

EDITORIAL: ROADMAP FOR SMART, SUSTAINABLE AND SAFE CITIES

Benevolo lectori salutem,

the present thematic issue of INDECS examines the driving forces behind smart, sustainable and safe city implementations. Besides the results of international and European best practice efforts, the importance of a holistic approach to cities and the issues of cities as complex systems will also be discussed.

Our further aim is to explore the relationship between various research topics (e.g., cyber physical systems, sensors, networks, smart and emerging technologies, intelligent transportation systems etc.) and sustainable safe city implementations. The urban structures and technological advances presented in this thematic issue mark the arrival of the sustainable development of communities, meaning that these intelligent and smart systems will cover all aspects of life. The essence of the pioneer “smart” concept is to develop common, synergic cooperation between different urban structures with the purpose of creating more liveable cities.

The complexity of smart cities can be well demonstrated by Cohen’s wheel. Cohen names six major areas in smart city implementations. These characteristics are the following: smart economy, smart government, smart mobility, smart environment, smart living and smart people. This model illustrates clearly the complexity of the smart city as a system.

The present thematic issue also reviews some new trends in the sustainable development of communities focusing on new technologies and the use of scientific innovations, in particular, on the issues of innovations and improvements in design, development, and in the implementation of smart, sustainable and safe cities. The aim of this issue is to offer researchers an opportunity to extend their existing scientific relationships all over the world in the field of emerging key technologies in the development of smart cities including, among others, the use of drones, cyber security methods, blast protection technologies, smart materials, soft computing methods, autonomous intelligent vehicles, etc.

We sincerely hope that researchers working in various field of the development of smart, sustainable and safe cities will find common research areas in the present thematic issue, and they can co-operate in these international projects. The majority of these projects focus on smart cities that can be successfully implemented by developing sustainable communities all over the world.

Cordially,

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