

FUTURE OF DURRES: SMART CITY AND SMART UNIVERSITY

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ABSTRACT

Moving towards becoming a smart city is the best approach for the city of Durres, in Albania, in order to solve its current problems, as well as deal with the future development requirements in a sustainable manner. The information and communication technologies, together with the scientific know-how and human resources of the Aleksander Moisiu University, would assist the city of Durres navigate through challenges, achieving a mutually beneficial smart city-smart university relationship. Since the beginning of the 1990s, the city of Durres and the whole of Albania have been plagued by unregulated, chaotic development and uninformed decision-making processes. Our purpose through this paper is to show that the smart city approach — by teaming up with the Aleksander Moisiu University and applying ICTs, smart computing and the Internet of Things — is the best way forward for the city of Durres to cope with such difficulties, and that is proven by means of various examples of other cities around the world, which have had comparable development dilemmas. Using methods of observation and secondary data analysis, we have collected data from successful examples of smart cities, such as Mannheim, Tartu, Vilnius and Bristol, reaching to quantified results and conclusions that the smart city approach is the right alternative for the city of Durres and the Aleksander Moisiu University of Durres would be a valuable partner in implementing such an alternative.

Keywords: Smart city, smart university, ICTs, smart computing, IoT.