

The value of urban data

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Abstract

The digital transformation enables our cities to develop and install effective systems which help tackle global challenges and harness local potential of innovation and economic growth. The digital transformation has put data in the centre of innovation – and thus also in the centre of an improved urban development. A large amount of innovative actions – to a large extent financed by the EU Commission via H2020 EIP SCC programme – has given sufficient proof of concept for the technology readiness and the potential impact of connected urban technologies. However, whilst in the private sector a digital economy has unfolded around end-user oriented services run on digital platforms (like facebook, Spotify, Netflix, amazon etc.) the DIGITAL URBAN ECONOMY is yet to be developed!

This paper examines the reasons for the lagging behind of the digital urban economy and discusses approaches and pathways of transition that need to be taken in order to unlock the full potential of data for an inclusive, sustainable and life-improving urban development.

A special focus is given to the value that sits within urban data-sets and how this can be quantified and unlocked. The value concept brought forward is much broader than a mere economic return on invest, it rather seeks to position urban data as key enable of social, environmental and economic improvements of urban development, and as such needs to be conceptualized as a more holistic form of net urban value.

Keywords: *Urban Data, Data Governance, Impact analysis, Valorization*

Biography

Alanus von Radecki is head of the Competence Team Urban Governance Innovation at the Fraunhofer IAO and head of the innovation network Morgenstadt: City Insights. In addition to his activities in project coordination and management, his work focuses on urban governance, systems analysis and complexity research directly related to urban systems. Von Radecki has been working closely at the interface between urban institutions and the private sector for many years.