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# Singapore — or: Tales from the Place where the Future is Now

Anja Hendel and Andy Grau were recently able to see for themselves how mobility changes in Singapore. On a four-day trip, everything revolved around innovation management in Southeast Asian markets and the question of how Singapore uses Artificial Intelligence (AI) & co for future mobility.



## Necessity is the mother of invention: piloting new mobility concepts in city states

The city state south of Malaysia is a Smart City from the picture book. This is mainly due to the government's clear vision in terms of innovation, efficiency and sustainability: by 2022 the country wants to become a smart nation. To this end, Singapore is working with 300 experts on a cloud-based platform that will network the entire city. The city state has already reached some important milestones along this path: for example, each building has a digital twin, a virtual 3D model.

For 15 years, Singapore has been using an intelligent toll system that calculates the toll for motorists based on road usage and the time of day — to curb private car use. At the same time, the government is promoting autonomous vehicles in local public transport. By 2022, self-propelled buses, taxis and trucks are to bring Singapore's inhabitants from A to B — as a matter of course, it seems.

Necessity really seems to be the mother of invention: city states have only a limited area at their disposal, and the population density is often high. This gives rise to certain problems that Singapore has been meeting with technological innovation for a long time — and very successfully. We can learn a lot from this for testing new, digital concepts — city states seem to be the ideal environment for piloting smart city and mobility solutions. Singapore shares the experience it has gained over the past 20 years with all interested parties, neighbors and experts at Innovfest Unbound to help other states build their own innovation ecosystems. Which place could be better suited for this?

"Hidden" Champions: the Startup Ecosystem of Southeast Asia

## Neither Silicon Valley nor Shenzhen — the innovative strength of small markets



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