**ZSI eJOURNAL**

ZENTRUM FÜR SOZIALE INNOVATION
CENTRE FOR SOCIAL INNOVATION

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**Contents:** *EDITORIAL* **I** *ZSI_Short News* **I** *ZSI_Events* **I** *Previews & Reviews* **I** *Video_special*

**Alle Innovationen sind sozial relevant.**
**All innovations are socially relevant.**

*EDITORIAL*

**Smart Cities: Cities with high "IQ" and plenty of social innovations**

The Smart City concept is important throughout Europe and across the world, thus it is a topic in international discourse. However, this short article primarily deals with matters of local developments in Vienna and Austria; readers from Austria may prefer the full version of the article in German.

At present social innovation and everything considered 'smart' seems to boom: A major part of about 40% of all moble phones sold by the end of 2012 are smartphones. According to the Europe 2020 Strategy the European Union favours sustainable, inclusive and smart growth. Smart specialisation is supported to advance regional development, and since a few years smart cities became a hot issue too.

The first world-wide ranking of smart cities was published by Boyd Cohen, an american climate strategist, in early 2012. It lists Vienna in top position, ahead of Toronto, Paris and New York. This proves once more the high quality standards Vienna enjoys, after having been ranked most liveable citiy in the world during a number of consecutive years by Mercer. In a comparison of 70 middle-sized cities (populations between 100,000 and 500,000) in Europe, Linz, Salzburg, Innsbruck and Graz took places 9, 10, 12 and 13 (lead by frontrunners Luxemburg, Aarhus and Turku).

As with all rankings, exact positions are debatable, and there may be or will be studies producing different outcomes. Nevertheless, Austrian cities obviously seem to be well off, appearing notably 'smart'. However, what in particular depicts a smart city? Austrian experts in urban research and spatial planning, lead by Rudolf Giffinger (Vienna University of Technology), who initiated and co-ordinated the research on the 70 European cities, define smart cites according to six specific characteristics. These characteristics are combined for analysis by addressing a great number of specific factors and indicators (cf. the grafic design 'Smart Citiy Wheel', by Boyd Cohen):

- Smart People – embrace creativity, inclusive society, 21st century education
- Smart Mobility – integrated ICT, prioritized clean and non-motorized options, mixed-modal access
- Smart Living – culturally vibrant & happy, safe, healthy
- Smart Environment – green buildings, green energy, green urban planning
- Smart Economy – entrepreneurship and innovation, productivity, local & global interconnectedness
- Smart Government – enabling supply & demand side policy, transparency and open data, ICT & e-government

Cities do not upgrade in 'intelligence' by smart technolgies alone. It rather is a matter of *how technologies are implemented and used*, depending on *dominant social practices* in the manyfold and highly complex sub-systems a modern city consists of. In order to allow the unfolding of creativity, to facilitate a vibrant culture, social inclusion, and education standards and qualities required, a particular culture of innovation is essential - ready to value and support social innovations just the same as technical and commercial innovations.

Social innovations favour new opportunities to act in the characteristic domains of smart cities, as there are smart people, mobility, living, environment, economy and government. In all sectors, new and effective practices become imperative to cope with existing and emerging societal challenges. In analogy to how J.A. Schumpeter conceptualised 'innovation' one hundred years ago, namely as 'new combinations of production factors', 'social innovations' may be conceived 'new combinations of social practices'.

New practices, e.g. in moving around in a city, may be changed bottom-up (for example by increased use of bicycles), or by setting novel norms top-down. A significant case of the latter is represented by the recent enforcement of parking space management (extending time zones with liability to pay to most parts of the city territory). Besides opening up fundamental new opportunities or capabilities to act, re-combinations of existing practices may produce social innovations. A case of such re-combination of practices can be seen in the implementation of the city-bike system (in Vienna: 2003), which actually complements features of the smart city very well.

