

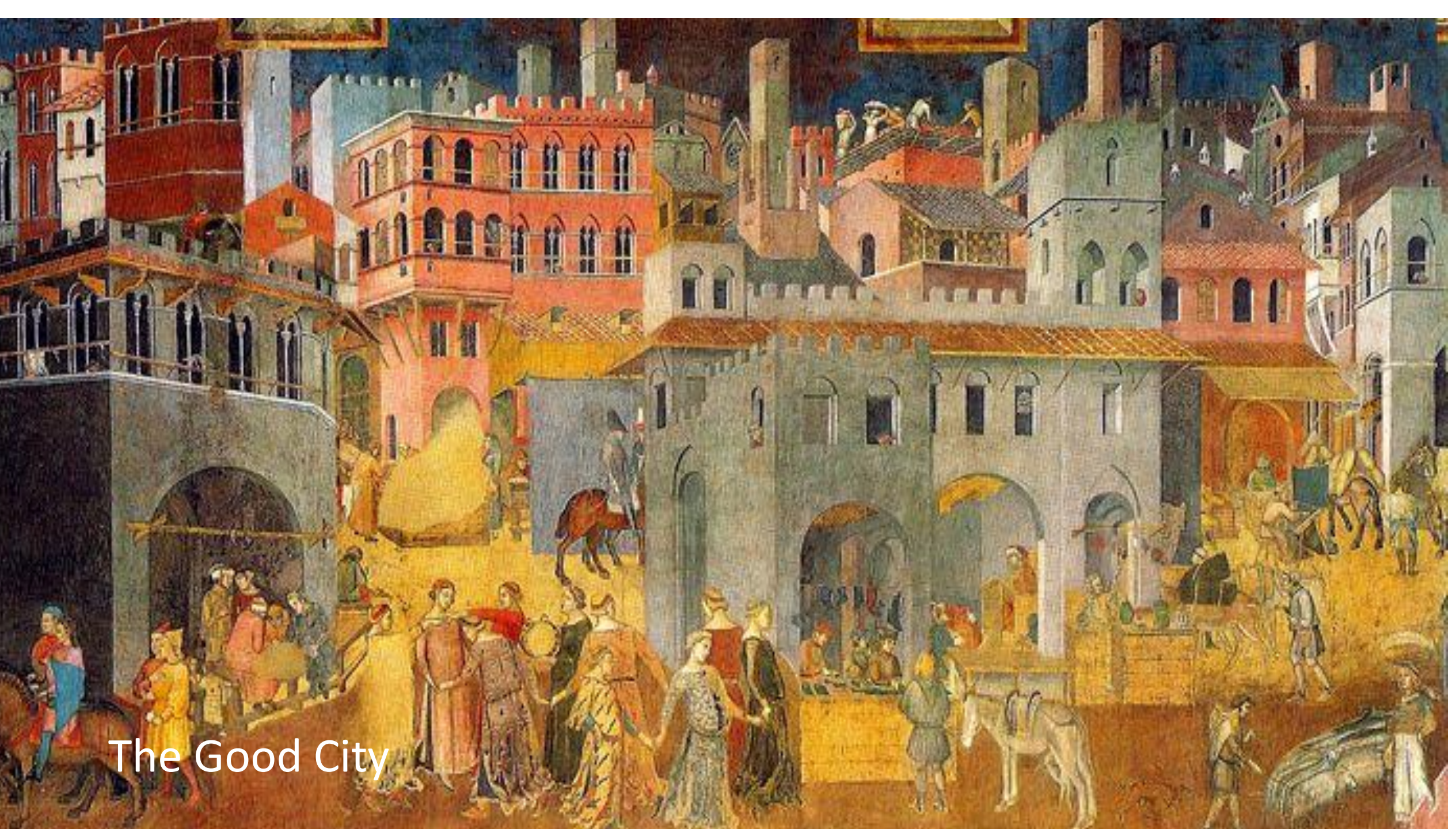
Smart for Whom? Smart about What? Post Covid Opportunities and Challenges for Smart Cities

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The Urban Institute
October 23, 2020





