European Commission

Smart cities

Cities using technological solutions to improve the management and efficiency of the urban environment.

What are smart cities?

A smart city is a place where traditional networks and services are made more efficient with the use of digital and telecommunication technologies for the benefit of its inhabitants and business.

A smart city goes beyond the use of information and communication technologies (ICT) for better resource use and less emissions. It means smarter urban transport networks, upgraded water supply and waste disposal facilities and more efficient ways to light and heat buildings. It also means a more interactive and responsive city administration, safer public spaces and meeting the needs of an ageing population.

European innovation partnership on smart cities and communities

The European innovation partnership on smart cities and communities (EIP-SCC) is an initiative supported by the European Commission that brings together cities, industry, small business (SMEs), banks, research and others.

It aims to improve urban life through more sustainable integrated solutions and addresses city-specific challenges from different policy areas such as energy, mobility and transport, and ICT.

It builds on the engagement of the public, industry and other interested groups to develop innovative solutions and participate in city governance.

Priorities of the partnership

- sustainable urban mobility
- sustainable districts and built environment
- integrated infrastructures and processes in energy, information and

  communication technologies and transport
- citizen focus
- policy and regulation
- integrated planning and management
- knowledge sharing
- baselines, performance indicators and metrics
- open data governance
- standards
- business models, procurement and funding

Digital platform

If you are active in the area of smart cities you can join the EIP-SCC marketplace. Its goals are to

- develop and implement integrated smart city solutions
- support networking, partnerships and exchange of information
- focus on the intersection of energy, ICT and transport

You can also find news, projects, partners and funding opportunities on the marketplace website.

Marketplace of the EIP-SCC

Related policies

[Digital single market and smart cities](#)

[Energy and smart cities](#)

[Sustainable transport for smart cities](#)

Latest

NEWS | 12 November 2018

Smart city matchmaking in Barcelona

This year's Smart City Expo World Congress (SCEWC), Europe's biggest Smart City related event, takes place from 13 to 15 November in Barcelona

NEWS | 21 March 2018

Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy opens headquarters in Brussels

The ceremony will highlight the central role cities play in meeting the objectives agreed in the Paris Agreement on climate change.

NEWS | 21 February 2018

10 years of the Covenant of Mayors: Local and regional leadership for clean energy and climate action

The EU Covenant of Mayors is the world's largest movement for local climate action and energy transition.

NEWS | 7 February 2018

Smart finance for smart buildings: investing in energy efficiency in buildings

The Smart Finance for Smart Buildings initiative aims to boost energy efficiency in the building and housing sector.

MORE NEWS

Related events

16-22 Sep 2018   European Mobility Week 2018

16-22 Sep 2017   European Mobility Week 2017

27-28 Jun 2018   General Assembly of the European Innovation Partnership on Smart Cities and Communities (EIP-SCC)

Sofia, Bulgaria

22 Sep 2017   EU seminar: Smart and sustainable cities, lessons learnt and opportunities within H2020

Padova, Italy

MORE EVENTS

Related links

Calls for funding

Projects and lessons learned

Urban mobility observatory - ELTIS

Network for cleaner and better transport in cities - CIVITAS

Urban access regulations in Europe

Covenant of mayors for climate and energy

Departments

Communications Networks, Content and Technology | Energy | Mobility and Transport

Topics

Digital economy and society | Energy | Transport