



EEMPS

**OUTPUT
SUMMARY**

MEDIANE

Media in Europe for Diversity Inclusiveness

EUROPEAN EXCHANGES OF MEDIA PRACTICES

Pair: **COE 81**

SMART CITIES AND SMART CITIZENS

The apps and the technologies that make cities more inclusive and open

1. Exchange Partners

	Partner 1	Partner 2
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Job title	<i>Press Officer</i>	<i>Coordinator for Citizen participation</i>
Organisation / Media	Cittalia Anci - Italy	City of Vantaa - Finland

2. Summary

The article focuses on the role of ICT and innovative smart city approach in tackling diversity in cities and to foster social inclusion of minority groups living in the cities. The reportage compares projects and experiences in Helsinki and in Rome, focusing on the role of local authorities in fostering new types of innovation. Linking the growing debate on smart cities to the exigencies of urban inclusion is the idea of the reportage, made with interviews to experts, residents, users and innovators in Helsinki and in Rome. The article offers a comparison among different approaches used in the promotion of technology and social innovation in the metropolitan areas of Helsinki and Rome, underlining how these are linked to the current situation of the countries and to different local governance systems.

The growing importance of projects mixing the use of ICT to the participation of the minority groups to the urban life is told through the stories of innovations that are radically changing the way of living and perceiving the city by minority groups. The article discovers many untold stories and projects, underlining the importance of open data and technology innovation to make them happen but also the importance of political will to put the inclusion of minorities

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and the quality of life at the core of every smart city strategy. The comparison among strategies and actions adopted by two metropolitan areas with completely different story and approach to this topic helps in understanding how technology and social innovation are differently perceived in Europe but also how the inclusion of minority groups is seen as a growing priority in all the major urban contexts.

<http://www.cittalia.it/index.php/item/5527-smart-cities-e-smart-citizens-le-app-e-le-tecnologie-che-rendono-le-citta-piu-inclusive-e-sostenibili>

http://www.vantaa.fi/fi/osallistu_ja_vaikuta/prime104_fi.aspx

3. *Dissemination of the Output*

The Finnish version of the article was published on the website of City of Vantaa. Target groups: the residents of Vantaa (in total 208 098 inhabitants) and its surroundings the commuters, people that are considering moving to Vantaa and the employees of the city of Vantaa (in total 10 300). The Italian version of the article was published on the website of the Research foundation of the Italian Association of Municipalities, addressed to urban researchers and experts, local officers and politicians of 8100 Italian municipalities. It has been promoted also through the social media channels of Cittalia (2300 Twitter followers, 1630 Facebook likes). Its publication has been proposed also to other website and online magazines active on the topics of the reportage (Corriere delle Comunicazioni, Smart City Exhibition, Key4Biz). The Finnish version of the article has been proposed to be published in localfinland.fi, a web site of the Association of Finnish Local and Regional Authorities and to Vautsi, a magazine for the employees of the city of Vantaa (with the public of 10 300).

4. *Biographies of the authors*

Italian journalist and communicator, **Simone d'Antonio** holds a degree in International Relations and an advanced degree in European Studies both at Orientale University in Naples. From 2010 he is press and communication officer for Cittalia-ANCI, the research foundation of the Italian Association of Municipalities in Rome. He writes as a freelance journalist articles and reports on urban topics published by Italian and French newspapers and magazines. He is a contributor of the Italian edition of Wired, Il Sole 24 Ore, Il Manifesto, The Good Life and Anci Rivista. At present he is also president of Youth Press Italia, the Italian association of young journalists, communicators and media makers, and board member of European Youth Press.

Finnish **Ella Tanskanen** works as a Coordinator for Citizen Participation and Communication in City of Vantaa, the 4th biggest city in Finland. Besides communication her main area of expertise is the citizen involvement and participation in the cities. Before her present job she has worked e.g. in Statistics Finland and in Sitra, the Finnish Innovation Fund. She has graduated as Master of Administrative Sciences from University of Tampere at 2010.