

SUMMARY

We suggest considering the perspective of the smart and sustainable cities (SSC) since it is an innovative approach to work around the intricacies regarding the growth of urban population. SSC proposes urban planning and management focusing on the citizen, in this matter thinking around the use of emerging technologies should mean merged this technologies with traditional infrastructure ICTs.

Regarding the activities of children and adolescents in the digital environment, our contribution is to focus on a different way of understanding connection time.

One of the challenges we have in Argentina is the quality and extension of internet connectivity, not only on mobiles devices but also on residential connections. Internet coverage in Argentina is one of the larger on Latin America, it's the fourth country in the region.. In the last three years residencial connections have been duplicated, on January of 2019 there were 38.493.045 connections.

The development on digital economy has prompt the creation of companies whose business model is based on personal data exploitation. This transformation of the production model led to change the paradigm on which commodities are not natural resources, instead there are personal aspect of the citizens.

ADC suggests continuing and deepening the work for the incorporation of more women in ICT-related jobs as well as considering a broad perspective on women's access to ICT.

1.

On point 1 of this consultation we suggest considering the perspective of the smart and sustainable cities (SSC) since it is an innovative approach to work around the intricacies regarding the growth of urban population. SSC proposes urban planning and management focusing on the citizen, in this matter thinking around the use of emerging technologies should mean merged this technologies with traditional infrastructure ICTs. In SSC, new ICTs have the potential to contribute to improve utilities functionality and also improve stakeholders participation on the design and planning of the cities.

New ICTs democratized the use of internet when they contribute to the aware engagement creating share knowledge about urban governance and also promoting an increase on the competitiveness and business benefits particularly on the digital economy sector. Besides SSC infrastructure in terms of functionality, planning and management can offer equity, justice and better quality of life.

Regarding the activities of children and adolescents in the digital environment, our contribution is to focus on a different way of understanding connection time.



In this sense, the pattern of risk to which children and adolescents are exposed varies with respect to the way they interact. It is therefore recommended to pay attention not only to the time children and adolescents spend online but also to the quality of that time as well as to the relationships that are generated in it.¹

2.

On point 2 we are going to respond taking into account Argentina's situation.

One of the challenges we have in Argentina is the quality and extension of internet connectivity, not only on mobile devices but also on residential connections. Internet coverage in Argentina is one of the larger on Latin America, it's the fourth country in the region.² In the last three years residential connections have been duplicated, on January of 2019 there were 38.493.045 connections.

Between 2017 and 2019 the amount of mobile connections has been increased in an exponential way showing a growing consume tendency on this type of service. Towards december of 2017 mobile connections were 11.122.528³ meanwhile on the first trimester of 2019 there were risen upto 31.020.206 connections.⁴

Another challenge we face in Argentina is the speed on internet connectivity, we have a speed below world and regional averages. According to Ookla and their site Speedtest, Argentina is 79 from a 144 ranking with a download speed of 23,48 Mbps.⁵

According to the Argentine Internet Chamber (CABASE) there are great speeds connectivity differences between regions on the country, the average speed on residential connections is 13,1 Mbs but barely the 43% of those connections exceed 10 Mb of download speed and 40,7% are connections speed between 1 and 6 Mb⁶, this summed with the high price of those services.⁷

A report from OpenSignal established Argentina on the number 12 of 14 regional countries regarding average speed on mobile connectivity with 12,5 Mbps download speed. In terms of 4g coverage availability, Argentina is fifth on the regional ranking, from 14 countries it's below Uruguay, Perú, México and Bolivia.⁸

1 "Educating 21st Century Children Emotional Well-being in the Digital Age" OECD <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/b7f33425-en/index.html?itemId=/content/publication/b7f33425-en>

2 https://repositorio.cepal.org/bitstream/handle/11362/43365/1/S1800083_es.pdf

3 Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Censos, Ministerio de Hacienda, https://www.indec.gob.ar/uploads/informesdeprensa/internet_12_17.pdf

4 Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Censos, Ministerio de Hacienda, https://www.indec.gob.ar/uploads/informesdeprensa/internet_06_19CBA837FC38.pdf

5 Speedtest Global Index, <https://www.speedtest.net/global-index>

6 CABASE Internet Index: <https://www.cabase.org.ar/cabase-internet-index-el-40-de-las-conexiones-de-internet-de-argentina-no-superan-los-6-mb/>

7 CABASE, Estado de Internet en Argentina y la Región <https://www.cabase.org.ar/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/CABASE-Internet-Index-II-Semestre-2018.pdf>

8 As 4G reach in Latin America improves, so does the consumer experience", Open Signal, 5 de marzo de 2018, disponible en: <https://www.opensignal.com/blog/2018/03/05/as-4g-reach-in-latin-america->

3.

