Promoting Innovative Local Governance for the Implementation of the SDGs

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- Underwood Distinguished Professor and former Dean, College of Social Sciences, Yonsei University, Korea
- Director of Institute for Future Government, Yonsei University
- Selected as a 100 World Most Influential People in Digital Government in 2018 and 2019 by Apolitical
- Co-chair of Organizing Committee for Seoul Smart City Prize
- Member of Knowledge Council, World Cities Summit (WCS)
- Member of Advisory Group of Digital Technology for Development, Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- Member of the Presidential Committee for Digital Platform Government
- Chair of Digital Government Document Innovation Forum

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We're excited to present our 2018 list of the world's 100 most influential people in digital government. It's the first of its kind to show the international spread of the field, and includes individuals from every continent.

Digital technologies are transforming nearly every aspect of our lives, including, increasingly, our governments. In every country and at every level of government, public servants and ministers are having to work out how to reform and reimagine government for the digital era. Bringing transformative digital technologies to one of our largest, most complex sectors is difficult work and the people leading this transformation are often as visionary, imaginative and determined as the tech entrepreneurs the media loves to celebrate.

Digital government is, of course, no longer brand-new. A first generation of reformers has been followed by a new one, who are building on their predecessors' learnings. Because of this, we have concentrated on celebrating those currently working in or on digital government, rather than some of the

Noble Goals……

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
1 NO POVERTY
2 ZERO HUNGER
3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
4 QUALITY EDUCATION
5 GENDER EQUALITY
6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION
7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY
8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH
9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES
11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
13 CLIMATE ACTION
14 LIFE BELOW WATER
15 LIFE ON LAND
16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS
17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Where are We Now on SDGs? Nowhere near!

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Halfway to 2030, world 'nowhere near' reaching Global Goals, UN warns

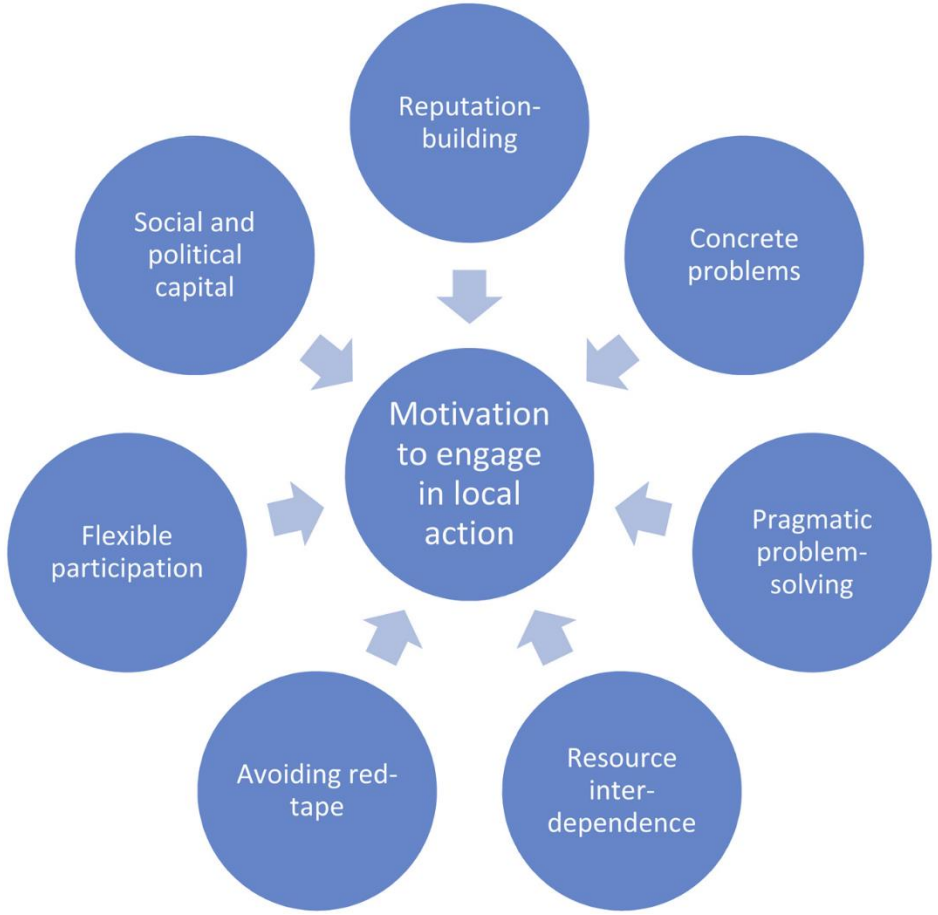
The world is "woefully off track" to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by the 2030 deadline, top United Nations officials said on Monday, as ministers and policy makers gathered in New York to examine how countries can get back on track and make the transformative development agenda a reality. (July 17, 2023)

