

Policy Brief No. 5 - Urban indicators and the smart city agenda **[1]**




Recently, initiatives involving key performance indicators (KPIs) have been influenced by the smart city agenda and the digital revolution, in terms of content, data collection, analysis and dissemination processes. ICT, big data, open data, real-time information, data analytics, dashboards and operation centres are some of the main components of this movement. Taking into account the different KPI initiatives and their evolution, the POCACITO project defined a set of urban indicators oriented to assessing cities' performance and to analysing their transition towards a post-carbon future, comprising economic, environmental and social dimensions. However, several methodological and policy limitations can be observed when urban indicators are used, notably in the development of benchmarking exercises among cities of different countries. Finally, this Policy Brief looks at ways to support trends towards standardisation, openness, interoperability, innovation and collaboration, which can inform data-driven policy-making at local/regional, national and European levels.

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 [Policy Brief No. 5 - Urban indicators and the smart city agenda](#) [3]

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