

Sustainable Growth Fuelled by Digital Cities

Digital Cities Challenge Conference, 4 June, Brussels

Marja-Riitta Pihlman, Director General
Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment Finland

EU2019.FI

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of the Council
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***Digital transformation is an
overarching phenomenon***

Digital transformation in cities

- Digitalization is one of the most influential cross-cutting drivers in societies
- Urban density drives digitalization
- Digitalization is about inventing things that improve everyday life and build sustainable growth
- Digital city is for people, **by people**
- Digitalizing cities are one of the central enablers of technological and industrial transformation
- Cities are increasingly platforms of innovation and new digi-based solutions, adopting this approach as strategy

Leadership and Governance

- Cities increasingly taking the lead when making digital solutions happen
- Interplay between cities, Member States and European level needed
- 'Digital' interconnects thematic areas (sectors) of cities and society
- Leadership and networks that engage players on both of these dimensions are critical factors



The role of data

- Utilizing data as raw material for new services and solutions
- Renewing processes in the cities
- Creating new business
- *Urban mobility innovations as example*
- **Data as fuel of digital solutions**





Some examples

Digital solutions on the energy sector in the City of Vaasa

- Future Operations/Maintenance (FOM) Project develops future technology applications for the regional energy cluster
- FOM Project is part of the Growth Agreement for cities, co-funded by the national government
- In a virtual power plant, **maintenance practises can be trained by using Virtual Reality lenses** even before the physical unit exists



Air quality measurement in Greater Helsinki Region

An aerial photograph of Helsinki, Finland, showing a dense urban landscape with numerous buildings, streets, and green spaces. The city is situated on islands and peninsulas, with water bodies visible in the background. The sky is clear and blue, suggesting a bright day.

- Smart & Clean Foundation runs collaboration in which open data created by sensor system is base for new applications and solutions
- Collaboration forms an ecosystem in which companies and start-ups, communities of co-creation and Finnish Forecast Institute are involved
- Clean air service concepts are developed to be used in cities globally

LAHTI IS THE FIRST CITY TO PILOT PERSONAL CARBON TRADING ON MOBILITY EMISSIONS

APPLICATION
LAUNCH IN
SEPTEMBER 2019



Tentative aims of the Finnish Presidency on urban development

- 1) Support the successful implementation of the **Urban Agenda for the EU** (in co-operation with the Trio)
- 2) Highlight a specific theme: **Digital innovation in urban environments**
 - solutions for sustainable and fluently working cities

Key question:

Which new solutions based on digitalization can increase quality of life in cities and green development while accelerating economic growth?

Preliminary questions

- How do various new forms of digital participation change the game?
- How do cities transform into platforms of innovation, by utilizing digital solutions?
- What is the role of openness and collaborative creation?
- How cities connect separate and incremental 'smart' solutions to coherent strategies?
- Focus on innovation creation

Events under the Presidency

Events and meetings scheduled:

Official Presidency events

- Network of Territorial Cohesion Contact Points, 11 September 2019 and Urban Development Group, 12 September 2019
- Directors General Meeting on
 - 1) Cohesion Policy and Territorial Cohesion, 16 October 2019**
 - 2) Urban Matters, 17 October 2019**
- ESPON Seminar, 27-28 November 2019
- Events located in Helsinki, complemented by related urban site-visits and social dinners

Events scheduled:

Side Events in partnership with cities

Helsinki Impact Conference

- European conference addressed to decision makers and city officials from leading cities
- "The EU is as strong as its cities and neighbourhoods"
- Organized by the City of Helsinki and European networks of cities
- 9-10 October 2019, Helsinki

Upscaling Digital Solutions in Cities

- European conference highlighting the potential of digital solutions in cities
- Addressed to cities as well as EU and national stakeholders across Europe
- Organized by the City of Oulu and partners 10-11 December 2019 in the City of Oulu



Summing-up the ambition

- Highlight what are frontrunners or promising cities that make the best out of digitalization
- Interconnect the EU Urban Agenda Themes in a cross-thematic manner under the umbrella of digitalization
- At the EU community level, to recognize the potential of digital innovations for comprehensive urban development and to support related initiatives

Thank you for your attention

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