SDG Localization, Local Governance & Urbanization (UNDP)

- Countries have recognized that many of the roadblocks to achieving the SDGs, such as non-income poverty and inequality, must be addressed through SDG localization and by improving local and urban governance. This requires a 'whole of society' approach and a transformation process (innovation) in the way that public institutions, private sector and citizens collaborate to achieve sustainable development. Hence, localizing the SDGs cannot be limited to integrating the global goals in local development plans, but must extend to strengthening local governance, including by using innovation (social and tech.) to codesign with public and private actors new service delivery models, innovative financing tools and accountability mechanisms.

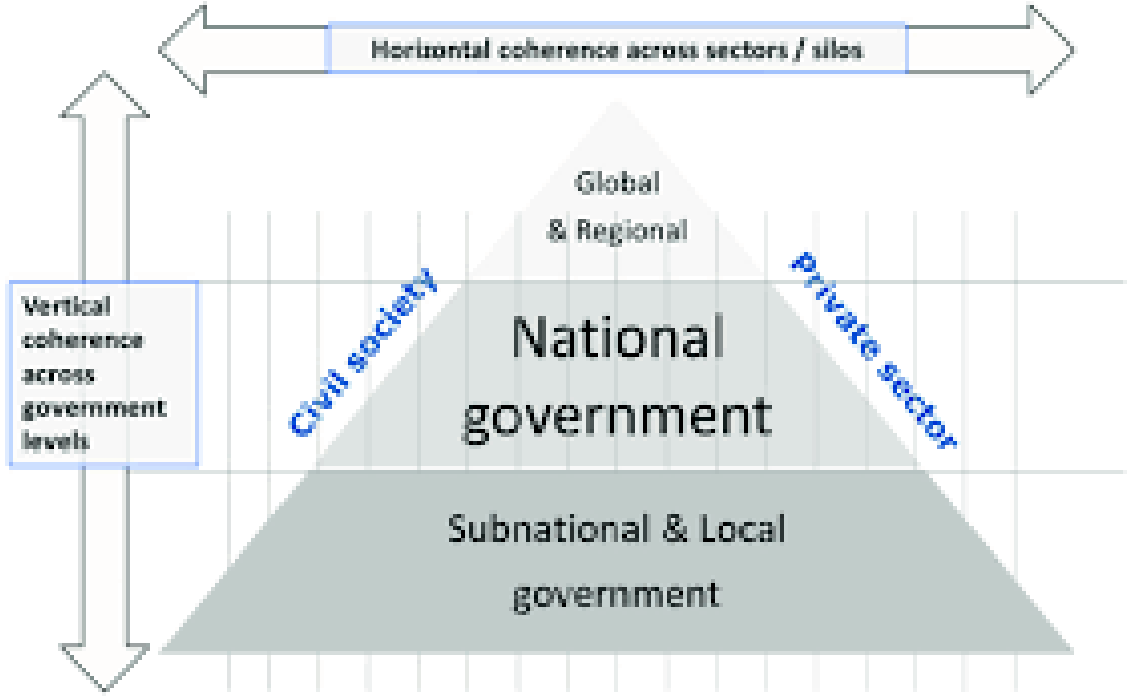
https://www.undp.org/asia-pacific/sdg-localization-local-governance-and-urbanization

SDGs Localization Needs Innovations in Local Governments



(Ansell et al., 2022)

