

# ICEGOV

2022 GUIMARÃES  
PORTUGAL

15<sup>th</sup> International Conference  
on Theory and Practice of  
Electronic Governance

4-7 OCTOBER 2022

[www.icegov.org](http://www.icegov.org)



# 2<sup>nd</sup>

# CALL FOR PAPERS & WORKSHOPS

*Digital Governance for Social, Economic,  
and Environmental Prosperity*

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: 15 MAY 2022**

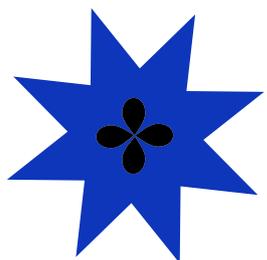
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ORGANISERS



SUPPORTERS



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## 1. INTRODUCTION



### NOTE:

This document has important clickable links. Please **use them**.

Social, Economic, and Environmental Prosperity are universally considered noble ideals for the Peoples, being elements of capital relevance to societies' progress and sustainable development. The role of governance and government institutions in achieving this trilogy of prosperity dimensions is unquestionable. Also unquestionable is the basilar and catalysing role of Digital Technologies in the transformation and improvement of government operations and governance mechanisms.

Under the theme **Digital Governance for Social, Economic, and Environmental Prosperity**, the 15th edition of ICEGOV aims at contributing to the debate, reflection, knowledge generation, and systematisation and sharing on how digital technologies can be effectively harnessed to foster prosperity and development. At the same time, the conference will contribute towards a more inclusive, just, resilient and trustworthy world where no one is left behind, in a tight and proper alignment with the discussions and actions that have been instigated and promoted by the UN Secretary-General and Member-States. A multitude of topics is available for paper submission via the thematic tracks.

ICEGOV 2022 will bring together academia, governments, international organisations, civil society, and industry to share the latest insights and experiences in the theory and practice of Digital Governance. The conference promotes interactions amongst all stakeholders, including researchers, policy-makers, government officials, elected representatives, innovators, and educators from both developing and developed countries. ICEGOV is a platform where people can discuss ways of working together and advancing public policy and development at the national and international levels.

Following 14 previous editions<sup>1</sup>, the conference has become a significant and structured source of rich research, policy insight, and networking reaching national and global audiences, while being ranked as one of the main conferences in Digital Governance. Coordinated by the United Nations University (UNU-EGOV), ICEGOV brings a state-of-the-art programme where international organisations and the United Nations system are a major driving force. Additionally, the conference heavily contributes towards the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

<sup>1</sup> Macau (2007), Cairo (2008), Bogotá (2009), Beijing (2010), Tallinn (2011), Albany (2012), Seoul (2013), Guimarães (2014), Montevideo (2016), New Delhi (2017), Galway (2018), Melbourne (2019), Online (2020), and Athens (2021).

In general figures, the conference community includes more than **1900** authors from **92** countries, who together have contributed towards **1298** published papers covering a vast majority of topics, regions, and people of the world. On average, every edition of the conference attracts more than 160 paper submissions and is attended by representatives from academia (60%), government (25%), and industry and international organisations (15%).

## 2. IMPORTANT DATES

Paper & Workshop submission deadline	15 May 2022
Workshop decision notification	27 May 2022
Paper decision notification	18 July 2022
Scholarship application period	20-27 July 2022
Scholarship decision notification	29 July 2022
Authors' registration deadline	4 September 2022
eRights and final paper (TAPS)	4 September 2022
Conference	4-7 October 2022
Doctoral Colloquium	7 October 2022
Workshops	7 October 2022

## 3. CONFERENCE TRACKS

ICEGOV 2022 invites submissions of original papers, not published nor considered for publication or in review elsewhere, that contribute to the conference theme and any of the following Conference Tracks.

### **TRACK 1 | Frontier technologies for a new era of governance**

Frontier technologies, such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT), Distributed Ledgers Technologies (DLT), and Blockchain can be the drivers of dramatic changes in the public sector, affecting all domains and administration levels, both at the back- and front-office level. They may support and promote the vision of a data-driven, intelligent, personalised, ubiquitous, and efficient government and society that provides services of unparalleled quality to citizens and businesses. Their application in public administration promises “disruptive improvements” concerning the availability, efficiency, security, interoperability, and openness of digital public services in several areas. Within this context, this Track aims at discussing opportunities and challenges, emerging practices, policies, innovative approaches, “dark” aspects and risks that may raise negative consequences, case studies, and more theoretical contributions concerning the adoption of frontier digital technologies that may shape future governments and societies. Possible applications and repercussions of the application of frontier technologies in governance are also included within the scope of this Track.

