SEMINAR ANNOUNCEMENT

A Smart Governance Model in Pakistan

WHEN
29 March 2018 (Thursday)
10:00h - 11:00h

WHERE
UNU-EGOV, Campus de Couros, Rua de Vila Flor 166
4800-445 Guimarães, Portugal

SPEAKER
Shahid Farooq
Deputy Secretary, Government of the Punjab, Pakistan

ABSTRACT
The smart city concept is being universally adopted as a solution capable of dealing holistically with all city challenges in an integrative way. The success of smart urban solutions around the world has made Smart Cities’ transformation an "imperative" instead of an "option", especially for countries with severe urban issues. This also applies to Pakistan, the world’s sixth most populated country, where management of rapid urbanization is a big challenge. Although a growing realization already exists among researchers, urban planners, and policy makers in Pakistan, particularly in Punjab, about the benefits of smart city transformation, the linking to the practice is still missing.

Farooq’s earlier research at UNU-EGOV on "Smart Cities Context in Pakistan" also leads to the conclusion that citizens' centric Smart City transformation is imperative for addressing numerous urban challenges of Pakistan. However, the research also suggests that the governance component is critical factor for the success of Smart Cities in Pakistan. Within this background, the seminar aims at developing a deeper understanding of what could be a suitable governance model for Smart Cities in Pakistan against the world’s best practices, as well as current institutional and legislative arrangements in Pakistan. The importance of smart governance for cities would be discussed followed by a critical analysis of current practices of cities’ governance in Pakistan against the universal principles of Smart Governance. Finally, a suitable model for Smart Cities in Pakistan would be presented, which would help policy makers steer a smooth smart cities transformation in Pakistan.

CONTACT
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