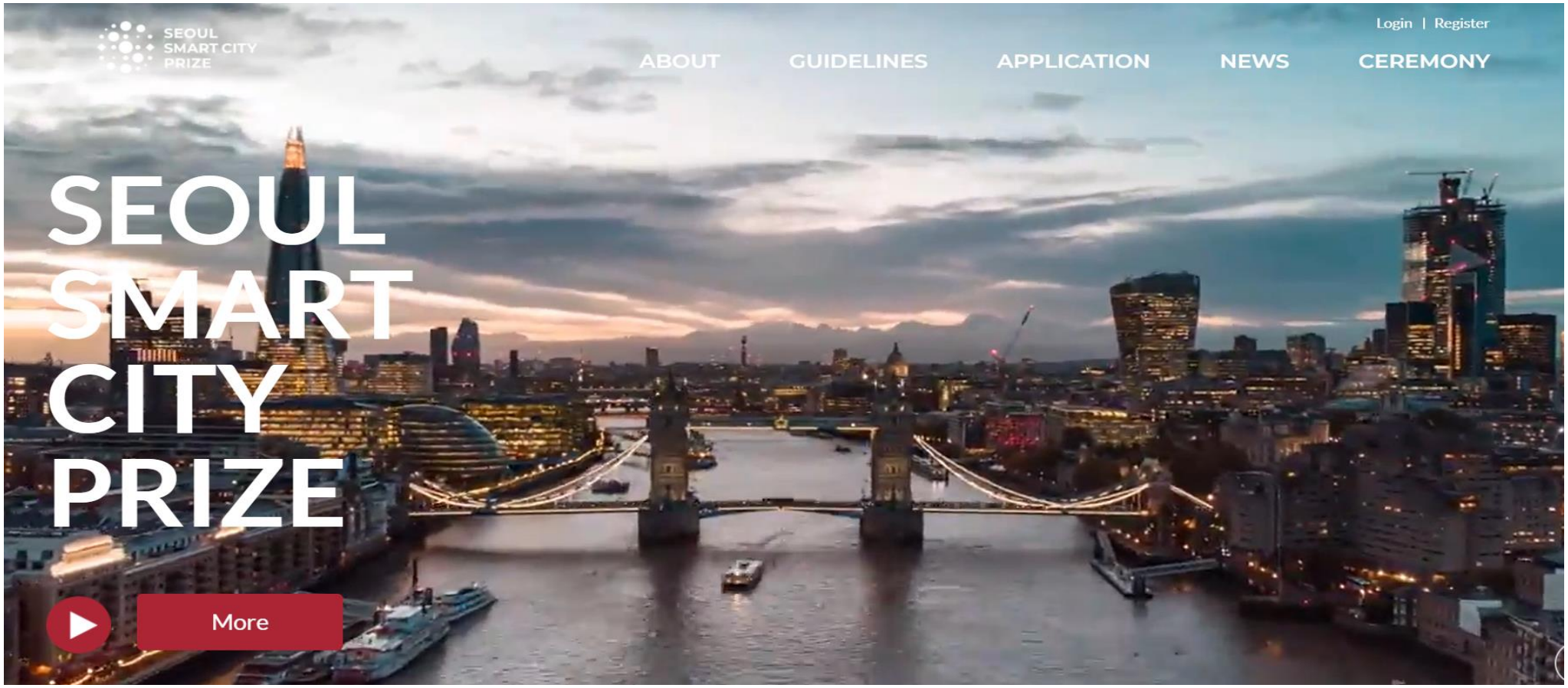
From Mismatch to Match; From Policy Incoherence to Policy Coherence.....



