Side Event at Habitat III:

**Citizens @ the center of Smart Cities**

17 October 2016

12:30 to 13:30

Room MR3

Casa de la Cultura Ecuatoriana Benjamin Carrion, Quito (Ecuador)

During the last decade ***Smart City*** has become an umbrella concept bringing together strategies for reinventing cities utilizing ICT. Until now, smart cities have revolved solely around technology. However, this approach has begun to show its limitations. Problems faced by Songdo or Masdar clearly exemplify them.

In contrast with this we can witness how projects that put **citizens at the center** have prospered. The city of Medellin for example, once one of the most dangerous cities of the world, is now one of the celebrated examples of on-going citizen-centric urban transformation.

This session will discuss these aspects with knowledgeable experts and bring **real life examples**of how some of the **most successful projects around the world** – from Nordic countries like Finland to Latin American cities such as Medellin or Puebla, and also European cities like Bologna or Barcelona – managed to succeed.

**Organizing Partners**Anteverti (Barcelona, Spain), DEMOS Helsinki (Helsinki, Finland), ESADE Business School (Barcelona, Spain), FLACSO (Facultad latino-americane de ciencias sociales)/ Quito, Ecuador, LISST-Cieu / University of Toulouse 2.

**2. Supporting institutions**

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