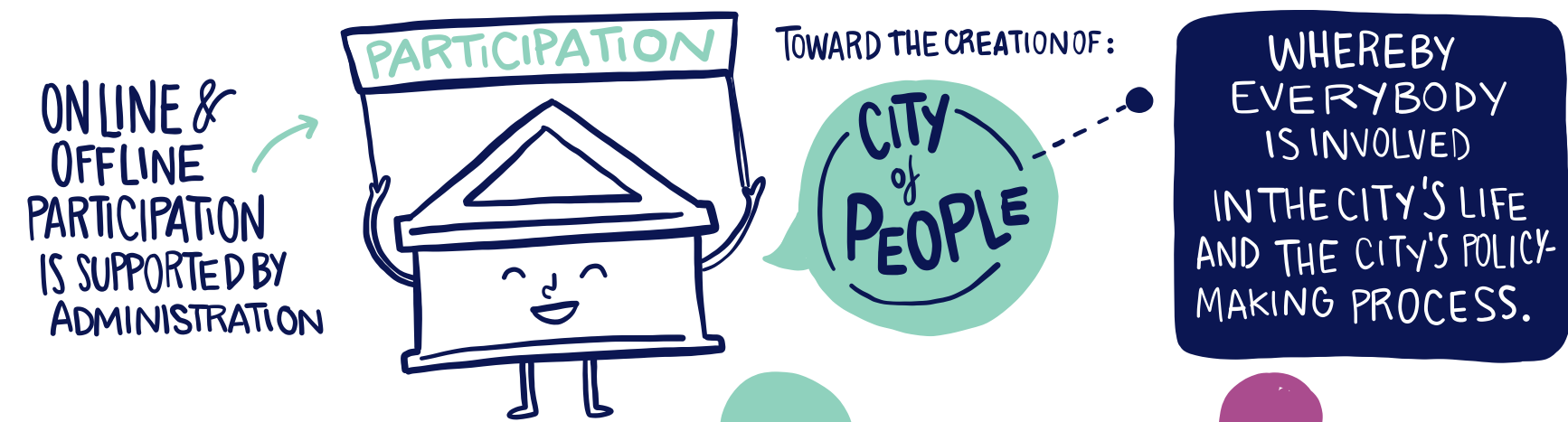


## 1. GHENT: A (DIGITAL) SOCIAL PARTICIPATION-ORIENTED CITY?

GHENT'S MAIN TRAITS IS THE CIVIC **PARTICIPATION** AND ACTIVISM



GHENT ELABORATED ON EFFECTIVE FORMS OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND THE CREATION OF **STABLE AND STRONG COLLABORATIVE NETWORK**



**ICT** ARE USED IN PUBLIC GOVERNANCE TO MAKE PROCESSES MORE EFFICIENT **BUT** PEOPLE DO NOT CONSIDER THE USE OF TECHNOLOGIES AS AN END IN ITSELF (IT IS RATHER ADOPTED AS A COMPLEMENTARY POSSIBILITY FOR **FACE-TO-FACE INTERACTION**)

CRITIQUES TO THE Pervasiveness of SOCIAL WEB

CITY ADMINISTRATION DECIDE TO ADOPT A NON-CONVENTIONAL **SMART CITY PROGRAM**

GHENT CAN BE CONSIDERED AS A **TECHNOLOGY-FRIENDLY CITY** (DESPITE NOT TECHNOLOGY-DRIVEN CITY)

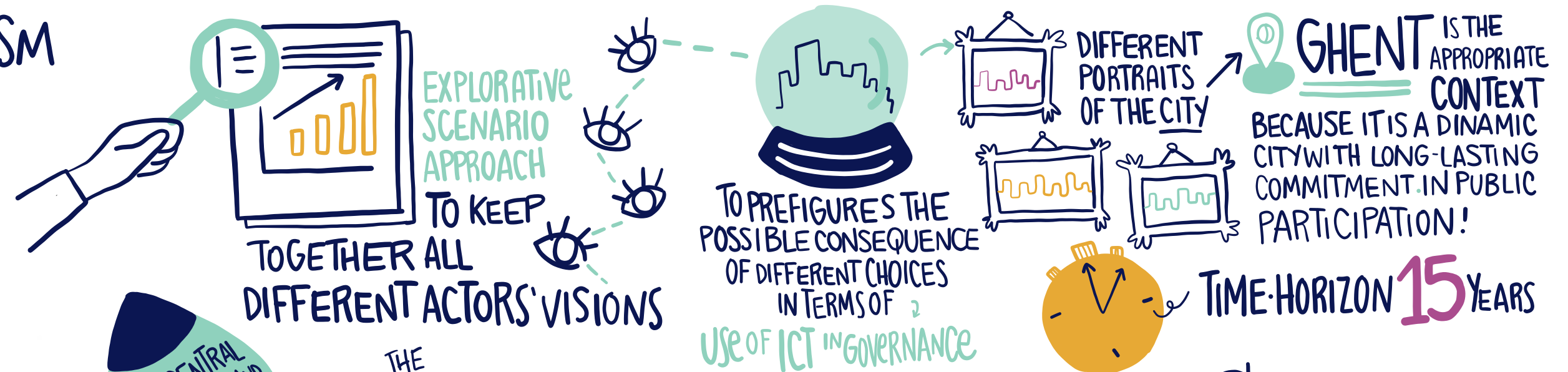
ONLINE PARTICIPATION

TECHNOLOGIES CAN BE USED IN A SMART WAY TO INCREASE PEOPLE PARTICIPATION (ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG GENERATION)

