal policy areas [40]. Moreover, two goals are striving toward sustainable and smart mobility and mobilizing the industry to a clean and circular economy [41].

Nevertheless, strategic planning is still an abstract and unexplored idea in terms of design and operationalization [42]. Therefore, there is a need to create tools capable of supporting urban development decision-making [43] and assessing cities' progress toward specific goals [44].

#### **3 SMART CITIES PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT**

Smart Cities emerged in the 1990s to answer the challenges of urbanization and globalization and have evolved ever since. From the first technical perspective [45] to the understanding of technology as a means to achieve city's sustainability and improve the quality of life of their citizens [46], [47]. Nowadays, a new paradigm is emerging. The focus is on the inclusion of citizens in the co-creation and co-design of cities' processes and strategies [48] to improve the policies' chances of success [49]. Table 1 resumes the evolution of the Smart City concept.

Table 1: The three Smart City stages.

| Stage          | Concept  | Sources               |
|----------------|--|-----------------------|
| Smart City 1.0 | A city that uses ICTs to collect data to improve<br>its critical infrastructures and services'<br>efficiency.  | [51], [52]            |
| Smart City 2.0 | A city that starts with the human capital,<br>motivating citizens to create and flourish<br>their lives, using ICT to increase the quality<br>of life and the city's social, economic and<br>environmental sustainability. | [42], [44], [53]–[59] |
| Smart City 3.0 | A city that uses ICT to promote citizen<br>engagement and active participation allows<br>continuous interactions. The strategy is<br>collaboratively created with citizens and relevant<br>stakeholders.                   | [60]–[62]             |

Furthermore, Smart Cities have the responsibility to overcome inequality and social polarization [53]. In these matters, inclusiveness shall have a significant role in a Smart City's design thinking [63]. The decision-making process must promote inclusion and reduce social barriers [64]. The bottom-up participatory approaches play an essential role in assessing and developing Smart Cities [65].

Russo et al. [66] recall the smart city definition and guidelines evolution at an EU level. The European Parliament synthesizes international debate over Smart City concept by stating that including the participation of citizens and relevant stakeholders is a critical success factor. The Europe 2020 strategy was focused on three priorities [67]: Sustainable growth (low-carbon economy), smart growth (education, research and innovation) and inclusive growth (jobs and wealth). These are reflected on the three axes (Sustainability, Innovation and Quality of Life) of the Triangular Pyramid Trunk proposed by Correia et al. [68]. Nevertheless, the vertical of Smart Cities is considered under the umbrella of 'Smart Growth', leaving Sustainability and Inclusiveness aside [66].

Of the Smart Growth priority, two stakeholder advisory platforms emerged: European Technology Platforms and EIPs (European Innovation Platforms). The last aimed to bring public and private stakeholders together to accelerate research and innovation. Moreover, through EIP-SCC (EIP for Smart Cities and Communities), the Smart City assumed a relevant role [27]. The two governance bodies of EIP-SCC, high-level group and smart cities stakeholder platform, were responsible for defining rules and guidelines for the development of Smart Cities. The first joined high-level representatives from industry, academia and city administrations; the second aimed to be a collaborative tool for sharing knowledge and best practices. These can be found in the Strategic Implementation Plan [69], and the Operational Implementation Plan [70].

The guidelines cross (i) three specific vertical areas: sustainable urban mobility, sustainable districts and built environment, integrated infrastructures and processes across energy, ICT, and transport, with (ii) eight horizontal themes aggregated into three classes: Decisions (citizen focus, policy and regulation, and integrated planning and management), Insight (knowledge sharing, metrics, and indicators, open data and standards) and Funds (business models, procurement and funding). The intersection of vertical areas and horizontal themes constitutes 24 focus areas [27].

Strategic planning raises the challenge of integrating the needs for smarter urban environments with the policy strategies followed by local decision-makers in response to the existing weaknesses of the urban system. This raises the question of whether the produced decisions express citizens' preferences, and if the answer is positive, how [71].

Thus, in the breakdown of strategic plans, local decision-makers are challenged to adopt new approaches and instruments to answer complex, territorialized socioeconomic needs. The challenge is to transfer macro guideline scales to micro reality.

In addition, from the European Smart Cities Ranking [72] to other assessment indexes present in the literature, there is a lack of medium and long-term goals consideration [73]. Therefore, there is not a standard tool used by cities to monitor themselves continuously. International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and International Telecommunication Union (ITU) have played a leading role in defining standards for these matters. However, there is no tool capable of monitoring and assessing the city's performance toward specific objectives [77] nor contemplating citizens' points of view.