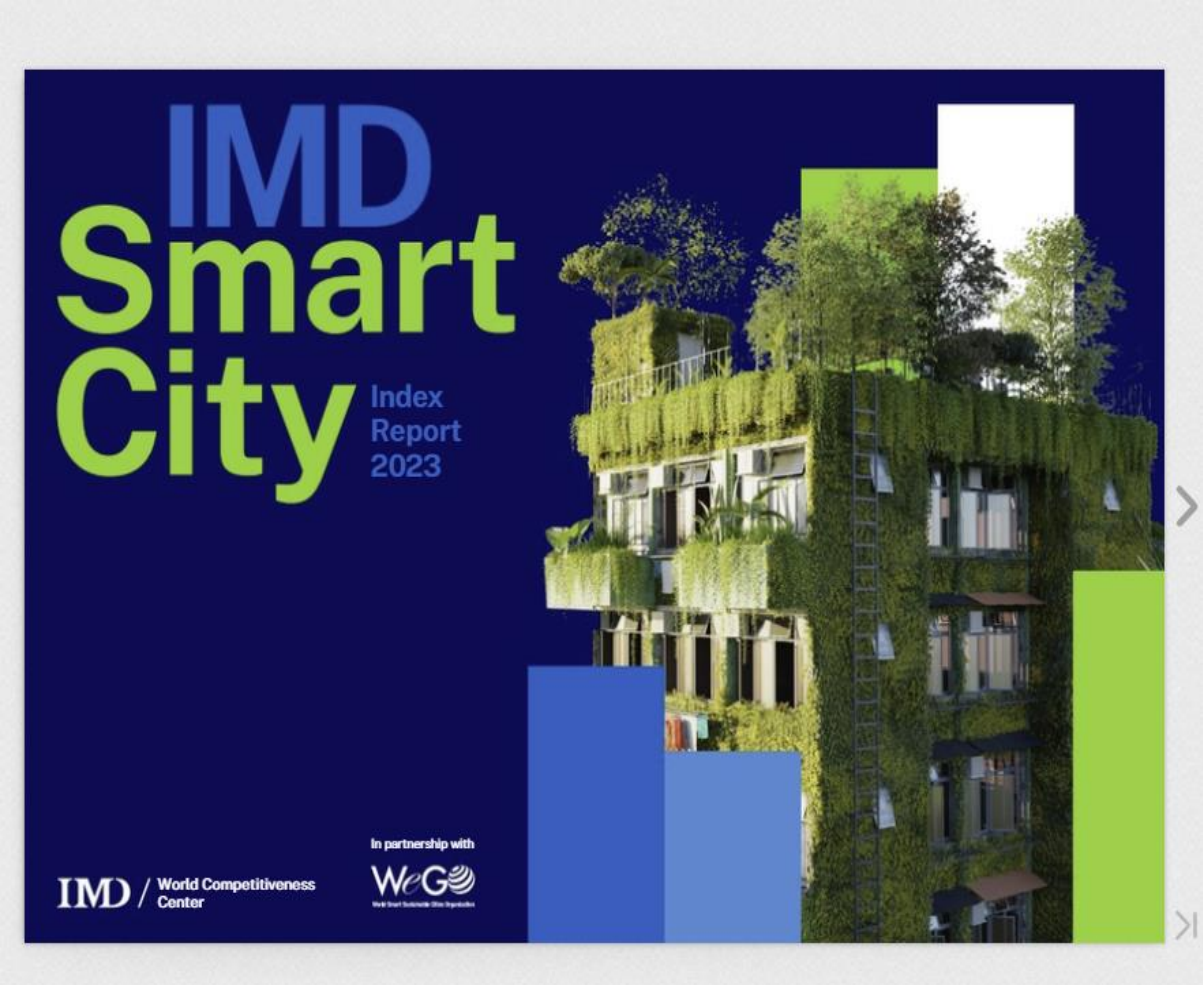
(Meuleman, 2021)

RESILIENT AND REGENERATIVE CITIES (WORLD CITIES SUMMIT 2024)

Seoul Smart City Prize from 2023!



IMD Smart City Index



- Health and Safety
- Mobility
- Activities
- Opportunities (Work and School)
- Governance

