**22. Responsible cities: paradigms, practices and policies**

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The purpose of this session is to use the dimension of responsibility – differently declined – as an analytical framework of current cities, taking in consideration multiple levels of analysis: theoretical paradigms, practices, policies and forms of governance. The dimensional growth and the complexification of the urban sphere and environment recall the urgency to improve studies and researches around this concept.

If there is no real definition of the concept of responsible city today, still it is possible to identify in the current debate, some prevailing interpretations that call into question three crucial dimensions: 1) sharing, 2) collaboration and 3) sustainability. On one hand, these dimensions seem to outline nowadays the semantic and discursive framework of different policies, which try to redesign the ways of dialogue and relationship between citizens and institutions, as well as to reformulate the paradigms of local and economic development. On the other hand, the same above mentioned three dimensions define a field of practices that move "from the bottom" and within the social fabric of the city. In this perspective, some emerging paradigms can be identified: the ones of "sharing cities" and "collaborative cities" - this latter often alternatively declined as “common city”- and, finally, the one of the "circular city". Each of these paradigms can help to highlight useful elements to rethink cities as more fair, inclusive, sustainable and as a space for the re-generation of commons and where enact forms of shared social responsibility, however it seems more and more necessary – without the intent of defining in normative sense what a responsible city is or should be – to try to highlight some coordinates that help to overcome a reductive perspective, "flattened" on the "technological" element – such as in the variation of the "smart cities" as well as sometimes in the circular and sharing cities frames – towards a more "substantial" reading, which gives the attention not only to the "how", but also to the purpose of the change that we want to produce on the social, economic and environmental level. Technology is certainly an enabling factor, however never neutral. Technological innovation should rather be framed within socio-technical systems declined according to the different cultural aspects and the nature of the economic system within which innovation is produced and operate.

Which kind of imaginaries, paradigms, practices and policies can reshape and foster a co-construction
of responsible cities, meanwhile making substantial this concept and getting back also its political dimension?

This call intends to invite for proposals that help to confront with this question with theoretical as well as empirical contributions in relation to different spheres of urban life. Among the many issues that may be investigated, the following are an example of areas of interest:

- Collaborative consumption
- Circularity of production and consumption (reduction, reuse and recycling)
- Solidarity economy
- Responsible tourism
- Urban commoning
- Community and new forms of proximity
- Collaborative governance and bottom-link governance
- Socially innovative policies for sustainable cities