Allegory of Bad Government



The Good City



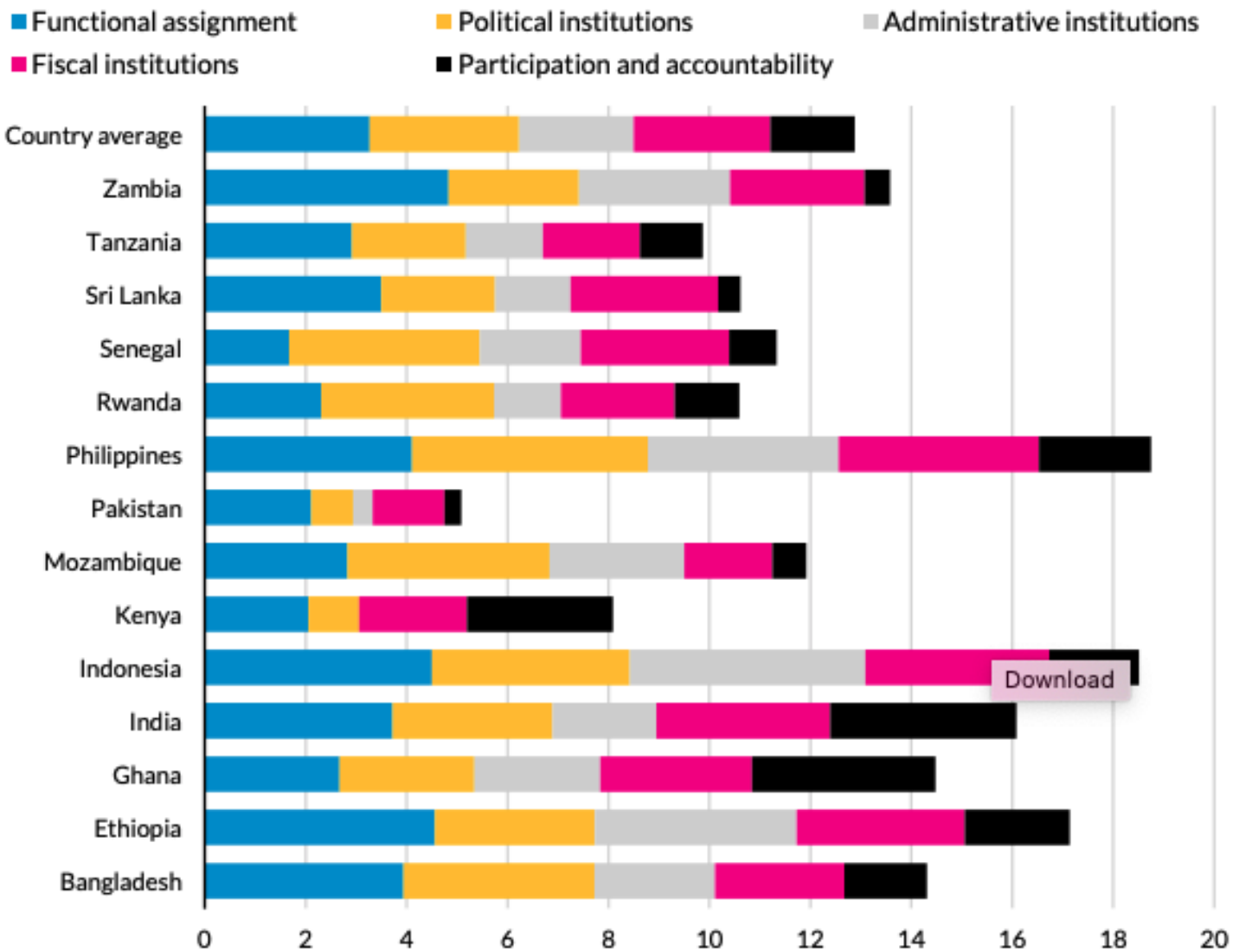
The Allegory of Good Government

Smart Cities and Resilience

- Many "smart" initiatives in cities, where technology is helping improve a particular service, or create new information.
- Do they address or alter the fundamentals, updated somewhat from the Sieneese frescoes painted in 1338:
 - Discretion
 - Resources
 - Accountability

FIGURE 1

Institutional Dimensions of Urban Service Delivery Performance, Average Scores by Country



Source: Scores assigned by local experts based on the assessment framework.

Dynamic Cities?

The Role of Urban Local Governments in Improving Urban Service Delivery Performance in Africa and Asia

Boex, Malik, Brookins and Edwards (2016)

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Smart City Mission India

- National Infrastructure program
- Indore, Madhya Pradesh, one of 100
 - (and cleanest city in India)
- Innovation:
 - Special Purpose Vehicle to include private sector and
 - To combine fragmented government entities
 - Data Center
 - Launch several cross-sector coordination efforts.

- Limitations
 - Many investments do not have a lot of smart associated with them
 - Fragmented governance continues
 - Opaque operations
 - Limited private sector engagement, limited citizen engagement
 - Unclear path to sustainability of the SPV vis-à-vis elected urban government

India's Infrastructure Gap continues to loom large and probably larger



Indonesia – local initiative, but more local discretion

- No national program, city-by-city ad hoc efforts
- Makassar Mayor's initiative
 - Based in ICT office in Mayors office
 - Slow progress integrating other departments – but successes in areas of health and traffic, project has aligned with the local planning and busget office - BAPPEDA
- Still issues
 - Indonesian context for local government – the incomplete decentralization agenda reaching back to 1998
 - Emphasis on spending more than performance
 - Uneven oversight/interference from the center
- But examples of success exist across Indonesia, and Makassar project has about 15 smart initiative going on around the city

Questions for Smart City Efforts – Next Steps

- Who gets to us the data or technology?
 - City managers?
 - Citizens?
- Does it generate new information that bears on key functionality of the city?
- Does it change how people communicate, share information, compete, or collaborate?
 - Increase voice or agency of the poor?
 - Force attention to ignored or buried issues?
- How does it affect the flow of resources?



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Thank you for your attention.

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