OFFLINE PARTICIPATION

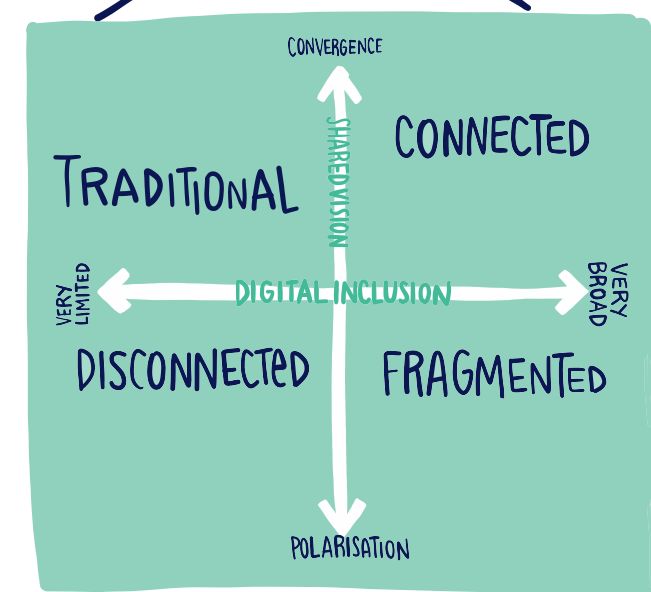
LEAVING THE OPPORTUNITY TO CHOICE HOW TO BE INVOLVED AND UP TO WHAT MEASURE

## 2. WHAT POTENTIAL SCENARIOS CAN EMERGE FROM DIFFERENT CHOICE RELATED TO THE ADOPTION OF D.S.P. IN GHENT URBAN GOVERNANCE?



THE MOST CENTRAL (VERY IMPORTANT AND VERY UNCERTAIN) LEADING SCENARIO DEVELOPMENT ARE REPRESENTED BY:

**4 SCENARIOS**



1. CAPACITY TO ENLARGE DIGITAL PARTICIPATION AND SO REACHING ALL SOCIAL GROUPS THAT STILL ARE RELUCTANT TO STEP IN THE DIGITAL PUBLIC SPHERE

2. THE CAPABILITY TO CREATE A SHARED FUTURE VISION AND PLAN FOR THE CITY DEVELOPMENT WHICH IS OFTEN THE RESULT OF CONSTANT MEDIATION BETWEEN DIFFERENT SOCIAL GROUPS

**CONNECTED SOCIETY** CHARACTERISED BY A STRONG GOVERNMENTALITY WHICH ENTAILS A DOUBLE TIGHT: SOCIAL COHESION DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY

THE BASIC ASSUMPTION FOR THIS SCENARIO TO EMERGE:

- THE RAISE OF DIGITAL INCLUSION WILL RAISE UP TO 60-70%
- AVAILABLE DIGITAL TOOLS WILL BE IMPROVED SIGNIFICANTLY
- THE INTERNET OF THINGS WILL BECOME MORE DIFFUSE

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION WORKS AS A GUIDE FOR CANALIZING CITIZENS' INITIATIVES

DELIVER THE PLANNED OUTCOME WILL BE FUNDAMENTAL FOR KEEPING HIGH TRUST IN DSP

2. **TRADITIONAL SOCIETY.**

SOCIAL ACTORS SHARE A COMMON VISION OF THE CITY, BUT NOT WITH A DIGITALLY INCLUSIVE CONTEXT: OFFLINE PARTICIPATORY PROCESSES STILL PLAY A FUNDAMENTAL ROLE

3. **DISCONNECTED SOCIETY**

CHARACTERISED WITH A SOCIAL FRAGMENTATION (BOTH IN TERMS OF SOCIAL COHESION AND DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVES)

- POLITICAL MOSAIC WILL BECOME MORE DISPERSED
- SOCIAL DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE
- WEAKNESS OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
- SIGNIFICANT PRESENCE OF PRIVATE INVESTOR
- PARTICIPATION PROCESSES WILL DECREASE IN NUMBER AND WHERE RESISTING WILL NOT MAKE USE OF DIGITAL TOOLS

4. **FRAGMENTED SOCIETY**

INCREASING INVESTMENT IN ICT SECTOR AND SIGNIFICANT ADOPTION OF DIGITAL TOOLS AND PROCESSES AND NO-SHARED VISION OF CITY IDENTITY AND PLANS

THIS GIVES RAISE TO A DISPERSED SOCIETY IN WHICH A PLETHORA OF DIFFERENT PARTICIPATORY PROCESSES WILL TAKE PLACE BUT RESULTING OFTEN IN A WASTE OF ENERGY