Tech-InnovaCity

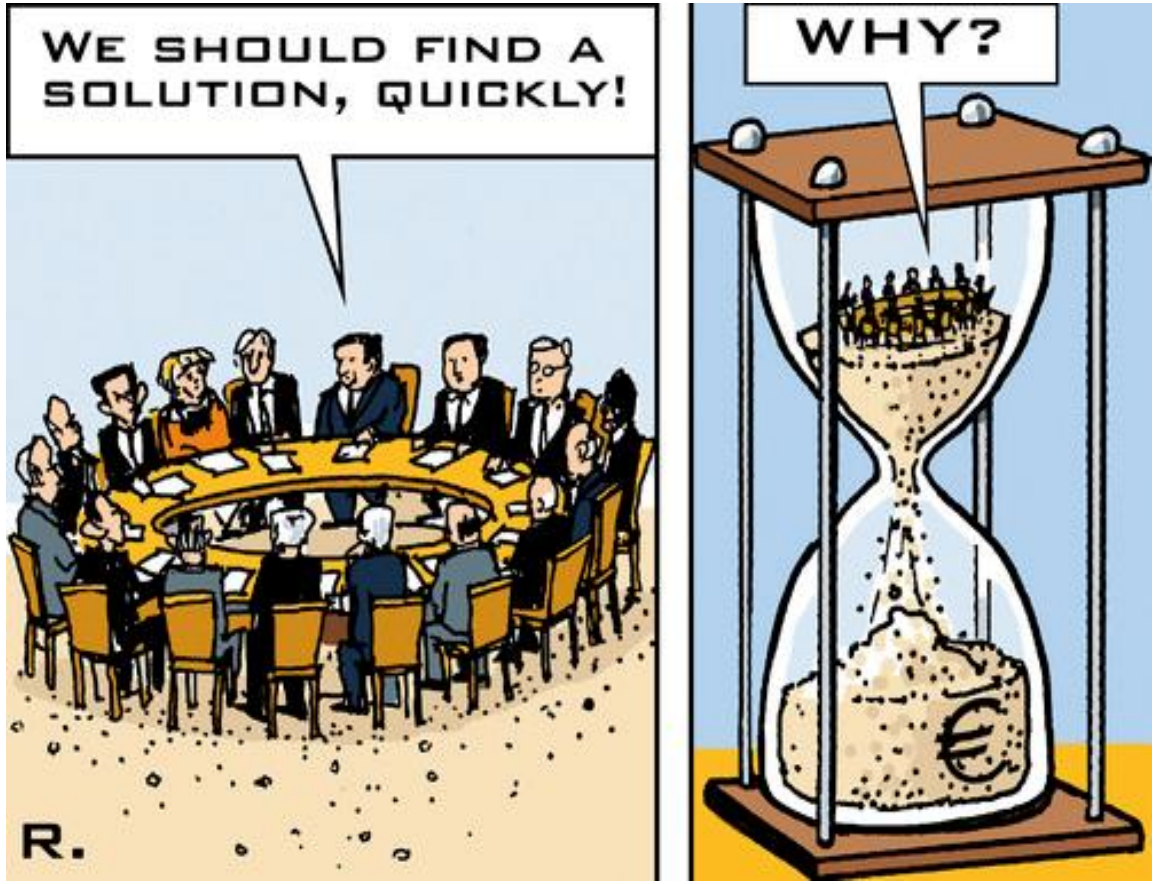
Projects that focus on integration of innovative policies and technologies in all sectors of society and domains ranging from mobility, safety, welfare, environment, energy, culture, and governance.

