



2nd OECD Roundtable on Smart Cities and Inclusive Growth - Measuring smart cities' performance: Do smart cities benefit everyone?

As part of the OECD Programme on Smart Cities and Inclusive Growth, the **2nd Roundtable**, on 3 December 2020, brought together key stakeholders from cities, regions, national governments, the private sector, civil society, academia, philanthropy and international organisations to:

- Share the new trends and initiatives on smart cities in the context of the COVID-19 crisis
- Understand what lessons can be learnt from existing indicator frameworks on smart cities
- Identify how measuring smart cities performance can help cities better shape and implement COVID-19 recovery strategies
- Co-produce an OECD framework to assess smart cities' performance and their contribution to well-being, inclusion, sustainability and resilience

Key takeaways from the 2nd OECD Roundtable on Smart Cities and Inclusive Growth

- **There is a critical need to better measure the performance of smart cities**, especially at a time when many cities and countries are including a smart recovery component in their recovery strategies.
- Measurement should be **included in smart city strategies from the outset** rather than as an afterthought.
- A measurement framework needs to allow for some **distinction between different city contexts** (e.g. in terms of size, culture, etc.) and the various degrees of “smartness” as starting points.
- A measurement framework needs to be **flexible** and **adaptable**, as technologies evolve constantly.
- It is essential to foster a **longitudinal assessment** so cities can measure and improve their performance over time, as opposed to a *horizontal* assessment whereby cities can only compare their performance against each other.
- **The OECD Smart City Measurement Framework and its 3 pillars** (smart city tools, stakeholder engagement and smart city performance) were strongly supported by participants, who highlighted in particular that:
 - It is important to make a **distinction between inputs** (i.e. what “goes into” a smart city) and **outcomes** in terms of well-being, inclusion, sustainability and resilience.
 - **Stakeholder engagement** is a fundamental component of smart cities and brings an innovative angle to smart city measurement.

For more information, contact smart.cities@oecd.org