Mixed-modal access could become further improved by extending the public transport system by introducing a city-car system, using a fully electric vehicle

similarly like the city-bike system. City cars of this kind should belong to and serve as an extension of public transport. In this regard, Deutsche Bahn tests since short an electric vehicle, developed with very special properties in Spain (Basque country), to supplement the Deutsche Bahn urban network in Berlin. Hiriko ('urban' in basque) is high-tech in regard of its development and performance on the one hand, yet low-tech concerning production and maintenance on the other. For parking it may even be folded up, and can turn standing in circle (Video, 1:30 min.).

As outlined in my presentation at the GFF - Science Forum (with Federal Minister of Transport, Doris Bures), Hiriko could be a good choice for Austrian cities like Vienna, Linz, Salzburg, Innsbruck and Graz to take next steps in becoming even more of a smart city.

*Josef Hochgerner, Scientific Director, ZSI*

The complete article is also available in German and English on the *website of ZSI...*

back to top

## 1. *ZSI_Short News*

**STRAT.AT report 2012:** The Strategic Report Austria 2012 of the Austrian Conference on Spatial Planning (ÖROK) cited the TEPs (Territorial Employment Pacts) in Austria as good practice examples of partnerships in the context of labour market and employment policy. www.pakte.at +++ **Copublication analysis of the "Austria - Danube Area"**: The project Copub by ZSI accomplished recently an analysis of international

copublications, which were published by Austrian scientists with researchers from at least another of the 14 countries of the European Union focusing on the strategy for the Danube area www.zsi.at +++

**What the media said about ZSI recently**(only available in German): "Smart City: soziale Qualität und Energieeffizienz" by APAScience +++ "Smart Cities bestehen nicht aus Technologie allein" by APA +++ "Ehrenamt 1" by Radio Orange 94,0 +++ "Adäquate Ausländerbeschäftigung bringt Geld und Jobs" by APA Science

back to top

## *ZSI_Events*

### 2. GlOBAL excursion: Join the Opene Online Lab!

A trip to Coto de Doñana: Get easily in touch with the exciting work of scientists! In the course of February, the Global-excursion team is organizing two  live online sessions with scientists:

**"Meet the scientist: Use of an electron microscope"**
The first session will take place on **13th of February** from 11:00 - 12:00 CET. During the session an expert from the University of Cambridge will explain and demonstrate live the use of the electron microscope. Teachers and students will be able to watch the scientist in action, ask questions and interact with him in real time!
If you are interested in joining please fill in the following form: http://tinyurl.com/bwdp2db

**"Meet the scientist: A remote visit to the national park Coto de Doñana"**
The second session will take place on **20th of February**, from 11:00 - 12:00 CET. The event will be held in Spanish (ES). During the event, experts from the Europe's biggest natural park will take participants through the different areas of the park; explain its ecological value and analyze the reasons for its conservation. Teachers and students will get an insight to the park's day to day life, ask questions and interact lively with the experts!
If you are interested in joining please fill in the following form: http://tinyurl.com/af5ba3l

[...]*The complete article is also avaiable on the website of ZSI...*

*back to top*

## *Preview & Review*

### 3. SozialMarie: Projects for smarter cities!

**Austrian prize SozialMarie awards successfully implemented social innovations**

The aim of SozialMarie is to make innovative social ideas and their realisation known to a broad public. By means of annual awards and other activities, SozialMarie also encourages networking amongst social projects. Award winning projects are to inspire imitation and to incite further development of their ideas. By the way: In 2013 SozialMarie is going to honour social innovations from Austria and neighbouring countries for the ninth time!

Since the award was implemented, many of the awarded projects focused on solutions for problems in cities. The Jury of SozialMarie – supported by ZSI – developed four criteria to evaluate the submitted projects: Novelty, involvement of target groups, effectiveness and capability to serve as example for replication. Applications to SozialMarie are eligible from all societal sectors (comprising public institutions, civil society organisations, and corporate business) in Austria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, and parts of Croatia, Slovenia, little of Italy and Germany as well.