### **TRACK 2 | Privacy, security, legal informatics, and ethics for trustworthy institutions**

As digital technologies penetrate every area and domain of the public sector, society investigates the extent to which regulation is needed to ensure that this new phenomenon is an advantage rather than a threat. This Track discusses privacy, security, legal informatics, and the ethical dilemmas associated with the proper use of the “traditional”, as well as the use of frontier and disruptive digital technologies such as AI, IoT, DLT, Blockchain, Big Data processing, among others. Emphasis



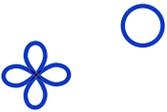
may be placed on privacy protection and security, both regarding traditional regulatory frameworks, such as GDPR or ISO 27000, or self-regulating approaches, practices, and technologies to promote privacy protection and security in digital governance. As digital technologies have a significant impact on legislation creation and access, there is increasing interest and emphasis on “digitisation ready” legislation, legal text mining, legal XML standards and models, legal ontologies, as well as further argumentation and reasoning models and approaches towards more automated legal services and information systems. New tools, practical and theoretical approaches, frameworks, and case studies concerning the ethical and secure use of digital technologies that respect privacy are also part of this Track.

### **TRACK 3 | International and transnational issues in digital governance**

Recent developments in digital governance have shown that successful digital transformation requires not just a high level of domestic collaboration but also strong regional, international, and transnational collaborative efforts. Digital governance increasingly involves issues beyond one individual country’s territory due to inevitable data flow and organisational collaborations across borders accelerated by the rapid development in technologies. How to address sovereign states’ concerns on autonomy, cybersecurity, identity management, and interoperability of data and services, while reaping the benefits of international and transnational cooperation has emerged as a prominent topic to be studied in digital governance. The United Nations Secretary-General has strongly and insistently stressed the relevance and unavoidability of pursuing digital cooperation. In the “Roadmap for Digital Cooperation” (June 2020) and “Our Common Agenda” (September 2021), he establishes digital cooperation as a key topic and a mandatory area of action for achieving the SDGs and a better world. This Track brings international and transnational context into the field by including topics such as digital sovereignty, digital diplomacy, digital humanism vis-à-vis cross-border data flows, services interoperability, identity management, cybersecurity, amongst other issues. It also emphasises the unique background of ICEGOV as a conference within the UN system, fostering the adoption of multilateral and collective approaches to address complex realities in the multiple UN Member States.

### **TRACK 4 | Digital transformation and innovation of public services and governments**

Digital transformation has become an essential part of the strategic agendas in both the public and private sectors. This Track focuses on new and reusable ways to use digital technologies in revolutionising how digital public services are provided and produced through the transformation of administration’s organisational, semantic, and technological aspects. This may include process re-engineering, the application of “once-only” principles to data and systems, establishing paperless and “beyond bureaucracy” practices, government as a platform and innovative service delivery ecosystems, automation of internal operations of governmental organisations, improvement of productivity, skills and competencies of the public servants or improving access to government information and public services by citizens and businesses. This Track also invites papers that analyse digital transformation and innovation initiatives at government agencies of different levels and domains, their drivers and motivations, the processes and strategies they adopted, the barriers and challenges they faced, their critical success factors, and their impact on various aspects of performance. Prospective papers discussing, exploring, putting forward, and anticipating main trends in public services delivery and governments operation are also welcome in this Track.



### **TRACK 5 | Open government, civic participation, and engagement**

Digital technologies are instrumental in improving the openness, transparency, and accountability of institutions and the participation and engagement of citizens in societal activities. They offer governments the possibility to streamline and transform their communication processes and relationships with citizens, businesses, and other non-government actors through multiple digital channels. This more engaging governance model brings together the government and other stakeholders for discussion and policy-making decisions from the early stages of policy formulation until the monitoring of its implementation. It also provides open and linked data across all sectors of the economy, thus enhancing transparency, accountability, and springing entrepreneurship. This Track seeks innovative contributions in the form of new approaches, case studies or more theoretical and visionary papers that cross the boundaries of traditional bureaucracy and show the potential of e-Participation, e-Voting, collaborative and participatory online politics, and the future of digital democracy. This Track also invites papers on the application of crowdsourcing in the public sector to collect policy-relevant information, knowledge, opinions, proposals, and ideas from citizens and public value co-creation with citizens and businesses. The role, adoption and use of social media to promote and transform civic participation and engagement is also a topic of interest of this Track.