Human-CentriCity

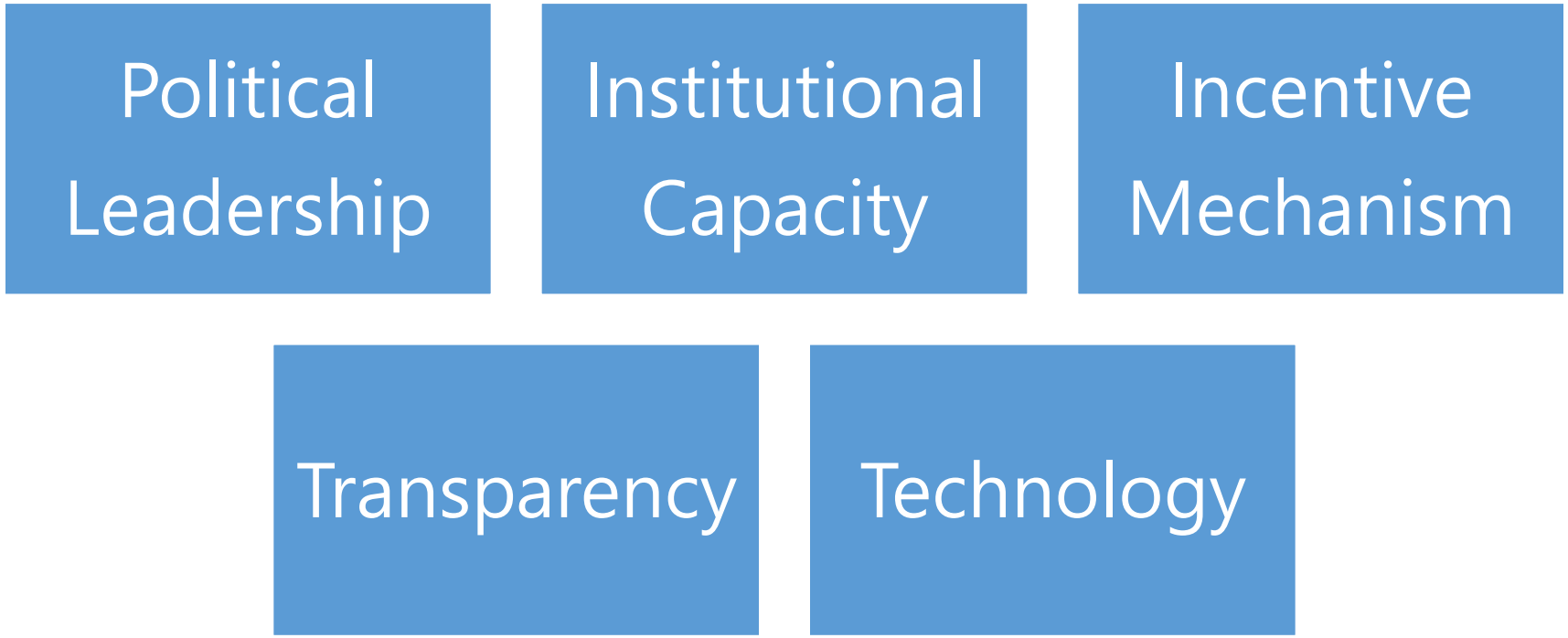
Projects that are designed to prioritize digital inclusion in smart city development, thereby overcoming or mitigating the digital divide, and that aim to serve specific target groups among the citizen population, such as the elderly, youth, and the disabled.

Making Changes and Moving Forward…

However, Wicked Problems and Solutions?



Drivers for Local Government Innovations: Lessons from World Bank Global Report



(Kunicova, 2018)

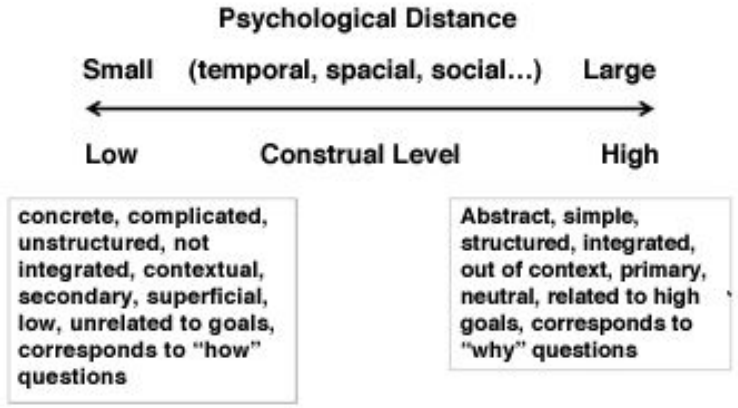
•Dirk Meissner &
•Sandrine Kergroach
•Sandrine Kergroach

Policy Tools for SDGs in Different Policy Domains

Policy Instruments	Government / Public Policy	Institutions / Organisational Policy
Sticks (Regulatory measures)	Laws & Regulations Directives Impact assessment requirements	Rules / Constitution By-Laws / Charters Governance Policies
Carrots (Economic / Market Interventions)	Taxes Tax relief Incentive schemes / subsidies / grants Licensing	Professional sanctions Prizes and awards Codes of practice Professional Policies
Sermons (Info. measures) – Suasory Instruments	Strategies Plans Standards Voluntary Agreements	Public Benefit Policies Procedures / Guidelines (Best practices) Briefing kits
Hybrids	Sustainability reporting requirements	

(Meissner and Kergroach, 2019)

