The View from the Other Side of Smart Governance!

Saleem Zoughbi
IEEE STC e-Gov committee member

Abstract. The different levels of addressing the e-of-things have burgeoned and proliferated in such a way that the exact scale and nature of understanding carried by this e-something has caused a multiple of disarray among not only government entities but among the citizens and every institution that works for social development. This gap of understanding has also increased the impact of any development. Hence the lack of concerted and adopted standards have caused, particularly in societies of developing countries, a widespread of e-democracy, e-participation, e-community, etc. that are of varying levels. One wonders then why in these developing countries which need democracy, collaboration and citizen participation more than all other countries, a dynamic and efficient balance of the politics, socioeconomic development and social societies fail to align into a cohesive power rather than scatter efforts thus minimizing impact and results.

I believe a triple helix model to control such forces can be adopted to achieve this end. Certainly political instability and lack of good governance would be difficult to defeat in a short time, but enlisting the true power of e-participation and e-collaboration to transform the majority of the society into a well prepared e-community would quickly develop e-democratic models of operation including e-voting and for that matter “e-prosperity!”

Biography

Saleem Zoughbi is a global advisor for Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Saleem Zoughbi has been providing technical assistance and advisory services to over 30 countries. He focused on development and has been assisting governments on the strategic and policy levels on e-governance, smart cities, national strategies and ICT development. In addition, he conducts consultations for major consulting firms such as Booze, PricewaterhouseCooper and others in technical missions and projects. He is active in international community of e-governance, strategies and policies of smart governance, mobile government, smart cities and smart sectors, and ICT for development. He focused on development and has been assisting governments on the strategic and policy levels on e-governance, smart cities, national strategies and ICT development. He worked for the United Nations Economic and Social Commission of Western Asia (UN ESCWA). This included special technical advice in different applications such as the evaluation of national policies and strategies, evaluation of IT departments within a CIO approach that includes business and process re-engineering, planning and evaluation in e-government and e-governance, databases, data centers and others. He provided a lot of technical advisories to ministries of several countries on public sector information management, enterprise architecture, ICT policies and strategies, national development plans in addition to e-governance and assessment of e-government national strategies and operational initiatives. He worked in 2013 as a senior adviser at the UN eGOV at IIST, of the United Nations University in Macao. He is also currently adviser to UN APCIC in UN ESCAP in enterprise architecture providing developing knowledge sharing, capacity building and running advisory mission to Central and South East Asia and the Pacific. He is a committed member of the IEEE STC eGov committee and coordinates the ICT for development specially e-governance and smart governance.