### **TRACK 6 | Digital governance measurement, assessment, and monitoring**

The existence and application of assessment instruments increase the likelihood of success of digital governance, as well as digital transformation initiatives at different levels (i.e., local, regional, national, and international), and in other domains of the public sector (i.e., healthcare, education, justice, security, environmental planning, etc.). This Track examines frameworks, methods, and tools for measuring, assessing, and monitoring various aspects of digital governance and transformation development and progress, such as service provision, legal-organisational-semantic-technological interoperability, data quality, digital skills maturity, citizen engagement, infrastructure readiness, digital governance impact on citizens and societies, online services adoption, digital inclusion, the openness of government data, implementation of digital governance strategies and actions plans, and more. Additionally, this Track also invites papers that include reflections or enhancements on existing assessment methods currently used by nations or international organisations.

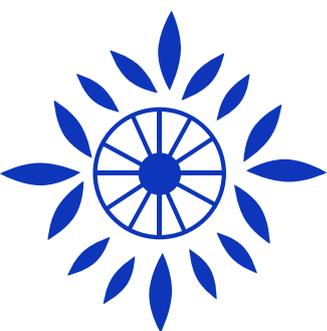
### **TRACK 7 | Inclusive, equitable, and resilient governments for the SDGs**

According to the United Nations and the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, the value of digital governance resides in its contribution to the “development for all”. “Leaving no one behind” is a must condition to fully exploit the expected value from digital governance and achieve societies’ desired level of transformation and prosperity. Nevertheless, there are still many cases of social exclusion or digital divides affecting different social vulnerable groups, such as women, elders, children, migrants, and minority communities worldwide, due to how the digital governance concept is operationalised. Accordingly, this Track calls for research contributions in areas such as accessibility and usability of Digital Government systems, digital divide, digital migrants, multi-lingual and multi-cultural issues in digital governance, universal and ubiquitous access, gender in digital governance, and digital government for unserved or underserved groups, among others. Stronger societies also rely strongly on the level of resilience of their institutions to regularly face different kinds of crises, such as global financial crises, migration issues, natural disasters, and the current COVID-19 pandemic. These crises put further pressure on how decision-makers and societies address such events. Digital governance can significantly contribute to managing these crises successfully. Therefore, this Track also welcomes

papers exploring the interplay between digital technologies, governance and the creation of more resilient institutions to promote stronger and sustainable societies.

#### **TRACK 8 | Smart sustainable cities, regions, and communities**

The world is amid a massive wave of urban growth and rural depopulation, generating opportunities but also problems and challenges. Digital technologies offer significant capabilities for addressing and managing them and making cities, regions, and communities smarter and more sustainable in social, economic, and environmental terms. It is noted that residents of both urban and rural communities and their surrounding environments are increasingly connected through intelligent or smart technologies. This offers a higher likelihood of improved wellbeing and prosperity while challenges at the complex intersection of technology and society emerge. This Track aims at exploring how society is managing and dealing with urban challenges by exploiting the capabilities offered by digital technologies in search of innovative solutions leading to a better quality of life, economic development, and sustainability. This Track explores the opportunities, challenges, and implications of smart digital initiatives in areas such as transportation, health and education, urban and environment-friendly planning, energy efficiency, digital infrastructures, entrepreneurship, as well as democratic processes, governance, and transparency at a community, local, regional and even national cross-border level.



#### **TRACK 9 | Doctoral Colloquium**

The Doctoral Colloquium is a full-day event on the post-conference day (7 October 2022). Submissions to this Track are exclusive to PhD students who would like to present their ongoing research paper on any topic related to the conference theme or tracks. The paper should explain the research problem, the motivation behind it, the research questions, as well as the research methodology. It should also include the scientific and technical challenges, and the respective research results obtained so far, as well as future developments. Although the doctoral supervisor can co-author the paper, the student must be the first author. Papers in this Track are reviewed by the respective Chairs, leading Professors in the area with vast experience in accompanying doctoral students. The session is chaired by them and aims at improving the students' peer-to-peer and professional networks. At the same time, students will obtain useful feedback regarding their ongoing doctoral work and research.



