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Research Article

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN IMPLEMENTING SMART CITY INITIATIVES IN SMALL METROPOLITAN AREAS: LESSONS FROM ASAYISH TOWNSHIP, BALKH

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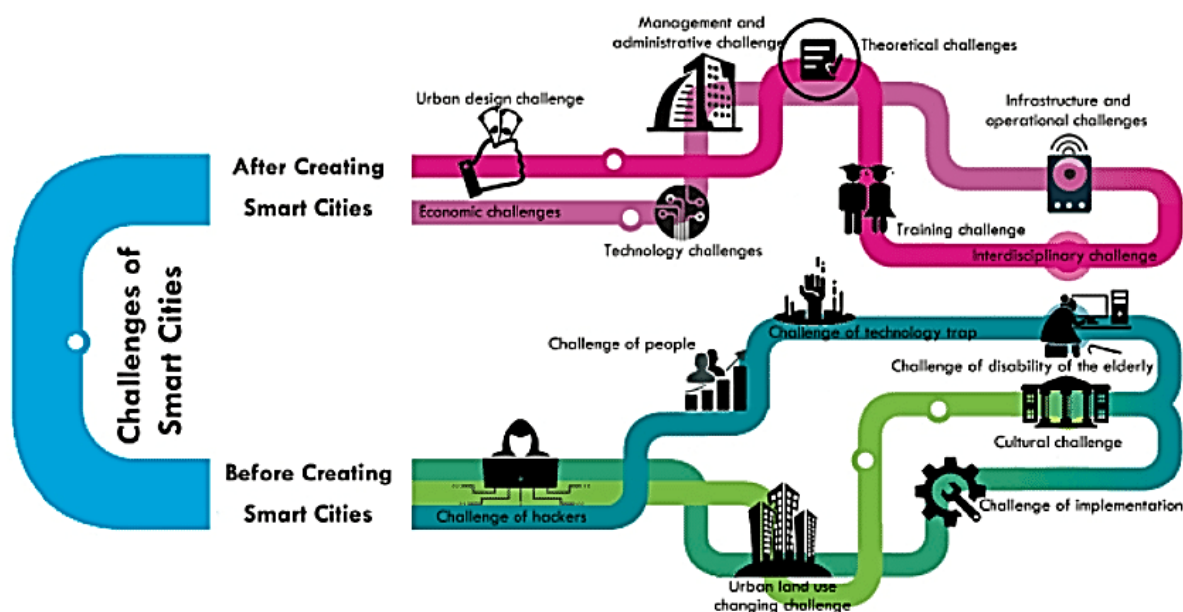
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ABSTRACT

In order to execute smart city programs in small metropolitan regions, there are both possibilities and obstacles that need to be considered. A mixed-methods approach is used in the study, which is based on a case study of ASAYISH Township in Balkh and includes interviews with important stakeholders and a review of pertinent literature. The findings show that although implementing smart city programs in small metropolitan areas presents special obstacles, doing so has the potential to address a number of urban concerns, including those connected to transportation, energy, and public services. The study finishes by emphasizing the necessity for policymakers to give small metropolitan regions top priority when implementing smart city efforts.

KEYWORDS

Smart city, Small metropolitan areas, ASAYISH Township, Balkh, Case study, Challenges, Opportunities, Mixed-methods approach.



INTRODUCTION

Recent years have seen an increase in interest in smart city efforts as a method of tackling urban issues including traffic, pollution, and wasteful resource usage. However, minor metropolitan regions have received relatively little attention in the study on smart cities, which has largely concentrated on major metropolitan areas. Using the case study of ASAYISH Township in Balkh, this article examines the potential and problems involved in implementing smart city programs in small metropolitan regions.

LIMITATION OF STUDY

The lack of data and information on how smart city projects are being implemented in smaller metro regions places restrictions on this study. Despite our best efforts, the scope and depth of the study may not have been as comprehensive as we would have liked. The research is further constrained by the fact that it does not examine other minor metropolitan regions, but only utilizes ASAYISH Township as a case study.

METHODOLOGY

A mixed-methods approach was used for the study technique, which included literature reviews and interviews with important stakeholders. In ASAYISH Township, politicians, urban planners, and members of the general public were questioned to learn more about their opinions on the potential and problems related to implementing smart city programs in smaller metropolitan regions. A thorough search of academic journals, books, and publications on smart city efforts in small metropolitan regions was done for the literature study.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The literature analysis focuses on the prospects and difficulties of putting smart city projects into practice in smaller metropolitan regions. These difficulties include difficulties with the creation of infrastructure, the gathering and administration of data, and public acceptability. But smart city efforts also provide

prospects for bettering urban services, boosting economic growth, and enhancing sustainability.

The primary portion of the essay looks at the prospects and difficulties of putting smart city projects into practice in ASAYISH Township. The case study indicates that while implementing smart city programs in small metropolitan regions presents special obstacles, doing so has the potential to address a variety of urban concerns, including those pertaining to transportation, energy, and public services. The case study emphasizes the significance of stakeholder involvement and the demand for a thorough strategy for smart city development.

RESULTS

The study's findings suggest that smart city projects have the ability to help small metropolitan regions with a variety of urban problems. The implementation of such programs presents a number of difficulties, including problems with infrastructure construction, data gathering and management, and public acceptance, as shown by the case study of ASAYISH Township. The case study, however, also draws attention to the advantages of smart city projects, such as greater municipal services, improved economic growth, and higher sustainability.

DISCUSSION

Here we emphasize the necessity for politicians to give small metropolitan regions' adoption of smart city projects top priority. The case study of ASAYISH Township exemplifies the benefits of stakeholder participation as well as the potential and problems related to such projects. The debate also emphasizes the necessity of a thorough strategy for smart city development that takes into consideration the particulars of small metropolitan regions.

CONCLUSIONS

As a result, the paper concludes that while implementing smart city initiatives presents particular difficulties for small metropolitan areas, doing so has the potential to address a variety of urban issues, including those pertaining to public services, energy, transportation, and other related issues. The case study of ASAYISH Township illustrates the difficulties and possibilities connected with smart city projects and emphasizes the necessity for policymakers to give such initiatives a high priority for implementation in small metropolitan regions.

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