

Creating Smart Cities in the Caribbean.

How do you say Smart City in Sranan?

Technology changed everything in our world. Things that used to be science-fiction are now reality. Life with a smartphone is pretty easy: you can email, chat, make video-calls, use Facebook and Youtube, buy online at for instance Amazon, play games and check your movies and series via Netflix. All of it on your own little screens.

With the rise of [Artificial Intelligence](#) computers are getting much smarter everyday. We already have [autonomous driving](#) cars and buses, drones for logistics and agriculture. Robots are entering the workforce and humans are spending more time online and are also consuming more online. We actually live in a time where [Data](#) is becoming the most valuable asset.

The internet is now [the internet of things](#), new technological developments such as the [blockchain](#), cryptocurrencies and cybersecurity are redefining the rules of knowledge, business and power. The world around us is changing rapidly.

World famous cities such as Amsterdam, New York, [Singapore](#), South Korea and of course [Dubai](#) to name a few are transforming into Smart Cities.

The benefits of a Smart City are cost efficiencies, transparency, safety and speed of operations. You get Data driven decision making and can connect internationally with other Smart Cities. This will improve the quality of life in the city for both inhabitants and visitors and will stimulate international trade. A Smart City that is designed with the right vision and that is integrated into the local context and culture will bring plenty of opportunities for everyone.

Nowadays you need to have an innovative Digital Strategy as a country. In fact in the near future the government can and will use artificial intelligence to form or (re)shuffle a team of ministers and other governors.

Technology is not only about hosanna stories, look for example at the Cambridge Analytica case.

It is essential that the government, political parties, the business community and

the citizens learn more about the broader possibilities and risk that Smart technologies bring. It is not all without danger. In the United Kingdom a company called [Cambridge Analytica](#) played an obscure role in the Brexit referendum. And it seems like this company also used Data from millions of Facebook-users in the USA to manipulate the outcome of the elections in favor of Trump.

In Suriname there are relatively many Facebook-users so it might get interesting during the elections in 2020. So it is key that apart of Smart Technologies we also develop Smart Consciousness.

What makes a City real Smart?

How can the government make a City Smart?

How can the business community make a City Smart?

How do you integrate Technology with Cultural Context?

How do we deal with Big Data in a Smart City?

What are the dangers of a Smart City and how to mitigate those risks?

How to co-create a Smart City where you yourself would want to live?

All questions that we will discuss during the United Business Fair. Don't miss this seminar, come and help co create the Smart City that you want to live in!
Register here.....

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