#### **TRACK 10 | Industry and Public Sector**

ICEGOV 2022 welcomes the participation of representatives from the public sector and industry to present recent developments, public sector projects and applications, innovative products or services, practical experiences, or research and development efforts related to the conference theme and tracks, that have high reusability potential in the public sector. This Track welcomes policy papers that are synthetic documents designed to enable outreach and impact, stemming from case studies, research projects, or other successful digital governance attempts in the public sector, written to include non-specialised audiences. Submitted papers should be structured to facilitate policy-making, enclosing relevant findings and recommendations for the theory and practice in digital governance. Papers should provide enough background for the readers to understand the problem and convince them about the importance of the topic. At least one of the authors of a paper submitted to this Track must be a representative of the respective fields.

## **TRACK 11 | Poster Exhibition**

Finally, the conference welcomes submissions of short papers to describe ongoing work, presenting new project ideas, initial results, open questions, development plans, among others, with the potential to contribute to digital governance research and practice. Accepted papers for this Track will be presented during the Poster Exhibition in a very visual format (A1 poster) to stimulate discussion, create research-practice and research-policy connections, provide feedback to the authors, and nourish opportunities for international, multi-disciplinary and cross-sectoral collaboration. The short paper itself is published as part of the conference proceedings.

## **4. WORKSHOPS**

ICEGOV 2022 will feature a number of Workshops on **7 October 2022** (Friday), with six slots of three hours each available in the programme:

- Three morning Workshops from 10:00 to 13:00
- Three afternoon Workshops from 14:00 to 17:00



The workshops' aim is to highlight topics not explicitly covered in the main conference sessions but still related to the conference theme and tracks while providing more interactive approaches to engage the participants. At the same time, workshops aim to provide an interesting discussion of novel ideas, insightful practical and theoretical discussions, and networking with international experts, researchers, practitioners, government officials, policy-makers, among others. As such, the organiser(s) of the workshop **must include activities that foster the participation of the attendees**; the session is not meant to be sit-and-listen, but rather interactive.

## **5. PAPER CATEGORIES**

The conference welcomes paper submissions in three categories: **RESEARCH, ONGOING RESEARCH**, and **SHORT**. Each paper category is described in more detail below, including recommended sections and structure. Additionally, each paper category is linked to a set of conference tracks (see table below). The Programme Committee Chairs **can downgrade a paper** after the review process if it is found that the paper does not fit the category chosen by the author(s) during submission.

The presentation time for each paper is **15 minutes + 5 minutes Q&A**. Doctoral Colloquium papers have a presentation time of **20 minutes + 5 minutes Q&A**. Poster Exhibition authors do not need to prepare a formal presentation; instead, their posters will be in permanent exhibition during the whole conference at the exhibition area and they will be required to be next to their work during the Welcome Reception and Poster Exhibition (afternoon of the first day).

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>PAGES MIN - MAX</b>	<b>THEMATIC TRACKS (T1-T8)</b>	<b>DOCTORAL COLLOQUIUM (T9)</b>	<b>INDUSTRY AND PUBLIC SECTOR (T10)</b>	<b>POSTER EXHIBITION (T11)</b>
RESEARCH	5 - 12	✓			
ONGOING RESEARCH	5 - 8	✓	✓		
SHORT	2 - 4			✓	✓

### 5.1. Research papers

These are papers that document **complete research** in one or more aspects of Digital Government, addressing topics listed in the **Call For Papers - Tracks 1-8**, with proven or potential capability to advance the state of research in the field. Research papers should be similar to journal submissions, albeit shorter. They should have completed analysis and documentation of results. Research papers should, indicatively, include the following sections (more as reference than as exact titles):

- Title and Abstract (up to 300 words)
- Introduction
- Background / Literature Review
- Methodology / Research Framework / Design Approach
- Results / Findings / Developments / Applications
- Discussion
- Conclusions / Further Work
- References

### 5.2. Ongoing research papers

These are papers that describe **ongoing research work that is yet to be completed**, in one or more aspects of Digital Government, addressing topics listed in the **Call For Papers - Tracks 1-9**, with proven or potential capability to advance the state of research in the field. Ongoing research papers could take various forms: for example, they can be theoretical (presenting promising frameworks), empirical (with some preliminary results), or present a design of novel and useful concepts and/or artifacts (no testing required). Ongoing research papers should, indicatively, include the following sections (more as reference than as exact titles):

- Title and Abstract (up to 300 words)
- Introduction
- Background / Literature Review / Methodology / Research Framework
- Results / Findings / Developments / Applications
- Discussion / Conclusions / Further Work
- References