Psychological Distance and Construal Level Theory



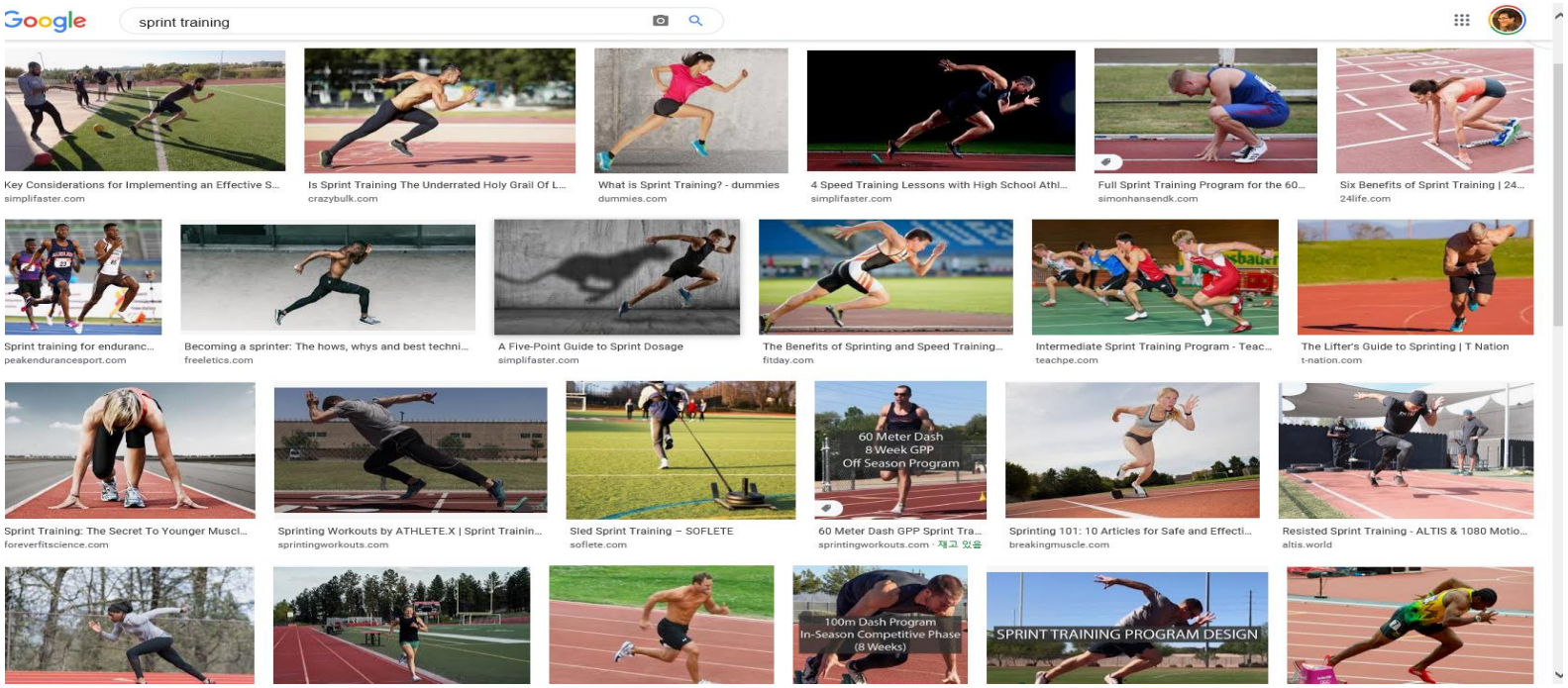
Close Events **Low-Level Construal**	Distant Events **High-level Construal**
Concrete, specific	Abstract, general
Secondary, peripheral, incidental	Primary, central, essential
Contextual	Decontextualized
Non Schematic	Schematic
Subordinate	Superordinate

(Liberman and Trope)