In terms of city assessment, the existing frameworks have been mostly used to rank the cities, mixing up different concepts, and not consider the evolution noticed in the Smart City concept. However, they present significant insights (see more at [68]). For example, Sharifi [78] concluded that assessment tools do not consider indicators' interlinkages and correlations as well as local needs and participatory approaches; Ahyenniemi et al. [59] demonstrated that Smart City assessment tools are focused on social aspects and the Sustainable Cities' on the environment; Huovila et al. [79] concluded that 90% of the key performance indicators (KPIs) from ISO 37120 were focused on Sustainability and the ITU 4902 had a purely ICT-enabled indicator orientation. In contrast, the remaining have an inadequate presence of these indicators [80]. Thus, it reinforces the relevance and the role of the citizens. Moreover, the objective approach shall be combined with a subjective perspective.

The following section considers the literature findings to provide a tool to assess and monitor Smart Cities' performance and help policymakers select and define relevant initiatives to answer urban challenges.

### 4 PROPOSED SMART CITY ASSESSMENT AND PLANNING APPROACH

Section 2 identified the existing transportation challenges caused by globalization and urbanization, where the environment will be impacted by the evolution of transportation (of passengers and goods) considering the decisions of policymakers and urban planners. Therefore, collaborative strategic planning is crucial to achieve sustainability and promote citizens' well-being. Nevertheless, Smart Cities' literature pinpoints the need for a methodology to help local policymakers realize the city's current state and define an action plan toward their goals.

Therefore, the following methodology is designed to contemplate the macro (structural) and micro (contextual) dimensions, to provide the chance of evaluating the territory, while enabling the development of different initiatives based on local priorities and preferences. Based on the previously mentioned studies' conclusions, three axes were defined, considering the evolution of the Smart City concept [57], [81], [82] also mirrored in the priorities of Europe 2020 strategy [67].

Cities have the need to acknowledge their services, processes and systems and realize what can be optimized (where the resources are being misused). Thus, perform a self-assessment

to build a strategic plan based on the solutions that can significantly impact the territory toward the defined strategic goals. To adequately address a Smart City strategy, it is necessary to measure city's performance overtimes. Therefore, in policymaking, three different assessment moments are vital [83], as shown in Fig. 1:

- I. Before starting the process (Ex Ante) calculating the values for the KPIs to define the strategic goals and define the relevant initiatives.
- II. Ongoing assessment (Monitoring) current assessment of the implemented solutions and their impact on the defined targets.
- III. After the conclusion of a specific initiative (Ex Post) a comparison if the implementation met the expected results toward the city strategic goals.

Following Correia, Teixeira and Marques [68], the primary KPIs will be collected from ISO 37120, ITU 4901 and Mercer's annual quality of life survey.

Two axes shall be considered with two different approaches each:

- The vertical is divided in (i) top-down approach objective statistical analysis. Consideration of political guidelines explained in strategic planning documents, and public policy programs; (ii) bottom-up approach which gives particular emphasis to the citizen, on the development of composite indicators and in the definition of initiatives toward the improvement of people's living conditions.
- The horizontal axis combines the (i) structural approach (classical) measurement of the standard Smart City performance through a set of indicators, comparable between cities; and (ii) the contextual (operational) approach contemplates each territory's priorities to personalize the understanding of the Smart City action plan in each context, comparable in different moments.

Moreover, the axes can be resumed and organized into four quadrants as they are represented in Fig. 2.

The horizontal and vertical axes have the objective of combining bottom-up and top-down approaches to:

(1) <u>Monitor and measure the performance</u> – To reduce the number of KPIs, there must be analyzed existing relationships. The focus shall be given to the variables that significantly influence the overall statistical representativeness, avoiding redundancies. Thus, through factor analysis, the fundamental dimensions and KPIs of each axis should be returned. Factor analysis can be complemented with the creation of a composite indica-



Figure 1: Assessment overview.



Figure 2: The quadrants of the Smart City Assessment Tool.

tor by aggregating the independent factors. Moreover, on the one hand, a top-down composite indicator can be obtained based on objective statements – aggregated by assigning a weight to each factor according to the proportion of the explained variance in the data set – and, on the other hand, a subjective composite indicator – through the factors' level of importance given by citizens.

