The city of Detroit, Michigan, filed for bankruptcy on July 18, 2013. It was the largest municipal bankruptcy filing in US history, with debts estimated at $18–20 billion. American cities were among the first to face the challenges associated with de-industrialization, Detroit being a particularly well-known case. New York City avoided bankruptcy in 1975 and is today known as one of the most prosperous urban hubs in the world.

But the United States have more to offer, especially in matters of metropolitan governance. Also, because American infrastructures are generally old and suffering from underinvestment, combined with the innovation dynamics of Silicon Valley, some US cities have also become testing grounds for new and smart infrastructure services, especially in the area of mobility. In the New York City and Detroit action-learning module, you will specifically find answers to the following questions:

1. How can cities recover from economic downturn and develop urban rejuvenation strategies?
2. How can cities finance aging urban infrastructures?
3. How can cities incorporate the ICTs and economic principles into aging urban infrastructures?

INFRASTRUCTURE COVERED IN NEW YORK CITY AND DETROIT

- Transport
- Housing
- Green infrastructures
- Water, waste and wastewater

As one of the world’s leading ICT hubs, the city of Seoul has harnessed the potential of ubiquitous data and implemented numerous ICT-based initiatives to target typical urban problems such as energy conservation, public transportation, citizen safety, and transparency. With the launching of the ‘Smart Seoul’ program in 2015, the city has built on these foundations, as it strives to become one of the smartest cities in the world.

In Seoul, the ICTs and new technological innovations are not just add-ons to the city’s infrastructure. Rather, they have become an integral part of the urban fabric and constitute a core element of its infrastructure. With a strong history of leadership in matters of e-governance and smart city initiatives, the South Korean capital stands as an ideal location to discuss and learn about the underlying challenges and effective strategies to make cities smarter.

In our Seoul action-learning module you will specifically find answers to the following questions:

1. How can the ICTs be incorporated into urban infrastructure systems in order to make cities more efficient and resilient?
2. What role does metropolitan governance play in the development of a smart city?
3. What are the key elements of an urban digital infrastructure?

INFRASTRUCTURE COVERED IN SEOUL

- Transport
- Energy
- Green infrastructures
- Water, waste and wastewater

*After attending my first module in Seoul, June 2016, I can say that the IGLUS Master is a great tool to find out and to learn about several subjects managed at a large urban scale and faced from public and private sectors’ points of view. Challenges for the present, and of course, for the future, taught by excellent lecturers in an amazing interdisciplinary academic atmosphere encourages to participate with the rest of students.”

Jesus Rabanal Torres – Madrid, Spain
Education: Law degree
Profession: Legal Advisor to Department of Traffic and Mobility in Madrid City Hall
Alumni of the 2nd edition of the program

"I have been teaching for two years in the IGLUS Executive Master on Public Private Partnerships and optimization of existing transportation infrastructures. The IGLUS way of teaching city level public managers on how to make their cities smarter, more sustainable, more liveable and financially sound is something that I particularly enjoy. The lively discussions with students who bring in their own practical experiences, their diverse backgrounds and their pressing real life questions add much to the learning experience, for both the lecturers and the participants.”

Dr. Christoph Rothballer
Expert Principal - The Boston Consulting Group
Guest lecturer
DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

In order to obtain the IGLUS Executive Master’s degree from Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale Lausanne (EPFL), participants must, within a period of two years from their first module:

• Follow two free massive open online courses (MOOCs) on managing urban infrastructures and smart cities, respectively, prior to taking the first module;
• Attend five out of the six modules;
• Write a 60-page master’s thesis.

THE IGLUS EXECUTIVE MASTER IS BUILT ON A ROLLING BASIS, MEANING THAT YOU CAN ENROL ANYTIME.

ENROLMENT

Enrolment is possible anytime, provided the candidate has a minimum four-year bachelor’s degree plus five years of professional experience. Participants will have two years from their first day in the class (first day of the module with which they start the program) to complete all the requirements.

COSTS

• Tuition fee for the Executive Master’s course is 20’000 CHF; a limited amount of tuition reduction is available for qualified participants.
• Travel, accommodation, and other logistics costs will be at the expense of the participants.
• Tuition fee for attending in only one of the training modules is 3’000 CHF.

REGISTRATION

The IGLUS Action Research initiative and Executive Master’s program are offered by EPFL in collaboration with the following partners:

IGLUS is a global action research initiative built around the IGLUS Executive Master. It is grounded in a solid conceptual framework and research agenda that links urban infrastructure management and governance to city performance, with a special focus on the role played by the information and communication technologies.
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- UN-Habitat
- The World Bank
- CityNET
- Michigan State University
- TU Dortmund
- Tecnológico de Monterrey
- IBM
- TM
- BCG
- Schneider Electric
- Keolis