Rethinking the Urban Environment:
The EU Transition towards Smart Cities

Public Policy exchange

Thursday 28th September 2017

Thon Hotel Brussels City Centre,
Brussels

Rethinking the Urban Environment:
The EU Transition towards Smart Cities

Overview

According to the European Commission, cities are key contributors to national socio-economic and environmental performance. In the EU-28, about 70% of the population lives in urban areas, and this share is expected to further increase in the future. Furthermore, cities consume about 80% of the energy produced in the EU and generate up to 85% its GDP. It is thus pivotal to create an urban development plan that is both economically viable and environmentally sustainable. The growing "smart cities" movement aims at addressing these issues by rethinking the city according to a new paradigm of development.

In 2012 the European Commission launched the European Innovation Partnership on Smart Cities and Communities (EIP-SCC), with the objective of supporting the implementation of smart-city solutions. The EIP-SCC Roadmap 2017 "Supporting Action Clusters' Initiatives to deliver business cases and scale them up" identifies the key targets of collaboration among local authorities, industries, financiers and other key stakeholders, and includes key actions to assist different kinds of projects in their pilot phase for 2018, with the aim to replicate successful solutions in 2019. Additionally the Pact of Amsterdam, agreed upon by the EU Ministers in charge of urban matters on 30 May 2016, established the Urban Agenda for the EU, seeking to improve the quality of life in urban areas through dedicated Partnerships on concrete priority themes.

Achieving overall sustainability through smart cities requires a holistic problem-solving approach, integrating the most appropriate technologies, policy measures and funding sources. This would allow us to modify consumption patterns, improve energy production and distribution systems, increase efficiency in buildings and shift to different means of transportation. In this context, renewable energy sources, smart grids, building retrofitting and sustainable design, and public transport optimisation, all have a major role to play in fostering the transition, whilst the ability of digital tools to harness data from urban environments can be a key driver of future innovation.

This international symposium will provide an invaluable opportunity to engage with recent policy developments at EU level and scrutinise the future of smart cities globally. It will also enable delegates to analyse recent technological developments and suitable funding opportunities which can underpin the success of future transitions. The event will bring together representatives from the EU and national institutions, the private sector and the civil society to share best practice and provide a broad range of perspectives.

> *The fourth Industrial Revolution is happening at same time as the fastest urbanisation in human history. It therefore allows us turn our cities from centres of smog, congestion and breaking services into smart cities of clean air, smart mobility, and advanced services. Europe already enjoys the first mover's advantage."*

Maroš Šefčovič - Vice-President for the Energy Union

24 May 2017

Venue and Accommodation

Thon Hotel Brussels City Centre
Avenue du Boulevard 17
1210 Brussels
Belgium

Why Attend?

✓ Discuss the latest developments in the EU policy framework for smart cities

✓ Analyse existing smart-city projects and share best practice

✓ Learn about cutting-edge technologies for sustainability in the city

✓ Develop understanding on which financial sources best suit each project

✓ Learn how to facilitate investments and enhance cooperation among stakeholders

✓ Gain insight on big-data solutions and ICT-based applications in the urban environment

✓ Broaden their network and build constructive partnerships to implement effective smart-city solutions

✓ Assess how to pre-empt and collaboratively address emerging risks

Who Should Attend?

- Small Business Federations
- Chambers of Commerce
- Social Funds
- Environmental Associations
- Local Authorities
- Organisational Development Professionals
- International and Regional Organisations
- National Ministries and Institutes
- Joint Committees on Environment
- Social Exclusion Officers
- Confederations of Independent Unions
- Local Area Trailblazers
- Regional Development and Natural Environment Specialists
- Local Authority
- GreenCity Teams
- Local Authority Waste and Recycling Professionals
- Local Authority Waterways Professionals
- Central Government Departments
- Sustainable Development Stakeholders
- Transport Leads
- Sustainable Tourism Professionals
- Directors and Heads of Parks and Public Spaces
- Environmental Services and Policy Professionals
- Environmental Services Sustainability Professionals
- Environmental Services Urban Design Professionals
- Environmental Planning and Design Officers
- Conservation Professionals
- Environmental Campaigns Professionals
- Environmental Enforcement Professionals
- Housing Authorities and Professionals
- Energy Leads
- Biodiversity Leads
- Renewable Energy Leads
- Energy Efficiency Professionals
- Green Education Professionals
- Regeneration Professionals
- Pollution Professionals
- Private Sector Environmental Organisations

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Programme

09:15   Registration and Morning Refreshments

10:00   Chair's Welcome and Opening Remarks

10:10   **Developing a Conducive Policy Framework for Smart Cities**
• Analysing the European Innovation Partnership between Smart Cities and Communities
• Examining the Urban Agenda for the EU and its Dedicated Partnerships
• Smart Governance: Assessing the Importance of Local Authorities

10:40   **First Round of Discussions**

11:10   Morning Coffee Break

11:30   **Tackling the Multidimensional Challenges of the Urban Environment**
• Smart Energy: Fostering Zero-Carbon Production and Efficient Grids
• Smart Buildings: Making Living and Working Spaces Sustainable
• Smart Transport: Cutting on Emissions and Improving Mobility

12:00   **Second Round of Discussions**

12:30   Networking Lunch

13:30   **Harnessing the Potential of the Information Society**
• ICT-Based Solutions in a Digitalised Environment
• Providing Smart Services Using Big Data
• Internet of Things: Merging Physical and Virtual Spaces

14:00   **Third Round of Discussions**

14:30   Afternoon Coffee Break

14:50   **Smart-City Project Financing: Public, Private and Mixed Funding**
• Horizon 2020 and Other EU Direct Funding Schemes
• Analysing Contractual Models of Public Private Partnership (PPP)
• Matching Technology Cycle and Financial Needs

15:20   **Fourth Round of Discussions**

15:50   Chair's Summary and Closing Comments

16:00   Networking Reception

16:30   Close

Marketing and Exhibition Opportunities

We offer a range of opportunities to enable your organisation to raise its profile and communicate with key decision makers in the public sector.

For further information please contact us on **+44 (0) 20 3137 8630** or email **info@publicpolicyexchange.co.uk**

Event Details

Date: Thursday 28th September 2017
Time: 10:00am – 4:30pm
Venue: Thon Hotel Brussels City Centre, Brussels

Speakers Include:

Tim Paridaens, Director in Technology Strategy & Emerging Solutions, Deloitte

Forthcoming Events

Eliminating Energy Poverty Across Europe: Monitoring Progress for an Inclusive Energy Union
5th September 2017

Cross-border Healthcare in Europe: Promoting Patients' Rights and Boosting Cooperation
12th September 2017

Promoting Migrant Integration for a Powerful, Diverse and Multicultural Europe
14th September 2017

Boosting the Electric Vehicle Market in Europe: Plugging the Sustainability Gap
19th September 2017

Updating the European Cyber Security Strategy: Partnerships for Prevention and Preparedness
3rd October 2017

Tackling Childhood Obesity in Europe through Awareness and Prevention
12th October 2017