THEMATIC SESSION 2: Smart / agile cities in developing countries

Session organized by the City of Johannesburg

Date: 18 July 2013
Time: 14:30 – 16:00
Venue: Ballroom 1

PROGRAM

Opening: Facilitator, **Dr Elsbeth Dixon**

Speakers:

- **Sascha Haselmayer**, General Director, Living Labs Global, Barcelona

- **Miguel Rodrigues**, CEO, MtoM Consulting - Advanced Marketing for Smart Cities, São Paulo

- **McLean Sibanda**, CEO, The Innovation Hub, Pretoria

- **Franklin Coelho**, Secretary for Science and Technology, Rio de Janeiro

- **Gloria Nkadimeng**, Group Head ICT, City of Johannesburg

Summary of key issues by facilitator

Panel discussion and Questions from audience: Panelists

SUMMARY

The smart city concept has over the last decade grown in popularity and is fast becoming an integral part of the global city policy lexicon. As we witness the sheer power of technology transforming our society and infiltrating every aspect of our human existence, it is only logical that technology can offer solutions to several of our most urgent urban challenges. Cities are in themselves testaments to human progress and successful cities are those represented by their capacities to adopt smarter technologies and greater intelligence to drive city competitiveness.

However, smart/agile cities are also about improving public services such as healthcare, transportation, social security and traffic management. A smart/agile city is one that primarily serves its citizens.

This theme applies the smart city concept to developing countries. How can developing countries use technology to incrementally improve city services? What are the examples of developing cities that have used technology to improve service delivery? Where should a city in a developing country, with limited resources, start to give effect to being smart?