### 5.3. Short papers

These are papers **mostly composed of work in progress**, recent developments or presentations of new ideas and initiatives with potential to contribute to Digital Government research and practice by addressing topics listed in the **Call For Papers - Tracks 10-11**. Short papers should, indicatively, include the following sections (more as reference than as exact titles):

- Title and Abstract (up to 150 words)
- Introduction / Background / Aims and objectives of the study
- Approach / Results
- Conclusions / Further Work
- References

## 6. HOW TO SUBMIT AND PUBLICATION WORKFLOW

A **tutorial** is available to assist you in preparing and submitting your paper for the conference.



Likewise, a detailed **publication workflow** is available, from the submission of the paper to its publication in ACM's Digital Library.



## 7. PUBLICATIONS AND AWARDS

### 7.1. Conference Proceedings

All accepted papers will be published in the conference proceedings on the condition that **at least one author attends the conference and presents the paper**. The proceedings are published by the [Association for Computing Machinery](#) as part of the International Conference Proceedings Series (ICPS), in digital format only, under the following reference: *Amaral, Luís; Soares, Delfina; Zheng, Lei (eds.). Proceedings of the 15th International Conference on Theory and Practice of Electronic Governance (ICEGOV 2022). New York: Association for Computing Machinery, 2022. ISBN: 978-1-4503-9635-6.*

As in previous years, it is expected that the published papers are indexed in [Scopus](#), [Web of Science](#), and [DBLP - Computer Science Bibliography](#), among others. Currently, the conference acceptance rate is **40%**.

### 7.2. Special Issue of Government Information Quarterly

After the conference, a number of papers will be carefully selected by the Programme Committee Chairs for publication in [Government Information Quarterly](#) by Elsevier with a **CiteScore** of **11.6** and an **Impact Factor** of **7.279**. GIQ is an international journal that examines the intersection of policy, information technology, government, and the public. In particular, GIQ focuses on how policies affect government information flows and the availability of government information; the use of technology to create and provide innovative government services; the impact of information technology on the relationship between the governed and those governing; and the increasing significance of information policies and information technology in relation to democratic practices.

Authors who accept this invitation will be required to greatly expand and improve their papers before publication. As the leading journal in the field, GIQ seeks to publish high quality scholarly research, viewpoint articles and editorials that inform both researchers and practitioners regarding the relationship between policy, information technology, government, and the public.

### 7.3. Best Paper Awards

The goal of the *ICEGOV Best Paper Awards* is to acknowledge excellent research performed by the authors whose papers have been accepted and presented at the conference. The award consists of a certificate (printed or digital), together with a symbolic gift, usually a cultural object from the conference's host country. The certificate and the gift are delivered to the first author of the winning paper by the [Awards Committee Chair](#) during the conference's closing ceremony.

Four categories are awarded at ICEGOV:

- Best Research Paper
- Best Ongoing Research Paper
- Best Short Paper
- Best Poster

More information regarding the eligibility criteria and selection process, download the *ICEGOV Best Paper Awards Policy*.

Best Paper  
Awards Policy



## 8. UNU-EGOV SCHOLARSHIPS

As part of its mission, the [United Nations University \(UNU-EGOV\)](#) provides a number of scholarships for ICEGOV. So far, **213** scholarships were awarded to authors of accepted papers from **54** different countries. These scholarships are aimed mostly at students, especially those originating from *low-income*, *lower-middle-income*, and *upper-middle-income* economies, to facilitate their attendance at the conference, allow them to present their research work, and help grow their academic and professional networks. In fact, **86%** of all scholarships were awarded to people from this range of countries.

The application period this year runs between 20-27 July 2022. More information about the UNU-EGOV Scholarships is available here.

Scholarships



## 9. PROGRAMME & REGISTRATION

The full conference programme, including speakers, panellists, organisations, etc., will be gradually announced on the conference website and social media channels in the upcoming months. An overview and structure of all days is available, while information about the registration fees and entitlements is available.

overview



registration fees



We look forward to meeting you in Guimarães in October 2022!

The ICEGOV 2022 Programme Committee Chairs



Luís AMARAL

University of Minho  
(Portugal)



Universidade do Minho



Delfina SOARES

United Nations University  
(UNU-EGOV, Portugal)



UNITED NATIONS  
UNIVERSITY  
UNU-EGOV



Lei ZHENG

Fudan University  
(China)