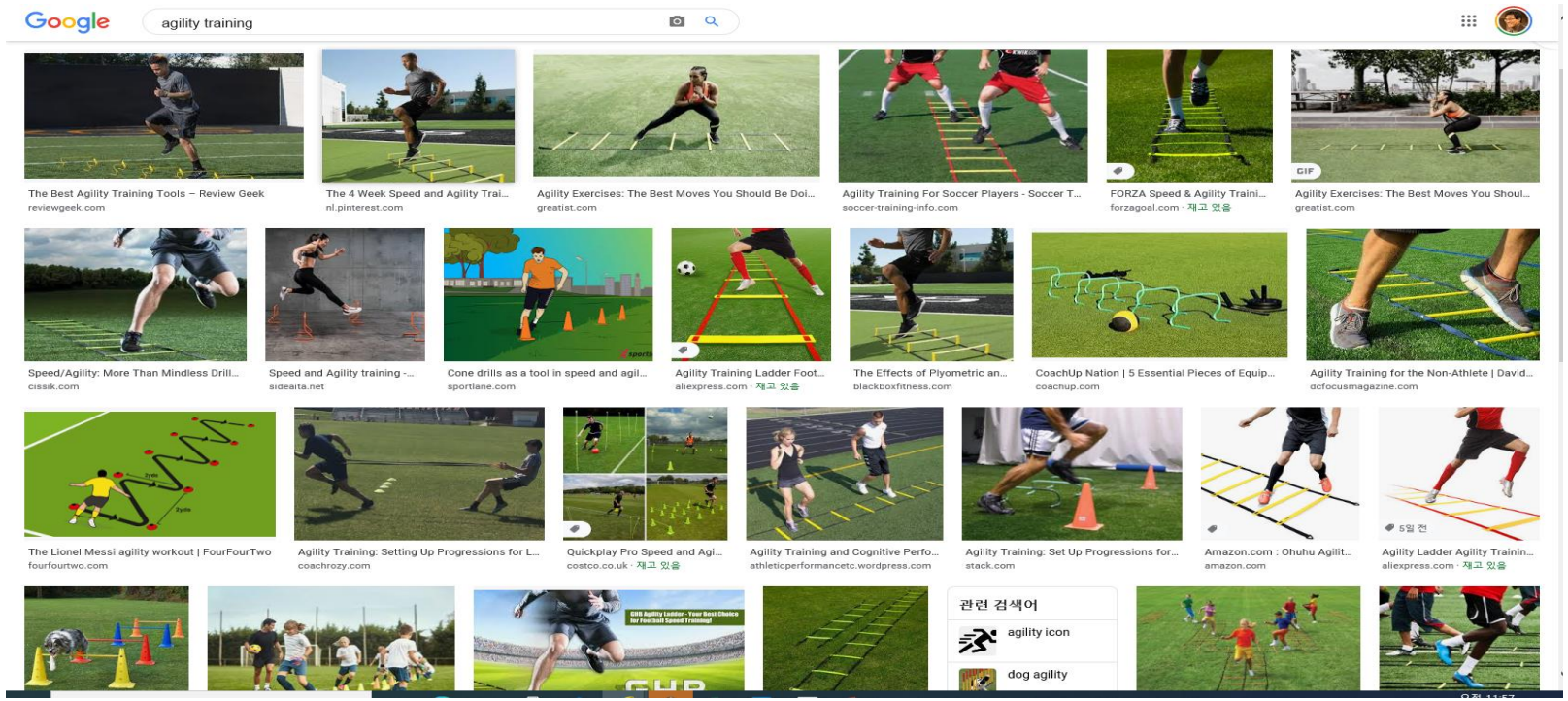
Long-term vs. Short-term

Why Should We Care for Agility?

Sprint Training?



Agility Training…



Agility and Stability

(Aghina, De Smet, and Kirsten Weerda, 2015)

Strategic Agility in Cities

(Dos, 2011; OECD, 2015)

(Aghina, De Smet, and Kirsten Weerda, 2015)

The Athenian Oath

The Oath

"We will never bring disgrace on this our City by an act of dishonesty or cowardice. We will fight for the ideals and Sacred Things of the City both alone and with many. We will revere and obey the City's laws, and will do our best to incite a like reverence and respect in those above us who are prone to annul them or set them at naught. We will strive unceasingly to quicken the public's sense of civic duty. Thus, in all these ways, we will transmit this City not only, not less, but greater and more beautiful than it was transmitted to us."

Thank You!!!

Questions?

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