(2) Select and define relevant initiatives – Existing priorities are crucial to select the initiatives that help the city achieve the established goals. The reasoning starts from the same primary KPIs or those from the Factor Analysis (green color connection in Fig. 3). As mentioned before, the participation of citizens is vital to Smart Cities. The inclusion of the citizens will also be done on behalf of the priorities' definition. In the top-down approach, political statements and directory plans will base the priorities of policymakers. At the same time, subjective data will be gathered from citizens to define the priority (weight) for each KPI. This way, it is preserved that citizens (bottom-up) can be evaluated through a Likert scale or peer-to-peer pairwise comparison. Only the variables mirrored in the composite index and their grounded factors are contemplated for evaluation.

First, the confrontation of the KPIs' results with the study and comparison of their importance to the local community, and second, the priorities for the territory will give policymakers the knowledge of the city goals, how far they are from reaching them, and the KPIs that will deserve the attention of the action plan. Thus, the difference between the evaluation of citizens (bottom-up) and policymakers (top-down) can be understood as the fulfillment deviation. This should enhance the definition of an action plan with clear goals to overcome this difference.

Ultimately, the definition of the implementing policies can be carried out contemplating the multi-criteria decision analysis (MCDS) [84] definition of criteria to achieve the intended goals – or the data envelopment analysis (DEA) [85] – input management to maximize the efficiency of outputs.

Regardless of the chosen method, the difference between the current KPIs results and their goals shall be the starting point for procurement solutions that can improve their current values. A single digital marketplace can be set up where the entities shall promote their solutions and case studies. Cities shall study each option to improve the KPIs value and the expected return on the investment. Moreover, third parties' developments can also answer the existing challenges through partnerships, where local governments do not act in isolation but in collaboration with the stakeholders.

Furthermore, a solution's impact must be calculated with the expected KPI improvement toward the defined goals. Therefore, a reverse engineering process must be carried out to understand which solutions should be implemented. Additionally, the target audience of a specific policy or initiative must be measured and compared. Each city shall assess the representativeness (percentage of people) of each social group (or just the minorities' inclusion) reached with that initiative. It will allow understanding the population's number and the social groups that are not being considered.

The assessment cycle ends with the measurement of the policy's impact based on the new KPI value. The policy's impact evaluation shall be calculated according to the measurable outcomes, their contribution for the final result, which groups were affected, the influence of the context, and reproduction [83].

In summary, the methodology that will guide, on the one hand, the comparison among cities and, on the other hand, cities' assessment to select and define an operational action plan is detailed in Fig. 3.

## **5 CITY LOGISTICS TEST CASE**

Test cases are usually executed to test every requirement on the level of software units, software integration and system tests [86]. Thus, this work conceptualizes the initial guidelines to build a dedicated software. Moreover, as it was intended to conceptualize a generic tool, this section describes the needed steps to adapt it to any use case.

The goal of the proposed methodology (Fig. 3) is to monitor the city's current state while planning the actions toward the priorities defined by citizens and policymakers.

Among the 24 cross working areas of the European guidelines identified above, the city logistics case derives from the intersection between sustainable urban mobility (vertical area) and integrated planning and management (horizontal theme) [27]. Furthermore, as stated before, mobility and goods transportation have a significant impact on city dynamics. Thus, this test case has the premise of a city that needs and wants to prioritize the actions that improve the transportation network and avoid using the private car (assuming that the KPIs results are poor, and it is a citizens' priority). At the same time, optimize and promote proximity last-mile solutions to reduce the number of vehicles circulating.

Therefore, the methodological procedure must be considered as follows. The first steps define the importance of each KPI for the city strategy, which is directly associated with the local understanding of what a Smart City shall be (macro-level). From step 4 onwards, are mirrored the local priorities (micro-level), which will be the mobility and city logistics in this test case. Therefore, the first steps are standard. The step 4 is where the priorities are defined. This test case will be based on the related KPIs to city logistics and urban transportation.

Step 0: Identification of a territory and calculation of the KPIs of each axis.

Step 1: Principal Component Analysis (Factor score) on the KPIs for each axis. Consider only components with greater representativity (significant).

Step 2 [Top-down structural]: The objective Composite Indicator of Smart Cities is the result of the disaggregated average of the three axes results.





\*aggregated by assigning a weight to each factor according to the proportion of the explained variance in the data set \*\*priorities are selected according to individual preferences (Likert Scale or Pairwise Comparison) \*\*\*the confrontation between performance, policies and targets will be done based on Multiple-criteria decision analysis (MCDA)/Data envelopment analysis (DEA)

Figure 3: City@PATH.

Step 3 [Bottom-up structural]: The subjective Composite Indicator of Smart Cities is the result of the aggregated average based on weights average. Weighting is carried out to each axis by citizens. This importance level can also be given to each of the KPIs.

