Following OCDE Recommendations on Digital Government: Open Innovation and Data Science

Digital Government Editor's introduction

By Carlos E. Jimenez-Gomez

This introduction presents the two pieces written by Dr. Gasco-Hernandez and Dr. Luna-Reyes, for the fourth issue of the Association for Computing Machinery, Special Interest Groups on Computers and Society (SIGCAS) Newsletter. We introduce the articles through their main topics (open innovation and the data scientist) as linked elements to the OCDE strategies recommended for Digital Government and, specifically, to collaboration and openness as social-enablers.

Introduction to the Articles on Digital Government

Following the OCDE (2014)[1], Digital Government "*refers to the use of digital technologies, as an integrated part of governments' modernisation strategies, to create public value. It relies on a digital government ecosystem comprised of government actors, non-governmental organisations, businesses, citizens' associations and individuals which supports the production of and access to data, services and content through interactions with the government*". Digital Government has important links to both Computer and Society. Citizens' associations, individuals and other society's stakeholders participate in open-oriented government policies in different ways, facilitated by computers and technology.

Two of the strategies included in the OCDE Recommendation [C(2014)88] refer to "*encourage engagement and participation of public, private and civil society stakeholders in policy making and public service design and delivery*" as well as to "*create a data-driven culture in the public sector*".

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[1] OECD Council Recommendation [C(2014)88]. July, 15th, 2014. http://www.oecd.org/gov/digital-government/Recommendation-digital-government-strategies.pdf. Last access November 6th, 2017.

Participation in public service delivery and data are precisely the focus of Prof. Gasco-Hernandez and Prof. Luna-Reyes's contributions. The authors belong to the Center of Technology in Government and the Rockefeller College of Public Affairs & Policy of the University at Albany, State University of New York.

In her article "*Reflection on new research trends. ICT-Enabled Innovation in the Public Sector*", Prof. Gasco-Hernandez addresses the topic of open innovation in the public sector and, therefore, refers to the engagement of different stakeholders in public innovation processes, one of the OCDE's recommended strategies Prof. Gasco-Hernandez summarizes some of the contributions to the idea of ICT-enabled open innovation to show that further research is still needed to understand the dynamics and contribution of ICT-enabled open innovation to e-governance and public innovation.

In his article, "*The Search for the Data Scientist. Creating Value from Data*", Prof. Luna-Reyes discusses the importance of the role of data scientist. The author presents the skills and competencies needed by data scientists. He adopts collaborative view of data science, instead of an individual perspective, and links it to cities' adoption and use of the Internet of Things technologies to improve decision and policy making, in order to solve relevant city problems.

Collaboration and openness are two of the main social-oriented elements in current trends on Digital Government, where technology has a key role. My gratefulness to Professor Gasco-Hernandez and Professor Luna-Reyes for these two pieces, that I really hope the reader of the ACM SIGCAS Newsletter will enjoy.