The following examples show basic approaches to cope with the shortage of resources and other daily problems in cities:

- Social innovation in the context of energy effciency measures: MachMit – Energiesparen bringt's (Join in - save energy!), Vienna

- Social innovation in the context of high-priced design products developed by involving talents of handicapped: LebensDesign, Salzburg
- Social innovation in the context of greening the city: Junior City Farmer Schönbrunn, Vienna
- Social innovation in the context of urban communication tools: Das Radioplakat (radio poster)for blind and visually impaired people, Vienna
- Social innovation contributing to smart city government: Participatory Budget, Bratislava
- Social innovation contributing to sustainability and social inclusion: Social Housing Reconstruction Camp (Nagykanizsa, HU)
- Social innovation in education, teaching children to understand poverty in a wealthy metropolitan city: Armutsgrenze (poverty line), Vienna

[...] *Read more*

back to top

## 4. EVAL-INNO: Successful workshop in Athens

Fostering evaluation competencies in research, technology & innovation in the **SEE Region**: SEE countries have limited record of innovation evaluation practices. The merits as well as the need for procuring evaluation emerged with the EU Structural Funds and IPA (Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance). Developing high standards and competent tendering of RTDI evaluations is becoming increasingly important.

The two days workshop took place in Athens in the course of the "Fostering Evaluation competencies in Research, Technology and Innovation in the SEE Region (EVAL-INNO)". Participation from the region and the EC provided a broad and diverse picture of recent practices. A number of visits and other information sources were employed to identify and prioritize needs in the region. The current state of play shows maturity of countries like Austria and shows the high potential of a number of countries that have gained experience during the last years. Most challenging is the development of an "evaluation culture" in Research, Technology Development and Innovation (RTDI).

EVAL-INNO will announce in the next weeks **one-week trainings** organized in **2013** in four different countries and with an outreach to the whole SEE region including a number of countries in the area of the Southeast European Transnational Programme.
Co-funded from the SEE-Transnational Programme and IPA, the project EVAL-INNO comprises 6 partners from Austria (Leadpartner ZSI), Greece, Bulgaria, Hungary, Montenegro and Serbia.

[…] *The complete article is also available on the website of ZSI...*

back to top

## 5. FORSEE: News on the Regional Open Consultation events & 5th Newsletter

With the results of **eight National Open Consultations** events available, the FORSEE project has conducted the Regional Open Consultation event in **Ljubljana**, Slovenia, in **January 2013**. The event has attracted stakeholders from policy-making, business, and academia.
The event revolved around three ICT themes: (1) **ICT for Health**, (2) **e-government**, and (3) **Digital Content, Languages, and Culture**. For each of these themes, a break-out session was held so that the participating experts from the SEE region could discuss the thematic SWOT analyses done by the project, and voice their aspirations regarding the future development of the field.
The next steps will now be to select one of the above-mentioned themes, and to move forward with it to proceed in the foresight process that will continue to be implemented throughout 2013.

Also, the project's 5th newsletter **is out.** Among the highlights is an interview with one of the experts responsible for creating the **Regional Foresight Methodology**, Dr. **Erich Prem** from Austria.

To learn more about the project and its output, feel free to visit the website or contact the coordinator: Dietmar Lampert

[…] *The complete article is also available on the website of ZSI...*

back to top

### *Video_special*

## 6. 'Smart cities need social innovation': Highlights of the event

The event took place on 22nd of January 2013 AT NOVOMATIC FORUM in Vienna and was hosted by **GFF** (Gesellschaft zur Förderung der Forschung).
The keynote was given by Federal Minister **Doris Bures** (Federal Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology). At the podium **Josef Hochgerner** (Scientific Director, ZSI), **Gerald Bast** (Rector of the University of Applied Arts, Vice-President of Universities Austria) and **Wolfgang Knoll** (Managing Director of the Austrian Institute of Technology, AIT) were talking about social innovation required to meet societal challenges in smart cities.

[...] *Watch Video...*

back to top

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**With kind regards**
**Josef Hochgerner**

**Imprint**

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