There is no direct aggregation between bottom-up and top-down evaluations. The top-down allows the possibility of making standard comparisons between cities and within the same city at different times since there is no allocation of weights. The bottom-up evaluation has an associated subjective component depending on the given weights by citizens, thus making each city unique. The comparison between objective and subjective results will allow assessing the relationship between policymakers and the opinion of citizens. Thus, it allows the understanding of whether citizens value the variables with higher performance (best results). On the other hand, the city's strategy is inaccurate because the objective composite value is higher than the subjectively weighted average. The analysis of both perspectives will allow the definition of the city's strategic goals, since the aim will be to understand the disparity of top-down approach regarding the bottom-up to define an action plan with clear objectives toward improving the variables that have poor results or are prioritized by citizens.

Step 4 [Top-down contextual]: Study of the priorities. These can be obtained according to the worst KPIs results or by political orientations.

Step 5 [Bottom-up contextual]: For each axis is asked the opinion of citizens about the priority of their KPIs. Citizens allocate the weights through the Likert Scale or Pairwise Comparison.

Because this test case has the premise of a city whose priority is to improve urban logistics (KPIs with the worst results or valued the most by citizens), the focus would be on the following KPIs:

- Kilometres of public transport system per 100 000 population
- Annual number of public transport trips per capita
- Percentage of commuters using a travel mode to work other than a personal vehicle
- Kilometers of bicycle paths and lanes per 100 000 population
- Greenhouse gas emissions measured in tonnes per capita
- ...

Step 6: Once the KPIs are identified, a search for solutions (possibly with scientific evidence) about the hypothesis that can positively impact the KPIs toward the defined goals should be carried out. These solutions can also emerge from the discussion with the community. The definition of the action plan will be based on the confrontation between the goals and the impact of solutions based on MCDA or DEA.

The possibility that citizens can view the top-down information while giving their opinion or, at least at a final stage, may allow a better perception and knowledge of the matter, which will contribute to the community's discussion and engagement.

# 6 CONCLUSIONS, LIMITATIONS AND FUTURE WORK

Urbanization and globalization have increased urban pressure, which affected urban mobility and the environment. These problems arose from the disregard of strategic planning. Concepts as the '15-minute city' have emerged to highlight the importance of urban planning, contemplating the disposal of essential services close to the citizens to combat the need to use the private car.

This paper crossed the literature of development geography and Smart Cities to clarify the existing gap on participation schemes, which is mainly because high-level guidelines cannot be translated into practical steps that consider local contexts. That can be acknowledged on European Commission guidelines and the strategic and operational plans promoted by the EIP-SCC. It lacks the ability to policymakers adjust the framework to their community needs and monitor their strategy toward co-defined priorities.

Moreover, this paper proposed combining top-down and bottom-up approaches based on the collaboration between decision-makers and citizens to providing a framework capable of monitoring Smart Cities and support decision-making by addressing specific priorities. The tool allows the overview of city's current state and the understanding of the most critical KPIs to establish strategic goals and look for solutions to improve their results.

Besides stating the city's current state concerning the Smart City concept phase, the objective was to allow policymakers realize how far they are from achieving the goals and satisfy citizens' wishes. With this tool, policymakers can understand their citizens' preferences profile, allowing better planning, investment and resource allocation. The continuous performance assessment is crucial to guarantee that cities are going toward the defined goals.

The city logistics test case explained how the framework could be applied to any use case (priority). The methodology helps structure cities' design thinking and strategy definition through continuous evaluation, comparison between territories and contemplation of citizens' opinions. Moreover, depending on current opportunities, (mainly at the financial support level) priorities can be changed. Therefore, the exercise should be reviewed in a defined time-space to align expectations with the reliability of outputs.

As a limitation, the framework rationale starts from the comprehension of three distinct axes – Sustainability, Innovation and Quality of Life – based on a previous study that is not yet widely adopted in academia. Nevertheless, the methodology can consider other axes and associated KPIs. The paper's contribution is on the definition of the path to evolve citizens and policymakers in decision-making and allow the creation of a tool that considers their opinions as equal for the understanding of what a Smart City is and the priorities of the territory. The importance of the KPIs themselves can also be studied. Weights should be reviewed periodically because the assigned importance may change over time. Considering the city's evolution, the circumstances of the moment, and the context in which the changes were advocated may be essential to understand the reasons behind.

As future work, it is vital to study citizen's participatory development and engagement methods of specific groups in practice. Dashboards and software solutions can be created with the present research to provide user-friendly interfaces to plan and assess cities.

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