

Sustainability, urbanization and (socio-) technology policies

The common element of this research line is the examination of how change processes are managed, whether from top to bottom (e.g., Smart City) or from bottom to top (e.g., peer-to-peer networks). Concerning sustainability, the focus is on socio-environmental flows and technology. Specifically, the research explores the reconfiguration processes of environmental governance in the context of technological and social change and the climate crisis, particularly emphasizing the hydro-climatic dimension and urban resilience in various contexts. In terms of urbanization, the analysis covers the urbanization of digital capitalism, i.e., the political economy of contemporary processes of urban restructuring driven by the transformation at multiple scales of digital economies and societies. Special attention is given to new technology-mediated urban models while also addressing issues such as housing access. In the realm of (socio-)technology policies, the research examines the processes of collaborative knowledge creation (co-creation/co-production) in digital and non-digital environments related to urban transformation, with a focus on social innovation. Community initiatives in informal contexts and citizen participation in formal contexts are analyzed to provide critical insight into the political, ecological, social, and cultural dimensions of knowledge transmission, learning, and co-production. Finally, the research delves into open science, technology, and innovation, particularly initiatives and projects involving, on the one hand, non-professional individuals or unofficial experts in the construction of scientific knowledge or technical artifacts and on the other hand, the new configurations that emerge between science and society. The goal is to analyze how public participation and broader social engagement influence the construction of science and technology. The analytical background is rooted in Science and Technology Studies (STS).