The development on digital economy has prompt the creation of companies whose business model is based on personal data exploitation. This transformation of the production model led to change the paradigm on which commodities are not natural resources, instead there are personal aspect of the citizens.

Furthermore, the Government has been implementing more technologies that intensively use citizen data. In this matter, the information that que public sector has is a risk factor regarding privacy rights.

When our body, opinions, beliefs, etc. are subject to storage, processing or transfer to third parties by actors public and private, a data protection regulation is necessary personal that points in two directions. On the one hand, to strengthen and expand rights of individuals along with increased obligations to the data controllers. On the other hand, ensuring a control authority with the financial and human resources adequate to accomplish its task and that it is independent and impartial.

We suggest a wide perspective regarding data portability and antitrust framework because they are not conflicted. Therefore it's important to think in strong privacy rules together with modern, reformed antitrust framework.

Regarding data portability it seems important to clarify that it depends on what we mean that concept. For instance. there is "portability" of data between companies belonging to the same owner. We tend to lean towards a portability concept that gives the owner/user agency over their data. For example, I go to another owner's company and there I help them compete.

We are in full claim of portability as a right, with the basic objective of propitiating a strong idea of informative self-determination, and putting the data subject holder in the center of the scene.

4.

Finally, ADC suggests continuing and deepening the work for the incorporation of more women in ICT-related jobs as well as considering a broad perspective on women's access to ICT.

In this sense, about Argentina's context, according to a report on Internet access recently published by the National Institute of Statistics and Censuses (INDEC,



for its Spanish acronym), in Argentina it is estimated that 64% of urban households have access to a computer while 76% have access to the Internet. Data shows that in the country 8 out of 10 people use cell phones and 7 out of 10 use the Internet.⁹ Age groups of 18 to 29 have registered the highest level of cell phone and Internet use.

There is a slight difference between men and women regarding the use of ICTs. Men use the Internet and the computer 1.7% more than women. Regarding the use of cell phones, there is barely any difference. As we aforementioned, the introduction of the Internet is steadily growing in our country and, while data provided by INDEC indicates that a fourth of the population lacks Internet access, today Argentina is one of the countries with the highest connectivity ratios in the region. Many reports have also established that the connection speed is below world average rates and faster in large cities compared to the interior of the country. Besides, the cost of connectivity is one of the highest in Latin America, despite the fact that the quality of the service is lacking.¹⁰

This aspect of Internet access is rather crucial, indeed. However, it is not the only aspect to be taken into account when it comes to women accessing ICTs. Regarding the above, it should be said that universal formulas which offer access to Internet, whatever the cost, to everyone without taking into account their social background (for example, offering restricted Internet access to populations with scarce resources) ought to be reconsidered. In this sense, many women analysts and experts in access and gender believe that public policies designed to connect people –and women in particular– to the Internet ought to consider their cultural background, age differences and socialization patterns when addressing this kind of topics. The reason behind this is that each group of women poses different types of challenges depending on their age and geographical location and said challenges must be addressed by attending to women's specific needs. Making these parameters visible is crucial to understanding the differences in terms of access and to allocating resources in order to overcome them. For example, it is essential to take into account the gender roles women adopt in their communities and the importance given to ICTs in the public life of those groups where they belong.

Hence, it is worth going deeper in the debate over what we understand by access and inclusion of “disconnected” people. This would also allow us to start thinking about the ways in which people may participate (especially women) in the creation of technologies.

9 Technical report: “Access and use of information and communications technologies”, published in 2018. EPH, INDEC. https://www.indec.gov.ar/uploads/informesdeprensa/mautic_05_18.pdf

10 CABASE “Estado de Internet en Argentina y la Región” 2nd semester, 2018 <https://www.cabase.org.ar/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/CABASE-Internet-Index-II-Semestre-2018.pdf>