W10 / Innovation Policies in the Digital Era: Trends and Challenges

Topic : Policy Process, Policy Making

Chair : Pedro Cavalcante (Brazilian Institute of Education, Development and Research (IDP))

Second Chair : Fernando Filgueiras (Federal University of Goiás)

CALL FOR PAPERS

To address the challenges imposed by social, economic, environmental, and technological dynamics, innovations, particularly those related to digital transformation, have become a strategic cornerstone in processes, services, and policies within the public sector over the past two decades. Consequently, the concept of digital government has permeated various spheres and government sectors, affirming the perception that this trend is no longer just a novelty but has indeed become the new normal in public management.

The adoption of digital technologies as a framework for the public sector has become a global phenomenon, extending to both developed and emerging countries, including a vast range of digital innovations based on a complex legal framework and guided by principles of networking. In brief, it is evident that digital transformation is a process that empowers governments to harness technology's potential to reinforce fiscal transparency and accountability, boost the effectiveness of public expenditure, and enhance outcomes in education, healthcare service delivery, and social welfare. This represents a foundational shift in how governments function, utilizing technology to streamline operations, facilitate decision-making, manage data, engage with society, and provide better citizens' experience. This transformation is achieved through the development of modern digital platforms and the adoption of innovative technologies, including machine learning, artificial intelligence (AI), blockchain, the internet of things (IoT), and others.

Indeed, despite the well-known benefits, not everything is rosy. Digital transformation has ushered in a host of intricate challenges, risks, and setbacks for governments, society, and businesses alike. The roster of cyber-related crimes and issues is extensive and continually expanding. Moreover, two issues pose substantial threats to the government's ability to deliver public services effectively, transparently, and equitably: digital divide or exclusion and algorithmic discrimination.

Hence, digital transformation is undeniably a positive and largely irreversible paradigm. Nevertheless, it is equally evident that the outcomes of these innovations, particularly concerning the digital divide and the indiscriminate deployment of algorithms, are not always foreseeable and can have adverse effects on the effectiveness of processes and services, the safeguarding of citizens' rights, and the levels of public trust in government.

In this context, this workshop focuses on exploring the trends and challenges of policy innovation in the Digital Era observed worldwide. The workshop welcomes papers with various approaches - theoretical, methodological, and empirical - that: i) analyze initiatives leveraging digital transformation to enhance public sector performance; ii) Present case studies highlighting setbacks or risks associated with digital innovation in the public policy; iii) examine how governments worldwide are designing transparency and accountability instruments to adapt to the impacts of digital transformation. These efforts should align with ethical and integrity standards, as well as the participatory and inclusive principles valued by society.

ABSTRACT

The adoption of digital technologies as a guideline for the public sector has become a global phenomenon, extending to both developed and emerging countries, including a vast range of digital innovations based on a complex legal framework and guided by principles of networking. Despite the well-known benefits, not everything is rosy. Digital transformation has ushered in a host of intricate challenges, risks, and setbacks for governments, society, and businesses alike.

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Session 1Digital transformation and innovations in government

Wednesday, June 26th 10:15 to 12:00 (AULA 8)

Discussants

Fernando Filgueiras (Federal University of Goiás)

Digital Government Transformation in the MENA Region: Trends, Challenges, Policy Solutions and Theoretical Implications

Anis Ben Brik, PhD (Hamad Bin Khalifa University)

Data-driven public policies; 2 Digital Transformation projects deployed at Guadalajara Metropolitan Area

Gerardo Rodríguez Barba (CIATEQ)

(Virtual) Reforming Public Service through innovative E-governance practices: Public Service Logic Perspective

Mahnoor Farooq (Quaid-i-Azam University)

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Session 2Sectoral transformations, digital technologies and policy implementation

Wednesday, June 26th 14:00 to 17:15 (AULA 8)

Discussants

Pedro Cavalcante (Brazilian Institute of Education, Development and Research (IDP))

Research on the policy environment of China's healthcare big data development based on PMC index model

Gu Yichun (Shanghai Health Development Research Center (Shanghai Institute of Medical Science and Technology Information))

He Da

(Virtual) The Effects of E-commerce on Rural Income Inequality: Evidence from China

Xiaokang Li (Central China Normal University)

Dawei Zhang (Institute for Political Science Advanced Study?Institute of China Rural Studies?,CCNU)

Optimizing Digital Health Equity in Smart and Connected Healthcare Ecosystem: a Transaction Cost Economics Perspective for Implementation Strategies

Chin-Fun Chu

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Session 3Governance, risks and challenges of digital transformation

Thursday, June 27th 09:00 to 12:15 (AULA 8)

Discussants

Gerardo Rodríguez Barba (CIATEQ)

The European Union policy design for AI regulation

Nicola Giannelli (University of Urbino Carlo Bo)

(Virtual) The Political Logic of AI Risk Management Framework in the EU: Toward a Tentative and Resilient Governance of AI

Qiuyang Yu (Hubei University)

AI is at full speed in public management, but how about the risks and the governmental measures?

Pedro Cavalcante (Brazilian Institute of Education, Development and Research (IDP))