

Press release

European Union deploys data spaces for cities and communities – 15m€ for cross-sectorial pilots

Copenhagen, 3 November, 2023 – European local governments and companies are invited to join the **Data Space for Smart communities deployment**. The objective is to ensure a safe, inclusive, sustainable and productive future, supported by a data space that works for all European citizens.

Recognising the crucial role that data plays today, whether for Artificial Intelligence or for effective government, the deployment phase of this initiative invites local governments and companies across the EU to step forward, and propose concrete pilots. **A total of 15 million euros is reserved to 10-12 proposals**. In the coming weeks, you can learn more about the opportunities online and at physical events in Barcelona and Rotterdam.

The call officially opens on 17 January 2024 at a ceremony at the “Open & Agile Smart Cities Conference” taking place in Rotterdam, The Netherlands. Save the date for and sign up for news at the links below.

Martin Brynskov, Lead and Coordinator, Technical University of Denmark, says:

“Data is the new material of the millennium, but we are still learning to understand concretely how to use it as a foundation for building societies. If we are to reap the benefits, data spaces must be well governed and well managed. Like we do with other natural resources.”

For more information, we invite you to **join us at the Online Info Session** scheduled for the 15th of November between 1 pm and 3 pm (CEST/Brussels time). Click [here](#) to sign-up.

Elisabeth Beck Knudsen, Deputy Coordinator, Technical University of Denmark, says:

“Our mission is to create an open and interconnected data ecosystem that empowers individuals, organisations and communities by facilitating secured data-driven solutions. Governance is central, so beyond technical advancements, we are dedicated to making a meaningful societal impact, addressing global challenges, improving decision-making and enhancing quality of life for all European citizens.

With the pilot projects, we are gaining invaluable expertise for the practical implementation of data spaces for cities and communities in Europe.”

To ensure the success of these pilots, we are committed to providing comprehensive support. A comprehensive experts-driven mentoring and training program will be put in place to support the selected pilots in the onboarding, deployment and operation of the data space in their specific pilots. The data space rests on the collaboration with the European networks and institutions behind Living-in.EU, which covers all EU local governments, the European Commission and the EU Committee of the Regions, as well as the EU Data Spaces Support Centre.

The deployment phase of the Data Space for Smart Communities officially launched on 1 October, 2023. This initiative promises to deliver the technical underpinnings for a strong, value-based governance of data access, sharing, and utilisation, ushering in a new era of innovation and collaboration in line with the objectives of the EU Digital Decade goals. Building on the Data Space for Smart and Sustainable Cities and Communities (DS4SSCC) preparatory action, it will bring both technical and non-technical elements of the data space blueprint to life, guided by the **“Roadmap for implementing a European data space for smart and sustainable cities and communities”**.

The work will continue with close collaboration with the **Data Space Stakeholder Forum consisting of 165 members** from both the demand and supply sides, and in alignment with the Living-in.EU movement.

Stay connected for the latest updates and developments at www.ds4sscc.eu and subscribe to our newsletter to stay informed.

Consortium partners

Technical University of Denmark (DTU), Denmark

Interuniversitair Micro-Electronica Centrum (IMEC), Belgium

Open & Agile Smart Cities (OASC), Belgium

FIWARE Foundation, Germany

International Data Corporation (IDC), Italy

Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia (CCIS), Slovenia

Serendipity (SER), The Netherlands

Austrian Institute of Technology GmbH (AIT), Austria

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