

PP18. USING SURVEILLANCE IN COMMUNITY POLICING PROGRAMS

[Tags: Surveillance, Crime detection & prevention, ICT]

Information acquired through different community policing applications can successfully complement information collected through surveillance means and thus increase the efficiency of police operations (e.g. by assisting practitioners in overcoming information overload). This can be achieved in three main ways:

- ✓ Data from community policing app and data from smart surveillance technologies complement each other;
- ✓ Data from the application verified against data from smart surveillance technologies;
- ✓ Data from the application triggered use of smart surveillance technologies for further investigation.

Examples:

- The SmartSantander project is a public-private partnership aimed at installing sensors around a number of European cities to gather data and to take advantage of what citizens are willing to contribute through their smartphones and specialised software. The project relies on 'participatory sensing' technology. This service aims to explore the use of citizens' smartphones to make people become systematic observers and contributors of data. The project makes use of these devices' capabilities of connecting to people as well as to the core network. It thus blends data analytics, Internet of Things, and some aspects of social media to find problems in real time and to convey them back to those who can fix them. BYTE researchers provide an example with a malfunctioning streetlamp that is reported to all the users that have previously subscribed to this type of event via their mobile phones. One of these users could be a municipality technician that after receiving the notification can log in a repair job;
- The NW Alert Notification System allows co-ordinating bodies for Neighbourhood Watch to send out alerts to all of their registered contact persons, allowing national dissemination to potentially thousands of neighbourhood watch members in a very short time;
- Community Speedwatch is a method of traffic speed control involves trained volunteers pointing a speed gun at vehicles driving through an area known in the past for speeding, and has generated mixed responses from the general public, both positive and negative.

Mode of implementation:

- Profiling and big data are the coming together of pre-emptive policing and surveillance policing. Profiling is seen as forensic evidence based, process-oriented, method of investigative reasoning about the behaviour patterns of a particular offender.
- CCTV and video surveillance can be combined with community policing techniques to identify criminal trends and practices in urban scenarios;
- The effectiveness of license plate recognition in the identification of vehicles on their way crossing borders can be increased by combining the use of established technologies (i.e. GPS tracking and automatic number plate

recognition) with input provided from the citizen activity by means of community policing applications;

- Identification of individuals can be made easier and faster by crosschecking export to facial recognition, which involves using visual material (e.g. a photo or a video) obtained from social media with the input from community policing applications, and then export for comparison with existing database records.

Resources:

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