

Panel at Asian Association of Public Administration Conference

Shanghai, December 3-4, 2022

Artificial Intelligence and Urban Governance

In the past decade, the rapid development of Artificial Intelligence (AI) has driven tremendous changes in the economy, society, and government (Giest & Klievink, 2022). In cities, the adoption and application of AI may have changed the lifestyles of citizens, the roles and functions of government, and the activities of corporations and NGOs.

Many researchers have noticed the chances and challenges of AI in urban governance. For specific areas, the algorithms recently developed in AI areas raise the performance of city public spending (Valle-Cruz et al., 2022), public services (O'Malley 2014), citizens' satisfaction and support (Chatterjee et al., 2021; Stukal et al., 2022) and so on. The use of smart tools also poses risks and challenges to governments and other participants in urban governance, especially in the areas of public policy (Valle-Cruz et al., 2020), public order and law (Nunn, 2020), privacy protection (Saura et al., 2022), public value (Andrews, 2019), and AI ethics (Taeihagh, 2021). The ethical and legal concerns of AI applications have attracted fierce discussion.

However, there are still important questions to be investigated and solved. Research remains negligible about the (potential) changes in public service demand and supply, relationships, transactions, and interactions among governance partners brought by AI. Many experimentations of AI governance in both developed and developing countries also bring great opportunities to analyze the effects and mechanisms of AI application, and cross-country and cross-city comparative studies are urgently needed. Despite much philosophical and ethical discussion on AI governance, more empirical studies are needed to identify the changes, effects, opportunities, and risks brought by AI. The role of AI remains to be explored in facing new governance challenges and achieving sustainable development goals.

This panel aspires to identify new research landscapes and build conscious research agendas for AI and urban governance. Research topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- AI and citizens
 - Citizen rights, values, and diversity
 - Citizen-centric services
 - Trust in public authorities

- Privacy protection
- AI in city governments
 - Policy making, implementation, and evaluation
 - Bureaucracy and the structure of bureaucracies
 - Personnel management
 - Threat intelligence and security
- AI in NGOs and private sector organizations
 - Organizational development and service supply
 - Intersectoral collaborations
 - Relationships and interactions between the state and social actors.
- AI in city public services
 - Health, education, and social welfare
 - Public security and society stability
 - Transportation and urban planning
 - Emergency services
 - Public service delivery
- AI for sustainable development
 - Environment protection and global warming
 - Reducing poverty and hunger
 - healthier and more sustainable cities
- Theories about AI in governance
 - Different concepts of AI in governance
 - The development history of AI in governance
 - AI applications and stakeholder's relation
 - Fairness and inequality of AI use

Research presented at this organized panel might be considered for publication by [Policy & Politics](#) and [Urban Governance](#). Both journals will leave it to authors to decide where they think their article would best fit with different journal aims and scope. Authors are strongly advised to click on the journal titles above to read their editorial statements before submitting, to ensure their article is of relevance to the journal. All manuscripts submitted to the two journals would be subject to the standard peer review process.

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