Review of: "Achieving Sustainability in Smart Cities Mission in India through Universities' Innovation in India"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The Indian government has designated 98 cities as "smart cities" to improve efficiency through technology. The definition of a smart city is evolving, aligning with UN Sustainable Development Goal 11 for inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable urban areas. Technology has played a crucial role during the COVID-19 pandemic, facilitating measures like drone surveillance, remote work, and online education.

This study aims to analyze the correlation between economic development, sustainability, and innovation in Indian states. Findings suggest that economically developed states may not be sustainable, emphasizing the need for sustainable innovation in smart cities. Engineering colleges in Delhi currently lack focus on smart city innovation and can learn from the "living lab" experience in Barcelona.

To address this, colleges should prioritize technological needs and safety of marginalized groups and women. Collaboration among institutions, the corporate sector, and the government is crucial for achieving Sustainable Development Goal 17 and reducing inequality in smart cities.

In summary, the study highlights the importance of sustainable innovation, the role of engineering colleges, and the need for collaboration to promote inclusive and sustainable development in Indian smart cities.

The methodology used in the study includes a mixed approach that combines Spearman's rank correlation, descriptive statistics, and case study method with primary data. This implies that a variety of techniques and analyses were employed to address the research objectives.

The conclusions highlight the importance of developing sustainable smart cities, involving relevant stakeholders, considering differential needs, promoting collaboration, and aligning with the SDGs. It appears that one conclusion was missing. The missing conclusion is related to the need to raise awareness among universities and students regarding the specific technological needs of smart cities, as well as the special needs of marginalized groups and women in terms of safety and security. This conclusion is crucial to drive social innovation and promote equality within smart cities.

There are limitations that were not previously mentioned in the article are:

- Selection bias in case studies: If the case studies were selected in a non-random manner or if only certain types of universities or smart cities were included, it is relevant to mention this bias. This could impact the validity of the findings and their applicability to other contexts.

- Restriction in statistical analysis: If specific statistical methods were used or if there were limitations in the application of those methods, it is relevant to mention it. This allows readers to understand the limitations in interpreting the results and the robustness of the statistical analyses conducted.

Including these additional limitations could enrich the discussion and provide a more comprehensive view of the potential limitations of the study.